Folder 470

W. I. THOMAS, 1928-1930

Thomas, W. I.

MEMORANDUM TO MR. DUNHAM

With reference to the question of my participation in your plans of work, I am free to do this to a certain extent and I suggest that I could be of assistance in connection with items of the following kind:

1. In planning any investigation of crime, delinquency or psychopathology, it is important that a good deal of exploration should precede the adoption of plans of work, and should be, in fact, carried on continuously, in order that your office should be well informed as to what are the concrete conditions, what undertakings are going on already in different institutions and countries, what assumptions and methods are being employed, what individuals are most capable of carrying out specific plans of work, what are the most promising leads, in what directions there should be concentration of effort, what suggestions and proposals reaching you from interested persons are certainly futile, etc. Your office should be well informed as to the state of these questions, and better informed in general than persons who are likely to make proposals and representations.

In preparing the volume which I am just now completing ("The Child in America: A Study of Behavior Problems and Programs") I have visited many institutions and met many persons whose work was related to my study. But in connection with your problems I should like to make some further contacts with criminologists and psychiatrists in their institutions, in order to be of service in the formulation of programs. This would involve provision for some travel. It could be done to any extent that is thought desirable.

2. Specific suggestions and proposals will also probably be made to you continuously from outside sources and it is desirable that

these should in some cases be investigated before you take action. For example, it was represented at the Hanover Conference that the best juvenile court procedure in America was in use in Cincinnati, and that if an investigation and report were made of this procedure we should have a model which would serve as standard for all juvenile courts. I have found this representation very misleading. From a survey of the situation made there recently by Professor Zorbaugh, at my request, it appears that the Cincinnati court makes no systematic study of its cases, has no effective probation, uses social agencies very little, and simply turns the great majority of the young offenders back into the community. For details you may consult the manuscript report which I handed you recently. The Cincinnati situation does deserve further study, but this might reveal that we overestimate the importance of juvenile courts in general, that different populations have different delinquency ratios which are independent of the forms of legal procedure, etc.

Another example: Mr. Landesco, working in the crime situation in Chicago, and formerly working in Milwaukee, has recently informed me that the police and Board of Education in Milwaukee are now carrying out a policy there with young delinquents which is proving very efficient. The authorities supervise the movements of the boys previously delinquent, secure for them suitable occupations and keep them on their jobs. I should like to look into this situation and find out what is actually going on.

Preliminary investigations of this kind should be made from point to point as occasions arise.

3. It seems important also that your office and your advisory committee should be kept informed as to the immediate state of crime and criminology throughout the world, particularly as to the signifi-

cant and successful approaches to the problem. For this purpose the literature should be examined critically. It would be possible to provide you with adequate summaries, extracts and translations. In my opinion, it is not necessary to make these reports very voluminous. There is a misapprehension as to the importance of the literature of this kind. Much of it is very trifling. I am interested in keeping myself informed as to the important movements, and with the help of a stenographer I could provide you with the essential data. This would include the continental literature. The Russian and Scandinavian literatures I cannot handle, but it is represented in the German journals sufficiently. If it should be found desirable to have a more extensive representation of the literature it would be possible to get help, probably from the graduate students of Columbia, the University of Chicago, and the foreign fellows. It is my experience, however, that students can be used but that they cannot be relied upon to discriminate very well what is important from what is not.

4. I should be glad to assist you also in organizing the work of your foreign fellows. I have had some informal contact with some of them, and I feel that we could very well give some more systematic attention to their problems.

I assume that anything I undertake for you would not involve the use of my whole time. When I undertook the study of the child work in America I interrupted another study which was rather well advanced but will require perhaps three months' work. I should therefore not feel free at present for an engagement involving more than half my time. I should also like an arrangement which would give me a stenographer.

Probably what I have mentioned, especially the contacts with institutions and persons, could best be carried out if I had no formal or public identification with your organization.

W. I. THOMAS
333 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK

Thomas, W. I.

February 23rd
1 9 2 8

Dear Mr. Dunham:

I received a check this morning, which seems to mean that the plan we were discussing has been approved. In the meantime, I have not intentionally neglected your interests but have been breaking my neck to finish the book on the child. This has been delayed somewhat because Miss Thomas went to work at Columbia, but we hope to have it ready for the press by the end of next month. It will be very extensive, perhaps eight hundred pages, and I think it has turned out very well.

I am going to Washington tomorrow for a meeting of the Social Science Research Council and on my return I will begin to send you the chapters of the book on the child as I revise them, probably one or two chapters a week. I think you would like to see what I have done and Miss Davis will want to read the manuscript, also. That is, I have prepared two copies and will send you one in advance. I will also have a conversation with you about what I should do, but I don't expect to work very much for you for a month or so.

