

M. Bersten

The Quarterly

*Kindness, Patience, Tolerance,
The wit to understand
Are among the greatest gifts
That come from the Maker's hand.*

The Pennsylvania Association
on
Probation and Parole

CONFERENCE ISSUE, 1954

The Pennsylvania Association On Probation and Parole

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President's Letter

To the Members of the Pennsylvania Association on Probation and Parole:

I want to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Pennsylvania Association on Probation and Parole for their interest and cooperation during my term as President. We faced many interesting problems and I now feel we have gained a great deal in correcting the flaws in our association.

I wish my successor Mr. Arthur T. Prasse an excellent term as

Our Association is broadly based. "All persons professionally engaged in probation, parole and treatment of delinquents" are eligible for membership. Far flung its concern reaches out to the Courts of our fifty-nine judicial districts and their probation and parole departments. It includes the Board of Parole, an independent agency of the govern-

ment and the agents of its well organized system. It embraces the Pennsylvania Prison System under the management and control of the Bureau of Correction, Department of Justice, and its Commissioner. It includes the widespread numerous institutions of juvenile training.

President of the association. At this time we must as members of the Association on Probation and Parole give our support to Mr. Prasse during his term of office.

Let's forget the many petty problems that may have caused any dissension in our ranks and band together with one purpose as our aim "FOR THE GOOD OF THE PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION ON PROBATION AND PAROLE."

Sincerely,
Peter J. Frascino

"Correction" is one — but multiphasic, diverse in the basic

ment and the agents of its well organized system. It embraces the Pennsylvania Prison System under the management and control of the Bureau of Correction, Department of Justice, and its Commissioner. It includes the widespread numerous institutions of juvenile training.

authorities involved, diversified in its methods of treatment as between urban and rural community; juvenile, adolescent and adult offenders; levels of intelligence and achievement; personality deviations and behavior disorders and a host of other considerations.

Our Association has a distinct and definite responsibility toward these agencies of government. The relationship between them is that of mutual cooperation and support in a joint enterprise. What affects one agency affects the others. There is abundant room for consideration by this Association of the problems of each, and their bearing on the responsibilities of the others. Here, there is a meeting of minds, an interchange of ideas, a community of effort.

Our Association has a distinct and definite responsibility toward the interrelationship of these correctional agencies. There is no room for the spirit of exclusiveness, for the erection of barriers to the free flow of constructive suggestion and criticism. Society expects that the authorities it sets up for given areas of the problem of rehabilitating children, youth, adults, who have missed the mark

of wholesome, serviceable living perform their functions, not in a dictatorial fashion, but in that spirit of service which marks democratic procedures. As the keynote for the year, we suggest, The Interrelationship of our Correctional Agencies.

In view of these responsibilities the call to serve as President of the Association, comes not as a coveted honor, but as an overwhelming challenge. Such a work as ours must lay under tribute all our resources,—material, cultural, social, religious. I shall look upon our Executive Committee as an Advisory Council to which all the members of the Association may contribute such advise and counsel as bears on our many sided interests. The Association may thus become a Clearing House for ideas in reference to needed legislation covering any or all phases of the correctional field—probation, parole and institutions.

I would urge upon all our members that this Association is yours and that this year will be one of advancement as we pool our best thought and efforts in the common enterprise. With your other officers, I pledge the utmost that we have in the way of leadership.

Arthur T. Prasse

Annual Conference

The Annual Conference of the Association was held at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel in Philadelphia, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, May 3, 4 and 5, 1954. Registration of members and visitors numbered 150, with total attendance reaching 200.

High light of the three-day meeting was the address by Lieutenant Governor Lloyd H. Wood at the Banquet on Tuesday night. He outlined problems in the field, among them the public attitude toward offenders, and the need to change it from negative to positive, and strongly advocated improving the standards of probation and parole so that a sound, scientific job is done by adequately paid personnel.

The address by Lt. Governor Wood was enthusiastically received.

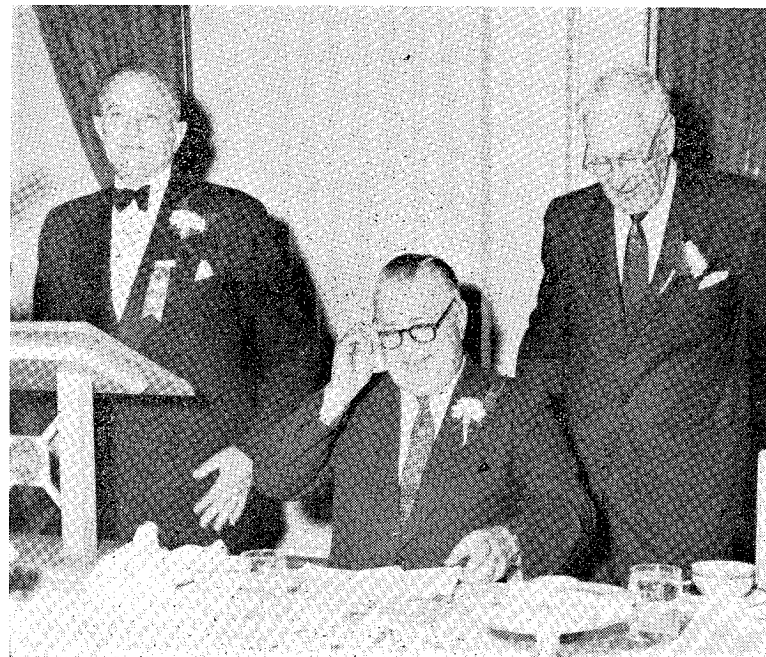
Other prominent persons appearing

on the program were: Judge Flood, Judge Propper and Judge Millen, Philadelphia; Judge Knight and Judge Dannehower, Norristown; Judge Connelly, Boston, Massachusetts; Pennsylvania Commissioner of Correction Arthur Prasse; and G. I. Giardini, Superintendent of Parole Supervision, Pennsylvania Board of Parole.

MONDAY

Welcome

Judge Gerald Flood, on behalf of Mayor Clark, welcomed the Association to Philadelphia. He spoke of that city's historic interest in penal and correctional affairs, and expressed his pleasure at seeing evidence of renewed interest among citizens of city and state in the reorganization and development of the correctional systems.



Ready to Speak—Lt. Gov. Wood prepares to address the Banquet Meeting. To his right, Judge Dannehower, left, Major Hill.

He hoped that this movement was an indication that Pennsylvania would again assume leadership in this field.

Judge Flood extended an invitation to the Association members to attend the Congress of Corrections meeting in Philadelphia this year during the week of October 25 to 29, 1954.

PANEL

Judge Knight

Following Judge Flood's remarks, there was a panel discussion on the topic: Juvenile Delinquency Today. Panel members were Judge Harold Knight, Judge Leonard Propper, and Dr. Winifred Stewart, psychiatrist of the Quarter Session Court, Philadelphia.

Judge Knight, speaking from 25 years of experience in Juvenile Court work, said he considered the Juvenile Court to be the greatest advance in jurisprudence since the Magna Carta. He strongly favored the Court and its philosophy but questioned whether too much consideration may not have been shown to the offenders of the 16 and 17 year old groups who have been persistent in their misconduct. Approving, in general, of the arrangement whereby newspapers cooperate with the Court by not publishing names of delinquents, Judge Knight wondered if this policy was sound for these older "hoodlums".

Judge Propper

Judge Leonard Propper, speaking as a "big city" jurist, contrasted conditions he faced with those of a judge in a more rural area. He felt the problems were different.

Picking up the thread of Judge Knight's talk, he expressed himself as being opposed to publicity for juveniles, as in his opinion, the law was aimed at giving the child a chance and publicity would interfere with that goal. He did think there were exceptions to the rule.

Again in contrast with Judge Knight, Judge Propper expressed his belief in a formalized Juvenile Court hearing rather than the informal one

in use in Montgomery County. In Philadelphia, the more formal hearing, with the judge in his robe and the session in a courtroom, is now used.

The judge outlined the facilities of the Philadelphia Juvenile Court and expressed his belief that as a professional, efficient organization it was raising treatment of the individual child to a science and that the work done was the equal of any similar organization in the country.

Dr. Stewart

Dr. Winifred Stewart expressed her belief that while it was good to become scientific there was reason to believe that scientific thought had been somewhat responsible for some increase in juvenile delinquency in that through advocating the need for children to express their individuality and emphasizing the harm done by fears and repressions, it had caused parents to relax authority and the curbs normally used during childhood. This had resulted in Insecure Parents, fearful of their authority and of their children.

Another serious problem in Dr. Stewart's opinion was the lowering of educational standards to permit the subnormal child to remain in school with the normal group. This, she thought, caused the superior child to be bored and the subnormal child to be frustrated, both emotional states being preliminary to delinquency.

Parents, according to Dr. Stewart, occupy with children the same position as God to adults. When parents fail to take action or are confused or in conflict, children lose their feeling of security. It is necessary that children live under authority which they can trust.

