

1966

Police Science Book Reviews

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189: 168-174 (June-July, 1965). The application of the techniques of xerography to electronic fingerprinting is discussed. The process consists of four steps: sensitizing, printing, developing, and fixing. The article includes pictures and descriptions of the equipment used. The biggest advantage of this method appears to be that it enables fingerprints to be taken without staining the fingers. (PJC)

Voice Spectrograms—*International Criminal Police Review*, No. 189: 179 (June-July, 1965). This article describes the use of "vocograms" as a means of identification. The "vocogram" is obtained by means of a sound spectrograph. The sound spectrograph has recently been put on the market. It appears that this method of identification may be almost as effective as fingerprints as evidence. (PJC)

Determination of Nitroglycerin and Resorcinol in Double-Base Propellant Following Separation by Thin Layer Chromatography—J. A. Kohlbeck, *Analytical Chemistry*, 37 (10): 1282-83 (September, 1965). ATLC method for analysis of micro and semimicro amounts of double-base propellant components nitroglycerin and resorcinol is described. Other propellant components did not affect the determination provided the same solvent was used

for standard and sample. The method is quantitative. (PJC)

Complexes of 1,10, Phenanthroline and 2,2'-Bipyridine with Copper (II) as Adsorbents for Gas Chromatography—A. G. Altenau and L. B. Rogers, *Analytical Chemistry*, 37 (11): 1432-6 (October, 1965). This article discusses the use of the above adsorbents for a variety of separations including aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbons, alcohols, esters, and ethers and ketones. (PJC)

Footprints—Dewan K. S. Puri, *International Criminal Police Review*, No. 187: 106-111 (April, 1965). Describes method of comparing and identifying prints made by bare feet. (PJC)

What the Attorney Should Know About Questioned Documents—Winsor C. Moore, *The Student Law Journal*, 13-15, February, 1966. Countless documents are passed perfunctorily as genuine when a prompt and definitive examination might prove otherwise. The author outlines steps an attorney can make for a preliminary examination of the document and how to obtain known writings or typewritings. He discusses a few unusual types of document cases not involving handwriting or typewriting identification and anonymous handwriting. (OH)

POLICE SCIENCE BOOK REVIEWS

Edited by

Rolland Soule*

GUIDE TO ACTIVATION ANALYSIS. Edited by William S. Lyon, Jr. D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc., 120 Alexander St., Princeton, New Jersey. Pp. xix, 186, \$5.95

"Guide To Activation Analysis" was prepared under the auspices of the Division of Isotopes Development, United States Atomic Energy Commission to promote the peaceful use of isotopes and radiation applications.

The text includes basic information about activation analysis and provides the scientist with limited or no experience in the field, the funda-

* Associate Director, Southern Police Institute, University of Louisville.

mentals of the technique without the need for extensive supplemental reading. There is a well written chapter on the basic principles of activation analysis. The text also presents in clear, concise language the various types of activation analysis and the state-of-the-art of each. Also, brief but informative chapters are devoted to detection equipment, counting statistics, radiochemistry, and some applications.

The eight chapters are well organized and should be helpful to scientists interested in starting an activation analysis program. Some basic concepts of nuclear physics are presented in Chapter I. If

the reader has no previous training in the field, this chapter should be supplemented by other reading. Reactor and non-reactor neutron sources are discussed in Chapters II and III respectively. Chapter IV is devoted to a general discussion of radiochemical separations. Radiation detectors and counting statistics are well covered in Chapter V, the theory and applications of scintillation spectrometry are presented in Chapter VI and trends in activation analysis in Chapter VII. Some practical problems, including calculations are covered in Chapter VIII. In addition, Appendix A contains a useful table of calculated sensitivities for many elements in a wide variety of matrices. Appendix B is devoted to radiation safety and the licensing essential to any activation analysis program.

