

1950

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, 40 J. Crim. L. & Criminology 673 (1949-1950)

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*

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE AND TOXICOLOGY, 2 volumes. By *Frank A. Patty* (editor) and 17 contributing authors. Interscience Publishers, Inc., New York. Vol. I, 1948. Pp. 531, \$10.00; Vol. II, 1949. Pp. 535 to 1138, \$15.00.

Throughout the past three decades, during which Industrial Hygiene in this country has grown from infancy to a recognized and mature field of applied science, we have had to depend largely upon translations of European books for much of our information concerning industrial hazards. True, a few pioneers such as Drs. Alice Hamilton and Emory Hayhurst provided general resumé of American experiences which were very helpful during the developmental stages of the science. But except for a few scattered specialized monographs on industrial health problems, practically all of the general reference works available to the American industrial physician or industrial hygienist were translations of recorded European experiences.

Under the able editorship of Frank A. Patty, this work attempts (quite successfully) to bring together and summarize within the space of a thousand pages all experience concerning industrial health hazards. Obviously, such a monumental effort is too great for any one person to undertake, and the editor wisely obtained the coöperation of 17 associates, each of whom is especially qualified in his selected field. With this heterogenous authorship one would expect to find considerable variation in each author's approach to his special subject. Although such an expectation is realized, most of the associate authors discuss their subjects in an objective and reserved manner. The fact that this first edition is so well integrated speaks eloquently of diligent editorial work of Mr. Patty. The book is well printed on excellent paper in clear readable type. Tables and charts are well designed to afford the maximum amount of information in a minimum space.

Volume I (Chapters 1-15) is devoted largely to consideration of general principles involved in the creation, recognition, and elimination of industrial hazards, while Volume II (Chapters 16-35) deals almost exclusively with industrial poisons. The fact that so many chemical substances are discussed so briefly in Volume II suggests that either they are of little toxicological importance or that very little is known about the hazards entailed in their industrial application. Readers of this Journal will be particularly interested in Chapter XII "Visible Marks of Occupation" by Dr. Carey P. McCord, as an aid in establishing the occupation of an unidentified person. Likewise, Chapter XIII by G. W. Jones and Irving Hartmann, dealing with "Explosion and Fire Hazards of Combustible Gases, Vapors, and Dusts" may give valuable assistance to the investigator of explosions or suspected arsons. Various poisons such as arsenic, mercury, carbon monoxide, fluorides, cyanides, alcohol, phenol, etc., which are discussed in Volume II as industrial poisons, may also be involved in criminal poisoning and data concerning their action will be of help in the investigation of criminal poisonings.

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

The publisher, the associate authors, and especially the editor are to be complimented on a difficult job well done. This book will undoubtedly be the standard reference work in the field in the United States.

C. W. MUEHLBERGER

Mich. Dept. of Health Laboratories
Lansing, Michigan

"YOU CAN'T WIN." By *Ernest E. Blanche*. Public Affairs Press, Washington, D. C. 1949. Pp. 149. \$2.00.

Les bon mots of P. T. Barnum "Never give a sucker an even break" is proven by Mr. Blanche's present work. The professional gambler, the fellow who runs the game has adopted this saying as his guide to success. The poor sucker who tries to beat the game never realizes the tremendous odds against him. "You Can't Win" enumerates these odds, and it is a revelation to learn of them.

Twenty years of objective analysis and investigation by the author, who is not a gambler but rather a student of mathematical problems, perhaps leads him to the conclusion "I still can't figure out why—really why—people gamble. I dare say some fifty million Americans who don't seem to know that they can't win at gambling, would be a lot better off if they recognized that you can't win" because:

1. Every system of betting breaks down and fails sooner or later.
2. So-called skill games are really games of chance that even the most skilled players can't beat.
3. The mathematical probabilities are always against the bettor.
4. Luck has very little to do with most gambling games.
5. Gambling has always been and always will be a crooked business.
6. The odds are inevitably against the dice tosser.
7. The roulette operator is ahead of the game before it even starts.
8. Carnival wheels are invariably "fixed."
9. Only the race track operators are sure of their "take."
10. The numbers racketeers get from 46% to 55% of the money wagered by the public.
11. The card "sharper" uses a score of tricks to deceive the amateur.
12. Most of the tickets for the Irish Sweepstakes sold in the United States are counterfeit.
13. Punch boards pay out less than half of what they take in.
14. You have only 1 chance in 2,000 of getting any money back in a chain-letter scheme or in Pyramid Club participation.

This little book of 149 pages should be welcomed by police officers, gamblers, and students of mathematics. The intricacies of each game of chance are explained; the correct odds and the house odds clearly demonstrated in cold figures; such information should make for a deterrent against gambling. But it won't—next year, the amount of money spent on gambling will be just as much if not more than was spent this year. The tax actuaries of the various state government have coldly calculated on that source of income.

W. E. KIRWAN

New York State Police

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE BRITISH POLICE. By *Charles Reith*. Oxford University Press, London, 1948.

