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Book Reviews

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BOOK REVIEWS

THORSTEN SELLIN [Ed.]

THE PERSONALITY OF CRIMINALS.

By Albert Warren Stearns, M. D. XII+146 pp. The Beacon Press, Boston, 1931. $2.00.

Dr. Stearns is a psychiatrist, Dean of Tufts College Medical School, Commissioner of Correction, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and formerly psychiatrist of the Massachusetts State Prison. He has summarized the nature of his book exceedingly well when he says: "During the past twenty years the writer has been a participant in this field, perhaps often-times a 'back-seat driver,' but, nevertheless, in rather intimate association with psychopathic hospitals, police activities, courts and prisons, and, lastly, as a state official. This has led . . . to frequent invitations to speak . . . This volume is an elaboration of these addresses; it represents neither research nor exhaustive study of the subject . . . , but it does, in the opinion of the reviewer, show a keen insight into human behavior and a practical, common-sense knowledge of the criminal based upon a rich professional experience.

The opening chapter is a discussion of the factors of normal behavior in which the writer draws attention to the fact that various periods of life, such as adolescence, produce nonconformity to social demands. In criminals we have an extreme type of non-conformity, "Therefore, when we begin to study conduct disorders, we are but studying nonconformists . . . ."

Under "Categories of Nonconformists" the author lists the sick, the poor (frequently produced by physical and mental disease) and the bad. The first two arouse our sympathy and pity, the third "irritate and offend us." There are eight captions under which the (often-criminal) nonconformist is considered. The most easily understood group is the child-offender with whom neighborhood setting, broken home, and difficulty in occupational adjustment at adolescence are in evidence. The feeble-minded constitute another group who lack intelligence and frequently have the "additional hazard of bad environment." Dr. Stearns notes what is, I believe generally conceded today that while the feeble-minded need special care they are amenable to social habituation and are not of necessity criminal. A third group consists of the insane and here the writer is within the particular bounds of his profession. He points out that while much has been done with definite organic insanities as paresis, "dementia praecox and manic-depressive insanity, are as little understood today as in the days of Aristotle. It is not even known in these diseases whether the brain is directly affected by the disease process or not." Delusions of persecutions and alcoholism play a part in cases of the criminal insane. State hospitals for the insane have reduced the number of insane who have become criminal through neglect. "After all, though insanity is an important factor in criminal conduct, its percentage is not great."
Personality Disorders, Functional Nervous Disease, Senility or Old Age, and Physical Disease are discussed briefly with rather strong emphasis on the deep-seated effects of disease, which seems to the reviewer to be a point well taken.

The eighth and last category is Situational or Environmental Problems in which Dr. Stearns differs with perhaps the majority of penological psychiatrists who hold so strongly for constitutional and inherited psychopathy. Dr. Stearns says: "Psychiatrists as a group have tremendously expanded the view of abnormal personality. In my opinion this is not justifiable, the majority of cases being situational or environmental . . . It seems to me then that a large percentage of our criminal population should be placed in this group, and that the psychiatrists have not yet proven their claim that criminal careers and mental abnormality are synonymous."

The categories of crime are considered under headings: the pugnacity instinct, mental disease, acquisitive instinct, procreative instinct and statutory offenses. Excellent case descriptions are used to clarify the writer's statement. Emphasis is placed on need of permanent incarceration for certain dangerous types (never vindictively); "all crime is due to some impulse which in itself is natural;" the limited responsibility (of the insane, alcoholic, senile) should be looked upon as an "aggravating rather than a mitigating circumstance."—that is, it increases the need for incarceration. In considering statutory offenses the writer points out that "regulatory statutes" have increased enormously while "Every new law dilutes the police force just so much."

Under the caption, "The Control of Crime," the writer traces the historical development of justice to the concept of objective justice which reached a high degree of perfection under Justinian. Punishment in the form of horrible torture reached its climax in the Middle Ages with the underlying philosophical theory "That crime represented a rational, deliberate act." Torture gave way to prisons and prisons are bound to be greatly modified by the application of the scientific method which has been clearly demonstrated in medicine and science. At this point we reach the essential plea of the whole book; namely, that while we know little enough about crime and individual motive, our hope of progress lies in analysis, trial, follow-up, and individual case study; that is the application of a thoroughly scientific method and a pragmatic attack upon the problem of delinquency.

The book is clearly written, contains nothing particularly new, is intended for the lay reader, but has passages that are well worth a profound consideration by both psychiatrists and the legal profession.

University of Pittsburgh.

WHAT PRICE JURY TRIALS. By Irvin Stalmaster. 143 pp. The Stratford Company, Boston, 1931. $2.00.

This book is a protest against the use of juries in the trial of civil cases. Jury trial in criminal matters is not discussed. The writer discloses the many defects of the existing system, compares it unfavorably with trial by judge, and concludes that the jury should have no place in civil litigation. Written
in forensic style—it is an effective presentation of the case against the civil jury. It concedes no merit to the institution. Though designed for the general reader, it is really a challenge to the legal profession.

CLARENCE N. CALLENDER.
University of Pennsylvania.

REPORT ON THE CAUSES OF CRIME.

These two volumes represent the efforts of the United States Government through the Wickersham Commission to seek out and describe the causes of crime. Before reviewing the material presented, it might be well to point out that while both volumes are scholarly, dispassionate, honest and judicious in tone and presentation, the sum total of new information is slight. Despite this fact, they are an extremely valuable addition to the literature of criminology. Repeated emphasis upon basic patterns of causation is equally as important as the discovery of new detail, however interesting the latter may be.

The contributors to volume I are: Henry W. Anderson, a member of the Commission, who dissents from the conclusions presented; Mr. Morris Ploscowe, sometime Sheldon Fellow at Harvard University; Miss Mary van Kleeck; Dr. Emma A. Winslow; and Ira deA. Reid.

Judge Anderson states that he was unable “to concur in the disposition made by the commission of the important branch of our inquiry dealing with the Causes of Crime.” He dissents on the ground that consideration must be given to “the broad underlying causes for existing attitudes and conduct” if any intelligent solution is to be reached. He examines the effects of social, economic and political organization upon the development of criminal attitudes, and emphasizes the necessity of freeing the law from the traditional limitations imposed by common law and frontier influences. The doctrine of inalienable rights cannot be accepted today, and the individualism of the 19th century must yield to a socialized jurisprudence, wherein the group shall be the chief concern.

