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## Police Science Book Reviews

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**POLICE SCIENCE BOOK REVIEWS**


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Edited by

Richard L. Holcomb\*

**THE POLICE ROLE IN RACIAL CONFLICTS.** By *Juby E. Towler*. Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Illinois, 1964. Pp. 118, Illus. 52. \$5.75.

This is a very timely, well written, and exceptionally well illustrated book. While there has been a great deal written on the problems of integration and while there is some material on crowd and mob control, this particular publication deals very directly and very practically with the problems arising from the sorts of demonstrations associated with integration.

The author says "The problems (discussed) are not racial, sectional, or prejudiced. This treatment endeavors to suggest police actions and techniques that will eliminate confusion and give a forewarning when dealing with mass arrests and specific civil rights demonstrations". He has kept very close to this position. In spite of his objectivity he will, of course, be criticized by the extremes in each group. One group will say he advocates excessive or prejudiced actions while the opposite will make him out as too kindly. However, I am certain that almost every police officer will see the sense in what he presents and appreciate how he has put his practical experience into a form that other officers can learn from.

This is not an easy subject to write about. Few things are as difficult to predict as crowd behavior. Part of this difficulty in predicting what a group may do arises from the fact that we do not start studying the total situation long enough before action may be necessary. Captain Towler has very sound material dealing with the analysis of the situation far in advance. The methods of planning, equipment, and personnel requirements are spelled out in some detail. The sorts of problems to expect, the changes from one sort of a group activity to another, as from a peaceful march to a demonstration on the edge of violence, are well treated.

The many techniques used by civil rights demonstrators, such as the blocking of traffic by lying in

the street, packing the offices of city officials, and many more are described along with the effective police methods of control. These are things that the author has learned from his own experience. He very probably learned many of the methods through bitter experience, for dealing with any sort of a crowd is not easy, let alone one expressing dissatisfaction.

One of the best things about this book is the attention to detail. It is often the little hints and suggestions that make plans work. There has been careful attention to the many seemingly minor points that mean success or failure. For example, the identification of arrested persons is carefully planned. Any officer who has worked in a police action knows how difficult it is to remember just who you arrested during a time of mass arrests. The methods presented here to identify the persons arrested are efficient and as rapid as the circumstances will allow.

The illustrations are very helpful. They are from actual situations and not only illustrate the points very well, but are good photography.

This is a timely publication, but problems similar to those treated here will be with us for a long time, even though the cause for the demonstrations may change. This is not the sort of a book every police officer will want for his own library, but every department could use copies for the command to study and to serve as basis for training of all ranks.

RICHARD L. HOLCOMB

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**DAS AUGEN DES GESETZES. MACHT UND OHNMACHT DER KRIMINALPOLIZEI.** By *Frank Arnau*. Duesseldorf, Germany: Econ-Verlag, 1963, pp. 398.

**DAS BUCH DER KRIMINALISTIK. ERMITTLUNGSTECHNIK DER KRIMINALPOLIZEI.** By *Ludwig Kappeler*. Berlin, Germany: Safari-Verlag, 1963, pp. 190, DM 15,80.

Both books share a common goal, namely to explain and interpret to the public what the law enforcement agencies do, how, when, and where they are involved. Both books aim to write under-

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standably and, to a degree, comprehensively. But the authors, both well-known police officers, discuss different subject matters.

Mr. Arnau, who is known for previously published books, such as *Kunst der Faelscher* (The Art of Forging), not only presents a historical survey of the police departments of various countries, each country occupying a chapter, such as Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, England, and the USA, and of Interpol, but also examines the police departments' strengths and weaknesses or even "helplessness" (*Ohnmacht*). For instance, in his chapter on the USA, Arnau intelligently and learnedly discusses the story of the FBI better than I have seen in many domestic publications. While, in the author's opinion, the FBI did its best job during the time of prohibition, and during World War II, the FBI was the subject of criticism on two major occasions: the messed-up discovery of the murderer of the Lindbergh baby, and the belated discovery of the Russian-paid American spies (Dr. Klaus Fuchs, the Rosenbergs, et al.). As a result of the inefficiency of the FBI, President Truman had to announce that Russia had found out the "secret" of nuclear explosion at least five years before our Counter-Intelligence had estimated that Russia would "catch up" with us. In general, however, light and shadow are divided fairly evenly, perhaps the lights (in the case of the FBI) scoring higher than the shadows. The book contains many photographs of famous safecrackers and samples of fingerprints and other forms of evidence. The reading is fine, and the reader will get a relatively balanced picture of the police departments of various countries.

The aim of Mr. Kappeler's book is quite different. He, too, cites many case histories in detail (also illustrated by many photos from crime labs, fingerprints, and rogues galleries, etc.), but he also wants to teach the lay reader the methods of a detective and police officer. For instance, he discusses in detail some hair found around empty cartridges, which then was examined microscopically and "compared" with hair of the object for the purpose of identification. While this book perhaps "popularizes" police methods for the lay reader and hence may be of little value to the professional detective, it also presents historical surveys from various countries (the FBI included) which the average detective may not know, particularly since some of the author's historical cases reach back a hundred years or longer. The author also tells the story of private detectives, their

training and their "status" both among their colleagues in the police force and among the public, as well as their employment for various jobs.