During the past few years scientists in several laboratories have been employing activation analysis for the identification and comparison of physical evidence samples through their trace element composition. The work of these scientists has shown that the technique has wide application and potential usefulness in the field of criminalistics. As more forensic laboratories recognize the virtues of this analytical tool greater interest will be generated in the use of this technique for the examination of samples that cannot be analyzed by other methods. These laboratories should find this book extremely valuable in formulating their activation analysis programs. It should also be a useful reference for attorneys since neutron activation analysis findings are introduced with increasing frequency in Federal and State courts.

MAYNARD J. PRO

Asst. Chief, Research and
Methods Evaluation, U.S.
Treasury Department

TECHNIQUES OF CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION:
Second, Revised and Expanded American Edition. By *Aren Svensson* and *Otto Wendel*. New York: American Elsevier Publishing Company, Incorporated, 1965. Pp. xv. 540. \$14.00.

This is an exceptionally fine book for informing police officers, detectives, criminal investigators and pre-employment police students (at the college level) about scientific crime detection methods and techniques. Serious study of the book will develop an appreciation on the part of the reader of the potentialities of scientific crime detection and will inform practicing police officers and criminal investigators as to how they can exploit these po-

tentialities to the fullest in their investigation of crime.

The material in the book is logically presented. It is simply stated, understandable, and highly readable. Practical field applications of scientific crime detection, such as the crime scene search, search for and preservation of latent finger prints, tool marks, weapons, and biological evidence are fully and interestingly covered. The book has a sufficient quantity of anecdotes and illustrations (237 illustrations and three tables), to enhance the readability of the book. Some suggested procedures may seem idealized, but a careful analysis will show that they are based on sound practice from which local modifications can be made.

The book is intended primarily for police investigators in the field. Consequently, there was no attempt to include all the recent developments in the field of instrumental analysis. However, a great number of references to the periodic literature of recent years has been cited for the benefit of the readers who want to study further the specialized topics (bibliographies to the thirteen chapters will be found on pages 476 through 526).

This book, as previously stated, is directed to investigators charged with gathering physical evidence at the scene of a crime. The thirteen chapters are logically arranged into three major areas: (1) General instructions pertinent to all crime scenes, (2) Specific instructions and detailed procedures for treating the different types of material found at crime scenes, and (3) Instructions for the investigation of different types of crimes.

The thirteen chapters in the book cover the following topics: (1) Rules for the first officer at the scene, (2) Rules for the crime scene investigator, (3) The doctor's participation in the investigation (4) General instructions, (5) Finger prints and foot prints, impressions of clothes, teeth, etc., (6) Tool marks, (7) Blood and other biological evidence, (8) Miscellaneous material, (9) Weapons and explosives, (10) Burglary, (11) Motor vehicles, (12) Death investigation, and (13) Identification of the dead.

This book was originally entitled *HANDBOOK I BROTTSPLOTSUNDERSOKING*, (Swedish title), its first edition in 1949, second edition in 1953 and third edition in 1959. The first edition, in English, entitled *CRIME DETECTION* was published in 1955 and translated by G. Middleton, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., London. The current book is the second, revised and expanded American edition. Jan Beck, federal government document examiner, Washington,

D.C., and Joseph D. Nicol, Superintendent, Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation, Springfield, Illinois are the co-editors and translators. The book represented a significant contribution to the techniques of crime scene investigation literature. Criminal investigators dealing with the problems covered by this book will find it worthy of study. It is also recommended as a text for college level pre-employment police training and as reference material for the civil service examiner.

ROLLAND L. SOULE

Southern Police Institute
University of Louisville

ARREST: THE DECISION TO TAKE A SUSPECT INTO CUSTODY. By *Wayne R. LaFave*. Boston, Massachusetts: Little, Brown and Company, 1965. Pp. xiii, 540. \$10.00.

This book is the first of a series of several volumes to be published by the American Bar Foundation setting forth the analysis of field data obtained in the course of its Survey of the Administration of Criminal Justice. In the introduction to the book the author states that the book "deals with the decision to take custody of a person suspected of criminal behavior." He then discusses the laws concerning arrests with a warrant, and arrests without a warrant.