While Dr. Stewart felt that much of the literature for parents was confusing, she recommended a recent article by Dorothy Thompson entitled "I Remember Me" which recalled the rebellion of childhood and the need for adequate decisions by the child and the parents.

Discussion

Following the presentations by the panel members, there was a question and answer period in which the audience participated. A question was raised about the handling of young Motor Code Violators in Juvenile Court and Judge Knight indicated that the less serious offenders in his county were handled by the minor courts, with the more serious being referred to Juvenile Court. The problem was recognized and it was thought action should be taken to establish a more satisfactory procedure for all jurisdictions.

Another question pertained to the adequacy of placement possibilities for juveniles needing commitment to an institution. Judge Propper indicated that Juvenile Court judges were not satisfied with this situation and planned to make recommendations to the Welfare Department and to the Legislature. However, he pointed out that Pennsylvania had as good facilities as other states.

The oft-discussed question of what publicity should be given to juveniles committing offenses was again reviewed. Dr. Stewart felt that publicity often prevented innocent victims from pressing charges and that rather than having a deterrent influence it was an incentive for some delinquents.

In a further elaboration on delinquency, Dr. Stewart disagreed with the theory that children are totally the product of environment and training, and ventured to say that some children are delinquents from birth. His group, she felt, the Constitutional Psychopathic Inferiors, responded to control for a while, but eventually required institutional care.

BOSTON PLAN

In the afternoon session, "A Report On The Citizenship Training Program in Boston, Massachusetts" was outlined by Judge John J. Connelly of the Boston Juvenile Court, and Louis G Maglio, Probation Officer, of the same court gave "The Probation Officer's View of the Citi-

zenship Training Program". They were introduced by Dr. John O. Reinemann, Director of Probation, Philadelphia Municipal Court.

JUDGE CONNELLY

Judge Connelly explained that the Citizenship Training Group, usually referred to as CTG, came into being in 1936 because of criticism leveled at the Juvenile Court and its Judge Baker Guidance Center by Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck in their research report, "One Thousand Juvenile Delinquents".

Although the Gluecks had studied a sample of 1000 boys treated by the Clinic in a five-year period, this sample was from a specialized group and thus was not representative of the total number of boys handled by the court. On this basis, the findings might have been challenged, but Judge John Forbes Perkins decided that if the court was to endure, it must prove its soundness so the whole community could understand it.

Declaring that the court had a limited function as a court, to examine charges brought against children—and was not a social agency, Judge Perkins still felt that the court had a responsibility to initiate action among community forces for the benefit of the child. Because with limited staff there could be little hope of intensive individual treatment, it was decided that a group method of providing a **re-training** experience should be employed. Thus, with the help of Boston Boys' Workers, YM-CU, the Judge Baker Clinic, the Community Fund, and other sources, the program was established. More recently, the CTG has been supported by the Rotary Club of Boston. The Juvenile Court supplies the Director.

The CTG set out to give each boy an understanding of the laws, institutions, customs, and social processes of society, to give boys insight into motives for their behavior, and to give boys systematic practice in character building activity.

No special field of treatment was given pre-eminence in establishing CTG, but rather, it was felt that contributions from all fields—education, psychology, psychiatry, sociology, medicine, religion—were needed and wanted. Further, it was decided that court procedure had become too mechanical and impersonal, and that CTG procedure should be built on different lines, with acceptance of the treatment by the offender being of paramount importance.

Mr. Maglio

Following Judge Connelly's outline of the background of CTG, Louis Maglio, Probation Officer of Boston Juvenile Court and Director of the Program, spoke on the actual operation of the plan.

He explained that participation in the Citizenship Training Program could be a condition of probation for any boy between the ages of 7 and 17. The Program for any boy consisted of attendance for a period of 12 weeks, each day except Saturday and Sunday, at training sessions held at the Boston "Y". The sessions last from 3:30 to 5:30 each day.

When a boy is to be assigned to CTG, a worker from that agency meets him in court and explains what participation in the program will involve. Acceptance of the plan by the boy is sought as it is felt that otherwise his participation will be fruitless.

The program for the 12 week period consists of various activities such as educational classes, athletics, music, drama, movies, and discussions. There is no attempt to solve the boy's problems theoretically; rather, as he engages in the various activities a counselor observes him and finds opportunity to talk with him about his good and bad moves. Usually, there is little delay between the time the probationer says or does something in the training program and the time the counselor talks with him about it. In this way, discussion always centers on present acts and feelings and the boy is better able to see himself

as he operates than when "dead" material is discussed.

Response to the Program has been very good over a period of years, and many former participants have returned to report favorably on the help they got out of it. Others have returned for counseling service or for referral to another source of aid.

An original objection to the plan was that the boys would be influenced by each other and that further delinquency would result. Oddly, this did not happen with boys but did happen with girls. As a result, the plan was discontinued for girls who were then given case work service individually.

Mr. Maglio stated that approximately 90% of the boys engaging in CTG went on to complete their probations successfully. This, he felt, was an excellent indication of the effectiveness of the Program.

TUESDAY

Business Meeting

The following officers were elected for the year 1954-55 at the business meeting on Tuesday morning, President Frascino presiding; President, Arthur T. Prasse; 1st Vice President, Richard G. Farrow; 2nd Vice President, Edward Brubaker; Secretary-Treasurer, Eliza Leader; Executive Committee, Peter Frascino.

A recommendation was made that the By-Laws be amended to change the method of selecting candidates for office so that only one candidate would be nominated, in advance, for each office. Other nominations could be made from the floor.

Life membership to the Association was voted for Judge Frank Smith, Philadelphia, a long-time member of the Muncy Board of Trustees and a great friend of the Association.

PANEL

Judge Herbert E. Millen, Municipal Court, Philadelphia, presided over the panel discussion of "Rehabilitation of Adult Offenders". Discussants were

Dr. G. I. Giardini, Superintendent of Parole Supervision, Pennsylvania Board of Parole; Arthur T. Prasse, Pennsylvania Commissioner of Corrections; and "Red" McCarthy, Sports Editor, Times-Herald, Norristown, Pennsylvania. Before introducing the speakers, Judge Millen commented on the importance of the topic and on the need for gaining public support for rehabilitation work. In his opinion, success depended ultimately on acceptance of the retrained offender by society.

Dr. Giardini

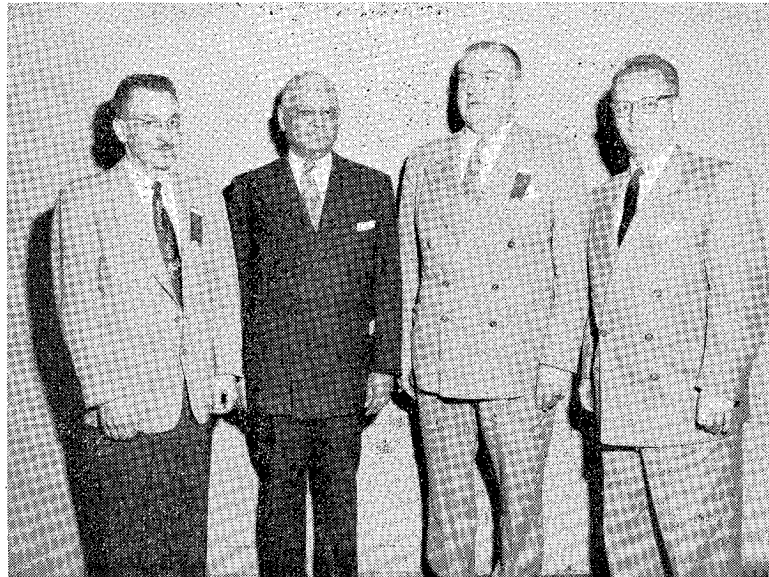
First seeking to define terminology, Dr. Giardini stated he felt "treatment" and "rehabilitation" were not as accurately descriptive of the job done in our field as was "correction." To him, "treatment" implied the presence of illness and a lack of responsibility for being "sick". This is contrary to society's concept of crime. "Rehabilitation" seems to assume that an ability is being restored after hav-

ing been lost. Usually, this is not so. The term "correction" seems best to fit the actual philosophy and practice of our work.

Dr. Giardini pointed out that correction was a process of both learning and unlearning. In this process, certain principles are important: 1. immediacy, 2. inevitability, 3. relevancy, 4. irritability, 5. motivation.

That is, he explained, corrective efforts should be applied promptly when the need is recognized; they should follow each deviation, without exception; the corrective procedures should bear some relation to the problem; the process should be irksome to the person to whom applied; and the process should be directed to arouse positive motivation.

Dr. Giardini applied these principles to parole situations and showed how each could be used to make supervision more meaningful and effective. However, he emphasized that successful application depended on the skill of the Parole Agent.



Panel Speakers—Dr. G. I. Giardini, Judge Millen, Commissioner Arthur Prasse, "Red" McCarthy.