These books do not seem to be duplications (except in a few details). Both are entertaining and educational. Both are lucidly written, and the photographic illustrations are quite good.

HANS A. ILLING

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HOW TO TEACH POLICE SUBJECTS: THEORY AND PRACTICE. By *Leonard H. Harrison*. Charles C Thomas, Springfield, 1964. Pp. 98. \$4.75.

Leonard Harrison is presently employed as training officer for the Police Training Commission of the State of New Jersey. He has to his credit a distinguished career as a Lieutenant with the Port of New York Police Department, as well as an academic career as an instructor in Police Science at Seton Hall University. From this broad background as an academician and practitioner in the police field, he has selected some of the salient aspects in the all too little understood area of police teaching, compiled them in an easily readable form, and offered them as a practical base of understanding for the police instructor.

Mr. Harrison's cogent analysis of the techniques of police teaching is presented in a simple "how to do it" form, stripped of the window dressing of argumentation and the didactical verbalism so often apparent in police science publications.

The author outlines the mental and mechanical preparation, which leads to a successful classroom presentation, in a simple and concise form. The chapters on lesson aids, audio-visual techniques, and testing rank among the best in current police science literature.

The book, as a whole, points up a very real need in the police teaching field; the police instructor must be a practitioner of his art to be really effective. The ivy towered academician must get into the operational field before he can appreciate the need of the police officer who must perform the basic police duties.

Well done Mr. Harrison.

HARVEY MILLER

Iowa City, Iowa

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FIELD INTERROGATION (Second Ed.). By *Allen P. Bristow*, Charles C Thomas, Publisher, 1963. Pp. 155. Illus 48. \$6.75.

Though not greatly different from the 1958 edi-

tion, this revision of Bristow's *Field Interrogation*, is a high water mark for police science publications. In a simple, easily read volume Professor Bristow draws guidelines for daily police contacts with those persons who by action, word, or the indefinable sixth sense some officers seem to possess, draw the attention of the man on patrol or beat.

Touching on area as grey as London fog, as wrapped in legal technicalities as a Perry Mason mystery, the author places the simple police procedure of field interrogation in its proper operational perspective. It is a "how to do it" book stripped of the pedantic puffery that characterizes so much of the printed work in police science.

\$6.75 seems a bit high for the book, yet the chapter dealing with documents of identification is well worth the total price. The substantial appendices of terminology used in specialized field interrogation are excellent. The illustrations and accompanying explanations of the meaning of documents of identification and the discussion of the search and techniques for interrogation of suspects represent a milestone in professional police writings.

*Field Interrogation* is a valuable and worthwhile contribution to our professional literature.

HARVEY MILLER

Iowa City, Iowa

**POLICE MANAGEMENT.** The Southwestern Legal Foundation, Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Ill., 1962. Pp. 117. \$5.75.

This book is made up of a series of eleven papers presented at a two day school of the Southwestern Law Enforcement Institute. This is not necessarily a good way to accumulate the material for a book. It is particularly true if a variety of subjects are to be covered with a different man covering each topic. It is only in exceptional cases that there is more than a superficial treatment. The material presented may make excellent lectures, particularly if there is time for discussion, but it does not always do too well when put in book form.

In this publication, however, there are several lectures that can pretty well stand on their own feet and make good reading. However, they might have better appeared as articles in a journal.

The chapter on internal communication by Robert Stoltz of the Department of Psychology, Southern Methodist University, is quite good. This material is presented for police departments and every administrator will see both how he can improve internal communication, and where he is making mistakes. The chapter on the press and law enforcement agencies is a fresh treatment of a topic that has been included in many police schools. This is a short chapter, but Felix R. Knight, Executive Editor of the *Dallas Times Herald* has said about everything that needs to be said and in a limited space.

The other chapters on selection of personnel, use of staff personnel, discipline and performance appraisal, specialization, inspection, budgeting, records and reports, and recent federal legislation and court decisions are adequate and workmanlike for the limited treatment. However, they are not such important contributions to police knowledge that they need to be in book form, especially in a book selling for this price.

R. L. H.

**DIRECTORY OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES OFFERING DEGREE PROGRAMS IN POLICE SCIENCE AND RELATED FIELDS.** Edited by Charles E. Grant. Diablo Valley College, Concord, California, 1964. Pp. 13.

This paper bound booklet contains the names of one hundred colleges and universities in the United States (56 in California) and one in Australia which offer degrees in police science and related fields. The listing is arranged by states and contains the school name, director's name, and degrees offered. Grant writes "It is hoped that it [the book] will be of value to police, regulatory, investigative and security agencies in their recruiting programs and that it will help to bring Police Science Educators and Police Trainers closer together."

This useful publication could be improved slightly if it contained an alphabetical list of degrees according to the abbreviations used in the publication.

O. H.