Many of the pressing problems confronting the police, such as detention without an arrest, the probable cause requirement in obtaining a warrant, the arrest for investigation, and others, are discussed comprehensively. The author very adequately defines and illustrates the areas of vagueness in the arrest procedures, such as the uncertain definition of reasonable grounds in the felony arrest, and in the "in presence" requirement in misdemeanor arrest situations. The book again emphasizes the need for more definite legislative and judicial guidelines as well as more uniform departmental instructions concerning detention and arrest.

In the Editor's Foreword of the book, the following statement is made: "Although reference is frequently made to existing operations, we recognize that we know too little to assert categorically that all descriptions of current practice are entirely adequate. Certainly they adequately describe no more than what they purport to describe, namely, the practices observed in Kansas, Michigan, and Wisconsin." Notwithstanding this statement the

author has made some broad statements in portions of the book which are apparently unsupported by sufficient facts. An example of one such statement appears on Page 88 of the book where the author in discussing loitering statutes makes this statement: "Police assume that these statutes are intended primarily as aids to investigation. Consequently, a person to whom they could be applied will normally not be arrested unless other factors make it desirable to conduct an in-custody investigation of him."

The book is made much more understandable by illustrations and case situations and indicates that much research went into its writing. It should be especially valuable to the police administrator and the police instructor who is teaching a course in laws of arrest. It should also be valuable in preparing a police procedural manual and should certainly be read carefully by the police administrator who is advocating state code changes in the field of detention and arrest.

JOHN C. KLOTTER

Southern Police Institute
University of Louisville

BRITISH POLICE ADMINISTRATION. By *William H. Hewitt*. Springfield, Illinois: Charles C Thomas, 1965. Pp. xv, 376. \$11.50

Our police are based largely upon concepts and methods developed by the British. As a result, we can learn much that will apply to our own system by studying their history. It may well be that a good part of their form of organization is well ahead of ours and could serve as a pattern, with modification, for future development in this country. The British central government has a system for assistance to and coordination of agencies that still keeps control at the local level. We may well be moving in this direction.

While there have been many books written on the history of the British police, so far as I know, this is the first written by an American. This is of advantage to us for the author has gathered a great deal of material, studied it over, and then put it into a form of most value to American police.

The first chapter is on the historical development. Here credit is given to someone besides Sir Robert Peel. While Peel did play a major part in establishing the police system, there were many others who are rarely mentioned but who did at least as much. The author recognizes the contributions of these men.

In the second chapter the organization of the British police is discussed. After reading many treatments of this organization there is a tendency for an American to think that this subject is something like crickets and not meant to be understood by anyone outside of Britain. However, Mr. Hewitt has written this chapter so that it is very clear and easily understood.

The relationship between the local governments and the national government is probably one of the keys to the effectiveness of the British system of police. Chapter 3 treats this in detail. Chapter 4 was written by Superintendent J. L. Thomas of the City of Bradford police and is entitled "The Constable." This is a very short chapter and is somewhat of a re-hash of previous material although some new things are added. The final chapters also fail to help much. One is on the British system of government, and while it does assist in a better understanding of the police system, it is in considerable detail. This chapter was written by Oscar H. Ibele and is a very good discussion of the system of government. The final

chapter is by Samuel Chapman on the organization of the American police. This would be of value to an officer from another country, but contains little that would be new to an American policeman.

A reader will be struck by the fact that while this is quite a thick, and expensive book, the text covers only the first 129 pages while the appendices occupy 231 pages, perhaps a record. Much of the material presented here is of interest, but there are, for example, 71 pages of official acts setting out the pension system. A summary would have been better. This is also true of a long section on the firearms act of 1937.

All in all, this book is a definite contribution to the police literature. Mr. Hewitt has devoted a great deal of time and careful research into a subject that has not been adequately treated before by an American.

RICHARD L. HOLCOMB

Bureau of Police Science
University of Iowa