## **Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology**

Volume 30 Issue 6 *March-April* 

Article 4

Spring 1940

# Some Clinical Approaches in Penology

Sidney M. Simmons

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

Part of the <u>Criminal Law Commons</u>, <u>Criminology Commons</u>, and the <u>Criminology and Criminal Justice Commons</u>

#### Recommended Citation

Sidney M. Simmons, Some Clinical Approaches in Penology, 30 Am. Inst. Crim. L. & Criminology 865 (1939-1940)

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

### SOME CLINICAL APPROACHES IN PENOLOGY

#### SIDNEY M. SIMMONS1

In the course of our existence, all of us have come in contact with people who appear "socially disoriented." While the majority of us are occupied in life's daily task of properly maintaining ourselves, others are concerned with functions that are contrary to society and that do not conform with it. Does it mean that the causes lie in the individual himself, his society or the times, or is there no amenable approach that will alter the general situation?

As we are all aware, the causes for such "wayward activity" are innumerable, and while we are unable to delve into them entirely at this point, we are growing to realize that such criminal behavior begins its development in childhood to a great extent and is abetted by undesirable environmental conditions. It is developed furthermore, by the person's peculiar emotional make-up, his drives. desires, goals, and other tendencies that are involved. These characteristics, though improper outlet resulting from emotional stress. obstructions and the like, ultimately become disrupted and thwarted. They often later become inhibited or repressed and create in the individual a condition responsible probably for the violation of social order. Unlike his kin or neighbor, the offender is more predisposed and becomes more emotionally disturbed and easily thwarted through deprivation and dissatisfaction. He chooses one of the many undesirable modes of expression to gain the greatest amount of self-satisfaction—the path of delinquency—a specific interest resulting from a group of specific unaccepted habits, as Guthrie (The Psychology of Human Conflict) would say. Delinquency is chosen, furthermore, because of its prevalence and simplicity, though its rewards may be purely a matter of pseudo-selfsatisfaction unknown even to the offender. Temporarily, some satisfaction is attained in this criminal behavior but later, such activity appears commonplace to the delinquent. There may be conscious belief that criminal behavior is wrong but the feeling of wrong has long since disappeared and such existence continues. Delinquency then, may be considered as some prolonged reaction to environmental disorder as well as a reaction or outlet to emotional confusion.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Formerly Investigator and Psychologist at Sing Sing Prison and later Research Assistant at Boston Psychopathic Hospital.

Penologists and criminologists have come a long way to realize the part played by behavioral and sociological problems. They feel the need for specialized consultation and cooperation in these problems if they are to take further steps checking crime and rehabilitating the criminal.<sup>2</sup> Their continued efforts have led to psychiatric service and its branches in the general field of criminology. It is the intention here to bring out numerous clinical approaches which have steadily improved systems in the general field in addition to other possible procedures in which the psychiatric clinic may be involved. While these approaches are not really new innovations, their consideration may be fruitful.

Let us eliminate an historical background that would take us through the work of Dr. Wm. Healy, Bedford Reformatory for Women (N.Y.), and the original work of Dr. B. Glueck, in the first Classification Clinic at Sing Sing Prison. In considering the approaches of this now more or less universal organization, the penal psychiatrist clinic, let us view its functions by way of the duties of each individual staff member. In instances where an institution is not equipped with psychiatric clinic, a psychiatrist, psychologist and investigator are usually employed on a part-time basis. Variations may occur due to the number of cases and the particular type of locality.

Of the members of the clinic, the investigator is usually one of the earliest to interview the "reception-company inmate," as he is known in some institutions, or the new arrival who may be quarantined for a short time upon admission. His interview consists of gathering information that will later make up the case history and be utilized by others of the clinic. He is concerned with the past, present and future matters surrounding the life history of the inmate. In addition to information from other records, he seeks to personally obtain data. Such data involves the inmate's personal and parental background, his community and criminal career, his educational and employment record, his religious and recreational behavior, his medical and mental history, and his general habits and haunts which go to make up the pertinent facts in the history of a delinquent. Because of the tremendous case load and lack of workers, a greater part of the information is secured by means of questionnaires. Such a system may be apt to facilitate the procedure somewhat. There is to be found on every admission, however, at least a minimum of case history material. Personal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Throughout this account, reference is made to the chronic delinquent rather than the accidental offender.

investigations are made for condemned cell cases found in some institutions, on requests from other states, and for particular behavior problems. Certain other reports may be requested occasionally by other institutional divisions to ascertain particular statements or conditions of the inmate and his family. The investgator, like the probation or parole officer, often advises or guides numerous members of the family, and may be called upon to act as "liason officer" and reconcile querulous couples if possible. Another instance is recorded where the psychiatric worker was called upon to locate pictures that were supposedly lost by an inmate whose hobby it was to collect old valuable prints. The favorable attention of such general matters is ordinarily an aid to good mental and physical health of the inmate.

