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Symposium on Innovations in Police Techniques: Recruit Selection, Community Service and Community Relations

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POLICE SCIENCE

A SYMPOSIUM ON INNOVATIONS IN POLICE TECHNIQUES: RECRUIT SELECTION, COMMUNITY SERVICE AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

On September 3, 1968, the 76th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association in San Francisco heard a symposium in which psychologists from various parts of the country reported on unique programs carried out in several cities under their direction. The creative collaboration between these psychologists and the municipal police departments have produced new and innovative programs which could be of great significance in modifying police techniques.

The presentations made at the San Francisco meeting, under the chairmanship of Dr. Melvin P. Sikes, have been edited for the *Journal of Criminal Law, Criminology, and Police Science* in this issue. Articles which follow include the use of diagnostic

small groups for recruit selection and training by Dr. Robert B. Mills with the Police Division of Cincinnati, Ohio; the establishment of specially-trained Family Crisis Intervention Units in a police district of New York City by Dr. Morton Bard; a report on a unique police-community relations program in Houston, Texas, by Drs. Robert L. Bell, Sidney E. Cleveland, Philip G. Hanson, and Walter E. O'Connell; and a description of a team-building program between police and ghetto residents used in Grand Rapids, Michigan, by Drs. Robert F. Allen and Saul Pilnick. These diverse programs illustrate a new and unique team effort of social scientists and municipal law enforcement units to solve perplexing community problems. (R.B.M.)