Discussion following Dr. Giardini's talk revealed that in parole it was essential that the Agent have fairly complete knowledge of a parolee's activities so that the learning and retraining process could be properly directed. In response to a question about case loads, a reply was given that currently it is felt the supervision case load should be somewhere between 25 and 75.

Mr. Prasse

Commissioner Prasse, speaking informally, commented that working in the correctional field was often a thankless job and that the failures of the system usually received much more prominence than the successes.

He pointed out that the aim of the institutional program is to correct the faults of the prisoners, and to make them taxpayers instead of tax consumers. This means that institution programs must offer something positive to every prisoner. The emphasis must always be on treatment, with every effort to gain the cooperation of the prisoner.

Mr. Prasse stressed the need for workers in the field of correction to consider themselves members of a team, since it is only with the joint efforts of all that the best work can be done.

Red McCarthy

Admitting a lack of knowledge in this field, Mr. McCarthy nonetheless felt he had some thoughts about correction that he wanted to present to the audience.

In his opinion, all offenders are not alike, and therefore require different treatment. For example, he thought sex offenders should not be treated like other criminals.

Further, he felt that emphasis should be placed on the man rather than on the crime as now seems to be true. Also, he thought that men should not be neglected between arrest and sentence, but rather that constructive work could be done with them at that time.

Other points made by Mr. McCarthy concerned the segregation of first offenders repeaters; the need to improve the mental attitude of prisoners, perhaps through hobby and sports activities; the need to have men accepted in their home communities for work, recreation and fellowship; and the necessity for building up rather than tearing down a released offender's morale.

In closing, Mr. McCarthy commended the correctional workers he knows for the excellence of their work.

Discussion

There followed a lively discussion on the questions of public relations and publicity for offenders and parolees. It was rather generally accepted that no publicity should be given to ordinary juveniles and that it is desirable not to publicize the activities of men who are getting along well in a quiet way. It was also recognized that some papers will continue to play up crime news in a sensational way.

Judge Millen, in summarizing, said that to him the most significant factor in the complex situation was the personal element—the influence of personality. The effectiveness of this tool is limited at present by the financial support given to the field. This lack of support, he thought, was caused by ignorance of the job to be done and the methods to be used.

The Judge spoke feelingly of the home as the cornerstone of American life and of children as the cement that binds family life together and gives it stability and a future. To him, children are America's greatest natural resource and must be given every protection and guidance if we are to have fewer "misfit" adults.

In closing Judge Millen repeated that far from being a thankless task, service to one's God, country or fellow man was the greatest commitment of life.

BANQUET

The Honorable Lloyd H. Wood, Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania, was the speaker at the Annual Banquet, held on Tuesday evening at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel Ballroom. He was introduced by Judge William F. Dannehower of Montgomery County. Following is the text of Governor Wood's address:

(ADDRESS OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR LLOYD H. WOOD BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION ON PROBATION AND PAROLE, IN PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, MAY 4 1954.)

Talking to Members of this Association about Probation and Parole seems a little like explaining principles of the National Pastime to Mr. Connie Mack. This is a presumptuous thing to do. At the same time, I have done similar things so often over the years that I have become case-hardened. In my position, I find myself talking to many kinds of experts on as many different topics. I always survive the ordeal, and more strangely, they survive it, too.

If anything, talking to experts is easier than talking to Laymen. Laymen usually expect you to make some contribution to their knowledge. Experts never do. If you therefore happen to make one or two statements indicating a glimmer of comprehension, they are delighted and surprised.

I have no contribution of knowledge to make on the subject of Probation and Parole. I cannot speak as a criminologist, a psychologist, a Welfare Worker, or a Social Statistician. But as a Practicing Attorney, Officer of the Commonwealth, Chairman of the State Pardons Board, and concerned citizen, I have, of course, thought long on some of the problems touching your field of interest. As a result, I have formed certain impressions. Having this opportunity to pass them along to you is a privilege I appreciate. I hope they may be worth listening to.

Mr. Charles F. Kettering of General Motors used to tell the story of a wise professor in a medical school who always closed his last lecture to his graduating seniors with these words: "And now, Gentlemen, I have taught you all that I know about the art and science of human healing except for one thing. That is the inevitable fact that in the light of developing science one half of everything I have told you will prove to be false. My great regret at this moment is that I cannot tell you which half it is."

Ladies and Gentlemen, I'll try to confine my remarks tonight to that fractional part of my knowledge which I have greatest reason to believe is true.

First of all, I want to call your attention to what I regard as the most significant problem confronting today the systems of Probation and Parole in the country at large.

It is the oldest of all your problems. When the first faltering steps were taken toward using these methods of treatment for criminal offenders, the problem appeared. It has slowed the growth of probation. It has impaired the use of Parole.

It is also the most inclusive problem that confronts you. Stresses and difficulties of varied character appear in the complex operations which you conduct, but most of them ultimately are linked to this common cause.

Yet it is the least regarded problem. Here it is, bigger than all of us, but we act as though it would go away if we refused to look at it. I see little mention of it in public reports. The textbooks give it only casual attention. It seldom has a place on the programs of meetings like this.

What is it? It is the problem of public attitude. It is what the man next door thinks. It is what is being said in the barber shop and the filling station. It is what people read in the newspapers. It is the sum total of what people everywhere are thinking and feeling about the undertakings that you represent.

If any task calls for public sympathy and understanding for its successful performance, it is yours. The use of public money is involved. The security of citizens in their persons and their property is at stake. Yet if I am any judge of public sentiment, the attitude of the Body Politic toward what you are trying to do is either one of apathy or of hostility.

A doctor may sew up a sponge in the abdomen of a helpless patient on whom he has operated, and there will be no outcry against organized medicine. But let a man who is in probation, or who has been paroled, commit a new and shocking crime, and the system that permitted him to be outside of prison walls will be indicted with vitriolic eloquence. The officers involved are soft, they are visionaries, they are coddlers of criminals. That is the burden of public denunciation.

Let's not blame the public. Theirs is a natural reaction, compounded of fear, desire for vengeance, and a vast ignorance of the complexity of the problem. After all, medicine is one of the oldest of the sciences. Twenty-five hundred years ago, Hippocrates developed a code of ethics for physicians as a means of validating medicine's claim on public confidence. That claim has been strengthened through the centuries both by profession and by performance.

Yours, on the other hand, is one of the youngest of the professions. It is so new that even its most elemental terms are not understood. Ask the men on the street the difference between pardon, probation, and parole, and I assure you you will draw a blank. To him, these words have one meaning—being soft to criminals and letting them off easy. He has no interest in fine distinction.

That is the attitude which is your No. 1 problem.

Sometime ago the warden of a penitentiary in this state told of meeting in his

office the father of a young man who was being released. "What do you plan to do to help your boy make a new start?" The warden asked. "I plan to give him hell," the father replied. "I'm going to rub it in on him good. One more break and his mother and I are through with him." This warden is not a mollycoddle. He has the reputation of being one of the sternest in the business. But he is a realist and he knows men. "If you go about it that way, you may be sending him straight back to us," he told the father. "Your boy has done a lot for himself in this three years here. He finished his high school course. He learned a trade. He has behaved himself. Why not stop in Harrisburg on your way home tonight and treat him to a good dinner? He's had prison fare for a long time. Then take him to a movie. Try to show him a good time. When you get him home, don't mention this prison episode unless he wants to talk about it, which he probably won't. When the subject comes up naturally, speak of it as something that is past and soon to be forgotten. The people outside his home are probably going to make it pretty hard on him for a while. If you and his mother join up against him, he doesn't have a chance."

I relate the incident not for the warden's good advice. I tell it because this father reflects so well a stock public attitude which I am sure you recognize as one of your hardest problems.

More recently, I heard a Philadelphian say: "What this town needs is more tough cops to rid the streets of young hoodlums. They are going to be in Penitentiaries in a year or two in the natural course of events. Why do we have to wait for them to commit an act of violence that can't be undone?"

The statement of this man drew general agreement from the group around him—and they were fairly intelligent people. Again you have a sample of public attitude. This is your problem.

I think one of the most firmly entrenched beliefs is that we can cure delinquency by progressively increasing the doses and the drastic character of punishment. If we get tough enough, people will behave themselves. It's as simple as that.

I, too, believe in toughness if by that you mean positive control and efficiently administered discipline. I don't believe in toughness just to satisfy an individual's lust for vengeance or to give him the pleasure of making a flashy display of power. Punishment so administered never solved delinquency anywhere at any time.

Down through the ages, man has experimented with punishment of many kinds. At the time of the French Revolution, punishment was as drastic as human ingenuity could make it. Men were burned at the stake, they were drawn and quartered, they were broken on the wheel. Beheading was reserved for Aristocrats. Halving was the fate for those who were infamous but undistinguished. Minor offenses drew such penalties as burning the hand, boring the tongue, cutting off the ears. These refinements in the art of in-

flicting death and suffering were never effective. Crime went on, rampant and undeterred.