But let us not leave the investigator without a few more words about his work. Proper case work, familiar to most of us in the field, involves a particular amount of investigation, diagnosis, and treatment of each case by the worker, according to Richmond and others. Differences in types of work lie in the nature of the case. The ordinary client in the community for example, may come of his own accord and seek assistance or advice while the delinquent has no choice in the matter when under surveillance and is ordered to carry out particular plans. In practically every situation however, the inmate is given the greatest consideration. Though there are of course, no marked differences, from a penological point of view, social case work should be considered as a necessary process which will develop individual personality and offer a new adjustment, based on the incarcerated individual and his limited environment in relationship to the community at large. The behavioral adjustment, then, centers around this internal and external situation of the inmate and is of major concern to the investigator, as well as others interested in the offender.

Another important member of the clinical staff is the psychologist. His work consists primarily in the administration of psychometric tests and the interpretation of their results which may disclose the mental operations or behavior of the inmate.

The work is not only enlightening but it contributes toward the treatment and possible rehabilitation of the individual offender. This psychometric information should not be taken as a complete panacea for crime nor should it be considered as establishing definite types or specific characteristics in people. The intelligence quotient, however, along with other behavioral and personality norms obtained by the psychologist denote strong tendencies.

The psychologist's general technique and procedure in penology is of significance. Numerous departments may wish to know the intelligence rating of the offender, his skills, his aptitudes and special abilities, his interests, his emotional make-up as well as something about his general behavior and personality. A number of standard tests are therefore given which help determine these factors.3 In many institutions, particularly those with large populations, inmates are first examined in groups. Those who fall below are re-examined individually, to ascertain the degree of deviation. In the case of feeblemindedness, after due comment by the psychiatrist and others, the inmate is usually sent to an institution for defective delinquents or a similar organization. The psychologist furthermore, is required often to comment on new industrial plans and educational programs as well as help select men for particular jobs and also conduct research. His general report, in addition to test results, includes numerous suggestions or recommendations and is usually presented at staff or committee meetings.

The approaches of the clinical sociologist and psychologist do not complete the picture, however, nor does the psychiatrist for that matter. But let us consider his work. He is concerned with the earlier "socio-psychophysical" conclusions made at the institution. Such data enables him to further study the inmate and point out or correct a warped personality. He has before him reports of the probation officer, the social case history material, and the psychological and medical or physical reports. Regardless of indications in previous records, he examines with care to recognize and determine nervous pathology, psychosis, defective mentality and personality, perversions, drug addiction, marked alcoholism and the like. Such findings, after they have been checked by the director or whoever may be in charge, guide other officials and usually lead to transfer or specialized treatment for the inmate. In a manner instilling confidence and sincerity with more hopeful cases, the psychiatrist discusses at length such pertinent factors as the personal circumstances of the inmate, his family and friends, and his general aim in life. He tries to show him his errors and attempts to inculcate in him a sense of responsibility and self-respect. Such an approach, even with those more seriously afflicted physically or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The tests used (Group and Individual Tests): Army Alpha & Beta; Binet (revision); Pintner Paterson; Porteus Maze; Stenquist, and numerous others required to meet the need for the particular case. (See G. M. Whipple's Manual or any other popular manual on Mental tests.)

mentally, enables him to render a more accurate diagnosis and possible prognosis. For his diagnosis, he is guided by the revised psychiatric classification as adopted by the American Prison Association.

Other duties, however, may confront the psychiatrist. If there is a system of quarantine at the institution, the psychiatrist may be assigned to visit these new men at regular intervals. Other quarters are immediately arranged for those who are perverted and for those who may display symptoms of self-destruction or other marked neurotic or psychotic tendencies. In addition to resumes on initial parole board men and parole violator cases, the psychiatrist may be also called upon to give executive clemency reports, or those accounts for men applying to the governor for pardons. He attends staff and committee meetings and if the penal division has established a guard school, he may be invited to give several lectures to prospective guards. The psychiatrist who is usually head of the clinic, not only interviews new help, but also attempts to create harmony and cooperation among other employees in addition to inmates as well. He examines condemned cell men and severe disciplinary cases and considers those submitted for transfer to "medium security prisons" (institutions highly improved and without walls or equipped with the cottage system; for men of more favorable characteristics and with short terms). The psychiatrist then, analyzes general and special cases to determine the significant factors for later classification, segregation, or particular treatment. Along with other functions related to the institution, he aims at rehabilitation and tries to improve or aid the inmate in some way; the outlook and results dependent upon the therapeutic effects as well as the length of the sentence.