Sincerely yours,

W.I. Thomas

Thomas, Dr. W. I.

February 27, 1928.

Dr. W. I. Thomas,
333 East 41st Street,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Thomas:

Complying with the request you made to Mr. Dunham, I am enclosing a list of the periodicals we have found were more or less apt to contain articles of interest in the field of criminology.

Very truly yours,

Secretary to L. B. Dunham.

Enc.

Thomas, Dr. W.I.

March 2, 1928.

Dr. W. I. Thomas,
333 East 41st Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Thomas:

I wonder if you appreciate just what you are doing in making a casual offhand suggestion that we take over Miss Davis' Bedford Reformatory files. Of course, I do not know what her reactions to such a suggestion would be. Quite possibly she has plans for using them herself. However, I am inclined to think that from something she said to me once that possibly we might have them if we wanted them. They are tremendously voluminous. I should not want them stacked up here permanently because of our limitation of space. Have you any plan in mind for working them over?

Will be glad to see you at any time at your convenience in regard to handling the literature in the field of criminology.

Sincerely,

LBD:MN

W. I. THOMAS
333 EAST [illegible]ST STREET
NEW YORK

February 29th
1 9 2 8

My dear Mr. Dunham:

Dr. Davis claimed as her property the records of the cases at Bedford Hills during the period of five years when she was in charge. She brought these records to New York and they were in her office at 370 Seventh Avenue. At one time I spent two weeks working with them. They are very valuable and numerous. I hope that in your arrangements with her office you will certainly secure these records and take them to your office. They have some materials that are not paralleled anywhere else.

I am preparing some samples of the reports on literature and will come to your office shortly to determine some points about classification, selection of material, etc.

Sincerely yours,

W.I. Thomas

March 6, 1928.

Dr. W. I. Thomas,
333 East 41st Street,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Thomas:

Might I ask you to kindly look over the article commencing on page 552 of the enclosed issue of The Pedagogical Seminary and Journal of Genetic Psychology? How much solid ground is there under this situation? The evidence that any one can pick out of the future criminals on the basis of any kind of an examination or even on the basis of a record of juvenile delinquency is not very convincing. Of course, this is pretty close to the line of investigation that Mr. Winsor is pursuing.

Sincerely,

Enc.
LBD:MH

Confidential

March 7, 1928.

Dr. W. I. Thomas,
333 East 41st Street,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Thomas:

Some time ago, Mrs. Mary Paddon who is in charge of the Inward House work made application to the Memorial for an appropriation to be used in making a survey and evaluation of their work. The matter was referred to me and my recommendation that the request be declined was approved.

This morning, Mrs. Paddon came to see me again and I told her quite frankly that my feeling was that these various organizations should consider the surveys of their work as a part of their regular administrative duties, and that the reason I did not feel justified in asking for funds for the undertaking she had in mind was because:

a. I could not see that the results would have any general application, and

b. It seemed to me that the whole field should be surveyed rather than to take one section of it.

I think what she is really driving at is an attempt to divert the energies of her organization largely to the pre-delinquent girls. Mrs. Paddon feels that there is more in the situation than I have been able to appreciate, and also that in the course of the years they have been operating, particularly the last five years, they have developed a substantial number of case studies, say in the number of 200 that have been very well done and that are of general value. I told her that you had had a broad experience in this field during the investigations that you have made, that while your viewpoint was that of one outside of any of the great foundations I found your advice very helpful on a number of occasions.

To make a long story short, I told Mrs. Paddon that if you chanced to be in town at this time and had any free time, I would try and arrange to have you see her, look over her work and advise me as to its general significance. If you could conveniently do this, I would very much appreciate it.

Sincerely yours,

LBD:MN

Thomas, W. I

W. I. THOMAS
333 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK

March 27th
19 28

My dear Mr. Dunham:

I visited Inwood House, had a conversation with Mrs. Paddon, and read a number of her reports of cases. As I understand it, her proposal has two features: (1) a survey of the work of Inwood House with reference to possible modifications of their policy and improvement of their efficiency; and (2) a more comprehensive and comparative research study.

I think it is desirable that this organization should study its own work in comparison with the work done in other centers, but I should not class this as research. It is merely a part of an efficient welfare service and I do not know whether you would undertake to support welfare work.

As to the plan of comprehensive research which Mrs. Paddon mentioned, I do not think that her organization,-or welfare organizations in general,-is in a favorable position to undertake research work of this kind. For example, the Inwood cases are well prepared from the standpoint of welfare work but they do not compare at all favorably with the cases of the Judge Baker Foundation or the recent cases of the Illinois Institute of Juvenile Research or those of the clinics supported by the Commonwealth Fund. Organizations of this sort have a staff of psychologists, psychiatrists, sociologists, etc., and the work is undertaken in a different way from the work of the welfare organizations. Furthermore, the Inwood House claims to have only two hundred and fifty cases whereas the organizations I have mentioned have each more than ten thousand.