At another stage in social history, we developed a code of criminal law by which those who violated a specific law received identical punishments regardless of age, position, or circumstances. This was based on the theory that prospective criminals would take pause if they knew in advance just what was going to happen to them. In this view, crime is purely a matter of individual will. A man can elect to obey law or he can elect to violate it. In the latter case, he knows what's coming to him.

Although that Philosophy is firmly imbedded both in the law and in popular thinking, increasing numbers of thoughtful people believe that delinquency is not as simple as that. The Commission of any crime is compounded of many variable elements. A given criminal act may be committed by different people at different times and places. In effect, it's the same crime, but the mixture of causative factors that produced it is seldom the same.

The nub of the problem for the Society is not the crime. That's an accomplished fact. It is the criminal, who continues to be a threat to the community until something is done about his criminality. Whatever is done must be accomplished in reference to an individual. That's what makes it hard. Standard patterns so often don't fit individuals.

The individualized approach has been accepted in many other fields. The Doctor doesn't treat a disease. He treats a person who has a disease. There's a lot of difference. What cures one may kill another. Teachers scorn methods of mass instruction, and the public supports them in the plea for individualized instruction.

But when it comes to handling criminal offenders, the public hasn't caught up with the new and specialized knowledge possessed by you who are here tonight. The attitude of the average man hasn't changed much in fifty years. All we need, he says, is tougher cops and more hard-boiled court officials. I wish I could believe that. The problem would be so much easier.

I repeat, then, your first task is re-education of the public. You have to tell your story, using every medium of communications, to those who must foot the bill for your services. That story must be told in simple, elemental terms. Recognizing the rightful desire of the law-abiding for the security of his home and his person, you must demonstrate the Long-Range possibility for such security given by modern methods of rehabilitation. I know some effort has been made to explain your profession to the public, but what I have read has sounded for the most part like either a Ph.D. dissertation or sentimental tripe. In the first case, the reader would probably be suspicious because he couldn't understand it. In the second, he likely would be irritated at the low estimate of his intelligence.

Your problem of communications may be similar to that of government Bureaus afflicted with official jargon called

Gobbledegook. It is regarded as an occupational disease, and it is not a respecter of political parties. Dr. Rudolf Flesch, who has campaigned for years for the writing of more readable English, has a story that may be appropriate at this point. It's the story of a plumber who had found Hydrochloric acid good for cleaning out clogged drains. He told the Bureau of Standards in Washington about it and asked the Bureau's opinion. The Bureau replied: "The efficacy of Hydrochloric acid is indisputable, but the corrosive residue is incompatible with metallic permanence."

The plumber wrote back he was glad the Bureau agreed with him and he appreciated the prompt reply. The Washington official, feeling he must state his position more strongly, tried again. "We cannot assume responsibility," he said, "for the production of toxic and noxious residue with hydrochloric acid and suggest you use an alternative procedure."

The plumber wrote again that he was pleased the Bureau agreed with him and happy that it seemed to be so interested.

This time the file of correspondence came into the hands of an official who understood the effectiveness of plain words, and he dictated this letter: "Don't use hydrochloric acid. It eats hell out of the Pipes." That ended the correspondence.

Using plain, direct speech, we must explain to the American Public, which is as intelligent as any in the world, that this is not the year 1854, nor even 1904. It's 1954. Let's come up to date. We can't isolate a man behind bars and stone walls for the maximum period allowed by law, and then give him a suit of clothes, a \$5. bill, and a Railroad ticket, and thrust him without supervision into a strange, new world where every man's hand is raised against him.

"Don't use Hydrochloric Acid. It burns Hell out of the Pipes."

Human personality corrodes faster than an iron pipe. It does more damage in a community than a clogged up drain. I'd be afraid to live in a place which did not recognize that fact.

People say, "Oh, but these Probation and Parole Officers are so impractical. They're such visionaries."

It that so? Well, in the old days, when a youngster thought he was getting too big to ride his bicycle, we permitted him to climb into his Dad's car, turn on the ignition, fool with the pedals until he learned which was the brake and which was the accelerator, then take that 60 Horsepower vehicle onto a public highway. After so many hundred thousand people had been killed and maimed, some visionaries decided there must be some way of granting that freedom with less danger to the community.

Today we say, "All right, we think you are ready to drive, if you have normal sight and vision—but under certain conditions." We give the individual a book of traffic regulations. He has to learn them. Many high schools have courses in driver education. A youngster spends weeks driving a car with dual controls

while his instructor sits beside him, ready to stop the vehicle at a moment's notice if things are getting out of hand. When the youth seems ready, an officer of the Commonwealth takes over and watches him take the car over a course having the usual traffic hazards. If the demonstration is satisfactory, he receives a license to drive which may be revoked at any time that it becomes apparent he cannot exercise his privilege with safety.

Parole, when it means anything, works something like that.

Now here is the plain fact, which ought to appeal to every practical person. We can't keep every criminal offender in prison forever. I'm not sure there is enough unoccupied ground space for that many prisons. Some day most of the inmates have to be released. The experts tell us that there is a certain time in the prison career of a man when he has a better chance for readjustment to society than at any other time. That time can be determined only by careful study of the individual. That's why mass treatment, automatic application of rules, is dangerous. The differences among the inmates of a prison are as great as those in any other segment of society. The experts go further and say that some offenders ought not to be sent to prison at all. Because of age or other circumstances, society will be better served by keeping the individual in a normal environment under the close surveillance and guidance of an officer of the court. Probation, in other words, can intercept a career of serious crime. Otherwise, we put a man away, release him, put him away and release him, repeating the pattern monotonously for the rest of his life, with damage to society in each episode.

The public may or may not endorse the thesis. What it does have to accept is the fact that most criminal offenders ultimately are going to be released. They are coming out in a slow and continuous stream. What happens after that is every citizen's business. He has a stake in it. For my part, I'd like to feel that each individual's return could be so arranged that for a while he would remain continuously under the eye of the State. I'd like to know that people like you are sitting unobtrusively beside him in a car with dual controls.

Society is entitled to certain minimum assurances. It should know that while social relations are being re-established, work will be provided for the man by a reputable employer. It should know that his living arrangements are the subject of careful scrutiny. It should know, through you, how much money he makes, how much he saves, with whom he associates, how he spends his leisure. And since he must eventually walk alone, he must be encouraged to assume initiative as rapidly as he shows capacity. That is creative Parole work, and its purpose, as the public must be told, is not to make life easier for the offender but to guarantee more security for the law-abiding.

That's beautiful, some people are going to say, but it doesn't work. Did you see what was in the paper last night? No, I

didn't, but don't tell me. I can guess. My answer is that the system, not just in Pennsylvania but everywhere, is more likely to be probation and parole in form than in substance. We don't actually give it a fair trial. We don't, because we don't really believe in it. That is, the Public doesn't. That being true, it doesn't get the money, the brains, and the effort that it must have to succeed.

One of the weakest arguments that we offer in advocacy of Probation and Parole is that it's so much cheaper than imprisonment. I'm not sure it ought to be. I'm opposed to putting a price on human personality. I don't know how much the rehabilitation of a citizen is worth to the Commonwealth, but whatever it is, we ought to pay it.

We can spend, without getting a breath of criticism, hundreds of dollars a year to keep a prisoner in an institution where he can hardly go wrong because he has little right of choice. But if we spend more than a few paltry dollars per capita to help probationers and parolees who are beset by all the snares of life and perhaps making the hardest fight of their existence, we are branded for our extravagance and softness. Something is wrong with such a scale of values, and you are the ones who must correct it.

Efficient work in Probation and Parole is expensive. To reduce the risk of guesswork, we must have expert diagnosticians to determine the fitness of an offender to be at large in society under supervision. We must have the benefit of small case loads. An officer has to have intimate, not perfunctory, knowledge of personality problems of those under his charge. He must have time to establish confidential relationships with the family and other groups to which the individual is to be returned.

We ought to sponsor research studies to measure the results of probation. How, for instance, does the subsequent behavior of those who have been on probation compare with that of those who have been imprisoned? Perhaps things of this kind have been attempted, yet the public still feels it is being asked to buy a pig in a poke.

We need more studies which will indicate what type of offenders succeed under probation and parole. Under what conditions do they succeed? There are the form charts, the actuarial tables that we ought to have to tell us whether our chances of success in a given case are fifty in a hundred, seventy-five in a hundred, ninety in a hundred.

Yours is the new science. You must have precision instruments to work with.

I hope I haven't sounded as though I am making an adding machine approach to your problems. Personality can't be measured like a bolt of yard goods. I often think of this in reference to an American whose name you know. He was reared by a father so shiftless that, although he was a Carpenter by trade, his family had to live in a dwelling in which doors and windows were unhung and in which there was no flooring except bare

earth. The son himself was uncouth in appearance, and throughout his life he was subject to fits of melancholia. His formal education, received only now and then in the poorest schools, would not total more than a year. After marriage, his domestic relationship was not happy. I wonder how high a potential our modern testing methods would have given this man for achieving a useful and responsible place in the community? I don't know, but I do know that when this country's existence was imperiled, a man of whom all these things could have been said was elected and re-elected President of the United States. And today every American utters with reverence the name of Abraham Lincoln.