Of the numerous meetings that the psychiatrist attends at the institution, the classification committee meeting is one of great importance. The committee consists of a representative of each department of the institution and has as its presiding officer and secretary, the director of the clinic and an administrative member. Shortly after the psychiatrist has examined the inmate, he is considered from every aspect by this group: from the point of view of sociology, psychology, psychiatry, medicine, surgery, segregation or transfer, and any other divisional measure of concern. Suggestions are made for further training in the fields of industry, education, agriculture, or even athletics, with a view toward assigning something that is of value and interest to the inmate. The committee functions as a "unit" and all decisions, if they are to be altered,

must be again unanimously accepted by its members. Practically every case in the institution is analyzed and studied by the members of the committee who ask questions and pool their knowledge with one aim in view: What shall we do with the person, if anything, in order to make him a future worthwhile member of society? Such a system of classification is a comparatively new and more or less clinical approach which has developed within the last ten years. It is gradually becoming a major part in the more extensive penal systems throughout the country.

So we find the penal administrator no longer alone in his endeavors as a result of these clinical approaches. The administrator finds such scientific measures of considerable value in the possible readjustment of delinquent behavior, and discovers that with their aid, he is often able to distinguish between disciplinary cases and mental problems which may eliminate further investigation and avoid subsequent difficulty. He realizes that the clinic and the committee have created a stronger interrelationship among the institution personnel who in turn, have profited by a greater exchange of information and have been able to keep more abreast of the times.

But how far have we progressed? Unfortunately, we have found that with all the interpolations of medicine and its branches, the problem of crime still remains unsolved. There may be no answer to the problem! The possibility of a superior understanding of the delinquent may be gained by more emphasis on the psychoanalytical and sociological approaches which are becoming more and more, integral parts of contemporary penal thought.

Beginning with psychoanalysis, let us review some of the factors involved in this method of approach. It is not the intention here to consider controversal points of numerous schools, or delve into a deep discussion of psychoanalysis. Nor is it the intention to render numerous examples or elaborate case histories, for the task would be far too great in just these few pages. It is obviously inadequate, furthermore, to give here a detailed explanation of those intricate and often puzzling concepts which involve a keener knowledge of the traits, temperaments and experiences that remain deep-seated within the person. We would not only have to thoroughly familiarize ourselves with the physical make-up or the ordinary characteristics and experiences of the individual, but we would intensively have to deal with the more unsatisfactory, furtive traits and functions of the person, which all could not off hand be plausibly explained in these few words. Let us be content then, with a rough

consideration of some of the "raw material" of the human, that is, a few of the fundamental traits and functions with which psychoanalysis may be concerned before giving a concise explanation of the term as well as its relation to penology and criminology.

Attempting to acquire certain goals, strivings, wishes and the like, a person is often confronted with disappointments, sadness, or "let-down" feelings. Such experiences may result in anxiety. fear, moodiness, reluctancy, spitefulness, suspiciousness, or feelings of guilt and may even cause peculiar physical reactions. Numerous conflict (i.e. an enigmatic attitude arising from a pending choice between two or more usually unpleasant factors of equal importance) may come to the foreground and the individual is temporarily at a loss. After mental anguish or even dreams involving the possibility of alternative activities, a decision is made. The choice may subsequently become unsatisfactory, but the person strives to cope with the situation until such opportunity affords a more favorable change. In a similar way, regarding disappointments and the like, the normal human is able to "snap out of it" or "get it off his chest." An outlet really takes place in some way and a tension is removed causing an equilibrium or state of rest to be maintained again by virtue of the person's final activity. Such general uncomfortable characteristics and experiences are confronted by all through the day, and though it is often not a simple task, it is the conquering of such tendencies finally, that make for stronger development in personality and better mental and physical health.