I should, therefore, not advise you to support an attempt on the part of any welfare organization to convert itself into an organization undertaking a general and comprehensive investigation.

These are, of course, only my impressions from a single visit and my general position as to the conditions under which research ought to be undertaken.

Sincerely yours,

W.I. Thomas

Mr. Lawrence B. Dunham
Room 3012
61 Broadway
New York City

MEMORANDUM

June 27, 1928.

To: Miss Geiger

From: E. Brown

Re: W.I. Thomas Resolution

The following resolution was passed at the Executive Committee meeting on January 26, 1928:

> RESOLVED, that the sum of $8,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be, and it hereby is, allocated out of Item 7 Special Investigations, of the current appropriation for Administrative Expenses of the Memorial, to cover one-half the salary of Dr. W.I. Thomas and expenses to be incurred in developing the Memorial's work in the field of juvenile delinquency and as consultant in connection with problems related thereto.

Thomas, W. I.

July 3rd
1 9 2 8

Dr. W. I. Thomas
383 East 41st Street
New York City

Dear Dr. Thomas:

I have been trying for several days without success to reach you on the telephone. I hope that your arduous duties in completing the book have not caused a collapse.

This hasty note is to advise you that the Memorial's appropriation in your behalf included provisions for secretarial assistance. Mr. Stubbs tells me that the proper procedure is to include this item in submitting your expense accounts, and you are entitled to funds for this purpose from January 1st of this year. It is suggested that hereafter you put in a statement covering your expense account each month, retaining a carbon copy for your own files.

Sincerely yours,

LSD/G

Thomas, Dr. W. I.

W. I. THOMAS
333 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK

July 5, 1928

Dear Mr. Dunham:

I thank you for arranging the matter of the stenographer's salary, and will communicate with Mr. Stubbs.

I am working this week and next in the library of the Academy of Medicine and at the Russell Sage Library. They have some materials of interest to us not in the public library, so have been at home very irregularly.

You may have noticed that the Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology for May has two parts. The second part is a 306 page report of the committee studying the indeterminate sentence and parole in Illinois. Burgess and Landesco are among the men writing the report. I am summarizing the findings, but I believe you will want to read the whole report, as it is the most important thing of the kind recently.

Cordially yours,

W. I. Thomas

Thomas, D. W. I.

July 25th
1 9 2 8

Dr. W. I. Thomas
333 East 41st Street
New York City

Dear Dr. Thomas:

Many thanks for your letter of July 25th. It will be fine to have the complete list of the journals publishing criminological data. It sounds to me like a herculean task. Those of us who are left down here seem to be pretty well but both Winsor and Harrison are temporarily knocked out. Don't worry about not sending us sufficient data. The less the better as long as this weather lasts.

Sincerely yours,

LBD/G

Thomas, W. I.

W. I. THOMAS
333 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK

July 25,1928

Dear Mr. Dunham:

I want to explain that I am not getting materials down to you promptly because I gave my stenographer a vacation. She needed to recuperate after the volume went to press. Also she got sick after going home.

Meantime I have made a list of all the journals in the world containing criminological data. In the German journals I am able to follow the Russian and Swedish material, which is sometimes important. It will be another week before I send anything.

I hope everything is going well with you

Cordially yours,

W I Thomas

COPY

THE AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

Samuel T. Orton, President — Earl D. Bond, Vice-President
Clarence O. Cheney, Secretary

COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS OF PSYCHIATRY AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

William A. White, Chairman — George M. Kline
Edward J. Kempf — Arthur H. Ruggles
Harry Stack Sullivan, Secretary
P. O. Box 1, Towson, Maryland

August 7, 1928

Prof. Wm. I. Thomas
333 E. 41st Street
New York City

My dear Professor Thomas:

A committee of The American Psychiatric Association has been appointed to "survey the field of interrelations of psychiatry and the social sciences, with view to greater cooperation among those concerned in studying the nature and influence of cultural *environments*".

The committee now proposes a colloquium on one of the fundamental problems, namely, the investigation of personality. The most suitable date for such a meeting appears to be the week-end following Thanksgiving, December 1st and 2nd, 1928- - afternoon and evening sessions on the former, and perhaps a morning session on the latter. The meeting should probably convene in New York City.

The attached list will inform you as to the suggested personnel. Many having something to offer on the subject have been omitted in the interest of a compact group. Your participation in the meeting is deemed by us indispensable. The importance of the subject to be considered seems to justify effort on the part of all concerned. The committee undertakes to render verbatim proceedings of the colloquium available to those interested, (a) by publication in the January issue of THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PSYCHIATRY, and (b) by subsequent publication in book form.

