

SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF CRIMINOLOGY

November 1956

Notes to Members

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The date for the annual meeting of the Society is 28 December 1956. The place is Fresno. The program being arranged by President Hankey will include a report by Jack Kenney (USC) on the revision of the SAC constitution and a report by Doug Gourley (LAPD) on the work of the committee on standardization of criminology courses. Election of officers will be held.

On the other side of the continent, Donal E.J. MacNamara, Eastern VP, is arranging for the SAC program to be held in conjunction with the AAAS meeting in December 1956 in New York City. Mac's program is tentatively titled "Science Fights the Criminal" and some outstanding individuals have been invited to participate. The final program will be sent from N.Y. by Mac to SAC members.

The Office of the Provost Marshal General, Department of the Army, Washington 25, D.C. is interested "in schools that are conducting seminar and conference type courses encompassing the field of law enforcement, criminology, and human relations, e.g., Arson Detection and Investigation, Purdue University; Homicide Investigation Seminar, Harvard University; and Institute of Correctional Administration, George Washington University." Send such information to E.F. Penat, Colonel, MPC, Deputy The Provost Marshal General.

Your secretary will maintain a file of such announcements of conferences and seminars sent to him. It may be that this Society can function as a central source for this kind of information to interested governmental agencies.

The Southern Police Institute, University of Louisville, announces 1957 Mid-Winter Seminars as follows:

Delinquent Youth and Society	Jan. 7-18, 1957
Police Administration	Jan. 28-Feb. 8, 1957
Police Records and Communications	Feb. 4-22, 1957
Scientific Crime Investigation	Mar. 4-15, 1957

Since 1950 Baylor University, School of Law, Waco, Texas, has maintained an undergraduate program in Forensic Science and Legal Medicine. C. Gordon Martin (SAC member) is the director of the program. For information write Martin Laboratories, Suite 1, Fairmount Professional Bldg., 3614 Fairmount Ave., Dallas, Texas.

Jim Lewis, Police Administration, Public Safety Institute, Purdue University reports:

"From November 30, 1955 to December 10, 1955, Purdue University conducted a six week International Police Administration Course. This course was conducted in cooperation with the Department of State, Washington, D.C. and Colonel Russell Snook, Training Director for the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

"The course was attended by twenty-five high ranking police officials from the following 13 countries: Ecuador, Brazil, Germany, Indonesia, Korea, Liberia, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Libya, Venezuela, Turkey, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

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"When one takes a good look at the countries he becomes aware of the great heterogeneous scatter they involve.

"Since I was both Instructor and Personnel Counselor to these officers I had the opportunity to spend many hours with them during their six weeks stay on our campus.

"Of all the activities that took place the thing that impressed me most was the change that came within this group during their six weeks stay in the close quarters of one of our barracks type housing units.

"You can well imagine some of their common problems, such as climate adjustment, food variation, and language difficulties, to mention a few. By the time the six weeks were up the group had spent many hours together in study, travel, and recreation. The change that took place was remarkable. From a group that hardly knew one another in the first few days of their arrival, they became a very close, friendly and understanding group of men. Such social activities as loyalty, badgering, joking, and singing became close group activities.

"I could continue on and on about incidents that never ceased to amaze me about this group. The point I wish to make is that two factors acted as common denominators in bringing the group together in such a short period of time. First, they were all professional police officers, and secondly, they found the law enforcement problems of their respective countries to be much the same. These two factors seem to have provided enough incentive to break down all other social barriers found within their group structure.

"Law enforcement is certainly one of the most important operations of any government. If we can encourage men who are making law enforcement their profession to unite their efforts and exchange their ideas, then we will be accomplishing a goal in police cooperation and international harmony."

A new professional journal, POLICE, has hit the field and promises to meet a long-felt need. Directed at the man on the beat this journal is of interest to all concerned with the field of criminology. V.A. Leonard (SAC member) is editor-in-chief. The publisher is Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, Illinois.

Charles L. Newman (SAC member), Ass't. Prof., Program in Corrections, writes from the Florida State University at Tallahassee that the School of Social Welfare held its First Annual Southern Conference on Corrections in Tallahassee on Mar. 14-15, 1956. This first conference was well represented by professional corrections people from a neighboring five state area and Texas.

Dr. Vernon Fox, in charge of the Corrections program at Florida State U is the author of VIOLENCE BEHIND BARS (Vantage Press) which is a "factual indictment of prisons and the conditions which produce the aggressive factors leading to riots."

If you have any knowledge of a person with "real solid experience" in probation and/or parole and with a Ph.D. or within shooting distance thereof write to Newman at Florida State U.

More in our next issue.