No, the probability tables don't tell the whole story. That's where you come in. You take over where the specialists leave off. You have to study the form charts, of course, you must know the element of risk. Then you add the intangibles that nobody can measure, and you find the answers somewhere in the depths of your experience and intuitive wisdom. Your job, as I see it, is both as simple and as complicated as that.

The task of the Probation and Parole officer can be performed in a variety of ways. He can be a kind of detective—seeing to it that minimum conditions imposed by courts and boards are being fulfilled—and that's all. He can be a kind of clerk-receiving reports, filing them away, writing reports of his own—and that's about all. Or, if he has within himself the genius for it, he can go beyond all that is routine and perform the miracles that come from the impact of personality on personality. That is creative work on the highest level of importance.

You don't read about it in the newspapers. It is carried on quietly and it develops slowly. The failures catch the headlines. The story that is seldom told, the one which in the long view is infinitely more spectacular, is the story that comes from the effectiveness of a human relationship.

Come to think of it, the most significant things happening in the long history of mankind have been triumphs of personality. A long time ago, a young man living in a small country at the eastern end of the Mediterranean sea gathered around himself twelve men about his own age. Some of them had unpromising backgrounds, but he saw their possibilities. He gained their friendship and taught them informally out of everyday experiences. He gave them clear understanding of what was worthwhile. He trusted them, encouraged them, had patience with them when they failed. This was the way he lived out with them his personality. Then he gave them a big job.

You know the result. One of them failed him utterly. A few met with indifferent success. But the others whose records survived went into the world to start a way of life that transformed western civilization and after two thousand years is still the greatest influence in the life of our times.

Forget the Theological interpretations which have been given to that story. Look

at it simply as a human episode. For our purpose, it is the great example of the transforming power of personality. Science supplies the gadgets of methodology and technology. Use them to the fullest extent. You need them. Then recall the miracle and might of the simple human relationship that only you can provide.

Using these two ingredients, the precision of science and the magic of personality, you have completed 95 per cent of course, you must know the element of your task. The part that remains is the telling of your story. I'm not a publicist. I can't tell you how to do it. But I know a good story. I know that the great story of Christendom is the tremendous successes of the Peters, Matthews, and Johns, not the awful failure of Judas.

The people to whom you are ultimately responsible—the man next door, the fellow in the barber shop and the filling station, the preacher and the teacher, the girl behind the counter and the mother in the home—they have a right to the thrill and the lift of knowing that human material that doesn't seem to amount to much, it's almost ready for the scrap heap, can still be turned into something fine and substantial. The job of doing it is in process every day.

That's your story.

WEDNESDAY

Panel

"Present Institutional Problems" was the topic for discussion by Charles P. Cella, Jr., Supervisor, Government Consulting Service of the Institute of Local and State Government, University of Pennsylvania, and Edmund Burbank, Executive Secretary, Pennsylvania Prison Society, who substituted for Abraham J. Levy, Deputy Attorney General of Pennsylvania. The speakers were presented by Fred Miller of the Public Service Institute of the State Education Department.

Mr. Cella

Mr. Cella outlined the scope and procedure of a survey of Pennsylvania training schools being conducted by the Institute at the request of the sub-committee on juvenile delinquency of the Governor's Committee on Children and Youth. The survey is financed by the United States Children's Bureau.

The study is being made of 24 institutions, of which three are owned by the State, four are aided by the

State, three are county owned, four are county aided, and nine are owned and financed by private, sectarian groups. As of fall, 1953, these institutions contained 5000 children.

Control and supervision of these institutions rest with two State departments (Welfare and Justice), three counties, and 12 agencies.

The purpose of the study is to determine the different objectives of the schools, rate the physical plant, program, and administrations, and make recommendations as to improvements.

The survey is nearly completed and will be published. Until publication, no results could be discussed by Mr. Cella.

Mr. Burbank

Mr. Burbank, speaking without preparation, spoke of the changes that have taken place in Pennsylvania institutions through the recent legislation stimulated by the riots and the Devers Committee Report.

He felt that significant progress has been made through establishing Graterford and Rockview as independent institutions and through setting up the Diagnostic and Classification Centers in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

The Bureau of Corrections, Mr. Burbank felt, had many problems to solve, but he had no question, after seeing the way early problems had been handled, but that future ones would be disposed of as efficiently.

Commenting on the two popular books, "Cell 2455 Death Row" and "Break Down the Walls", Mr. Burbank wondered if there was not a stirring of thinking about our prisons which might change the prison of the future beyond anything we might recognize. At least, he thought, it would not resemble our oldest institutions such as Eastern and Western Penitentiaries.

Report on Laurelton State Village

Dr. Catherine De Ette Edgett, of the administrative staff of the Laurelton State Village, gave a brief history of the institution and an outline of the program of school, industry, and social training which prepares the girls for return to the community.

Dr. Edgett pointed out that for most of the Laurelton girls, training involved **habilitation** rather than **rehabilitation**. The present program is the outcome of the efforts and philosophy of Dr. Mary Wolfe, the long-time Superintendent, who felt that even defective girls were trainable.



Editorial

Our Association

From time to time an inventory is as necessary for organizations as it is for business. Whether things are going well or badly, it is important that the officers and members reappraise the purposes of the organization, its methods, and its results. Such a time is **now** for this organization.

We have had our ups and downs in member strength, our good and bad meetings and conferences—annual and regional. We have had our moments of achievement and our periods of dullness and inactivity. This fluctuation is probably normal.

However, at the Philadelphia Conference there seemed to be something in the air that forecasts nothing but ill for the Association if it persists. The Conference opened with a handful of people present. Members were registered at the hotel, were in the

Lovely color photos, projected, were used by Dr. Edgett to illustrate her talk. The presentation was most instructive and enjoyable.

COMMITTEE

The program for the Conference was arranged by the Program Committee: Lawrence Campbell, Chairman; Thomas Falcone, John O. Reinemann, Dr. Edgett, and Fred Miller, with the help of the following members of the Local Committee on Arrangements: Anthony Tamburro, Gabriel D'Urso, Harry Gallagher, William Miller and Andrew Student.

lobby and even in the hallway outside the meeting room, but they had no serious intention about engaging themselves in the program.

Members who work with adults showed little interest in the sessions on juvenile offenders, and vice versa. Some members showed little interest in any of the sessions.

Rumors were spread that a rival slate of candidates was to be presented at the business meeting, that there was dissatisfaction with the operation of the Executive Committee. But, when the time came, the scheduled opposition failed to appear. Nevertheless, there was a good deal of concern and confusion of thinking still present after the meeting.

The point of all of this review is that by implication and probably by definition we **associate** together for some purpose—the advancement of

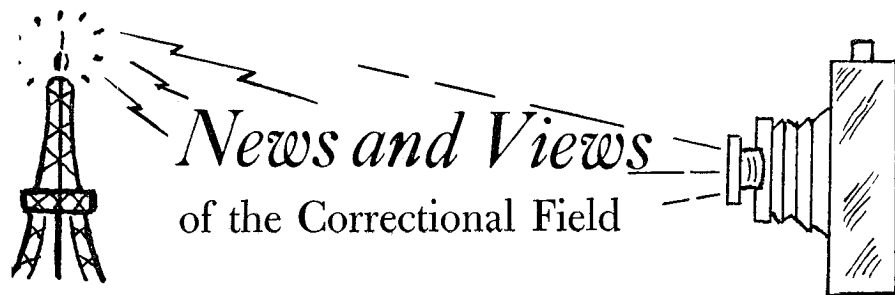
our skills and knowledge on the job, the enrichment of our professional acquaintance through personal contact, the improvement of our field of work through new legislation proposals, advocacy of standards for personnel and performance, and sharing results of research.

None of these purposes can be fulfilled if our association together is characterized by distrust of each other—probation of parole, parole of institutions, institutions of outsiders, me of you—or by disinterest in the serious side of the conferences. We cannot continue to have a strong **Association** if our **association** is weak, petty and distasteful.

An inventory will show that we have great assets in our membership, even greater assets in potential membership. We have outstanding leader-

ship from all areas of our field. We have recognition at the highest level—our President has been for some years a member of the Governor's Committee on Children and Youth. We have possibilities of being a strong influence in the Commonwealth.

We have these valuable assets. Will we use them well? Not if we continue to speak louder in private gatherings than in our open meetings, not if we ridicule and distrust our colleagues in the field, not if we continue to dream of the old days when the organization was smaller and less formal and more like a private club. No, let's face it—we **can** progress, we **can** move ahead, we **can** be a positive force in our profession. We **can** if through our pleasant, productive association together we build a vigorous, mature and helpful Association.



