

General Business Meeting
American Society of Criminology

22 November 1972

President Newman opened the meeting by offering a report on the state of the Society. He indicated we still need to incorporate many more people into the Society whose prime interest is in criminology. He expressed his appreciation to the Executive Board for their cooperation during his administration. He explained some of the difficulties which have been apparent in the Venezuelan conference. He mentioned that no committee during his administration had expended funds except in small amounts for some conference expenses. He especially noted his appreciation in respect of the conference in Venezuela to Barbara Price and Tony Cooper. Mr. Newman indicated in reporting on the Committee on Educational Standards and on the Committee on Ethics and Research that their work was still in progress and that their report would be forthcoming. He mentioned that during this administration several efforts for international consultation were made, that there were training sessions held in Jamaica under the direction of Donal MacNamara, a service which should receive special recognition. He noted the National Science Foundation grant of \$2,000 and that applications for reimbursement for expenses in attendance to the meetings would be accepted; that these will be limited to those presenting papers and who do not receive support from any other organization. He also noted that the grant must be expended within 90 days. The Treasurer's Report was accepted by the membership at large. The Secretary-Treasurer indicated that a copy of the Treasurer's Report would be sent to the membership as well as the minutes of the business meeting. Mr. Mueller reported on the condition of the Journal, noting

the necessity of finding a new location for the Journal's editorial offices. He pointed out the availability of the Proceedings of the Puerto Rican meeting. He said that the Journal was in good condition and that we receive an over-abundance of many good articles. He said that in a few months the Journal may be able to increase its publications. We now have 548 individual membership subscriptions and 120 institutional subscriptions. He noted that the Journal is now abstracted and indexed in other places. Finally, he mentioned that Rothman will be the distributor of the Puerto Rican Proceedings. Mr. Newman noted that other journals in criminology are not faring nearly so well as our own. Mr. Mueller noted that our Journal may expand in terms of number of pages or into one or two extra issues. Mr. Akers suggested that one of the ways in which we could cut down the number of articles in the backlog would be simply to reject more articles that are sent to us. Mr. Mueller noted that even now we are rejecting some superior papers. The report from the Editorial Board was accepted by the membership. Mr. Newman offered a report on the student paper competition, indicating that Messrs. Cormier, Reckless, and Wolfgang had been judges on the student papers, which papers were judged independently and anonymously. He indicated that the first place award had been a sum of \$200 and that there had been a tie for second place and, therefore, two prizes of \$75 had been awarded. He reported on the request of the Puerto Rican membership for a Spanish language competition in subsequent years, which suggestion was approved. The report of the student competition was approved by the membership. Mr. Sagarin offered a report of the Program Committee, indicating that the meeting in Venezuela had received wide circulation and publicity, that there had been 138 papers submitted, and that there had been a small attrition from the number of papers. They were generally of

excellent quality, they consisted of both empirical and theoretical papers, there had been participation by otherwise unparticipating scholars. He pointed out that the new format for people presenting papers, i.e., to offer a summary of the paper and then engage in a roundtable discussion, was received with general satisfaction, even though there was some difficulty in Venezuela in carrying out this program. He noted that some papers had become lost or been delayed in transit and made apologies for this fact. He noted that even some papers which had been submitted on time had not been presented in translation because of certain difficulties in Venezuela. Mr. Henchel asked whether all papers were published in the Proceedings; Mr. Newman responded that there was no definite answer at this point. Mr. MacNamara moved to accept the report of the Program Committee; Mr. Lejins seconded the motion and then commented that he had attended the meeting because of the apparently good format for presentation of papers and was disappointed in what appeared to be a lack of preparation on the part of participants and not enough time for presentation. Mr. Akers commented that there seemed to be difficulty with the lack of scheduling and that such a format needs careful structuring to achieve best results. He indicated that people need weekly schedules, not the daily schedules that were provided and that the groups were generally too large. Mr. Newman indicated that whatever the difficulty, daily programs had been made available at the meeting time and that the special lectures, though announced early, received relatively meager attendance. Mr. Scarr indicated there was too much time spent waiting to present one's paper, and thus not enough time allowed to attend other sessions. Mr. Newman noted that there had been too much emphasis on one's own presentation and not enough on one's parti-

cipation in a group. Mr. Sagarin noted that the problems of arrangements that he had experienced were beyond description despite almost daily telephone calls. He indicated that many of the unfortunate changes in the program were made by people in Venezuela, and thus beyond his control. The membership approved the report of the Program Committee with a special note of appreciation for Mr. Sagarin for his outstanding efforts in producing the program under such extreme difficulties. Mr. Newman indicated that the next annual meeting would be held in New York City, jointly sponsored by John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York University Law School, and Fordham University. He also noted that the 1974 meeting would be in Chicago, jointly sponsored by the Illinois Academy of Criminal Justice, the World Service Center of the Sloan Foundation, and Chicago State University. Mr. Dinitz presented the choices of the Nominating Committee for new officers of the Society: for President-Elect, Mr. Edward Sagarin; for First Vice President, Mr. Nicholas Kittrie; for Second Vice President, Mr. C. Ray Jeffery. The report of the Nominating Committee was accepted by the membership. Mr. MacNamara was asked for a report from the Resolutions Committee. He proposed the following resolution:

Whereas the meetings of the American Society of Criminology in Puerto Rico in 1971 and in Venezuela in 1972 have opened new opportunities for Inter-American dialogue in the discipline of criminology; and, whereas new and highly valuable personal and professional contacts have been established between Latin American and North American criminologists which are very likely to prove fruitful over the next few years; and, whereas the government of Venezuela and the criminologists of Latin America have provided both typical Spanish hospitality and excellent congress facilities; therefore, be it resolved that the American Society of Criminology expresses its continuing friendship for our Latin American colleagues in criminology and pledges itself to full professional cooperation in future Inter-American congresses of criminology; and, be it further resolved that the American Society of Criminology express to the government of Venezuela and particularly to the Venezuelan criminologists for this very successful congress of criminology its commendation and gratitude.

The nominations for President, First, and Second Vice President as presented to the membership by the Nominating Committee were placed before the membership for election. There being no further nominations from the floor, the President directed the Executive Secretary to cast one ballot for each of the candidates which was done. Mr. Sagarin was elected President-Elect; Mr. Kittrie was elected First Vice President; Mr. Jeffery was elected Second Vice President. The meeting was adjourned.