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Police Science Book Reviews

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POLICE SCIENCE BOOK REVIEWS

Edited by
Melvin Gutterman*

MODERN TRENDS IN FORENSIC MEDICINE. Second Series: Edited by *Keith Simpson, M.D.* with 11 contributors. Appleton-Century-Crofts, New York and Butterworths, London. 1967. 380 pages. \$18.50.

The second series of *Modern Trends in Forensic Medicine* consists of 13 articles covering various aspects of the forensic sciences and their recent advances. The 13 chapters include:

1. Organization of an Institute of Forensic Medicine: similar in concept to many existing institutions on the continent and in leading U.S. centers.

2. The role of photography in crime investigation: a brief general discussion of available methods. The most exciting developments are infrared image converters and attempts to visualize fingerprints on skin by electron autography, utilizing high energy x-ray beams. Although this latter technique has so far proved elusive, research in this area seems promising.

3. Studies of traffic accident patterns: mostly current statistical data of Great Britain, in which one misses references to the problem of alcohol and accidents.

4. & 5. Aspects of Forensic Immunology: well written and informative discussions on hematoimmunology and its application to identification and paternity testing, an expanding and complex area of modern investigation.

6. Timing of death: For practical purposes of police investigation, most of the recent attempts to narrow the time of death estimate have failed to produce reliable results, consistently superior to the age-old methods of measuring cooling or rigor. It still appears crucial to have a trained observer take all the physical findings and the circumstances into consideration to arrive at a reasonable estimate, rather than rely on the currently available, but less reliable laboratory tests.

7., 8., 9., 10., & 11. Pathologic anatomical dis-

cussions of neonatal pathology, hypothermia of newborn, pathology of hypothermia, coronary heart disease, and cardiomyopathies. These chapters are primarily written for the pathologist and review numerous articles on these special subjects.

12. Side effects of drugs: reviews some general aspects of the toxicological findings and anatomical changes relevant to the ever greater use of increasing numbers of therapeutic agents.

13. General discussion on medical malpractice and the developments in Civil Liability in Great Britain: Legal discussion of claims for damages which, although not as common as in the USA, are increasing.

14. A useful compilation of conversion data, normal values, nomograms, and various standards are listed in the Appendix.

This book, a collection of medico-legal reviews, has been written entirely by British authors and therefore, in parts, applies more to British than American readers. It should primarily be of interest to pathologists and serologists, the latter being unfortunately often neglected members of the forensic investigation team in the U.S. Centers. The general criminologist, however, will probably find many chapters either too general in his sphere of interest or too specialized in pathology to be of exceptional practical value.

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OFFICER, TELL YOUR STORY. By *Jerry Marx*. Charles C Thomas. Springfield, Illinois. 1967. Pp. xvi, 173. \$6.95.

This text concerns a will-o'-the-wisp: police-public relations. It declares that establishing rapport with people is a task every bit as important as other police enterprises. And it discloses that public relations is not merely an executive problem—rather, it is a process threaded throughout the fabric of every officer's everyday performance.

The author, Jerry Marx, Public Information

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Director for the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety in Oklahoma City, presents several unique ideas about how the individual officer as well as the modern police administrator can enhance public relations and live up programs. Marx also endeavors to educate the police officer about how complex and important developing and maintaining good public relations is. He stresses the fact that patrol is a public relations activity just as much as is a host of activities performed by highly visible police administrators. Most important, he emphasizes that one thoughtless act of an officer can tarnish the image of all police throughout the nation. Does one corrupted police officer brand 420,000 innocents? Yes, tragically so.

In summary, this text will prove most useful to the officer who wishes to improve his public relations techniques. In addition, it is a valuable tool for the police administrator who seeks to improve upon or start a public relations program within his department. Finally, the feeling that exists between the police and the public is the essence of public relations. This well-written, concise text can lead to vastly improved programs to the advantage of that feeling.

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PROFESSIONAL POLICE-HUMAN RELATIONS TRAINING. By *Arthur I. Siegel, Philip J. Federman, and Douglas G. Schultz*. Springfield, Illinois: Charles C Thomas, 1963. Pp. xxiii, 161. \$6.50.

If you are a police training officer here is a book that was written to make your work easier. *Professional Police-Human Relations Training* is a set of teaching materials that can be used for a basic course in the captioned subject. The authors in their preface grant permission to reproduce the "group material" in Section II, when it is to be used for police instructional purposes." But the publishers are a little less charitable and on their flap include the typical do-not-copy-without-permission warning.