The history of the United States is critically set forth, and our present lawlessness appears as the end product of our national development.

They [the American people] have created the widest spread between the extremes of wealth and poverty existing in the western world. They have developed degrading slums in the cities, and ignorant underprivileged areas, in the rural districts which stand as menaces to social health and dangers to social order. They have conquered many of the forces of nature and made them the servants of man, but have so organized and developed their industrial system that it tends to make of man himself a cog in a relentless machine, without the inspiration of personal achievement, or the contentment which springs from social and economic security. They have created the largest body of laws and the most complex system of government now in existence as restraints and controls upon individual and social conduct, but every stage in their development has been characterized by a large and ever in-
creasing degree of lawlessness and crime (p. xli).

While tremendous changes were taking place in the social and economic spheres, our criminal law remained essentially where it started. The anachronistic character of criminal law and procedure is clearly brought out and its role in contributing to an increase in crime described. Mr. Anderson advocates a re-orientation of legal principles so that law and behavior in modern society may lose some of their incompatibility.

"The one fact that emerges clearly from our studies of the problem is that the major responsibility is a social, as distinguished from an individual, responsibility." Such a statement from a member of the Commission might well be pondered by our criminal court judges.

The recommendation is made that slum areas be abolished; but just how this is to be accomplished in a society where a profit economy prevails, is not clear. Nevertheless, Mr. Anderson is confident that the application of intelligence will eventually reduce the volume of crime. He also recommends an Institute of Human Research in the appropriate department of the Federal Government. "It should be confined to study and instruction." If such "study and instruction" receive the same amount of publicity now given to valuable studies produced by the Government, the influence will not be very great.

Under the heading "Some Causative Factors in Criminality," Mr. Ploscowe reviews most of the work in the field of causation. His analyses and criticisms are almost uniformly sound and valuable. Appended at the end is a bibliography of 226 titles, drawn from American and European sources. The factors discussed are: (1) morphological and physiological; (2) mental; (3) social; (4) economic; and (5) political. His own position is frankly deterministic. He declares that any understanding of criminal behavior must be the result of a study of the individual in relation to the total situation. In order to do this, it is necessary to consider all factors which influence the development of personality, thus achieving an integration which in the last analysis is the personality itself. The work of Lombroso, Goring, Pende, Kretschmer, and the so-called "new" criminology of the endocrinologists is examined. Endocrinology may reveal much valuable information, but the older anthropological school has not been particularly valuable in its contributions to the scientific determination of criminal conduct. In the mental sphere, the less said the better. Mental testing, comparatively recent, has yielded nothing except confusion. Criminal psychologists may some time provide valuable data, but up to the present their work has not been impressive. When agreement as to the definition of "intelligence" is reached and when agreement as to standards and norms for various kinds of tests is found, fruitful results may be expected. Psychiatry is casually mentioned, and psychoanalysis is omitted.

In his analysis of the social factors Mr. Ploscowe finds more to be commended. He reviews the studies by Healy, the Gluecks, Thomas, Van Waters, Thrasher, Shaw and others. He makes an excellent point; that the professional criminal is striving for the same thing—money—that the rest of us are striving for. A realization that the prevailing philosophy and attitudes are part of our acqui-
sitive society and that the profes-
sional criminal develops in such a
society, is well worth repeating.
Families torn by conflict, tensions,
badly adjusted personalities, and so
on, he quite correctly points out,
may reasonably be expected to
mould juvenile attitudes and habits
into patterns likely to lead their
possessors into collision with the
law.
Dealing with economic factors,
the general conclusion is that “the
character of the research into the
comparison of the economic status
of the criminal classes with that of
the general population is superficial
and there is some disagreement as
to results.” Investigations into cor-
rrelations between the ebb and flow
of economic activity and criminal-
ity, however, have yielded valuable
data.
That Mr. Ploscowe is fully aware
of the fundamental underlying
causes may be inferred from his
statement: “Very little has been
done, except by way of declamation,
to show the influences of the pro-
duction of crime of the underlying
philosophy of the present social
and economic systems and of such
manifestations of the present social
order as the existence of inequal-
ity of fortune, the existence of a
leisure class, the constant stimula-
tion of needs” (pp. 117-18). It is
unfortunate that he did not go
further and include the unnecessary
additions to our laws; the antigu-
tated criminal code and proced-
ure; the general incompetence of
public officials; and the failure of
our present public school system.
He might have suggested these as
starting points for social psychol-
ogists interested in the genesis and
development of anti-social attitudes.
The political factor rings a fa-
miliar tune on an old instrument:
bribery, corruption, alliance of
police with criminals, political im-
munities, etc. The police must ar-
rest the right offenders. Shake-ups
occur largely in the interest of
shake-downs. Until the police are
placed upon a professional basis,
completely divorced from politics,
and given a new ideal of police
work, the present condition is likely
to continue.
The study by Mary van Kleeck
is an examination of the records
of 1051 admissions to Sing Sing
over the 12-month period ending
February 28, 1930. The inadequacy
of the information on the “receiv-
ing blotter” led to a selection of 300
prisoners, these comprising the first
25 admitted each month for which
sufficient supplementary data were
available. Of this group, 67 were
Negroes. (These were studied by
Ira deA. Reid and the data are pre-
sented in a separate report.)
The general conclusions of this
study are that men unemployed are
more likely to commit crime. Prop-
erty crimes exceed crimes against
the person. The layman might well
ask: Why not? There appears to
be no positive correlation between
occupations and any specific crime.
While unemployment is not posited
as a cause for specific crimes, never-
theless it will more likely be a con-
dition leading to crime commission
than employment at tasks yielding
a fair opportunity to support one’s
self and dependents.
Dr. Emma A. Winslow in her
study of employment and crime
fluctuations in Massachusetts has
produced an excellent, careful and
wholly objective examination of the
correlation between these two fac-
tors. She utilized the crime sta-
tistics of Massachusetts because the
series of that state has been kept
continuously since 1885. Examining
the figures for all crimes and correlating them with periods of economic prosperity and depression, she found that crimes against property and vagrancy showed positive correlations with the periods of depression. A large number of charts and tables are presented and the inevitable conclusion the reader reaches is that if more statistical work of this kind were done for other states we should have a genuine knowledge of the effect of employment upon criminal behavior. Dr. Winslow's general conclusion may be found in the last sentence of her study: "The conclusion seems inescapable that the assurance of economic security might be expected to bring with it an appreciable reduction in the volume of crime."