The matter of financing this meeting is still unsettled. For the guidance of the committee, will you indicate the possibility of your participating in this colloquium, and give us a provisional estimate of the expenses for which you would desire refund.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Harry S. Sullivan

For the Committee

Enclosure.

Thomas, Dr. W. I.

September 10th
1 9 2 8

Dr. W. I. Thomas
353 East 41st Street
New York City

Dear Dr. Thomas:

On my return this morning from my vacation I found your note of September 1st with enclosed report of the Chairman of the Committee on Problems and Policy relative to the reconstruction of the Advisory Committee on Crime. I will be glad to serve on the Committee mentioned particularly as you are Chairman thereof, but quite frankly I regret the statement in the report to the effect that no Advisory Committee on Crime would be appointed for the year 1928-1929. I am afraid that this would mean that nothing would be undertaken in the way of new work before 1930. Wouldn't it be possible for your Committee to step on the gas a little and get things rolling this fall? I shall be glad to discuss this with you at your convenience.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

LBD/G

Thomas, W. I.

THE HANOVER INN
At DARTMOUTH COLLEGE
Hanover, N. H.

Sept. 1.

Dear Mr. Dunham:

I hope you will agree that the enclosed is a good thing for us to do.

This meeting was not very much in our line. I shall be in new York on Monday

Cordially yours

W. T. Nichols

Rec'd 9/4/28
Rfd. to

REPORT OF THE
CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON PROBLEMS
AND POLICY TO THE SOCIAL SCIENCE
RESEARCH COUNCIL

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 1928

I. RECONSTITUTION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CRIME.

The Advisory Committee on Crime has had a checkered career. For one reason or another the Committee had not found itself at the end of two years, and it was decided at the Hanover Conference of 1927 that it should be thoroughly reconstituted. During the course of the year an effort was made to procure two different individuals as chairman of this Committee, but in both cases the individuals were unable or unwilling to accept appointment. As a result, the reconstitution of the Committee was laid over to the Hanover Conference, and Messrs. Harrison and Woodworth of the Committee on Problems and Policy were designated a sub-committee of two to study the whole problem with care. This Committee has submitted a report indicating the personnel that the Committee has considered in relation to various sub-divisions of the field of crime. The divisions considered are as follows:

1. Criminology
2. Psychiatry and Medical Relations
3. Institutional Work
4. Non-Institutional Work
5. Preventive work
6. Police
7. Administration of Criminal Justice
8. Penal and Criminal Statistics
9. Criminal Law in Substantive and Procedural Aspects.

Consideration was also given to representation from Political Science, Psychology, Statistics, Sociology, Anthropology, and the Council itself.

The Committee on Problems and Policy gave careful consideration to the problems presented by this Committee at two different meetings.

It was

VOTED: (1) that the Advisory Committee on Crime be not reappointed for the year 1928-29;

(2) that an informal Planning Committee of three be appointed to consider social research problems in the field of criminal behavior and to advise the Committee on Problems and Policy what kind of work the Social Science Research Council can best undertake in this field.

(3) that the members of the Planning Committee shall be: W.I. Thomas, Chairman, Shelby M. Harrison, and Lawrence B. Dunham.

September 28th
1 9 2 8

Dr. W. I. Thomas
333 East 41stStreet
New York City

Dear Dr. Thomas:

Thanks for your memorandum of September 26th. We now have some funds available for travel and conferences. I will request the Directors to include in the budget for 1929 provision for further funds for use along the lines you have indicated. If you should hear from Professor Burgess please let me know at your early convenience because I may go to Chicago next week.

Sincerely yours,

LBD/G

P. S. I am enclosing a check drawn to your order in the sum of $20. to reimburse you for bill paid by you to the Knopf Publishing Co. for German translation.

Thomas, W. I.

W. I. THOMAS
333 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK

September 26th
1 9 2 8

Dear Mr. Dunham:

I wrote to Sullivan and Burgess the day after I saw you, but have heard from neither of them. Burgess has a vacation during the whole of September and goes out of Chicago, but comes in for his mail occasionally. Sullivan is dilatory, and it may be that he is offended by the failure of the Social Science Research Council to include the psychiatrists in the Council. So I hope you will be able to wait a little longer.

With reference to Sullivan and the fund for conferences, I will say that three meetings have been proposed: one a conference outlined by Sullivan; another a session of the Sociological Society at Chicago at Christmas, in which psychiatrists will be invited to participate; and a similar session of the American Psychiatric Association, in which sociologists will participate. The situation has changed somewhat, by the fact that Mrs. W.F. Dummer, of Chicago, has proposed to me to pay the expenses of the Sociological session, and naturally I accepted the proposal.