Pennsylvania Welfare Conference

"Piercing the shadow of Crime" was the theme of the 44th Meeting of the Pennsylvania Welfare Conference, held March 25 and 26, 1954 in Harrisburg. The meeting featured eight panel discussions staffed by representatives of Welfare, Community and Service Organizations. Over 500 persons attended the conference.

The panels, with some exceptions, met both days. The following conclusions were reached:

THE FAMILY

It was generally agreed that differing patterns of delinquent behavior may be associated with class levels. We speak of white collar crime versus crimes arising from unrestrained impulse gratification. In the latter case the family fails to introduce patterns of restraint.

To what extent should a family alone be blamed for all delinquencies—may not many of these problems reflect community derelections?

The family needs help in accepting the delinquent back in the home. The willingness of employers to employ and of churches and other groups to accept him affects the family's acceptance of the delinquent.

RELIGION

Churches need to extend their "out reach" to make contact with those not in churches, which is true of many delinquents.

Religious institutions may aid crime prevention by more effective spiritual guidance, by teaching perspective on values and behavior and by satisfying the need in people for group activity.

EDUCATION:

Analysis by the teacher of the total child is important (physically, mentally, morally, emotionally.)

Discussion centered around five topics: 1. the general climate of the school, including the mental climate; 2. early diagnosis of tendency toward juvenile delinquency; 3. the important problem of "drop outs" in our school systems, especially what can be done for the individual who remains in the school program; 4. education broader than the school curriculum; 5. what increased services in personnel are needed?

Schools and the general public must recognize that combating juvenile delinquency requires the coordinated efforts of home, school, church, welfare agencies and the Court.

RECREATION:

Planned recreation is an absolute necessity for all age groups as one of the best ways to combat crime. Children and youth are confronted with many problems today that require adult understanding and leadership and guidance. Crime and delinquency takes place during leisure time, hence the need for constructive programs of recreation.

LABOR AND INDUSTRY IN CRIME PREVENTION:

Industry and labor are emerging into a new era of a sense of responsibility for community thinking and planning. How an employee lives, the education of his children, the vocation of himself and family and the community in which he lives are important to a good productive worker. The importance of each individual will have an effect on both family and community life, which are the roots of our present problem.

The continuance of the opportunities for all areas of community life to come together and express themselves will encourage the development of leadership from both management and labor.

LAW ENFORCEMENT:

Enforcement of the law is not enough. Basic laws for human beings cannot be confused with penal laws, which are man made for better living.

Effective law enforcement must be coupled with a positive approach on the part of all community agencies, churches and schools.

Citizen responsibility in relation to sponsorship of parolees was emphasized as was parental responsibility.

A survey is needed of service agencies in law enforcement to determine where overlapping and gaps in service exist.

THE PRESS:

The press, which includes radio and television, is a tool which social welfare agencies, including Courts, have not made adequate use of in their sincere efforts to solve the many faceted problems of juvenile delinquency. The press has a great opportunity in helping prevent delinquency by keeping the public informed of the problem and taking constructive positive steps toward solutions.

Greater cooperation by those interested in the welfare of children is needed in making information avail-

able to the press. For example, the newspapers feel very strongly there is need for access to the records of the Juvenile Courts.

EXPERIENCE OF CITIZENS' GROUPS:

A panel of citizens from Berks County described their experiences in studying the community needs relating to juvenile delinquency. So far a policewoman has been hired and a planning committee organized to help in

Middle Atlantic Conference of Correction

Reported By Jack Bierstein

I was glad to be one of the 300 parole, probation and prison representatives who attended the Middle Atlantic States Conference of Correction at Atlantic City, April 1, 2, 3, 1954. Members of the Conference came from six States,—Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia.

On hand to greet us was Tom Falcone, busily engaged in enrolling new members.

At the first session a well-focused and timely address was read by Albert Wagner, Superintendent of the State Reformatory at Bordentown, New Jersey, for the Honorable Simon E. Sobeloff, Solicitor-General of the United States, who was unable to attend.

Highlights

Highlights of Mr. Sobeloff's paper were: an appeal for an end of public hostility to men returning from prison cells to respected places in the community through the parole system—"parole is here to stay", he declared. How long it will take for public officials to accept parole and sweep the cobwebs from the notion that we can depend on punishment and time as a means of controlling

crime prevention by working with pre-delinquents. There was general approval of the Department of Welfare's plan for a division of juvenile delinquency within the Childrens Bureau of the Department of Welfare.

The newer role of how groups function provide important techniques that can be used in exploring such problems of juvenile delinquency. The importance of harnessing fact finding; continuing fact finding and securing appropriate action was stressed.

crime depends to a large extent on public understanding of the parole system.

There are those who feel that parole is unnecessary and he noted that if parole were abolished it would mean a change in the system of sentencing, institutions would be overcrowded, more taxes would be imposed and inmates would be released from institutions without help.

He reminded that prison doors open outwardly as well as inwardly and commented that only if we do a good job in selecting offenders for parole and constantly review the factors that make for parole, can we make it more effective.

Alcoholics

The morning session on Friday, April 2, consisted of a panel discussion on "The Community Approach to Alcoholism". Moderator was Dr. Edward N. Pleasants, MD., Director of Mental Hygiene and Hospitals, Department of Institutions and Agencies, New Jersey. Members were Dr. G. H. Gehrman, Medical Director Dupont Company, Wilmington, Delaware; Raymond G. McCarthy, Director of Alcoholism Research, Mental Health Commission, Depart-

ment of Mental Hygiene, State of New York; and Mr. Thomas J. McCarthy, Deputy Chief Probation Officer, Baltimore, Maryland.

Speaking for industry, Dr. Gehrman stated the drinker is just another health problem, alcoholism is considered a disease and treated as such. He defined the problem drinker as one whose drinking interferes with business, home and social life.

Problem drinkers in the Dupont Company are told frankly about their situation and the cure or remedy is placed squarely on the individual, who must have a sincere desire to accept help. The man is usually kept on the job and his actions are observed during that time. Two out of three such employees are rehabilitated.

Mr. McCarthy observed that the term alcoholic means many things to many people—the ordinary drinker achieves satisfaction with reality

and can control his drinking at any time. The uncontrolled drinker has a different motivation to achieve changes in reality. In the uncontrolled drinker involvements in living aggravate this problem.

The problem is how to develop a way of life for alcoholics, a kind of channel like parole. Perhaps some can function independently, but they would need a lot of screening. The lack of an efficient system of classification and evaluation of why people recover are two drawbacks at present in the whole program of treating alcoholics.

Mr. Thomas McCarthy, who substituted for Dr. John Riley, recounted his experience of 20 years as a Probation and Parole Officer. He observed that—alcohol plays a big part in the causation of offenses and referred to a general punishing attitude of the public such as "you got yourself into this, now get yourself out."



Lt. Gov. Wood and Newly Elected Officers—Peter Frascino, Ex-Comm., Richard Farrow, 1st V. P., Eliza Leader, Sec'y., Lt. Gov. Wood, Arthur Prasse, Pres., Edward Brubaker, 2nd V. P.

—The Parole or Probation Officer can serve best in the case of the alcoholic individual offender by pointing out the needs of the individual to the Court, consider what other agencies are available for treatment and get the Probationer or Parolee to accept these services — Alcoholics are the centers of non-support, desertion and abuse cases.

Supervision Standards

Case Loads vs. Supervision in Probation and Parole was the subject of a panel discussion Friday afternoon, of which Mr. Alfred R. Loos, Chairman, New York State Board of Parole was moderator and members were Vernon Duckrey, Probation Officer, U. S. District Court, Philadelphia; Robert C. Hallinan, Parole Officer, State of New York; G. Ervin Miller, Parole Officer, State of Maryland; John Nulty, Executive Assistant to the Chief Probation Officer, Essex County, New Jersey; and Miss Margaret Perrin, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Duckrey spoke of Pre-Parole Investigations, rural and urban Case Loads and the specialized case load plan, which he favored as being sound. He pointed out that the ability to relate to parolee is a good gauge of an Agent's success in supervision. He listed factors to consider in effective supervision, namely, quality and quantity of contacts, achievement of minimum supervision standards, avoidance of duplication of work. He thought case loads of 50 offer a satisfactory basis for good supervision.

Mr. Robert Hallinan, speaking on the supervision of the specialized case load, referred to various types of supervision, such as intensive, close, active and reduced. The grade is determined by the needs of the individual, also whether he should report weekly, monthly, have home visits monthly or whether there should be just job checks. Generally, reduced supervision is not considered

until two years of parole are completed. Various problems involved in supervision are rejection by a girls' parents, unwillingness of the Armed Services to take parolees, need to disclose parole status to the employer, fear of rejection by organized groups. The New York Parole Board policy is not to release homeless persons to room plans. Forty is considered a satisfactory case load.

Miss Perrin stated treatment in the institution is ineffective if the person returns to the same environment from whence he came. The youngster is most susceptible to reform when he is just released. She favors a case load of not more than fifty.

