

1951

Police Science Book Reviews

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.law.northwestern.edu/jclc>

 Part of the [Criminal Law Commons](#), [Criminology Commons](#), and the [Criminology and Criminal Justice Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Police Science Book Reviews, 41 J. Crim. L. & Criminology 711 (1950-1951)

This Criminology is brought to you for free and open access by Northwestern University School of Law Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology by an authorized editor of Northwestern University School of Law Scholarly Commons.

POLICE SCIENCE BOOK REVIEWS

Edited by
Ralph F. Turner*

LES TATOUAGES DU "MILIEU," By *Jacques Delarue* and *Robert Giraud*. La Roulotte, Publisher, 25 Rue Bonaparte, Paris, VIe. 1950. Pp. 54, Plates 80. 990 francs.

This book should be of considerable interest not only to the criminologist and the police officer, but also to the medico-legist, the sociologist and the psychologist.

The first part is a study of tattooing as it occurs in the "milieu," the environment in which those who adopt the practice are usually found, and of which the criminal and the prostitute are prominent members.

The text, although brief, is remarkably comprehensive, and accurate apart perhaps from the myth of the frequency of tattooing amongst the British aristocracy. It deals with etiology, methods, history and incidence of tattooing. There is a good classification, well described, and illustrated by marginal drawings, of which there are about eighty. Short sections follow on tattooing in women, removal of tattoos, the question of whether tattooing can be considered as an art, and certain general conclusions.

The second part consists of eighty plates. These, in general, are well reproduced; they have been carefully selected, and they form a rich collection of material.

The stiff cover and the clear print are far above the usual standard of book production in France.

The lack of bibliography is a defect which should be remedied in later editions.

Although the material for this book has been gathered in France, the general principles illustrated are international. Even in matters of detail the amount of common ground shown by tattoos, be they executed in France, the United States or Great Britain, is remarkable. The divergencies only serve to emphasize the necessity for similar studies to be made in other countries.

In this field the French have made major contributions. Lacassagne's book on the subject, published in 1881, set the standard. This present book maintains it.

Department of Forensic Medicine,
University of Leeds, England.

ROBERT P. BRITAIN

MUNICIPAL POLICE ADMINISTRATION. International City Managers' Association, Chicago, Ill. Third Edition, 1950. 468 pp. Bibliography. \$7.50.

Since its first publication in 1938 (2nd Ed. 1943), *Municipal Police Administration* has achieved recognition as a standard reference work for police executives, a widely-used text-book in university and police academy courses in police administration, and a fixture on lists of collateral readings for students of city government. It is the American counterpart of Chief Constable Cecil Moriarty's *Police Procedure and Administration*, the long-time "bible" of English and commonwealth police forces. Edited by O. W. Wilson, one-time chief of police at Wichita, who is now Dean of the School of Criminology at the University of California, and with an imposing list of

* Assoc. Prof. of Police Admin., Michigan State College, E. Lansing.

police experts as contributing editors, it is an authoritative, complete, readable, and objective volume. Although an acute student might identify certain biases on controversial issues, in general the authors present the major arguments advanced by all parties to these controversies.

Organized into fourteen chapters, *Municipal Police Administration* gives thorough coverage to all areas of police activity: Patrol, traffic, criminal investigation, vice control (a wholly new chapter), public relations, juvenile delinquency, communications, records, equipment, personnel management, training, and organization. Of especial interest and importance are the two "problem" chapters (Chap. 1 and 13) which bring into sharp focus the historical and current administrative and operational difficulties which beset American police agencies. Recognition of the need for an intelligence unit (confidential squad) to "police the police" adds a welcome note of realism lacking in the earlier editions.

This new edition is shorter by some sixty-odd pages than its predecessor—but it has lost nothing in the editing. Perhaps due to the extensive use of materials from the editor's forthcoming volume (O. W. Wilson, *Police Administration*, New York, McGraw-Hill, 1950), it has gained a cohesive unity and a smoothness of presentation which make it not only easier to digest but somehow much more convincing than the more diffuse second edition. There is still some material which might with little loss be excised (notably Case IV on page 194) and some overly-colorful language could be toned down to make the book more scholarly while equally effective, e.g.: the dismissal of a police officer is hardly "a major catastrophe" (p. 132).

The new chapter on vice control is a welcome addition—particularly so because of the care taken to "explode" some of the more fallacious arguments advanced by ill-informed citizens in support of legalized prostitution and gambling. The weight of police opinion supports the author's advocacy of a separate vice squad reporting directly to the chief of police—this reviewer, having in mind the effective span of control of that harried official, his short tenure, his political connections, and aware of the complex inter-relationships between vice and the other areas of criminal activity and the notorious propensity of vice squads to identify themselves morally and financially with their clientele, is not convinced. Especially strong and well-written are the chapters dealing with juvenile delinquency (edited by Robert Bowling of the Los Angeles Police Department) and traffic control (rewritten by Col. Frank Kreml of the Northwestern University Traffic Institute).