If you are not able to wait in connection with this matter, I suggest that you arrange, if possible, to set aside a certain sum - two thousand or one thousand dollars - to be used at your discretion in this connection, and also for any exploration in the field that you might wish to undertake or might wish me to undertake, if I am associated with you next year. I think this is a desirable feature of your work, anyway - to have some general fund which might be used for travel or conferences.

Cordially yours,

W I Thomas

Rec'd 9/27/28
Rfd. to L. B. D.

September 29th
1 9 2 8

Dr. W. I. Thomas
333 East 41st Street
New York City

Dear Dr. Thomas:

Would you kindly let us know if there are any books in the following list which you think the Bureau should have?

Everyday Problems of the Everyday Child - by Dr. Douglas A. Thom, published by Appleton & Co.

Honesty - William Healy.

Habit Training for Children - Dr. Douglas A. Thom.

Habit Clinics for the Child of Pre-school Age - U. S. Children's Bureau.

Youth in Conflict - Miriam Van Waters.

The Challenge of Childhood - Dr. Wm. A. White.

Legal Psychology; Psychology Applied to theTrial of Cases, to Crime and Its Treatment, and to Mental States and Processes - by M. R. Brown, Indianapolis, Bobbs-Merrill Co., 1926. $5.00. (From The Personnel Journal)

Community Problems - Arthur E. Wood, published by the Century Co.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to Mr. Dunham

Thomas. Dr. W. I.

W. I. THOMAS
333 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK

October 1st
1 9 2 8

My dear Miss Geiger:

I have checked on your list the titles which I think you might secure for the Bureau.

I have also some titles, which I shall submit when I come down.

Cordially yours,

W. I. Thomas

Enclosure

Thomas Dr. W. I.

TELEPHONE
WHITEHALL 5014

BUREAU OF SOCIAL HYGIENE, INC.
61 BROADWAY
NEW YORK CITY

September 29th
1 9 2 8

Dr. W. I. Thomas
333 East 41st Street
New York City

Dear Dr. Thomas:

Would you kindly let us know if there are any books in the following list which you think the Bureau should have?

Everyday Problems of the Everyday Child - by Dr. Douglas A. Thom, published by Appleton & Co.

Honesty - William Healy.

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Legal Psychology; Psychology Applied to theTrial of Cases, to Crime and Its Treatment, and to Mental States and Processes - by M. R. Brown, Indianapolis, Bobbs-Merrill Co., 1926. $5.00. (From The Personnel Journal)

Community Problems - Arthur E. Wood, published by the Century Co.

Very sincerely yours,

Helen Geiger

Secretary to Mr. Dunham

October 18th
1 9 2 8

Dr. W. I. Thomas
333 East 41st Street
New York City

Dear Dr. Thomas:

Enclosed please find copy of our tentative program.

Wont you be kind enough to look it over and give us the benefit of your criticisms and suggestions?

Sincerely,

LBD/G

Thomas, Dr.

10/30/28

W. I. THOMAS
333 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK

October 29th
1 9 2 8

Dear Mr. Dunham:

As the article on Camp Hill appeared to be of interest to you, I have made a longer abstract, and am enclosing a copy. You need not preserve this copy, since I am sending another along with the reprint to be filed.

Cordially yours,

W I Thomas

Enclosure

Thomas, Dr. W.I.

D

Soll Sicherungsverwahrung der Besserung oder Unschädlichmachung dienen? (Shall protective Oversight Work for Good or Ill?) The writer has made a visit to England and studied the operation of an institution at Camp Hill, established under an Act entitled "Preventive Detention," and designed to improve the convicts through a system of training and education. He points out that the experiment has been a decided failure.

The Prison Commissioners are not at present using Camp Hill extensively. On the 31st of December, 1924, there was a total of 153 highly dangerous persons in custody, 144 of these in Camp Hill, which has a capacity of 400. From this it will be seen that in the construction of the institution a very much more extensive application of preventive detention was in mind than is actually in operation at present. The number seems very small when we consider that at the time there were not less than 2,867 persons at large who were known to the police as habitual criminals in the sense of the Prevention of Crime Act.

In the course of the year 1924 not more than 38 criminals were sentenced to preventive detention. Although of these no one had behind him less than four previous convictions, twenty had more than eleven, and five had, in fact, more than twenty, nevertheless only six of them were sentenced to six years, three of them to seven, one to eight, and no one to the maximum, that is, to ten years. The remainder, that is, twenty-eight, were sentenced to the minimum of five years. Although it is not safe to draw conclusions from the number of previous convictions as to the dangerous character of the prisoner, yet the number of previous convictions is a very significant point.