Probation Officers should be sensitive to the needs of the individual child. The Probation officer's work requires continuous interpretation to the public, and the most effective rehabilitation comes from the individual's home community.

Mr. G. Ervin Miller of Maryland, said that effectiveness of supervision is determined by the size of the case load, size of the District, geographical area and the turn over in the case load—he thought 50 cases was a representative case load, plus 10 to 20 Pre - Parole Investigations monthly—some surveillance is necessary, but this creates distrust. Case work practice is preferable, but requires time to plan, record and focus for the next interview. Time should be taken to review once a month the whole history and recording to date in order to do an effective job of supervision. Pre-requisites are a positive attitude, ability to understand the subject, a skill to help him adjust, and a case load small enough to do an effective job of supervision.

Mr. Loos, as moderator, said that we should be certain ourselves as to what constitutes a case load—we have not tried to prove that we are doing an adequate job. Let us show more than just that the cost of keeping a man in prison is more than keeping him on parole. Then, when we ask for lower case loads, we can

justify our request. He felt that we need help in research to back up our figures. We have to evaluate our successes on parole.

Miss Perrin thought that the quality of the case work is more important than the mere size of the case load.

Mr. Nulty felt that we paid too much attention to those parolees who are getting out of hand and too little to those who would profit by more time in supervision.

Election

At the business session Friday afternoon, Elton Smith graciously accepted his new assignment as President of the Conference for a two-year term—succeeding Ralph S. Falconer of Maryland. Other officers elected were: Albert E. Wagner, New Jersey, Vice President; Mrs. Mary K. Rogers, Maryland, Secretary.

Banquet

The banquet on Friday evening was attended by a capacity crowd and featured an address by Dr. Walter M. Wallack, Warden, Walkkill Prison, Walkkill, New York and President, American Prison Association.

Speaking on the theme "We Need a Professionalized Penology", Dr. Wallack said the answer to recent riots in penal institutions is better prison management—not "rock 'em and sock 'em machine gun" treatment of inmates.

The solution will come, he said when prisons and jails are freed of "inept management".

The possibility of trouble in our institutions will not be reduced to a minimum until we have genuine professional quality in our management and leadership. The public must realize that 90 percent of all offenders are back in the community within three to five years after they are imprisoned, therefore, it is only common sense that we must not in our penology intensify through inhumane punishment the criminal and anti-social tendencies of offenders.

Legal Problems

The Saturday morning meeting, April 3, featured a panel discussion on the practical legal problems in Probation and Parole supervision. Dr. F. Lovell Bixby, Director of Correction and Parole, Department of Institutions, and Agencies, New Jersey, presided; Mr. Saul Rubin, Legal Consultant, National Probation and Parole Association was the speaker. Discussants were Dr. G. I. Giardini, Superintendent of Parole Supervision, Pennsylvania Board of Parole and Verner V. Henry, Senior Parole Officer, Department of Institutions and Agencies, New Jersey.

Mr. Rubin stated that we should emphasize a case work relationship. Legal problems arise from laws which create authority that subjects the parolee or probationer to certain limitations of living. He felt, however, that the probationer and the parolee are not without rights. Actually, a quasi-contractual relationship exists between the officer and the probationer or parolee. A condition of parole must be made within the purpose of the statute and any condition is valid if the restricted behavior is abnormal, illegal, or immoral.

Dr. Giardini observed that we are in a state of flux between an authoritarian approach and a full use of case work skills. There is an attempt to de-emphasize law and to give the parole agent or probation officer more leeway with the hope of encouraging a better relationship. We must remember that the individual still has rights.

Mr. Henry referred to the Attorney General's Survey on Release Procedures, which listed 27 different conditions of release on parole. The Constitution lists 24 specific rights and procedures including the right to search. He raised such questions as the right to search a parolee's person, or his room or control his money. Also, can a driver's license be denied if a parolee meets legal conditions?

In the discussion that followed, Mr. Rubin stated that a probationer sometimes loses his rights, not because of Parole Board regulations but because other laws also regulate his activity. These laws are in need of drastic revision. A pending report being prepared by the National Probation and Parole Association

holds that a probationer should lose no rights

The Conference lived up to its reputation for informality—the sessions were lively and spirited, yet reflected an easy going, relaxed atmosphere. Even the weather man was cooperative and provided two days of good weather.



Sophia O'Hara

Sophia M. R. O'Hara, a Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania and for many years one of the Commonwealth's most prominent persons, died April 26, 1954. Miss O'Hara had retired from public life in May, 1953.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, November 13, 1882, Sophia O'Hara became an attorney and a member of the Luzerne County Bar and was admitted to practice in state and federal courts. She served as a Deputy Attorney General, Secretary of the Commonwealth, Secretary of Welfare, and Member of the Board of Parole. Her state service covered a period of 22 years.

In addition to her state employment, Miss O'Hara was active in political, civic and welfare organizations, including the Executive Committee of the Republican State Committee, American Prison Congress, and the Children's Service Center of Wyoming Valley.

Devotion to high ideals, far-reaching vision in matters of public welfare, and personal graciousness and charm will stand in the minds of many as being outstanding attributes of Miss O'Hara in her service to Pennsylvania.

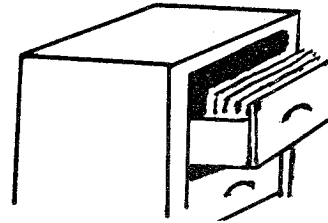
Edward T. Cohee

Edward T. Cohee, Assistant District Supervisor of the Philadelphia Office, Pennsylvania Board of Parole, died May 31, 1954. He is survived by his wife and a son, Edward, Jr.

Mr. Cohee was born March 10, 1897. He served in the Pennsylvania State Police for 15 years, retiring with the rank of sergeant. He served in World War I and World War II, holding the rank of Captain in the Air Force at time of separation.

Fraternally he was a member of the Elks, American Legion, Police Chiefs Association of Southeastern Pennsylvania, and the Knights of Columbus.

An employee of the Board of Parole for almost nine years, Mr. Cohee served as Parole Agent and Assistant Supervisor.



From the Files

Probation and Perversion

Editor's Note:—This case example is submitted by James McClain, Probation Officer of Mifflin County.

This is not by any means an unusual case. I feel certain that hundreds of such cases pass through the Courts of Pennsylvania each year. Homo-sexual cases constitute a community problem in many areas and their importance is emphasized by their frequent occurrence and the need for immediate social treatment.

This case really started during an interview between a young man 15 years of age and his probation officer. The young man was obviously depressed and guilty about something and finally confessed to his officer that he had been picked up the night before by a young man 25 years old and had been seduced homo-sexually. From his description of the automobile and few numbers of the license, the officer was able to locate the man in question whom we shall refer to as Mr. X.

Our investigation indicated that Mr. X had been involved with other young men, and, in as much as this sort of activity is damaging to youth, he was picked up. He readily confessed to this offense. I say such activity is dangerous to the young people involved because they are seduced and subjected to unusual sex experiences during a period of sexual ambivalence when their attitudes on sex are, as yet, not wholly formed. Suffice it to say, the ever present danger of one homo-sexual creating another is one that is not to be ignored.

In the pre-sentence investigation, the officer dug up the following story.

Mr. X was the youngest of six sib-

lings, born just three months before his father's death. His was a solid, middle class family, respected, and active in community projects. In his childhood he was treated like a baby by an over-protective mother and several over-indulgent sisters. He was never allowed to think for himself nor was he permitted to make personal decisions of any consequence. Here is an example of this over-protection: At the age of 9, Mr. X had suffered a broken leg. The family immediately attached great importance to the incident and proceeded to baby an otherwise normal and capable 9 year old, and forced upon him an extended period of recuperation far beyond that deemed necessary by medical authorities.

This same pattern was evident throughout his growth. At the age of 13, Mr. X had his first homo-sexual contact with an older boy who forced him to perform the act. As far as we have been able to ascertain, no physical drive or need was present at that time. The usual pattern of fear, experimentation, and sexual curiosity were the prevailing factors. This first act was held over his head by the older boy and Mr. X was not able to tell his family about it. Prior to this first contact, Mr. X had had no physical contact with either sex. The older boy forced him to perform this act on his friends and the pattern of homo-sexuality was gradually developed. This same pattern prevailed throughout his high school years and then Mr. X made an effort to eliminate his homo-sexual tendencies. He was, to a large extent, successful. He began dating girls and enjoyed their company.

After graduation from high school, X entered the U. S. Army and served overseas in Korea during which time he was wounded in the leg and was in the Army Hospital for about a month. He was given leadership training while on duty in the rear area following his injury. X was honorably discharged from the U. S. Army and his record indicates no disciplinary trouble while in the service.

After returning home, he went to work at a local plant and has worked there continually since that time.