Volume II, devoted largely to an analysis of juvenile delinquency from the standpoint of ecological distribution, is the work of Clifford Shaw and Henry D. McKay. The general implications of the material presented lead inescapably to the conclusion that delinquency areas are causes of crime, however often and pointedly the authors insist that they are only factors. The persistent long-time correlation between transitional zones and delinquency rates which is found by the authors tends to confirm this conclusion. There can be no question from the socio-psychological point of view that the organic plasticity of children developing in areas where anti-social stimuli (such as found in transitional zones) are present, leads to a development of delinquent personality. While no special effort is made to analyze the effects upon attitudes and habits of children in these areas except through association with other delinquents and one detailed case analysis of delinquency in relation to family relationships, the authors make clear that the cultural derivation of such mechanisms of behavior is thoroughly appreciated. Their object, however, is to emphasize the influence of definite natural areas, with specific characteristics, upon the production of juvenile delinquency.

In areas adjacent to the central business districts of Chicago, Philadelphia, Birmingham, Seattle, Richmond, Denver and Cleveland, were found the zones of greatest concentration. Birmingham alone of the cities studied did not conform to the general natural area pattern. Special topographical factors, however, were present in this case. In the other cities a remarkable similarity to the zonal distribution was found, with heaviest concentration in the second zone and a progressive decrease toward the commuter's zone. While the interstitial character of delinquency areas is generally accepted, the studies presented are valuable as buttressing evidence of the principle involved.

The transitional zone, lying immediately outside the central business district, is the area of "first settlement." Prior to the tremendous increase in immigration from Southern and Southeastern Europe, these areas were inhabited by the Irish, Germans and English. As the "new" immigration came in, settlement was made alongside the "old" immigrant group. The old immigrant stock moved out and the number of their children appearing before the probation and juvenile court authorities gradually diminished. Accompanying this decrease in delinquency rates of the old stock came an increase in the delinquency rates of the new settlers in the transitional zone. Thus as the old
immigrant stock moves to the "second settlement" area, the delinquency rates of the area of "first settlement" remains constant. The nationality of the residents appears to make little difference. It is the area of delinquency. This sequence appears to establish a law of succession.

The characteristics of the zones of transition are competently analyzed and quite properly emphasized. These characteristics include physical deterioration, economic dependency, migratory population, heterogeneity of cultural and racial groups, traditional criminality, institutions definitely anti-social, and lack of organized and adequately supervised recreational facilities. The Integration of these produces a configuration of characteristics which makes normal personality development almost impossible.

Out of this anti-social setting emerges the delinquent personality. His play group, given the same general conditioning, possesses the same habits, attitudes and ideals. There is a specific pattern into which the delinquents fall. Rarely is juvenile delinquency the result of the individual acting alone. In most cases two or more individuals are involved. Leaders emerge and a stratification is built up largely on the basis of achievement. The "big shot" or gun-man is a prestige agent, while the jack-roller and petty thief are simply tolerated, never extolled. The code is inflexibly enforced and no member of this sub-group is likely to be guilty a second time of an offense against the code. Special techniques are elaborated for handling 'he stool-pigeon or the one who turns state's evidence. Loyalty to the group is required, and a hero develops through a mouth kept shut.

Much emphasis has been given in recent years to the factor of broken homes. In the present work the exaggeration of this factor is clearly shown. Examination of 7,278 school children between the ages of 10 and 17 years, drawn from 29 Chicago schools, was made in an effort to find the incidence of broken homes in the general population. The nationality was also segregated. Having computed the rate for the non-delinquents, a sample of 1,675 delinquents, of the same age groups and same nationalities which had appeared before the juvenile court, was analyzed. The relative rate for 1,675 school children was compared with the delinquent series, and the control group showed a broken home rate of 36.1, while the delinquent group had a rate of 42.5. The ratio of difference being 1.18, the authors conclude that for Chicago, as shown by these records, the broken home cannot be considered an important factor in juvenile delinquency, although they point out that in specific cases this factor may be very significant. Successive ages of the boys studied yielded the broken home factor even less significance.

This volume is an example of social research carried on by highly competent investigators. They have no cures for the ailment; their work is largely diagnostic. They have achieved a degree of objectivity which is admirable in its own right. They have brought out clearly against a background of poverty, conflicting social and cultural imperatives, distorted personalities, sub-group loyalties, and criminal definitions of social situations, the necessity for intelligent social and economic planning to replace the present chaotic and archaic social and economic organization,
and intensive case analysis of juvenile personality development to replace the policy of banishment too often applied to an annoying juvenile delinquent.

J. P. SHALLOO.
University of Pennsylvania.

REPORT ON THE COST OF CRIME.

This report represents an effort to learn what crime costs the United States in dollars and cents. It includes studies of the cost of criminal law administration to the federal government and to 300 of 365 cities of over 25,000 population; of the published material on state and municipal costs of administering criminal justice; of the cost of state police, state penal and correctional institutions, and parole agencies; of private expenditures for crime prevention; and of private and community losses from crime. The directors of the survey, Goldthwaite H. Dorr, Esq., and Sydney P. Simpson, Esq., who are also the principal authors of the report, acknowledge assistance from many educational institutions, research and other agencies, and from hundreds of individuals.

The directors are to be congratulated upon the courage with which they went through with an enormous and perplexing task in the face of severe limitations of time and money. That they do not tell us how much crime costs was to have been expected. In their last chapter they state that they cannot even guess at the total cost, except that it is large, "very considerably in excess of $350,000,000 per year." This figure is built up on a vast array of data, in the preparation of which the compilers encountered, and, one hopes, solved with substantial accuracy a host of very difficult questions of cost allocation. The report will probably be a valuable starting point for others who may want to compute the cost of crime or to build up comparative statistics on the cost of criminal law administration. A lot of valuable preliminary thinking has unquestionably been done. Recommendations of the directors for improved statistical sources and continuation of some of the work from the point at which they were compelled to relinquish it shows that they are under no illusions as to the finality of the report.

