

While the purpose of publishing such a preliminary report as this can be questioned the report at least indicates that the publication of the final recommendations of the Committee may be well worth examining. The preliminary report indicates that the entire problem of the impact of radio and television on the administration of justice is to be explored in depth by the Committee. Most of the present literature available is concerned only with one or two of the many aspects of the problem. The final report may be of some interest to Canadian lawyers, for although the issues may not be directly relevant, certainly the general conflict of interests exists in Canada.

L. McGRADY*

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT IN BRITAIN

By NIGEL WALKER. Edinburgh University Press, 1965.

The author states in his preface that:

This book is an attempt to describe our penal system in a particular way. It is not about the criminal law except to the extent that this defines and sets limits to the types of conduct which we call "offences", and curtails the flexibility and severity of the penalties which we apply to offenders. It is not about the philosophy of punishment, although it tries to describe objectively the aims, assumptions, and techniques of current penal measures. It does not offer a unified explanation of crime, although it tries to sort out some of the tangles between contemporary theories. What it attempts is to be a study of our present ways of defining, accounting for, and disposing of offenders, regarded simply as a system in operation.

To a potential reader who may have reservations concerning the utility of such a book in Canada, it must be stated that the phenomenon of crime is in many respects universal. To this should be added the comment that disparity between the English and Canadian approaches to crime is a matter of degree only. In short, the book is relevant to Canadian problems.

The shortage of descriptive works in this field makes the author's endeavour a very valuable contribution indeed. His divergences and comments upon the raw material are witty and succinct. The reader is not asked to adopt a point of view, but is instead given the material upon which he may reach his own tentative conclusions upon the many facets of crime dealt with.

The work is suggestive of many worthwhile research problems and gives to the novice some of the basic methodology of social science research. In this respect the book will be of some assistance to budding Canadian Criminologists and in particular, those law teachers interested

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in the development of a criminological content in Canadian Law School curriculums.

Those members of the legal profession who find an outlet for their talents in the criminal courts will know that the sentencing function of those courts is of paramount concern on occasion, to their clients. This work will assist them immeasurably in whatever attempts they may make on behalf of those clients when discharging their role in regard to sentence. As the author has pointed out, the central problem in penology is the assessment of the effectiveness of penal measures. While he does not purport to make such an assessment, he does acquaint the reader with some of the efforts that have been made and the problems involved.

B. M. BARKER*

AUSCHWITZ IN ENGLAND

By MARVIS M. HILL and L. NORMAN WILLIAMS.

London: MacGibbon & Kee, 1965, pp. 293, with a foreword by Lord Denning.

If one were seeking a text to introduce this book, these cynical words could hardly be improved upon: "And Satan answered the Lord, and said: 'Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life'."¹

The book, by two members of the Bar of England, is a report on an eighteen-day trial—the libel action of *Dering v. Uris and Others*—which took place in the Royal Courts of Justice, in London, England, before Mr. Justice Lawton and a jury, in April and May, 1964. But the burden of its theme moves on a higher level than a purely factual one. It raises an important ethical question; which each man, if he should ever be unfortunate enough to find himself in circumstances demanding a direct answer, would have to answer for himself, and not by words alone: Is life so sweet that it should be purchased at the price of moral dishonor and mental degradation?

In his successful novel, "Exodus", a story of "the tribulations and triumphs of the Jews in Europe and the Middle East in the twentieth century," at page 155, Leon Uris wrote this sentence: "Here, in Block X, Dr. Wirth (sic) used women as guinea pigs, and Dr. Schumann sterilized by castration and X-ray, and Caluberg (sic) removed ovaries, and Dr. Dehring performed seventeen thousand 'experiments' in surgery without anaesthetic." He was none too careful in his spelling of

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1. *Book of Job*, 2:4.