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Kurt Schwerin

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JOURNAL OF CRIMINAL LAW, CRIMINOLOGY AND POLICE SCIENCE— 1910-1960—A BRIEF HISTORICAL NOTE

KURT SCHWERIN* ,

The *Journal of Criminal Law, Criminology and Police Science*, which completed its fiftieth volume with the March-April issue of 1960, began publication in May, 1910 as the *Journal of the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology*. The Institute was established as an outgrowth of the National Conference on Criminal Law and Criminology which was held at Northwestern University in June, 1909, in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Law School. The first national conference in the field ever to be held in the United States, it was composed of about 150 delegates from all parts of the country representing professions and occupations concerned directly or indirectly with the administration of criminal law and the punishment of criminals.

The moving spirit in establishing the *Journal* was John Henry Wigmore, from 1901 to 1929 Dean of Northwestern University School of Law. Dean Wigmore has been internationally recognized as one of the leading scholars in the entire history of American law. In 1904 his great Treatise on Evidence was first published. His special interest in the field was also expressed by his *Preliminary Bibliography of Modern Criminal Law and Criminology* (Bulletin No. 1 of Gary Library of Law, Northwestern University Law School, 1909), which he prepared for the double purpose of serving as an order list for acquisition by the Library and as a reference list for the National Conference during which the basis for the *Journal* was laid.¹

The *Journal* was the first periodical published in the English language devoted to the cause of criminal law and criminology, although there were thirty or forty periodicals in the field published

* Associate Professor of Law and Assistant Librarian, Northwestern University School of Law; Member of the Board of Associate Editors for Criminal Law and Criminology of the JOURNAL.

¹ For evaluations of John Henry Wigmore and his relationship to the fields of criminal law and criminology, see *Honoring John Henry Wigmore*, 32 J. CRIM. L. & C. 261-96 (1941), and the contributions on the occasion of his death, 34 J. CRIM. L. & C., Nos. 1 & 2 (1943). A biographical essay on Wigmore is being prepared by Professor William R. Roalke for publication in the JOURNAL.

in Europe and Latin America. The program of the *Journal* was to provide a common medium for recording the results of the best scientific thought and professional practice in this and foreign countries concerning the problems of criminal science. Throughout its history the *Journal* has included factual data and thought-provoking as well as pioneering contributions to the fields of crime causation and prevention of crime, probation and parole, penology, crime detection, criminal law and its administration and other related topics.

With Vol. 22, no. 1 (May, 1931) the title *Journal of the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology* was changed to *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology*.² In July-August, 1932 (Vol. 23, no. 2) it absorbed the *American Journal of Police Science* which from 1930 to 1932 had been published by the Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory of Northwestern University. With Vol. 42, no. 1 (May-June 1951) the present title *Journal of Criminal Law, Criminology and Police Science* was adopted.

The first Editor-in-Chief, from Vol. 1, no. 1, to Vol. 2, no. 4 (Nov., 1911), was James W. Garner, Professor of Political Science, University of Illinois. He was succeeded by Dr. Robert H. Gault, Professor of Psychology, Northwestern University, who has been the Editor for nearly fifty years. Prof. Gault became Editor-in-Chief Emeritus with the completion of Vol. 50 of the *Journal*. A tribute to Dr. Gault on the occasion of his retirement, by the Editorial Board, appears on the first pages of this issue. His successor as Editor-in-Chief, beginning with this number of the *Journal*, is Professor Claude R. Sowle, Northwestern University School of Law, who served as Associate Editor-in-Chief for Vol. 50 (1959-60). For many years Ordway Hilton, Examiner of Questioned Documents, New York City, has been Police Science Editor. Since 1945, Fred E. Inbau, Professor of Law, Northwestern Univer-

² Through Volume 31 (1940-41), the new title was used only on individual issues. On the title pages of the annual volumes, it appeared for the first time with Volume 32 (1941-42).

sity, has been Managing Director of the *Journal*.³ Beginning with Vol. 51 Prof. Gresham M. Sykes, Department of Sociology, Northwestern University, serves as Criminology Editor.

The editors are assisted by an Editorial Board which consists of twenty-three associate editors for Criminal Law and Criminology and eight associate editors for Police Science. Student members of the Law School's Legal Publications Board assist in the *Journal's* publication by preparing and editing criminal law comments, abstracts and notes.

There are two statements in the back volumes of the *Journal* which are of significance for its history and in particular for its editorial policy. They are still valid today. One is in "The Robert H. Gault Number" (Vol. 23, no. 1, May-June, 1932); the other appears in the "Northwestern University Centennial Volume" (Vol. 42, 1951-52). They may be briefly summarized here.