The book is written in three parts. Section I contains a conference leader's or an instructor's manual which originally was prepared by the authors while engaged as consultants with the Applied Psychological Services under contract with the Philadelphia Police Department. The authors worked closely with the Philadelphia Commission

on Human Relations and the Police Department in analyzing the need for and the objectives of police human relations training. The background work for their present publication is detailed in *Police-Human Relations Training* by Arthur I. Siegel and Roy C. Baker which was released by the Commission during 1960.

Section I explains the contents of the material and the methods for their use. Nine training objectives are listed and substantiated. Instructional procedures are briefed from the first to the final words of the training sessions.

Section II contains background and discussion material for ten cases which are similar to the types of situations that police officers are likely to encounter in their everyday assignments. Several of the case titles are: "Street Lounging," "House Search," "Car Stop," and "Argumentative Neighbors." The case topics were selected after extensive interviews with a large number of police officers "as representing the most critical and frequently met operational human relations aspects of police officer work." The cases are organized into the realistic sequences of initial entry, fact finding, data evaluation, decision making, and plan execution.

The outlines for nine lectures appear in Section III of the book. The thirty minute lectures, prepared for presentation by a social scientist, are to be accompanied by thirty minutes of class discussion.

This book has been constructed very thoughtfully for its intended purpose. It could be a very useful book in police training. The key to its successful application seems to lie in the combined teaching efforts of a police officer and a social scientist. Both would need to apply to the learning situation the skills and knowledges which their training (and education) and experience have afforded them. But, after all, are not effective human relations based on the combined efforts of different people with particular and peculiar backgrounds?

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OCCUPIED WITH CRIME. By *Sir Richard Jackson*. Garden City, New York: Doubleday and Company, 1967. 310 pp.

This book is a well written and entertaining

memoir by Sir Richard Jackson. It briefly relates his boyhood in colonial India, his education at Eton and Cambridge, and his early years as a barrister. The bulk of the volume, however, deals with the years during which he was "occupied with crime." In this period he served for twelve years in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, fulfilled the responsibilities of the Secretary of the Metropolitan Police for seven years, and completed his career as a government servant as the Assistant Commissioner in charge of Scotland Yard's famed Criminal Investigation Department. He was also a member of the Executive Committee and President of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL).

Referring to his wide range of experience, Jackson weaves an interesting and sometimes exciting account. He discusses the events surrounding most of the notorious criminal cases of the era and shows an ability to go beyond mere storytelling by utilizing his descriptions to give the reader insights into the great criminal justice issues of the day. Unfortunately, his efforts along these lines do not go far enough for the serious student of law enforcement.

While the book possesses obvious popular appeal, from the scholarly point of view it is simply another volume in the seemingly endless series of biographies and memoirs that review the careers of retired and/or deceased law enforcement officials. Such efforts may occasionally provide interesting historical vignettes, useful glimpses into the reasons behind certain decisions, and descriptions of organizational activities, as does this one, but the task of separating the wheat from the chaff is often monumental. For example, while the book runs some three hundred pages, Jackson spends only about ten pages describing the work of the Secretary of the Commissioner's Office and his activities as a member of the Dixon Working Party. Further, the organization of the present Criminal Investigation Department is presented in a mere five pages. There are, of course, other references to these items, but locating information of this type is tedious because the book has no index and the chapter headings are clever but of very little use to the researcher.

Jackson offers some interesting comments on the history of the C.I.D., the development of INTER-

POL, and the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Police, but once again his treatment of these topics is cursory and unfortunately highly subjective. While the book is a memoir and this literary form allows the author considerable latitude in dealing with related issues, Mr. Jackson seems to take too great an advantage of the situation. One of his favorite topics is the defense of capital punishment. In the assumption of such a stance he is obviously within his rights, but as one who supports the right of the state to employ capital punishment, this reviewer finds his approach somewhat shallow. For instance, while he shrugs aside the various studies which suggest that capital punishment has little deterrent effect as "emotional," he defends its utilization by stating, "But common sense, and the almost universal opinion of policemen, suggest firmly that capital punishment is indeed a uniquely effective deterrent." This type of argument is repeatedly put forward throughout the book.

Another theme which Mr. Jackson seems determined to develop can be found in his discussion of the causes of crime. At one point he says that crime is caused by "a combination of greed and boredom, of resentment, arrogance, disrespect for property, of vanity and a lack of imagination or compassion." He bemoans the fact that liberal reformers are so influential and observes that: "They base their theories about crime on a doctrinaire belief that no criminal is personally to blame for what he does." He opposes their aim of "treatment" rather than "the prevention of crime and the protection of other citizens." He sums up his position of this matter by remarking, "My own belief is that a penal system which cannot, or does not, bite when justice demands it simply breeds criminals."

In conclusion then, this book is a highly readable autobiography spiced with strong personal opinions on many of the important criminal justice issues of the day. It provides a comparative perspective, but it cannot be viewed as a significant addition to the literature of the field.

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