Most readers will approach the report with the feeling that both criminal activities and their cost should be reduced. They will emerge with sympathy for efforts to reduce the cost, but probably with no great enthusiasm for suppressing some of the criminals. For apparently the report regards as crime any act for which the community formally prescribes a penalty, notwithstanding that as to some acts a large part of the community might agree that prosecution is persecution. In addition, then, to economies of administration and more effective preventive and suppressive methods, we can reduce the cost of crime simply by narrowing the definition of it. The authors suggest that the savings might be substantial if the criminal law were thoroughly overhauled and "legislation of doubtful utility and obvious unenforceability" eliminated, but they disclaim, with full justification, responsibility for telling us which acts should be stricken from the list of crimes.

Rather stimulating is the analysis
in which cost is defined. Two kinds, for the most part mutually exclusive, are mentioned: ultimate and immediate. Ultimate cost is the loss in national income due to crime; more energy would be available for producing wealth if less went into crime and protection against crime. Apparently this is the cost the authors would like to compute, but they give it up as impossible, and we may pass it by here with the reflection that under an economic order in which avenues to productivity were less restricted there might be less crime to begin with. The immediate cost, through which the authors hope to catch a glimpse of ultimate cost, includes such items as the cost of administration of criminal justice, private expenditures for protection against crime, losses due to criminal acts, and net costs of insurance against crime. But here it will be observed we are dealing with amounts paid by one part of the community to another part, and crime is rather a distributor than a destroyer of wealth. Perhaps it is not entitled to a hearing on the fairness of its distribution. At any rate it gets none in this report. With none too great precision, the authors name taxpayers and property-owners as the classes aggrieved and proceed to compute the toll levied upon them.

CLARENCE G. SHENTON.
Bureau of Municipal Research of Philadelphia.


REPORT ON LAWLESSNESS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT. By the National Commission on Law Observance and Enforcement. 347 pp. U. S. Printing Office, Washington, 1931. $0.60.

The National Commission on Law Observance and Enforcement, commonly known as the Wickersham Commission, appointed by President Hoover have divided their report into fourteen separate parts. Number Fourteen is a "Report on Police" and is an excellent resumé of the police situation throughout the United States.

The commission states that in the matter of crime prevention there is a loss of public confidence in the uniformed police of our country—a statement with which I take issue because I believe the police are gaining the confidence of the public. Its loss of confidence is in our judiciary.

The chief trouble with the police, it is claimed, lies in the insecure, short term of service of the chief or head of the force and his being subject in the discharge of his duties to the control of politicians. This is absolutely so. The next cause of trouble is "lack of competent, efficient and honest patrolmen and subordinate officers." "Even where there are civil service examinations, the hand of the politicians is all too visible in such promotions." This is only too true for civil service has always been a curse to a police force.

The report states further that there is lack of sufficient training in police work; lack of sufficient communicating systems; that there are too many duties cast upon each police officer and patrolman; that the salaries of police should be increased; that better records of ac-
tivities should be kept and that State Police forces and State Bureaus of Criminal Investigation and Information should be established in every state.

There can be no question that any one of these statements and recommendations should be heeded and I would go further in saying that there be also a National Bureau of Record and Identification established in Washington.

Police is the first line of defense against the criminal and our country could not exist today without police. When it becomes a recognized profession it will attract a higher type of men and from such men better police chiefs will be developed.

Stopping crime cannot be done by the Federal or State governments. It is purely a local matter. Each town or city must clean itself up. I regret to make this statement but it is a truthful one that the police forces of our cities are exactly the type of police forces that the vast majority of the citizens in each locality seem to want. When the local public want a law abiding city, they can have it. All they have to do is to select a good chief, get behind him, see that the politicians do not appoint the men under him and they will be as well taken care of as they are in Milwaukee where such a condition exists. So when several cities stamp out crime they will be examples for others and gradually there will be larger and larger areas reasonably free from crime. This is the only solution to the problem.

Report No. 11 deals with "Lawlessness in Law Enforcement" and takes up the discussion of the so-called third degree, by which is meant the "employment of methods which inflict suffering, physical or mental, upon a person in order to obtain from that person information about crime." The Commission avers that the "third degree" is a "secret and illegal practice."

Numerous authentic accounts of almost unbelievable brutal practices by police throughout the country are given. Of course there are two sides to this question. Many criminals are brutal and kid glove methods cannot be used. The theory that the end justifies the means seems to be the police idea. There are good and bad features in this. Certainly the third degree when not carried too far has solved many a problem and it also has instilled a certain wholesome fear of police among criminals that is of advantage, but as the report states, respect for law which is the fundamental prerequisite of law observance can hardly be expected of people in general if the officers do not set the example of obedience to its precepts.

The third degree is unlawful. The only way to overcome the abuse of this practice is for each community to take the matter in hand by making its police force the right kind and then will there be a proper regard for the rights of citizens even when arrested.

The report of the Wickersham Commission could be of great benefit to the citizens of the United States and should be given wide publicity.

GEORGE F. CHANDLER.


The Wickersham Commission secured the services of Dean Edith
Abbott for the direction of this study on crime and the foreign born. The report contains an introductory statement with regard to the scope of inquiry—a critical and historical survey of public opinion from colonial to modern times with regard to the problem of crime and the foreign born follows. Miss Alida Bowler's survey of recent crime statistics comprises Part II of the report. Part III consists of three independent studies of Mexican immigrants and crime. This is followed by three community studies—the foreign born and crime in New Orleans, San Francisco, and Stockton, Cal. Part V is a summary by Dr. Abbott of the conclusions of the report.