Physically the new edition is more attractively bound, printed on much better paper, with larger, clearer type, and has better reproductions of forms and charts. It is competently indexed and replete with up-to-date statistics. The addition of selected illustrations (lie detector, a police laboratory lay-out, an emergency kit, etc.) and selected tables of police as distinguished from crime statistics seem indicated. The bibliography is helpful but incomplete (many excellent works mentioned in footnotes are unaccountably missing), and there are too many works of little or no value listed.

Police officers of all ranks, municipal executives and legislators, students of government, and criminologists should read *Municipal Police Administration* attentively and refer to it often;¹ intelligent, public-spirited citizens interested

1. *Municipal Police Administration* is one of a series of eight volumes covering such phases of city governmental activity as: Fire-fighting, city-planning, recreational administration, public works, and municipal finance which are published by the International City Managers Association for the Institute for Training in Municipal Administration. The complete series constitutes an invaluable reference library on American city government.

in economical, efficient law enforcement in their communities will find it invaluable; vocational advisors might well recommend it to those young men and women who express an interest in a law enforcement career.

New York University

DONAL E. J. MACNAMARA

MARIHUANA IN LATIN AMERICA. THE THREAT IT CONSTITUTES. By *Pablo Osvaldo Wolff, M.D. Ph.D., M.A.* The Linacre Press, Inc., Washington 6, D. C. 1949. \$1.50.

In an introductory foreword to this book, Mr. Harry J. Anslinger, U. S. Commissioner of Narcotics and U. S. Representative on United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs, states that this book is not only interesting to Latin American persons, but to any one who is in any way concerned with the question of whether or not this drug is pernicious and whether or not there is any relationship between marihuana and delinquency and criminology. He states that the book throws important light on this phase of the subject.

In reading the book, we are completely convinced of the validity of Mr. Anslinger's remarks. Much has been written pro and con relative to the effect of marihuana on the human subject. Some of the literature has been compiled by officials of penal institutions, who, in many cases, deny that the use of marihuana has had any effect on the presence of many inmates in these institutions. The author complained about the conclusions drawn by the LaGuardia Committee because the observations were made in courts, clinics, or prisons. He makes a point that it is the nature of criminal tendencies not to manifest themselves in the hospital nor the out-patients department nor at the judicial cross-examination. Neither are the experimental conditions correct when prisoners are given marihuana to smoke in surroundings of rigid discipline, instead of the bad, but free, environment to which they accustomed. The author carefully explains throughout the book that marihuana smokers only react freely when they are in their own surroundings, safeguarded from alien observations and vigilance. It is also clear that it is not exactly in prison that antisocial conduct can be noted. The same individual, or at least a large number of them, who were allowed only small amounts of the drug under supervision, and thus did not pass beyond the enjoyment stage, would probably have given free rein to their real inclinations had they been in complete liberty. The LaGuardia opinion is in marked contrast to that of the other authors, also North Americans and of wide experience, who fully confirmed the criminal influence exerted over many individuals by marihuana. Mr. F. R. Gomila, Commissioner of Public Safety, City of New Orleans, stated that that City experienced a crime wave which undoubtedly was greatly aggravated by the influence of the marihuana habit. District Attorney E. Stanley ratified this opinion, likewise confirmed by various judicial authorities.

Wolff also points out that the LaGuardia Committee made another error in stating that "marihuana itself has no specific stimulant effect in regard to sexual desires," and that the parties of marihuana addicts do not in any way constitute preludes to sexual orgies. Other investigators speak of indescribable scenes in which all present lose event the last feeling of inhibition. Mendonça makes special reference to the fact that, when the intoxication is at its peak, marihuana produces the psychic state of a Don Juan, with sexual hyperaesthesia, and decline of the ethic ego, so that there is a predisposition to sexual offenses. This is the conclusion of Brazilian prison inmates themselves.

Wolff also cites another group in Mexico who believe that marihuana is innocuous. Their observations were made at the hospital for drug addicts directed by Dr. Leopoldo Salazar Viniegra. Dr. Segura Millán, of the Public Health Department of Mexico, agrees with Viniegra, but Wolff makes the same objection to their testimony as he does to the LaGuardia testimony. Segura Millán himself provides us with evidence to the contrary when he refers to the excitation of those he observed, etc. Some of the marihuana addicts themselves whom he used in his experiments state that in general, the drug brutalizes them, that, when using it in combination with alcohol they become "scrappy," irritable, and quarrelsome, and that it excites them "like madmen."

The monograph in general is a very authoritative manual of the drug, the plant from which it comes, and the citations of numerous cases of addicts who have done damage to themselves and to society by the use of it. The writer particularly emphasizes the "collective" method of smoking by a number of people in concert who give way to innumerable actions indicative of intoxication from this weed.

