CRIMINOLOGY IN TRANSITION. Essays in honour of Heimann Mannheim. Edited by Tadeusz Grygier, Howard Jones and John C. Spencer. [London: Tavistock publications. Butler & Tanner Ltd. 1965. xix + 308 pp. 45s.].

The establishment of criminology as a separate scientific discipline has been greatly influenced by the work of the distinguished pioneer, Heimann Mannheim, a lawyer and political scientist by training. This volume of essays is written by thirteen of Heimann Mannheim's former students and presented as a tribute to a "great scholar and teacher." The subjects selected include the philosophy of punishment; the organisation and function of the courts and prisons at large; the causes of crime; special types of crimes; and problems of research methodology.

Essentially, this book presents the field of criminology for exploration not only by lawyers, but for everyone interested in the social processes for the control of human behaviour. It is primarily concerned with identifying and defining problems that confront the authority after the accused has gone through the "formal mill of justice" *i.e.* the public trial. Needless to say, the authors have thus interwoven material from the behavioral sciences in search of answers to such questions as:

1. What ends should men endeavour to achieve by punishment of the guilty?

2. What are the special roles of the social worker, the psychiatrist and the prison administrator in the whole set-up of the legal machinery?

3. What are the methods by which the optimum utility could be obtained by the community in the administration of justice?

In Part I of the book Howard Jones discusses the dilemma of punishment and sentencing in the context of Mannheim's contrast between the classical and the positive schools on the purpose of punishment — the former which lays emphasis upon the free will of the offender and the consequent propriety of moral condemnation and punishment, and the latter, which aims at a value-free approach, with punishment having merely a preventive function. However, far from helping to achieve a resolution or possible resolution of this dilemma, the writer has left us "suspended". In one breath he lends favourable support to the positive school in criminology in that "to adopt such a view in penology would provide an objective base for punishment (or treatment) as compared with the shifting and uncertain foundation derived from ethical principles which all may not hold in common" (p. 9) and immediately in the next breath he follows up by saying "Nevertheless, it does not eliminate the moral problem as thoroughly as it may at first seem to do." Thereafter, one is unable to get any proposal as to any solution to the dilemma, besides the statement, "If there is any way out . . . ., it is probably going to be through the further refinement and development of that part of the philosophies of psychotherapy and social work which lays stress upon the free choice of the client." (p. 20).

Part II of the book dealing with prison and prison after-care is very well written. T. P. Morris's essay on "The Sociology of the Prison" is based on recent personal experience of sociological research in an English prison. He emphasises interpersonal relationships, prisoners *vis-a-vis* the prison staff and *vis-a-vis* fellow inmates. As to the latter, he emphasises the fact that "for the individual prisoner, relationships with fellow inmates are likely to be at least as important as, if not more important than, those with staff members in consequence of the closer physical and social proximity."

There are two note-worthy points made by the author: (1) He exhorts his readers to regard with considerable reserve the proposition that "prisons can only make criminals more criminal." To quote, "It might first be noted that much of what is known about prisons is of only marginal relevance to the problem of crime causation. By definition, they are criminals before they come to prison .... it would seem that the factors regarding a subsequent return to crime are related to personality rather than to prison experience .... Thus imprisonment does not uniformly arrest the development of criminality, nor does it necessarily accelerate it." (p. 79). Here, the writer introduces us to a refreshingly new approach and invites his readers to consider the role of prisons in a different light.

(2) The author points out the dichotomy between the manifest objectives of the prison staff and the subjective orientation of most of their day-to-day behaviour. This situation is especially acute in most prisons in Britain and many in the United States. Owing to the problems of overcrowding the primary objectives of the staff tend to be subordinated to the tasks of keeping the institutions functioning, receiving and discharging of inmates, feeding and clothing them. The task of reform tend to put law in the order of priorities and reform is merely a concept which tends to be discussed by those prison administrators who are far removed from the institutional field. In may well be that the true function of the prison is no more than a symbolic statement that, even if personal treatments neither reform nor deter, at least society has expressed its disapproval of crime. The writer recommends that for progress, the future of research in penal institution should lie along the lines of systematic experimentation with the regime itself and suggests that it is much less important for prison staff to be taught about the causes of crime than it is for them to understand the social dynamics of total institutions.

Part III is concerned with "Problems in Methodology" in the light of prediction studies and psychiatric diagnosis; contributions of social psychology and the concept of "Social Progression". Here is displayed abundant evidence of Mannheim's contribution to research and the empirical study of crime. Trevor, Gibbens, Grygier and Audry writing in this section of the book have been much inspired by Mannheim's insight into the problems.

The theme of the final section (Part IV) is criminology at the cross-roads — a collection of four essays. Though very different in their content and approach in the countries where they are written, nevertheless, they are highly illustrative of the challenge that faces contemporary study of criminal science — the urgent need to improve research and the techniques of empirical study so as to deal more effectively with crime in a rapidly changing world. Two of the authors, Thomas Wurtenberger and William Clifford presented papers on Anglo-American research on German criminology and the need to develop criminology as one of the social sciences in the increasingly urbanised conditions of Central Africa respectively. John Spencer on the other hand, argues for a renewal of inquiry into the study of white-collar crime, a subject which although appreciated by Mannheim has been neglected. And in the concluding paper, Norval Morris examines the current functions, future transformation and eventual abatement of prisons as a means of social control.

Although none of the thirteen contributors would claim that his own essay does more than reflect the depth of Mannheim's knowledge, credit should be given to some originality of scholarship manifested in the papers.

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