In the introductory statement Dean Abbott calls attention to the difficulties of securing reliable facts. The miserable condition of the statistics of crime, the data concerning the foreign born elements in the population and the unreliability concerning the nativity of persons charged with crime make trustworthy judgments concerning crime and the foreign born difficult. Yet the attempt is made to assemble such official data as are available. Over four million cases were utilized. The information was based upon police statistics from 34 cities, indictments and informations, convictions, commitments to Federal and State prisons and reformatories. The following conclusions were believed to be warranted:

1. "That in proportion to their respective numbers the foreign born commit considerably fewer crimes than the native born.
2. That the foreign born approach the record of the native white most closely in the commission of crimes involving personal violence.
3. That in crimes for gain (including robbery, in which there is also personal violence or the threat of violence) the native white greatly exceed the foreign born.
4. That in the commission of certain types of offenses there is considerable variation among the different nationalities within the foreign-born group, but that the detailed data as yet available are insufficient, both as to quantity and accuracy, to warrant the formation of any final conclusion as to the comparative criminality of any particular groups.
5. That there is insufficient information available to warrant any deductions as to criminal activity among the native born of foreign parentage as compared with those of native parentage.
6. That the limited data assembled indicate strongly the valuable contribution that could be made to the analysis of the crime problem in the United States by a continuing study of a scientific character over a period of at least five years and on a national scale of the subjects approached in this brief report."

Despite the many possibilities of inaccurate data which Miss Bowler is aware of and notwithstanding faulty methods of inquiry the major conclusion that the foreign born persons commit fewer major offenses, in proportion to their numbers, of the same sex and age, than do the native born is supported by independent and different classes of data. The per cent distribution of admissions to New York City correctional institutions over a five year period, and of the population of New York City, 15 years and over, 1920 census, by nativity and country of birth (pp. 145-146), the commitments to Federal and State
Prisons and Reformatories (pp. 147-156) of the foreign born in proportion to their numbers in the general population, the data with regard to arrests and court arraignments of the foreign born (see, for example, tables III, IV, and V, on pp. 109, 112-113 and 117), the number of convictions obtained in Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit and Los Angeles over a period of years (pp. 123-134)—all tend to substantiate each other.

The three special studies on the Mexican immigrants are inconclusive. Professor Taylor concludes that "the evidence of comparative law observance by Mexicans varies from locality to locality..." The data show that the Mexicans present an unfavorable comparison with the native white in some regions and a favorable comparison in others. Prof. Handman concludes from his study in Texas that there is "no evidence to show that the Mexicans run afoul of the law any more than anyone else..." Mr. Warnshuis studied the Mexicans of Illinois. He shows that the Mexican immigrant suffers, as do other immigrant groups, from certain discriminations in our system of law enforcement and criminal justice. The discriminatory effect of imprisonment for non-payment of fines is felt by the Mexicans more than by any other immigrant group. Very few cases are granted probation or parole in comparison with other delinquents.

The three special community studies in San Francisco, Stockton, California, and New Orleans agree generally with the findings of Miss Bowler.

It is rather difficult to compare the value of the several studies comprising this report since they are different in character and demand special types of procedure. I cannot refrain, however, from singling out the study of Prof. Max Handman as the one which best shows an awareness of the dangers of loose thinking, in the present problem. Prof. Handman states at the beginning of his report, "When one attempts to establish any relation between national traits and delinquent behavior, it is incumbent upon him, as a matter of scientific integrity, to state with precision what is meant by both of these expressions: national traits and delinquent behavior. Unfortunately both of them are surrounded by a vagueness akin to chaos and one is almost compelled to construct his concepts as he goes along" (p. 245). Dean Abbot comments favorably upon Prof. Handman's suggestion in her Introductory Statement. Immediately following her quotation of Prof. Handman's words of caution Dr. Abbot writes, "In the present report, however (italics mine), the terms 'crime' and 'foreign born' will be used as they usually appear in the presentation of statistics that are made a matter of official record on these subjects... In using the term 'foreign born' in this report no attempt is made to discuss the complicated subjects of 'nationality' and 'race'" (p. 12) (italics mine). Dean Abbot evidently repudiates the need for "scientific integrity" and is willing to discuss or assume the responsibility of a discussion covering several hundred pages without carefully defining the basic terms of the discussion which are "surrounded by a vagueness akin to chaos." This lack of rigid definition invalidates the Report as a contribution to our knowledge of crime and criminals. A strict definition or, at least, an examination of fundamental terms would have dis-
posed of the problem, and saved several years of labor and thousands of dollars. The problem would have been intelligently stated, namely, what happens when human beings with a definite culture pattern are set in a different culture pattern? It is significant that the comparisons throughout the study are generally in terms of age and sex and number, and not in terms of social settings. No reputable student of criminology, I believe, would maintain that nationality, as such, is related to the incidence of crime. If this Wickersham Report is intended for students then a straw man has been set up and knocked down. The work has been gratuitous. If, on the other hand, the Report is intended for popular consumption, the popular impression that the adult "foreigner" accounts for most of the crime in the United States may be dispelled.

NATHANIEL CANTOR.
University of Buffalo.


This is a study of the enforcement of deportation laws of the United States made by Mr. Reuben Oppenheimer, a member of the Baltimore bar. It is concerned with the processes of the law in the expulsion of aliens unlawfully in the United States. More specifically, it is a study of the methods by which "warrant proceedings," the processes of expulsion, are conducted and their results. The present policy of this country with regard to immigration was adopted in 1917. The whole matter was placed in the hands of the immigration service at Washington. Their chief task was the prohibition of entry in the United States of those classes of immigrants whom the law excluded. It appeared that immigrant entries were being made, hence prohibition of entry had to be supplemented by the detection and deportation of fraudulent entrants. The mechanism for this was found in a mere enlargement of the administrative task of the Bureau of Immigration. It seemed natural to intrust this detection and deportation of ineligibles to the Bureau since it was already their task to prevent immigrant entries. Again, there has been a tendency in the past fifty years to extend the uses of administrative rather than judicial processes in order to avoid delay and to simplify procedure.

The consequence of this centralization of function, Mr. Oppenheimer shows, has resulted in many evils.

A brief description of the system and operation will show where these evils occur. The entire system for the investigation, apprehension and deportation of aliens is centralized in the Department of Labor at Washington. The Board of Review is a non-statutory body appointed by the Secretary of Labor and subject to his jurisdiction. The judgments of the Central Bureau are based upon the reports of the immigration officers who have discovered the alleged unlawful entrant, subjected him to examination, formed a judgment adverse to him and reported for confirmation and authority to act.