If we look into the causes of the diminishing use of Camp Hill, we find that it is connected, in the first place, with the fact that the application of the law is limited to those dangerous persons who are at least thirty years of age and who have been punished at least one time with penal servitude and have been sentenced at least four times. In addition, the English judge is not hospitable to the plan because the idea of preventive detention is something new in the English law, and the judge has not been able to distinguish clearly between reform and punishment. That is, the distinction in practice between penal servitude and preventive detention is either not appreciated and not understood, or not properly respected. It can be said, in fact, that the failure of the plan is due to the unclear and contradictory conception of preventive detention in the mind of the judges.

According to page 10 of the Prevention of Crime Act, it is also necessary to prove that the accused has been leading "persistently a dishonest or criminal life," and it is very difficult to prove this before a jury and a judge who is not very well disposed towards the system. It has proven difficult to establish through witnesses that the accused has been leading "persistently a dishonest or criminal life." In the majority of cases, therefore, a sentence to preventive detention seems to be prima facie impossible. This is the explanation of the small number of those sentenced by the courts.

Courts having charge of the operation of the Preventive Detention Act are, further, not able to predict what time will be necessary to render prisoners harmless, and have adopted a sort of compromise in which they usually sentence the accused to the minimum period of five years. It appears that in practice, in fact, the judges sentence to Camp Hill in somewhat the same way that they would sentence to a penal institution.

While preventive detention was conceived as a means of improving the offender, there appears to be in England a general impression that

rather than reforming the offender.

this is not successful, and the present tendency is also towards making society safe; The Report of 1923-1924 emphasizes strongly the reform of the offender, that of 1924-1925 emphasizes the protection of society.

Another impediment to the successful operation of the Act is the fact that work is not regularly provided for the prisoners after their release. Originally the proper standpoint of preventive detention was taken by the authorities, namely, that a prisoner should be released only when the means of gaining a living through adequate provision of work had been assured in advance. We find, however, that in 1924, twenty-five persons were released from their preventive detention, nineteen of them conditionally and six at the expiration of their full time. In spite of the nineteen conditional releases, work was found for only seven of the twenty-five, and the remainder were provided for "otherwise."

It is also doubtful whether the system at Camp Hill is more favorable to reform than that of the ordinary penal institution. If, for example, we take a group released from Camp Hill and compare it with an equal number of recidivists released from the penal institutions, both groups being released at the same time and both turned over to the same organization for oversight, that is, the Central Association for the Aid of Discharged Convicts, we find that in these two groups of criminals, during the first year of their release, the successes of those released from Camp Hill are not more than 8 per cent in excess of the successes of those released from penal servitude. These figures apply to the period 1914-1923.

The expenses of preventive detention are also extremely high. In the years in which efforts were made exclusively towards reform, the excess of cost per capita was on the average £ 100 more than for those condemned to penal servitude. From the time of the introduction of preventive detention to June, 1923, about 1700 years of detention are to be accounted for, and this gives an excess cost of £ 85,000. If we compare the greater successes with the greater expense in the case of those sentenced to preventive detention, we find that every case of success under the preventive detention system cost the state £ 2500.

In the opinion of the writer, the English authorities regard the experiment at Camp Hill as an expensive failure, and do not know very well what to do about it. -- Foltin, Edgar M., reprint from Der Gerichtssaal (The Court Room), 95:142-56.

November 14th
1 9 2 8

To: Dr. Thomas
From: L. B. Dunham
Subject: STUDY OF THE INCIDENT AND EXPOSURE TO CRIME IN RELATION TO SPECIFIC OCCUPATIONS AND VOCATIONS.

Mr. Frank suggested to me that it would be of interest to make some investigations with a view to ascertaining as to whether or not persons engaged in any particular occupation were exposed in an unusual degree to temptation to commit any particular kind of a crime. The idea appeals to me as being one of originality and interest. Conceivably it might be possible to throw moral safeguards around workers comparable to the physical safeguards that have been so largely developed in our industrial life in the past decade. I told Mr. Frank, however, that we might find that the field was much more limited than first appeared because of the fact that experience tended to show that men who had reached maturity and had a gainful occupation, seldom became criminals. From this point Mr. Frank went on to suggest the possibility of also considering nervous and mental breakdowns with relation to particular forms of employment.

The whole idea interests me. I think that it would be well worth while to make some soundings of a preliminary nature with the idea of finding out if further investigation was justified. I know of no one so well qualified to help us in this as yourself, providing your other engagements permit. Wont you let me know what you think about it? If there is any chance of your being available let's get together with Larry Frank the early part of next week.

Thomas, Dr. W. I.

11/17/28

W. I. THOMAS
333 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK

November 16th
1 9 2 8

Dear Mr. Dunham:

Sullivan is calling his meeting here for December 1st and 2nd. You have doubtless already been invited, and I asked him to invite Shelby Harrison in view of the fact that he was on our Committee.