But with the person who is incapable of warding off such unsatisfactory propensities, the mannerisms persist and the individual continues to be anxious, fearful, moody and the like. As these experiences and reactions continue, often is there an attempt to knowingly hide or shield them, or hide one from the other. They are consequently held back or as we might state, inhibited. Such undesirable expressions of personality later become repressed or are held back to the extent that the reactions become even unknown to the person himself. Often do such repressions resulting from unpleasant conflicts, cause neurotic personalities later. One of the more serious mental disorders may follow, contingent upon the type of person and other factors. The brevity of our discussion forces us to eliminate other numerous concepts here such as regression, dissociation, obsession, sexual aberrations and the like.

But what bearing might all these numerous factors have on the field of penology or the larger field of criminology? A few more emphatic remarks about psychoanalysis may bring out its relationship to crime in general. Whether or not psychoanalysis is considered in a broader or narrower sense, it is a "psychological or mental analysis," as McDougall would call it and as we shall consider it. Without laying too much stress on the sexual elements, though they are significant, as originally developed by Freud and his students, psychoanalysis attempts to study and understand the individual and his reason for acting as he does through the light of the unconscious mental processes. In other words, through tactful, prolonged conversation held with the individual during his conscious state, some light may be thrown on the causes for peculiar activity and for "let-down" feelings and the like, of which the individual is not aware.

One, for example, may even hazard a guess that disruptions or peculiar activity resulting from such mental processes, may sometimes be related to what Freud has called the "reality principle," or an adult's point of view of seeking less pleasure if it will subsequently help him avoid less pain. Many individuals, particularly delinquents, are not satisfied with less pleasure due possibly to their emotional instability or anti-social make-up and seek the maximum of satisfaction or reward which usually terminates in disaster. Such situations, like others, are not often realized by the offender, and in questioning him about a crime, his reply is usually, "I don't know why I did it" or "I don't know just what made me do it or how it happened!" It is interesting to note how such confusing statements or unknown situations are cleared up as a result of questioning or mental analysis.

To emphasize this fact, let us briefly outline a case history of juvenile delinquency involving the sexual aspect, according to Dr. Wm. Healy in his "Mental Conflicts and Misconduct" (1928, 174). Ada at the age of nine, had been stealing numerous school supplies and money for a period of two years. It was revealed through mental exploration that two older classmates J. and S. had been instrumental in such activity. J. first told her about stealing three years prior (when age six) while S., who had a bad reputation, informed her about sex and attempted relations with her. Additional examination disclosed that she feared J. who threatened to get S. after her if she did not steal for him. She would thus lay awake at night and think about stealing and the desires of S. as well as obscene sex words heard through the day. On a later occasion, she screamed, bringing her father, when a delinquent brother approached her bed. An account was then given by her of her

attempts to repress her thoughts of sex to overcome the impulse to steal. "Sexual affairs and stealing were intimately related in the girl's experiences and in her mental contents," according to Healy. Similar to this conflict, other factors in numerous situations, may be revealed which may throw some light on delinquent behavior.

Psychoanalysis, then, may disclose reasons for the expression of peculiar traits and activity in many cases, through deeper knowledge of sexual situations as well as through its analysis of dreams and revelations of other conflicts, inhibitions, repressions. inferiority complexes and the like. It seeks to learn about the early mental and environment complexities in many instances, and tries to revive old experiences. After such past experiences have been revealed to the individual, he again "gets acquainted" with some of the facts of his mental and physical life that have been closed to him and have not previously appeared to the surface. He may realize what is happening and often attempt to modify his activity. The program of psychoanalysis is often a long one and involves much time. But the approach may be worthwhile to clinicians who may train themselves accordingly, and may be the means to readjustment and the solution to many delinquent problems. We must again not forget that the motivating factors influencing delinquency are numerous. All criminal tendencies do not spring solely from conflicts, nor does the answer lie in the unfolding of formative tendencies, later frustrations, or in fact, through the general methods of psychoanalysis.

Let us look into some of the facts of the sociological aspect which is of equal import. Numerous enlightening studies and laudable investigations have been made by National Penal Societies and other organizations concerning the inmate and his relation to the community. It is distressing to learn of the number of men constantly returning as parole violators or with new sentences. Inquiries have shown that upon release, the inmate often discards the more appropriate habits acquired during incarceration and returns to the old habits and haunts of the unstable community in which he has resided for the greater part of his life. Such characteristics continue to persist, due to the influences of the locality which has not as yet been reorganized.