One evening after his return home, X met the young man who had originally forced him to commit the homo-sexual act. Both had been drinking and once again the old pattern was strong enough to assert itself. X felt strong feelings of guilt about this situation, particularly since he had a "steady" girl friend and was beginning to think of marriage. Once again he tried to overcome his desire for male sex contacts and began to do

extensive reading on the topic of homo-sexuality. He was partially successful but had recurrent desires and failures in his efforts to abstain from such activities. On nearly every occasion of contact, he had been drinking alcoholic beverages.

As a result of the personal tensions and fears, his relationship with his girl friend had been strained to the breaking point and it finally terminated after an argument of minor importance. Even at this late date, his mother and older sisters were still dominant in his life. His fears and feelings of guilt coupled with obvious feelings of rejection gradually forced him deeper and deeper into his old pattern of homo-sexual activity, under certain conditions. Finally he approached the young probationer whom he had given a lift, with the hope that his actions would not be found out.

This led to his arrest and he frankly admitted that he had been involved in rather extensive homo-sexual ac-



Past Presidents—John Biernstein, Celia Gray, Pete Frascino, Florine Wagner, John Lawson, Leola Curtin, Harry Cancelmi

tivity. He insisted, and this was verified by investigation, that he did not associate with other known homosexuals because he found such associations revolting and against his personality make-up.

During the initial interviews, it became obvious that X had done considerable reading on his problem and was able to discuss it intelligently and with considerable understanding. He confided to the officer that he had contemplated psychiatric aid but did not have the nerve to seek it out. However, during investigation we uncovered facts that would seem to indicate that he had tentative plans for contacting an out-of-town psychiatrist during his annual vacation period. The progress of this plan had been retarded somewhat by his personal opinion that psychiatry could do little for him. His social relationships both primary and secondary had, as a result, deteriorated to the point where he no longer attended church or developed close friendship with fellow employees.

The officer submitted a report to the court containing the above mentioned material along with other information we cannot mention here because of our limited space. The report was read and discussed by an understanding and sympathetic judge and district attorney. The general feeling was that this young man was not a pathological homo-sexual but rather a fortuitous case whose contacts could best be described as an impulse response to particular situations. Probation was recommended and Psychiatric care was indicated.

The probation officer immediately made arrangements for a psychiatric examination and plans for following out any recommendation the psychiatrist might make. The examination was made and a complete report submitted to the probation officer for his use. The psychiatrist indicated that the officer's original conclusions were substantially correct and expressed the belief that something constructive could be done if the individual could be made to recognize some of the factors which had con-

tributed to his difficulty, modify his social contacts and eliminate alcohol and conducive situations. Close supervision was recommended until X had directed his tendencies into more normal channels.

The officer set up a weekly interview with X and began a program of discussion, led largely by X himself, of his problem and the factors lying behind it. At first the subject was tense and overwrought. His guilty feelings and shame had led him to believe that he must quit his job and move to another community. Over a period of weeks, the subject re-evaluated his ideas, led by the officer, and finally concluded that he was not going to help himself by running away from the situation. Also, he pointed out that jobs are not as plentiful now as they had been and, in as much as he had an excellent position, it might be best to stick it out. His abstinence from alcohol had given him considerable confidence in his ability to avoid conducive situations and after weeks of discussion and conferences, the subject was really making a beginning in the area of frank expression and understanding. He admitted that he did not, by any means, have his problem licked, and that he was aware of the fact that he might be bothered and tempted to step over the line in the future. However, he believed that each time he avoided any such contact, his position would be made stronger. The officer tried to help him see that he was not the only person who had been in these circumstances and that the important factors were his own attitudes toward the problem and the sincerity of his desire for help.

Gradually his social relationships were strengthened to the point where he once again began attending church and other social activities. His relationship with fellow employees was strengthened by the fact that he no longer shunned them and was eager to become a member of the group. The attitude of his fellow employees helped the officer considerably in that they accepted X despite the fact

that they were aware of his difficulty.

His mother and sisters were finally convinced that X was no longer a child and slowly but surely allowed him freedoms that were formerly out of the question.

Over a long period of time, X has considered himself in a new light and in discussing from time to time his personal problems with his officer he has developed a remarkable propensity for self-responsibility. He has not had any illicit sex contacts since his apprehension, to the best of our knowledge, and he gives every indication of a lasting adjustment.

He has re-established his association with his girl friend and that aspect of his life appears to be as smooth as the average boy-girl relationship. At present, X is seriously considering some additional study to better prepare himself for advancement in his work.

It may have been noted that I have said nothing about the field work involved and I must confess that aside from visits and periodic checks, there

was little field work done. Once started, the subject accepted responsibility for performing the suggestions and followed out the programs arrived at during interviews.

This case, it seems to me, pictures the real function of probation. To have placed this young man in a prison would have been disastrous, not only for him, but for society as well. We already recognize the demoralizing effects of prison life on the normal heterosexual inmate, in that inmates denied contacts with persons of the opposite sex may turn to homo-sexual practices in the prison. Such an experience could easily have been the end of the road for X and others like him. It follows that it could, in terms of modern moral norms, have been the beginning of a life of "hell" that ultimately would have dragged him down into the murky depths of degradation and utter despair with absolutely no hope of ever being that which all mankind holds close to its heart—a self-respecting human being.



Panel Speakers and Committee Members — Anthony Tamburro, Thomas Falcone, Judge Propper, Judge Knight, Harry Gallagher.

Reviews



(Ed. Note: In view of the recent wave of publicity concerning Juvenile Delinquency, all reviews in this issue deal with that particular problem.)

SCHOOLS FACE THE DELINQUENCY PROBLEM; National Association of Secondary-School Principals, Washington, D. C., December, 1953; 40 pp.

This brochure covers such subjects as dealing with delinquents in the schools, including specialized guidance and clinical services. It cites experiences with special schools and special classes established for mal-adjusted youth, for instance, the Woodland Avenue School in Newark, New Jersey; the 612 School in Manhattan, New York City; the Boone School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and the Highwood School in Baltimore, Maryland. It also has a chapter on The Schools and Delinquency Prevention, with special emphasis on observing and measuring symptomatic behavior.

---, SCHOOLS HELP PREVENT DELINQUENCY; National Education Association of the United States, Washington, D. C., October, 1953; 32 pp.

The purpose of this bulletin is to acquaint classroom teachers and other personnel with the juvenile delinquency problem. It includes chapters on "The Extent of Juvenile Delinquency," "Social and Personal Aspects of Delinquency," "Agencies of Delinquency Control and Prevention," "Schools and Juvenile Delinquency." There is also added a "Selected Bibliography," and an appendix on state laws on juvenile court jurisdiction.

---, BLUEPRINT FOR DELINQUENCY PREVENTION; New

York State Youth Commission, Albany, New York, 1953; 30 pp.

This illustrated booklet, with excellent charts and graphs, describes the program of the New York State Youth Commission in respect to delinquency prevention, namely (1) to provide state aid for certain types of youth services; (2) to inquire into youth needs and problems; (3) to promote better understanding of youth needs and services; (4) to unify efforts on behalf of youth. It includes a special write-up on the New York City Youth Board and describes in detail the various forms of publicity through brochures, radio and television that have been employed by the New York State Youth Commission for the interpretation of the problem to the public-at-large.

---, PATTERN FOR PREVENTION; New York City Youth Board, New York, N. Y., 1952; 34 pp.

This booklet, with the help of excellent photographs and charts, describes the work of the New York City Youth Board, which has been set up under the chairmanship of the Mayor of that City. It explains the job of the Youth Board's referral units in each of the eleven high delinquency areas, which locate children who need help, and which secure the necessary treatment for them and their families. Under the heading, "To Reach the Unreached," it is stated that "a great many of the children and parents found to need treatment were not being reached by existing agencies." It is here that the New York City Youth Board tries to become active. One of its most important features is the work with gangs through the assignment of Youth Board street club workers, namely, "young men who, by their personalities, skills and understanding of youth,

are able to establish sound contacts with gang members in their own environment, become acquainted with their leaders, learn their wishes and strivings and exert a wholesome influence on the groups they work with." A particular challenge to the work of the New York City Youth Board is the presence of a large, recently arrived Puerto Rican population with a great number of economic, vocational, health, cultural and other problems which inevitably affect the behavior of children in the East Harlem area where these people settled.

- - -, RECOMMENDED STANDARDS FOR SERVICES FOR DELINQUENT CHILDREN; U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Social Security Administration, Children's Bureau, 1953; 21 pp.

This pamphlet publicizes standards

for organization and practice of various agencies, on the local and state level, dealing with delinquent youth, under the heading of the police, the juvenile court, the detention facility, the training school, and the organization and administration of services at the state level. Recommendations for attainable standards are listed from source material compiled by the National Conference on Prevention and Control of Juvenile Delinquency, 1946; the Berkshire Conference on Training Schools, 1951; the Midcentury White House Conference on Children and Youth, 1950, as well as such agencies as the U. S. Children's Bureau, the Judicial Conference of the United States, the National Council of Juvenile Court Judges, and the National Probation and Parole Association.



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