It is the custom in the great majority of cases, when investigation has thrown suspicion on a certain
alien, to make a preliminary examination of the suspect under oath. The examination, which is made by the immigrant inspector before an application for a warrant of arrest, is made as a private hearing. The alien is not permitted to have counsel. In many cases the inspector acts as examiner, interpreter and stenographer. Of the 453 cases studied during the year ending June 30th, 1929, over 85 per cent were subjected to this preliminary examination before the application for a warrant of arrest was made. There are no general provisions governing this preliminary examination defined either by statutes or by rules. In approximately one-third of the preliminary examinations in the cases studied, the examining inspector himself acted as interpreter for the suspect. In over 10 per cent of the preliminary examinations, the immigrant inspector acted as interpreter, stenographer and examiner (p. 64). In less than half of the cases studied were the suspects advised in the beginning of the examination that anything they said could be used against them in subsequent proceedings. Approximately 60 per cent were not told that the statements given by them were not required by law but could be voluntary on their part—in other words, they are not told that they did not have to talk if they did not want to (p. 67).

The inspector is not limited in the scope of his inquiries by any kind of rule. He may include or exclude in the record which forms the basis for the application of the warrant of arrest any evidence he chooses.

In the great majority of cases the application for a warrant of arrest is telegraphed to Washington. This application gives the name of the suspect but does not recite any particulars. At Washington there are two warrant officers who pass upon applications for warrants of arrest. These two officers passed upon 20,000 applications for the year ending June 30th, 1929. Thus it can be seen that the granting of a warrant for arrest tends to become automatic, "and a district officer can generally be assured when he sends a telegraphic application that he will shortly receive a telegraphic warrant in return" (p. 81).

Once the warrant is returned, a hearing is arranged. Approximately about one-half of the suspects in the 453 cases studied were represented by attorneys (p. 55). In the cases studied where a warrant hearing was held, the inspectors recommended the deportation of approximately 95 per cent of the suspects. In a small minority of the warrant cases an oral hearing before the Board is requested and is almost always granted. These hearings are private, and highly informal. The Board acts in the dual capacity of representing the government in the enforcement of the law while, at the same time, deciding the questions of law and fact brought before it.

The record of the hearing under the warrant of arrest is then sent to the Department in Washington along with the data in the case. The Board of Review looks through the report of the inspector and recommends action, which is sent to the Secretary of Labor or one of his assistants, who decide whether or not a warrant of deportation should be issued.

From the analysis of these cases, Mr. Oppenheimer concludes that the apprehension and examination of supposed aliens are often character-
ized by methods unconstitutional, tyrannical and oppressive; that "the enforcement of the deportation laws is handicapped by overcentralization of the administrative machinery and by burdening that machinery with the performance of conflicting duties"; that "the patrol and immigrant inspectors are insufficient in number and generally have not the necessary qualifications properly to use their tremendous authority."

The abuses of the present system, according to Mr. Oppenheimer, would be largely cured if the Department of Labor would be charged only with the duties of investigation and prosecution of aliens unlawfully in this country, and of execution of warrants of deportation when issued.

A board should be created independent of the department charged with the administrative features of the enforcement of the law. Such a judicial body would be wholly dissociated from the discovery and prosecution of deportees.

The Bill of Rights of the United States and of the states extends the guarantee of the great fundamental rights to all persons, whether they are citizens or not. They are all given the equal protection of our laws. Yet as a general rule, according to Mr. Oppenheimer, in the absence of proof that the deportation proceedings have not been fairly conducted, the courts will not disturb the decision of the Secretary of Labor to deport the alien if there is any evidence to support it, regardless of the character or weight of the evidence which the alien has produced (p. 45). The Supreme Court has decided that, while it is not a violation of due processes of law to have deportation proceedings conducted entirely by an Executive Department, the proceedings must nevertheless be administered fairly and openly. The question is: what constitutes a fair hearing in deportation proceedings? Who, acting on behalf of the alien, will submit proof that the proceedings have not been fairly conducted, since most of them are not represented by counsel? Furthermore, there is no one in behalf of the alien to sift the evidence supporting a warrant of deportation or to protect his interests in the preliminary hearing. It is for such reasons as these that Mr. Oppenheimer suggests and the Commission adopts his recommendation that an independent judicial board should be charged with the duties of issuing warrants of arrest, of conducting hearings on the warrants, and of deciding when warrants of deportation should be issued.

A further recommendation is made that the Board of Alien Appeals should have discretion to allow even deportable aliens to remain in this country where deportation would result in unnecessary hardship to American families. It is further suggested that legal aid systems should cooperate in arranging counsel for persons charged with being illegally in this country.

NATHANIEL CANTOR.
University of Buffalo.

MANUAL OF POLICE RECORDS AS INSTALLED IN PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, AND APPLICABLE TO CITIES OF 25,000 TO 150,000 POPULATION. By the International City Managers' Association. 37 pp. + tables. International Association of Chiefs of Police, Chicago, 1931.

This Manual is based on a study of police records made for the city
of Pasadena, California. The report was prepared by Mr. Donald C. Stone, Research Director of the International City Managers' Association. A foreword has been written by Mr. William P. Rutledge, Executive Vice-President of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. The chapter headings are as follows:

Services Provided by a Police Record System.
A Unified Records Bureau.
Procedure for Reporting and Controlling Offenses Known to Police.
Procedure for Reporting and Controlling Persons Charged by Police.
Procedure for Property Identification Records.
The Recording of Miscellaneous Police Services.
Personnel Records.
General Administrative Reports.

The report is fully illustrated with sample record forms. It is an authoritative study and concisely presented.

LEONARD V. HARRISON.
Bureau of Social Hygiene, Inc.

CONFLICTING PENAL THEORIES IN STATUTORY CRIMINAL LAW. By Mabel A. Elliott. xiii+274 pp. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1931. $4.00.

"This study," according to the author's preface, "aims merely to analyze the philosophy represented in significant trends of penal legislation as embodied in the statutes of thirteen selected states."