I do not suppose the fact that Sullivan asked the expense money from the Memorial instead of your Bureau makes any difference to you, but I will explain that he had told me earlier that he thought he had part of the money in sight, and I was planning to ask you to furnish any part which he did not raise. I thought probably he would apply to the Psychiatric Association, or some other source.

I am enclosing a memorandum with reference to the abstracts of criminological papers.

Sincerely yours,

W. I. Thomas

Enclosure

Thomas, Dr. W. I.

November 22nd
1 9 2 8

Dear Mr. Harrison:

I had a talk with Mr. Lynd, and have decided not to make any statement to the Problems and Policies Committee at the meeting on Saturday.

Before formulating any procedure, I think it is desirable to wait until after the Psychiatric conference, at which both you and Dunham will be present, and to have some discussion among ourselves. I find it is not necessary to make any claim for funds at this time as there will be sufficient for our purposes in any case.

When I spoke to you about a conference I had the impression from Lynd that this was rather expected and desired by the Problems and Policies Committee, but I find that is not true; and I am not myself sure that we shall want to operate through a conference, but rather through visitations, conversations and study of the present procedures.

I hope this will meet with your approval.

Cordially yours,

W G Thomas

Thomas: W I

12/6/28

W. I. THOMAS
333 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK

December 5th
1 9 2 8

Dear Mr. Dunham:

I am sending you a copy of The Child in America. The volume, however, is not to be sent out in this form. The Table of Contents should show a division into three parts: first, "Varieties of Maladjustment"; second, "Practical Programs"; and third, "Research Approaches." The cover is also to be changed. In about five days I shall send copies for yourself and for members of the staff.

I am sending also some abstracts.

I shall call you up tomorrow and see whether you want a meeting with reference to a conference with Frank or Harrison.

Cordially yours,

W I Thomas

Thomas, Dr. W. I

W. I. THOMAS
333 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK

December 18th
1 9 2 8

Dear Mr. Dunham:

I am sending some additional copies of The Child in America. But in phoning instructions from New York to the printer in Boston, the Table of Contents became more mixed than in the copy I sent you, as you will see from the corrections I have made.

Perhaps some of your staff, however, will wish to see the volume without further delay, and these copies will be all right for that purpose. Later I shall send you sufficient number of the perfect copies for the whole staff, ~~if you think it desirable~~.

As many copies as are desired of this imperfect edition are on hand, and I can supply them.

I hope to see you within a few days.

Cordially yours,

W I Thomas

Dr. Thomas.

December 28th
1 9 2 8

To: Mr. L. K. Frank
Dr. W. I. Thomas
From: L. B. Dunham
Subject: THE LITERATI- WHAT SHOULD A SENSIBLE PERSON READ?

The current quarterly edition of The Journal of Juvenile Research contains two articles hereinafter briefly commented on.

The first article is entitled "A Follow-up Study of 100 Normal and 100 Subnormal Delinquent Boys" by C. H. Calhoon. This article is concluded with the following remarks:

> "The possession of normal intelligence by delinquent children is not in itself a sufficient justification for expecting a better adjustment than may be predicated for those of lower mentality"

The second article is entitled "A Follow-up of 103 Whittier State School Boys Ten Years After Admission" by E. E. Knox. As a result of this follow-up study five conclusions were drawn, the third of which reads as follows:

> "Intelligence appears to be positively related to probability of life success".

From the context it is obvious that this refers to the probability of social adjustment among delinquent inmates of the Whittier School.

Dr. Thomas:

Re: Dr Thomas

1/29/29.

Mr. Dunham:

The $298.15 referred to in the first paragraph of Dr. Thomas' letter is the unexpended balance given him by the Memorial in 1927. During 1928 the Memorial sent him the usual advance without deducting the $98.15 which he had not accounted for. Before the Memorial closed their books in December 1928 they asked Dr. Thomas for a statement of his expenditures, and instead of sending him a check for the full amount of his statement ($1,040.) they sent him $741.85 which was the difference between his statement and the amount of advance outstanding which had never been accounted for. The Memorial will be very glad to explain this to Dr. Thomas and they are very sorry there has been a misunderstanding.

M.N.

1/21/29

W. I. THOMAS
333 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK

January 19th
1 9 2 9

Dear Mr. Dunham:

For the sake of convenience, I have sent the Treasurer statements covering the cost of my stenographer semi-annually, on July 1st and December 21st. In connection with the last statement of $1,040, I received a check for $741.85 with the comment: "$298.15 covered by J.V. No. 1240."

Taking this in connection with the fact that my arrangement with you was discontinued without any discussion, I have concluded that I have come in for some criticism from yourself and your organization. I wish, therefore, to recall the conditions under which the arrangement was made.