Reith traces the development of the present British police through three stages: the tribal police system brought to England by the Saxons, in which the tything-man held the tything (a group of ten families) responsible for the conduct of its members; the parish constable system, in which one unarmed, able-bodied citizen was appointed or elected annually to serve without pay as the parish constable; and finally the "New Police," an organized body of constables, selected on the basis of ability, who make a career of professional police service. The first two of these distinct police systems demonstrated its inadequacy to deal with problems that grew out of changes in the political, social, and economic life of the country; each succeeding system evolved from its predecessor to meet the changing needs.

The author makes two important points in his story of the development of the British police through these three phases: (1) The present-day constable traces his direct lineage through the parish constable to the Saxon tything-man. The fundamental responsibility for security and the preservation of the peace rests on the individual citizen today as it did on the individual members of the parish and the tything under the previous systems; the constable is merely the full-time agent of the people paid to assist them in the discharge of a duty that they cannot escape. (2) In contrast to the British police system (found in the British Empire and the United States), there has evolved on the Continent and in most other countries a centralized police system (that Reith refers to as the *gendarmerie* system) that operates as an arm of the State in imposing the will of the State on the people.

The parish constable in England proved unable to cope with the changes that grew out of the Industrial Revolution, whereas the *gendarmerie* system survived, to expand in later years in the form of the political and secret police of the dictatorships and totalitarian states. A new form of police had to be devised to replace the parish constable in England, because the people hated the *gendarmerie* system and feared that what they would suffer from it, if it were adopted in England, would be worse than what they were suffering from lack of police.

The failure of the parish constable system in England was evidenced by a tremendous increase in crime, the corruption of officials, and the inability of authorities to prevent rioting. The breakdown began in London toward the end of the 17th Century and spread slowly throughout the country.

As the need for some modification of the parish constable system became more and more apparent, the antiquated system was supplemented by a number of makeshifts. Guilds and other citizen bodies undertook some responsibility for the maintenance of order; they supplied "The Watch," a body of men (called Charlies after Charles II, during whose reign they were first established in the City of London) for guarding the gates and patrolling at night. The parishes tried to meet the difficulty by increasing the number of constables in each. (Citizens were conceded the right to employ deputies to perform their constable duties that were becoming increasingly difficult, dangerous, and unpleasant. Troops were used in a futile attempt to prevent rioting.

Henry Fielding, as a Bow Street Magistrate, "initiated the idea that citizens, instead of trying to resist crime as individuals in their houses

and instead of waiting for authority to repress it brutally after it was committed, should co-operate and combine together and go out into the streets to *prevent* it." Fielding developed a body of deputy constables into an organized police force. These became the Bow Street Runners, charged with crime investigations, and the Bow Street Patrol, engaged in foot and horse patrol to prevent crime. The Bow Street constables were effective while under the direction and control of the two Fieldings, but afterwards they became as corrupt as the other parish deputy constables who are described by Reith as "an organized confederacy of rogues who worked in close and profitable co-operation with thieves, vagabonds, vice-purveyors, and law-breakers of every kind."

Fielding's conception of preventive police was developed further by another magistrate, Patrick Colquhoun, who organized the Thames Police and thereby markedly reduced thefts at the London docks. (The Thames Police were eventually made a part of the London Metropolitan Police.)

In 1785, the Younger Pitt, as Prime Minister, introduced a bill to create a London police force. Merchants in the City of London opposed the bill through fear that an efficient police would prevent their use of mobs in applying political pressure. "City capitalists succeeded in rousing such widespread opposition to a new police system that Pitt and his successors in office did not dare, for many years, even to suggest it."

Peel, as Prime Minister, in 1829 obtained the enactment of his "Bill for Improving the Police in and near the Metropolis." It provided for "a body of paid constables who were to be enrolled under two Justices, or Commissioners." The bill he introduced included the City of London in the jurisdiction of the force; in return for support, the City area was excluded. (To this day the City of London Police is not a part of the London Metropolitan Police.)

Peel's bill did not establish the organization pattern of the London Metropolitan Police. Reith feels that principal credit for the development of the philosophy of service and organization of the present British Police belongs to the first two Commissioners, Colonel Charles Rowan and Richard Mayne.

The book describes the spread of the "New Police" idea into the provinces, colonies, and dominions. It relates the assistance rendered by the Metropolitan Force, at first in dealing with mobs and riots in the provinces and later in the organization of borough and county forces. The basic pattern created by the first Commissioners has been duplicated in the other forces and continues in the Metropolitan Force today with no fundamental change. The author also describes concisely the present organization of the Metropolitan, City of London, Borough and County Police, and their relations to the Home Office and to each other.

Reith devotes considerable space to the strong opposition experienced by the New Police, and he explains in some detail the success of the Commissioners in winning public support by adherence to principles developed at the outset and expressed with slight modification in the present statement of British Police principles.