The penal legislation considered was enacted between the years 1900 and 1927. The selected states are California, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Texas.

Philosophies of penal treatment and criminal law which are set forth as conflicting are the classical theory and the positivist theory. Outstanding champions of each are presented. The abstract doctrines of the classical theory are developed and applied—the doctrines of measured statutory crime and penalty, of free will and of retribution, and even of vengeance. In opposition there is presented the positivist theory, with its consideration of the individual offender and of the causative factors of his crime—a theory essentially scientific and utilitarian, although at times it is supplanted by determinism and fatalism. The extremists in each camp are described, respectively, as "the conservative legalist and the so-called 'radical' psychiatrist."

Neither of the two conflicting forces appears to have won complete or final victory in any state, and neither seems to have suffered defeats amounting to annihilation. Three chapters present the victories of the classical forces in the enactment of statutes designed to punish repeated or multiple offenses (habitual criminal statutes), and to increase penalties, and to perpetuate or to extend the death penalty. Other chapters show that, in nearly all of the thirteen states, the "positivist (or scientific)" forces have won victories for such causes as the juvenile court, the indeterminate sentence and parole, the suspended sentence and probation, the scientific treatment of the criminal insane, and the organization of forces of policewomen.

Missouri "seems to lean more heavily toward the classical point of view than the other states represented." For example, Missouri has
failed to provide even for probation or for the indeterminate sentence. Ohio and Nebraska are said to represent "the most consistently positive tendencies" among the thirteen states. Next in rank are placed Minnesota, Indiana, and Massachusetts. In New York the battle between the penological theories has been "more intense" than in the other twelve states.

The author observes that the states are clinging to classical traditions and customs, and declares that a penal system "half scientific and half vengeance" can not be effective. The trend of penal legislation since 1900 seems to the author to have been strongly toward the positivist philosophy. The author concludes that "the next task of the positivists is to demonstrate the effectiveness of their theory by pragmatic tests if they would gain a hearing by the law-makers." This conflict of philosophies, in the opinion of the reviewer, is not likely ever to be wholly won or wholly lost by either side. The task, therefore, of the legislator, the lawyer, the judge, the criminologist and the psychiatrist appears to be the joint attainment of the most effective working balance between the two philosophies. In the discharge of this task, scientific analyses like this study will continue to be indispensable.

James J. Robinson.
Indiana University School of Law.


Writing primarily for a French audience, Mr. de Monzie discusses informally many of the defects and some of the virtues of the French judiciary as he has known it in his thirty years experience as a lawyer, and as a member of many French cabinets. To the American reader "Grandeur et Servitude Judiciaires" will inevitably suggest comparisons between the system of a professional judiciary existing in France and the elective American judiciary. The author quotes Balzac concerning the essential difficulty with the exercise of the judicial function in France, namely that the country needs six thousand judges, and no generation produces so many great men as that. A similar observation could certainly be made of America.

Lacking enough great men, the French judiciary, in Mr. de Monzie's opinion, has developed certain qualities, attitudes and methods which hamper the best exercise of its functions. It is intensely conservative, perennially opposing reform. Though the French magistracy has a permanent tenure, it is not free from the tyranny of public opinion. It is to this latter factor that De Monzie attributes the astonishing impunity accorded Léon Daudet's libellous writing during the war.

The author is also not satisfied with the fact that the promotion of a young judge depends upon the opinion of his superior. It subjects promotions, says Mr. de Monzie, to the "caprices of the chiefs of the various courts and to the machinations of provincial coteries."

De Monzie brands as absurd the fixed belief of the Frenchman on the street that the judge may be reached if the proper influence is exercised. Whatever their other defects and "servitudes" may be, the French judge does not suffer a
political servitude. If this be true, the French situation contrasts strikingly with the American, where the politician lawyer exercises such an unholy influence upon the administration of justice. Mr. de Monzie notes that although France may not be able to obtain six thousand “great men” for her judiciary, she manages to obtain that many honest men. That explains, he declares, why a people so jealous of its liberty as the French is so submissive to the will of its judiciary.

MORRIS PLOSCOWE.

CASE STUDIES OF UNEMPLOYMENT.


The twelfth volume of a series of socio-economic studies sponsored by the Industrial Research Department of the University of Pennsylvania is a cooperatively produced report on our current major social problem. In the spring of 1928, the National Federation of Settlements appointed a committee to study the effects of unemployment on home and neighborhood life. Over 100 settlements and other social agencies, drawn from 32 cities distributed through 21 states, collaborated in the undertaking. The resulting work, simply titled, Case Studies of Unemployment, seems to be a 468 page addendum to Clinch Calkins’ fairly well known Some Folks Won’t Work.

The report is divided into five main sections. Paul Kellogg’s Foreword and Introducing Our Neighbors, by Helen Hall precede the 150 Case Studies of Unemployment. There is a Recapitulation, prepared by Marion Elderton, which serves as a special index or key to the cases. This tabulated section has the following headings:

- Roster of Case Studies
- Causes of Unemployment
- Re-Employment
- Physical Effects
- Psychological Effects
- Effects on Children and Future Plans

An Appendix presents five essays on Unemployment written by young people who have suffered its de-moralizing effects. Here are given also the personnel of the Unemployment Committee, a list of settlements reporting cases, and the questionnaire.

These Appendices well might have added a forthright statement about the methodology of the study, the basis in selecting the histories for publication, a criticism of the resulting contributions, and the difficulty of co-ordinating the results. The fact that the limitations which were to have been observed in the selection of cases were frequently overlooked or violated by a hundred collaborators is not surprising. But the frequency with which seeming failure to grasp the purpose of the study is revealed in these 150 records surely should have been a matter for comment.

That this particular study does not yield as an instructive by-product signs of the presence or absence of an interrelationship between unemployment and crime need not obscure its far more significant testimony concerning the widespread social waste and misery resulting from our management of
BOOK REVIEWS

industrial life. Nor should the failure of these authors to propose a workable program or a remedy lessen the value of their contribution. An emotional awakening seems the usual prerequisite to concerted action. If as a nation, collectively and individually, we can accept in principle that the insecurity of the worker is a devastating social ill that reflects discredit upon society rather than upon the worker, we shall have taken the first long step toward a solution.