We believe that Dr. Wolff has made an excellent report and has presented the true facts about marihuana, not only in Latin America but in all countries where it is used. This is the most complete exposition of this subject which we have had an opportunity to read.

St. Louis, Mo.

R. B. H. GRADWOHL

A STUDY OF POLICE TRAINING PROGRAMS IN MINORITY RELATIONS. By *Milton Senn*. Anti-Defamation League of B'Nai B'Rith, Los Angeles, Calif. Pp. 28. Free.

The impact of the police apparatus on national, racial, religious, social, economic, and political minorities in any country or community differs markedly from its impact on the dominant societal groups—"dominant" because numerical size of the groups in question is not always the determining factor (e.g., where the "minority" is in actuality numerically superior the result is often an exaggeratedly repressive relationship). But explaining why certain prejudices and intolerances exist in a given area—or why the police mechanism at times becomes the agency for the expression of community antipathy against one or more of its sub-groups—or why individual police officers at times permit their personal prejudices to dictate their course of action in their dealings with certain segments of the population is only one phase of the problem. It must then be asked: What is being done about it? Milton Senn, regional director of the Southern California Anti-Defamation League of B'Nai B'Rith, has surveyed the current policies and training programs in the field of police-minority relations. In a report to the Police Relations Committee of the Los Angeles Conference on Community Relations he makes abundantly clear that the problem has been neither recognized nor intelligently or vigorously attacked in most communities.

By far the greater number of police departments give no training in this field and have no specific departmental regulations or written policy statements concerning treatment of minorities; several departments schedule an occasional lecture or distribute pamphlets provided by interested groups; a few have panel discussions or other appearances by invited representatives of local minorities before police training classes or supervisory conferences; several departments are openly hostile to any consideration of the problem; and a handful (Boston, Chicago, Denver, Oakland, among others) have developed fairly comprehensive offerings. Non-departmental programs have been

sponsored by universities, minority groups, and citizen committees—the latter often hastily organized after an actual or threatened racial disturbance. Joseph Kluchesky, Gordon Allport, Joseph Lohmann, Ervis Lester, Theo. Hall, Davis McEntire, Thomas Kavanagh, Robert Powers and J. E. Weckler are among the academic and police leaders in this field.

Course content, mode of presentation, hours of instruction, and percentage and ranks of police personnel attending vary considerably—and emphasis ranges from the expeditious suppression of race riots, through debunking common misconceptions about races and religions, to considerations of public relations, crime prevention, and human relations aspects. Certainly it would appear that wholly inadequate attention is given to the constitutional questions raised by differential treatment under both the Bill of Rights and the “equal protection” clause—and to the damage done to our international prestige as the leader of the democratic nations by isolated incidents of a prejudice-inspired police action or systematically applied minority repression.

Mr. Senn's survey is an excellent beginning—more intensive studies of individual programs, experimentation with methods and materials, and above all systematic follow-up and evaluation procedures are clearly indicated. Police executives, criminologists, and students of social phenomena must address themselves to this area of conflict within our society—to ignore it or to deny its existence is to give aid and comfort to the enemies of our American democracy.

New York University

DONAL E. J. MACNAMARA

CRIMINAL EVIDENCE DIGEST FOR THE POLICEMAN. By *Major Thomas F. Martin* (Second Edition 1950). Published by the author, State Police Training School, Hershey, Pa. Pp. 188. \$1.50.

The author as Superintendent of the Pennsylvania State Police Training School saw the need for a condensed and practical evidence text for law enforcement officers. As a result, he wrote this very useful publication. Since the original edition was intended primarily for use in the state of Pennsylvania, it covered only Pennsylvania law. However, it soon became apparent that there would be a much wider application for this sort of a text. As a result, the second edition was expanded so as to be based on the law generally followed throughout the United States.

The publication is made up of a series of questions and answers. The questions are the sort that peace officers are confronted with in their everyday work. The answers have been taken from specific cases. The questions are brief yet clearly and simply stated. The answers are as brief as they can be and yet adequately answer the question.

This type of writing has resulted in a very useable publication. A great many of the questions that confront officers in actual criminal cases are very clearly and authoritatively answered. At the same time, this leads to a weakness for it fails to give an officer a good over-all picture of the law of evidence. I believe that this book would be most valuable if its study were combined with same other publications specifically designed for peace officers, as for example, Franklin Kreml's *Evidence Handbook for Police*. An officer who would first read the “*Evidence Handbook*” and then the “*Criminal Evidence Digest*” would have an excellent grounding in the law of evidence.

In his preface the author answers a question that is very often put by law enforcement officers. “Why do we need any knowledge of the laws of evidence, why can't the prosecuting attorney take care of all these technicalities?” The author answers this by saying, “Following the commission