In "The Robert H. Gault Number" which was issued in recognition of Professor Gault's twenty-one years as Editor-in-Chief, the contributors emphasized that the contents of the *Journal* have "faithfully reflected the composite field of Criminology," that it has "realized the interrelationship of the social and political sciences and of the science of Law, and from the beginning has obtained the assistance and the writing of leading articles and of editorials by men of prominence in the intellectual world."

Professor Gault, in his article "Criminology in Northwestern University, 1851-1951"⁴ reviewed the fruitful movements related to Criminology in which Northwestern University has been active. His review includes a detailed description of the Conference of 1909, at which the first steps for the founding of the *Journal* were taken, and of the organization and activities of the *American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology*. During the long history of the Institute, the *Journal* was its official organ. All reports of the Institute were published in the *Journal*, and the scope of its work is reflected in the Report for 1929-1930 of Dean Leon Green of Northwestern University School of Law, in which he stated that the Insti-

tute, since 1909, had participated in practically "every movement in the development of Criminal Law and Administration of Criminal Justice in this century."⁵

Of the program of the *Journal*, Dr. Gault stated:⁶

"The *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology* is a common platform for all who are competent to contribute to an understanding of Criminology, regardless of their classification in respect to the professions, occupations, arts, sciences and other fields of knowledge. That makes it a unique periodical. An unwritten law has demanded since the beginning that each volume shall comprise a Criminological ration, so balanced that whoever is enough interested in the field, may find something that appeals to his appetite. It is desirable, indeed, that each number be equally generous. This situation calls for a Board of Editorial Associates whose total scholarship represents the many angles of thought and practice among criminologists.

"The cooperation of specialists on our Board caught the attention of Professor David Cavers, Editor of *Law and Contemporary Problems* some years ago. He wrote: 'It is in this periodical that the union of diverse disciplines seems to me to have been more fruitfully achieved than in any other legal periodical.'"⁷

An adequate evaluation of the role that the *Journal* has played in the past half-century would require an extensive and detailed study. A glance through its volumes reveals the breadth and depth of its contributions. Its authors represent a "Who's Who" of the leaders in the fields of criminal law, criminology and related sciences from all parts of the world. Its editorials have been challenging and in particular have frequently stressed the human side of the field. In several Monograph Supplements, certain social and criminological aspects have been treated by prominent authors.⁸

In addition, the *Journal* has included various special projects which have made significant con-

⁵ *Id.* at 9.

⁶ *Id.* at 11.

⁷ Quoted from Cavers, *New Fields for the Legal Periodicals*, 23 VA. L. REV. 15 (1936).

⁸ See the list in Gault, *Criminology in Northwestern University*, *supra*, note 4. An additional supplement may be cited: "The Swiss Federal Criminal Code of Dec. 21, 1937" (Translation and Introduction by Walter Friedlander and W. A. Goldberg; supplement to Volume 30, No. 1, May-June, 1939, of the *JOURNAL*).

³ From 1932 to 1942, Professor Newman F. Baker was Managing Director, as successor to Professor Frederick Beers Crossley, both of Northwestern University School of Law.

See also Inbau, *Dr. Robert H. Gault's Fortieth Anniversary as Editor*, 42 J. CRIM. L., C. & P.S. 567 (1952).

⁴ "Northwestern University Centennial Volume," this *JOURNAL*, Volume 42, pp. 2-17 (1951-52).

tributions to the exploration of current and historical developments. Outstanding examples of such contributions are represented by some specially designated volumes or issues. Among them, the "Progress Number" (Vol. 24, no. 1, May-June, 1933) included, on 350 pages, significant summaries of developments in the fields of administration of criminal justice and crime prevention by twelve American and ten foreign authors.

The "Northwestern University Centennial Volume," which has been mentioned before, contained nine contributions by distinguished authors on developments in their respective fields within the past century and on trends for the future. The most recent project was the series "Pioneers in Criminology" which, starting in Vol. 45, no. 1

(May-June, 1954), until Vol. 50, no. 1 (May-June, 1959), has included essays on seventeen leaders in the field since Beccaria, on a worldwide basis.⁹

Perhaps the best way to close this historical note is to refer to the active role which Northwestern University School of Law, the publisher of the *Journal*, continues to play in the field of criminal law. Recognition of this role has been most significantly expressed by the Ford Foundation Grant to the School for the purpose of enlarging its criminal law program.¹⁰ Undoubtedly, these expanded activities will be reflected in the pages of this *Journal* and will enrich its contents for many years to come.

⁹ A book edition of the Pioneer Series, by Stevens and Sons, London, is in preparation.

¹⁰ See 49 J. CRIM. L., C. & P.S. 1 (1958).