In a well organized community, for example, the resources and inhabitants are such that a person is naturally able to acquire more favorable social characteristics. The neighborhood has become more "institution-minded"; its inhabitants have grown to realize the value

and efficiency of settlement houses, social and recreational centers, clubs, religious circles and the like. The citizen finds that the organizations cooperate in setting up plans for the proper adjustment of the youth and adult whether or not parents and relatives are available or capable. Educational and industrial programs are arranged for those who are desirous of learning a trade or are in search of employment. The cooperation of city, state, and federal authorities, in arranging courses in many fields moreover, makes it possible for the resident to profitably make use of his leisure time. Generally, the organizations are prepared to assist anyone in need or who is desirous of improving himself in any way. Such measures may not only eliminate predatory influences resulting from unemployment, excess leisure time and the like, but may also improve character and make for the further development of personality.

In spite of the high degree of organization in such a community however, crime, as we have stated time and again, is bound to arise from one cause or another, and it is impossible to "lay one's finger" on all the causes in every instance. The depression, for example, creating a decrease in wealth for man, has often caused violation by him in his attempts to elevate his financial status. In a more wealthy, presumably stabilized community, the child of a wealthy family may become spoiled due to the environmental situation as well as unwise training in the home and may later display characteristics of antagonism and dissatisfaction. Such wealth may lead to boredom resulting in a later search for adventure causing misconduct. Wealthy individuals also may influence others and cause them to live beyond their means. But early proper parental guidance and education as well as contact with the numerous organizations in the community may prevent such situations and preclude the possibility of a later delinquent course. Predispositional tendencies must not be ignored for they may cause crime regardless of the environmental situation. Political aspirants, too, have considerable effect upon a community and crime. When it is realized that such individuals have associated with gangsters of the worst order, it is easy to understand how such corruption may be perpetuated and how the position of the chronic offender is made more secure. But this takes us to the more unstable community that is more conducive to crime.

The disorganized community is really lacking in the better resources. We find it not only congested, poor, and unhealthy, but also unusually prolific in undesirable establishments. Some of its inhabitants are bound to acquire improper social tendencies, particularly those who show evidence of emotional instability. Established criminals are known to reside in such "underworld neighborhoods" (52% of arrests were in slum areas—N. Y. Times, April 4, 8, '34; 23:8) and are known to frequent the numerous disreputable organizations in the unstable desocialized community. They really thrive in such havens for concealment and numerous other self evident reasons.

Such a locality also consists of the poorer element, the cast-off from better communities and the immigrant. There is the upright individual whose financial status has become such that he is forced to reside in a poorer unequipped area. The person who has acquired an unfavorable reputation in the better locality must usually seek another domicile. The immigrant too, has not yet "found himself" and resides in such sections and innocently aggravates the situation. The characteristics of the community then, are really being created by the inhabitant himself. It is generally a neighborhood composed of the person who seeks seclusion, often not because of his own choice. The area consequently seeps with degradation and should be eliminated as quickly as possible. But improved sections, including better resources leading to readjustment and reeducation, are being constantly constructed with the assistance of governmental authorities. Let us not delve further into the sociological factors since they are quite obvious to the majority of us. Definitely do we find however, that it is not entirely with the behavior or personality, but as well with the community and cultural patterns of which the criminal is a part. The warped neighborhood is equally as instrumental in producing crime as the warped personality!

The combination of deeper insight into personality and community life therefore, should be added to the general routine of clinical procedure. By augmenting the number of its staff members, a more intensive "psychological analysis" of the individual may be considered by the clinic as well as taking a more intimate part in the reconstruction of the neighborhood. The investigator, like the worker in many social service agencies, should obtain all social data personally, rather than relying mostly upon questionnaires. He should report on the number of resources actively at work in the community, the extent of congestion, the type of homes, inhabitants, as well as the kind of political and other leaders in the section. In remote or isolated cases, such information is not readily obtainable. There too, the worker in distant localities may always be called upon to make such personal interviews and inquiries deemed necessary. The investigator should also take part in meet-

ings at the clinic and attend conventions of his fellow professionals. He should be urged to conduct research which may enlighten other specialists in their studies of personality. While most workers in many institutions generally adhere to such a procedure, such functions should be universally applied. In such a manner, a standardized system may be created throughout the country which may be more adequate and beneficial in the treatment and further prevention of crime.