RUTH TOPPING,
MARGARET McNAMARA.


"Truth, crushed to earth, shall rise again"—but not invariably without some scientifically applied assistance when, in a trial at court, it is pinned down by the weight of two or more witnesses.

This, briefly, is Dr. Mitchell's theme in this engaging book. It is not a collection of drab scientific data on crime. The author on the contrary discloses the pulsing color and romance of genuine forensic achievement. He marshals, to be viewed in perspective, the manner in which the scientist of today, in the test tube and crucible, through the lens of the microscope and the camera, or with other aids, finds confounding facts upon which, in the dramatic setting of our courts, the rightful title to property, the liberty and sometimes the life of an individual, often depend.

This book is a second publication of "The Expert Witness" by Dr. Mitchell (Appleton, 1923) under a new title. It is moderately enlarged as to text, reduced to pocket size, printed on paper better suited to the numerous illustrations and workably indexed.

The new title is a misnomer. It carries with it a distinct loss of tone. The author's work is too genuinely good to be captioned so flipantly. The publisher deserves a swift kick for this unhappy jumble. He deserves another for three aggravating and wholly unnecessary typographical errors.

Among the new items added the author failed in one instance to verify sources. He has implied performance erroneously to B. Wentworth, of Dover, New Hampshire, on pages 53 and 54, of an extraordinary piece of work in a murder investigation done by and under the sole direction of E. O. Heinrich, of Berkeley, California.

This book is well worth the attention of any one seeking to learn something about the present day applications of the natural sciences to criminal investigation. It occupies that middle ground between thriller and text book in which there are so few good writers and which Mitchell adorns.

EDWARD OSCAR HEINRICH.
Berkeley, California.

BATTING THE CRIME WAVE. By Harry Elmer Barnes. vi+245 pp. The Stratford Co., Boston, 1931. $2.00.

In the preface to this book the author warns reviewers that it is "an exercise in humanizing knowledge and popular education" and not "a treatise for experts." He also makes it clear that the book consists for the most part of ma-
The first section of the book deals with prisons, the major phases and problems of which are given summary attention. The progressive and sound viewpoint is far more important than certain statements, which because of brevity or haste in writing may be questioned: such as those charging the opposition to prison industries exclusively to organized labor when, the country over, business interests have been no less potent if less open in their opposition; or those repeating the claim that criminals are more intelligent than the general public, the police or the convicts.

The second section of the book consists of a series of pungent comments on significant events and incidents of crime, the police, courts, jails, and prisons. A careful editing in this section might have changed some sentences or phrases which may be questioned, but the general viewpoint back of them and the book as a whole is the important thing and generally coincides with that held by forward looking administrators and students of the problem, even though it is, as yet, so little grasped by the general public. It shows clearly and forcibly the relation of our whole social order to our crime problem and the many factors which render ineffectual the work of detecting and trying the offender as well as that of treating him in prison. The reading list appended contains reference to many books of value.

Paul W. Garrett.
Briarcliff Manor, New York.


Dr. Hacker has set himself the task of studying the extent to which various religious beliefs influence the criminality of the individual in general as well as the influence of religion upon the degree and the direction of crime. The author assumes that strong religious beliefs have a tendency definitely to deter criminal tendencies and at the same time strengthen the desire of the individual to protect existing social institutions.

The information which furnishes the basis of this statistical study was secured from persons convicted of crimes in the Hungarian courts and covers varying periods from 1890 to 1928. One chapter of the book is devoted to crimino-etiological factors and attempts to evaluate the effects upon crime of factors such as the degree of education among those belonging to various religious beliefs, mother tongue, marital condition, rural and urban residence, condition of living with special reference to the City of Budapest.

In a summary table the criminality of those belonging to various religious beliefs covering the two periods 1909-1913 and 1926-1928 is compared:
On the basis of these summary data the author comes to the conclusion that criminality shows a considerable increase among the adherents of practically all religious beliefs in Hungary and that this same tendency is apparent in the detailed figures covering the four main groups of offenses, viz: offenses against the state, offenses against society, offenses against the person and offenses against property. Dr. Hacker concludes that the different degrees of criminality among the adherents of different religious beliefs do not have their origin in the particular religious affiliations, but are to be found in the varying personal characteristics of the individual and the social conditions under which he lives.

The author feels that it is practically impossible to trace the influence of religion upon the criminal tendencies of the individual as such. Other criminological factors exert their influence at the same time. Criminality is an unusually complicated social occurrence in which numerous factors play their part simultaneously. In spite of our desire to appraise the influence of each factor separately, it is seldom possible to do so and we have to be satisfied with the observation of several factors functioning concurrently.

Dr. Hacker makes the observation that crinimo-etiological studies must needs deal with mass action influenced by a multitude of factors, and that this makes it impossible to follow step by step, the conduct of the individual or trace the changes in his inner life. The author does not believe that it is possible to establish theses and laws governing social life with mathematical accuracy as is possible in the realm of physics. He feels that in the field of crinimo-etiology a great many problems are still to be solved.

EMIL FRANKEL.

New Jersey Department of Institutions and Agencies.


Like previous reports of this Association issued by its general secretary, Mr. E. R. Cass, this year's issue is informative and interesting. In addition to a report on the Association's legislative program and its
other activities, the volume contains an outline of the work of the 1930 International Penal Law and Prison Congress in Prague; a translation of the Rules for the treatment of prisoners adopted by that Congress; Mr. Cass's observations and comments on foreign prisons (pp. 75-100) and a translation of the official Prussian pamphlet on "The Grade System in Prison Administration in Prussia." The report may be secured through the Association, 135 East 15th Street, New York City.

THORSTEN SELLIN.


The proceedings of the American Prison Association, which counts in its membership state and local prison executives, penologists, and social workers, must be read by all who wish to keep in touch with the progress of prison reform in the United States. Besides reports of committees, there are no fewer than forty-two signed addresses of various length, covering such varied subjects as probation, juvenile courts, the training of prison officers, parole selection and supervision, health and educational problems in the prison, etc.

THORSTEN SELLIN.
PAGES 797-800 ARE
INTENTIONALLY OMITTED