In less than a hundred years England changed from a crime ridden country of rioting people, who feared that an efficient police system would infringe on private liberties, into a country peopled by "the most orderly and order-loving race on earth" whose hatred of police had changed into respect and friendly regard. "The basic secret of the success and efficiency of the British police . . . lies almost wholly in the

unique relationship with the public which the police have created and are at constant pains to maintain. . . . This relationship was deliberately planned by the early leaders of the police at a time when public hatred of them almost stultified their efforts to do their duty. It was seen by these leaders that the acquisition of public approval and good-will by the men under them was a dire necessity of police existence. They were shown the means of cultivating good-will, and were taught, carefully, how to do it, individually, by combining dignity in deportment with friendliness, kindness, good humour, and constant readiness to give their help to any member of the public who required it. By these and other means, they achieved their aim of securing public favor. In doing so, they made the profound discovery that, from the public, through the medium of the obedience and co-operation which were offered willingly when the people learned to trust them, they could obtain directly all but an infinitesimal proportion of the force they needed for their task of securing law-observance."

This excellent book is recommended to the American police.
University of California

O. W. WILSON

HOW TO SHOOT A RIFLE, Published for the National Rifle Association of America by the Infantry Journal Press, 1948. Pp. 62. \$1.75.

In their usual thorough and competent manner, the National Rifle Association has published a paper-backed booklet on rifle shooting. It is well illustrated and interesting to read. The beginner will find it a great help in learning the fundamentals of rifle shooting, and the seasoned rifleman will no doubt find many interesting subjects from which he can learn something of value.

The book begins with the history of the rifle, its operation, and rifle ammunition. In logical sequence a chapter is written stressing the need for firearm safety and range etiquette. Each of the five safety rules are well illustrated to impress upon the rifleman the importance of safety in handling firearms. The chapter on sighting and aiming graphically presents proper sight alignment of the different types of sights, including the telescope sight. The firing positions are particularly well illustrated by photographs showing the different steps in assuming the position as well as photographs of the proper position taken from different angles. A brief but instructive chapter is written on the adjustment of sights in relation to elevation, windage, bullet flight, and effects of wind on the flight of the projectile.

The chapter on advanced training should give even the experienced shooter a few helpful pointers on rapid fire, moving targets, cadence, etc. Directions on target and range construction would be of interest to those individuals, clubs, or departments who plan to build a rifle range. However, more detailed plans and instructions may be obtained from the N.R.A. in blueprint form.

This book although written primarily for training police officers in rifle shooting is probably one of the best illustrated books on the subject and should be in the library of every police firearms instructor.

Captain
Missouri State Highway Patrol

EDMUND I. HOCKADAY

MUNICIPALLY OWNED PARKING LOTS AND GARAGES. By Charles S. Rhyne. National Institute of Municipal Law Officers, 730 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington 6, D. C., 1948. Pp. 54. \$3.00. (Distributed free to members of NIMLO.)

Mr. Rhyne's interesting and informative study of off-street parking deals with one of the pressing problems facing municipalities today. For some years, relatively inflexible streets have not been able to supply the mobility that traffic requires. Nor have they been able to accommodate the needs of parked traffic. These twin difficulties have had (and continue to have) a pronounced influence on the economic and social life of communities. When streets fail to provide for the demands of both moving and standing traffic, community retardation is inescapable unless mass transportation facilities come to the rescue. Business enterprises in high congested areas must either accept declining business or move to outer areas. When exodus begins, the consequences can be demoralizing. Down-town areas deteriorate, ultimately decay. Blighted areas and a ruined tax structure result.

Experiences have demonstrated that most streets in down-town areas cannot provide a tithe of the parking space required. The ever-increasing demands of fast moving traffic continue to reduce parking space. Total, limited-time ban of parking at particular times and places are now commonplace. If, then, vehicles cannot be parked *on* streets, they must be parked *off* them. How?, is the important inquiry. As Mr. Rhyne points out, privately operated off-street parking facilities, amendments requiring off-street parking facilities, and other means may suffice. But if they do not, he warns, "*then the problem becomes one of public concern and, if solved, it must be by public effort.*" (Italics mine.) His study turns attention to the ways and means by which municipal control can be accomplished.

The 54 page study is divided into nine brief sections, titles to which give insight into scope and content: I, Preface; II, Introduction; III, Acquisition and financing of public parking facilities; IV, Municipally owned garages—existing and contemplated; V, Municipal operation of parking lots; VI, Enabling legislation adopted by states; VII, Municipal ordinances adopted under various enabling statutes; VIII, Legal decisions on public acquisition, ownership and operation of parking lots and garages; IX, Appendices. The study begins with commentary on the seriousness of the parking problem, describes municipal progress in the establishment of municipally owned facilities and then turns attention to the means by which property can be acquired. Much attention is directed to means of financing parking projects, the kinds of parking facilities that have been established, and the techniques of organization and administration adopted. Basic consideration is given to legal phases of the problem—enabling acts, municipal ordinances, and judicial decisions. The appendices include selected state enabling statutes and selected municipal ordinances.

Without question, the study is an informative source book on municipally owned and operated off-street parking. It should prove an important aid to the public official and to the citizen.

D. G. MONROE

University of North Carolina