The psychological accounts furthermore, should consist of more "local-color." The I.Q. scores and the like, are representative results but persons confined in an institution should be judged in relation to that portion of society from which they evolve. The evaluation of intelligence and other factors is significant, but a more apposite cross-section of the inmate's personality and background should be attained and his entire life situation as an active individual should be taken into account. With regard to the reconstruction of the community, the psychologist may be called upon to help select personnel of different organizations in the neighborhood as well as assist in the development of plans for the resident. While their cooperation is not particularly essential because of other factors available in the locality, it may be advantageous, especially when it involves the delinquent. Further cooperation with the parole board may develop in this connection. The psychiatrist also may be taken up with similar duties and may confer with leaders of the community.

At the institution, the psychiatrist's work as well should involve more intimacy. In many institutions, there is not enough contact made with the inmate. Subsequent to the classification committee, or other concluding functions carried on by the psychiatrist, cases are usually filed away and referred to only in the event of the inmate's later difficulty. As a result, causative factors are not dealt with properly. In such cases, psychoanalytical measures should be employed and further details may be learned concerning the person as well as the causes for such activity. Such an individualistic or qualitative approach should be coupled with a more quantitative manner. Prolonged visits should be made to the yards, shops, and other odd spots where the inmate congregates. Talks with the inmate's relatives and friends should be arranged on occasions when they come to visit him. To know the inmate and his group, the psychiatrist must mingle. In this way, he may acquire first hand information. He may learn more about the inmate's habitual activity while not under strict guard, his "cliques," his conversations, his reactions to institutional affairs, his attitude toward the law, the court, as well as his home and the community.

A "local-group" factor then, may be set up as a result of such intimate knowledge of the inmate. Although he tends to associate with men of his own locality, creed, color, or type of work, a group may be formed whereby a certain number of men of fairly similar characteristics and functions may intermingle constantly with others of dissimilar inclinations. If the proper combinations of personality make-up have been effected, such influences may establish an harmonious group and delinquency may later diminish. Though not considered here, these aspects of group existence have been extensively treated by J. L. Moreno and have great merit.

An additional factor may be proposed at this point in the process of rehabilitating the inmate though it may have been considered by others. A plan to create a more unrestrained attitude in the inmate at the time of his return to normal life in the community may be devised. In this connection, a portion of the inmate's term may be spent with his family or appropriate relatives who may agree to reside with him in particular housing quarters developed as nearby branches under the jurisdiction of the institution. The offender must first prove himself capable of associating favorably with fellow members of the "local-group." After such a period of time which may be determined by the clinic and others, arrangements may be made for the separate housing of the inmate and his family or with whomever he is to reside. In addition to the inmate working daily at the institution, in such a manner, a closer and closer relationship may be developed between him and the society of which he is soon to become an integral part. It is hoped, when he leaves such "branches" with his family to take up independent existence with them in ordinary neighborhoods, that he will have profited by past experiences. The full cooperation of the family or relatives is of course essential. If such individuals are as concerned with the future prospects of the inmate as penal authorities and others are, crime may not only become diminished but better citizens may be developed. Such a general consideration is highly embryonic and preliminary at this time, but when additional investigation and study has been conducted, further comment will be made.

The setting up of such a procedure, along with other scientific approaches discussed, may have a satisfactory bearing on the entire problem. They may not only help readjust personality, but may help eliminate such defective social order from which crime emerges. State, federal, and city agents are constantly at work attempting to eradicate political rackets and gangsters which may eventually pave the way for subsequent workers. It is indeed a tremendous task to prevent crime, if it ever can be entirely eradicated, but with perennial receptiveness of criminologists and penologists, newer approaches may come to the foreground and the feeling that the future may find an entirely different picture may be created.

A parting word must be made with regard to the actual status and significance of the clinic and other psychiatric affiliations in penology. While the organization has been generally accepted, many throughout the country feel that such a division is more or less of an unessential appendage. Though total success in every instance cannot be acclaimed, it cannot be denied by those who disapprove that the efforts of the clinic or the psychiatrist alone, have created a scientific-minded attitude in the treatment and prevention of crime. They have really grown to understand more about the inmate and his situations as a result of clinical approaches. Were the clinic or the psychiatrist eliminated, the scientific background and experience would be lacking and the treatment of subsequent cases would not be accurate, efficient, or complete enough.

Psychiatry at the penal institution hence, must not be belittled for its work since its primordial state has accomplished considerably. It is often the cooperation it receives, as well as the actual manner in which the clinic functions, that are the impediments and not its aims and regular procedures. Its specialists are fully aware of the existing complexities and handicaps in this major problem but have progressed. Through constant further experimentation with individual behavior and further work and knowledge in conjunction with contemporary society and the times, their present and future approaches will have a greater marked effect upon crime and its insurgents.