During 1927 you consulted me occasionally about questions arising in connection with your work. Toward the end of the year we made some trips together, I conferred with some of your foreign fellows, Thrasher's scheme came up, etc. At this time, also, I mentioned some reports I had heard while in Chicago about some interesting work in Milwaukee and asked if you had any money which I could use on a trip there, provided the reports were confirmed. You then told me of your plan to take over your present work and said you would like to retain me as adviser, with a salary. I replied that I was interested in the work anyway and that you could continue to call on me as before, without any payment.

You replied that you did not think this was fair and that there should be a payment. You asked if I would consider giving full time, and I said I could not on account of other plans. Thirty-five hundred dollars was mentioned and agreed on.

After reflection, I suggested that it would be a good thing for me to provide you with abstracts from the literature of criminology, showing the state of studies and procedures up to date, for your information in the formation of your plans. This was agreed upon and I said that I would undertake this, in addition, if you would pay the salary of my stenographer. At the time these matters were under discussion I had the impression that you would undertake a number of enterprises, involving a good deal of discussion, oversight and travel. Perhaps you had this impression at the time, also.

Now I imagine that you, and perhaps your associates, have shifted the emphasis in this arrangement and are looking at it as though you were paying the stenographer for the relatively small bulk of work which has reached your office. My interpretation is that you were paying me a certain sum ($3,500) to assist you in the organization of your programs, and that in consideration of my extra attention to the literature and the use of part of the time of my stenographer you were paying her whole salary. From this standpoint,

Dr Thomas

I regard the payment of a stenographer's salary for part of my time and part of hers as a very reasonable arrangement. I will say that in order to undertake this extra item I have twice declined to give a course in the Law School of Columbia University.

I wish you to understand that I am not protesting at all about the discontinuance of the arrangement. In view of the present scope of your programs, I think it is good judgment not to pay me for participating in them. On the other hand, I do not wish to be blamed at all for the arrangement during the past year, and if there has been any criticism or discussion in your office I will ask you to show this letter to Colonel Woods and Mr. Harrison, or to any others who may have been involved. I am also sending a copy of this to Mr. Frank.

I wish to express my appreciation of my relation with you up to the present, and to renew the proposal I made in 1927 to co-operate with you as far as you wish without payment.

I will say, also, that I am to blame for not discussing this matter with you during the past year, but in December I was involved in two conferences, and you had the flu and I had the flu, and I did not get around to it.

Cordially yours,

A. J. Thomas

2/7/29

FEB 5 - 1929

February 5th
1 9 2 9

R.B.F.

To: ~~Col. Woods~~
From: L. B. Dunham
Subject: DR. W. I. THOMAS

Last year Dr. Thomas was under a retainer from the Memorial receiving an honorarium of $3,500. and also an appropriation not to exceed $4,500. to cover travel and stenographic service. It is my understanding that he has been consulted from time to time by Messrs. Frank and Outhwaite of the Memorial, but the bulk of his work has been with me. He has carried on a survey of literature in the field of criminology and made valuable translations and summaries of important articles. In addition, he has been of service in advising as to personnel and in shaping up our research projects. For example, at the present time the boys' club investigation being conducted under the auspices of New York University is not proceeding in an entirely satisfactory manner, and I am using Dr. Thomas, with the University authorities' and Mr. Thrasher's consent, in order to get the project more sharply pointed and the issues clearly defined.

I do not feel that the Bureau is in a financial position to step into the Memorial's shoes, but on the other hand, I would very much like to retain Dr. Thomas for a period of six months with a salary of $200. a month, and at the end of that time we could ascertain as to whether or not it seemed worth while to make a more permanent arrangement. If this meets with your approval and Mr. Fosdick's I will prepare the necessary papers.

LBD

O.K.
A.W.
RBF.

W. I. THOMAS 333 EAST 41ST STREET NEW YORK

May 20th
19 29

T F
July 12

Dear Mr. Dunham:

I visited Washington and examined the materials of Dr. Karpman, at the request of the Problems and Policy Committee. I enclose a copy of my report to Ogburn. This item is not to be charged to our Committee on Crime.

I am going to-night to Boston, and shall communicate with you and Harrison on my return.

Cordially yours,

W. I. Thomas

Enclosure

Rec'd 5.21.29
Rfd. to LD

Thomas, Dr. W.I.

May 20, 1929

Professor William F. Ogburn
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Ogburn:

The following is a report on my examination of the materials of Dr. Benjamin Karpman, St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington.

I spent about fourteen hours in the examination of these materials. They represent a study of the life-histories of 1102 cases of the criminal insane, selected from the population of the institution (which averages about 3,500) during a period of ten years. The records of the cases vary in length from 10 to 400 pages. I should say there are 40 to 50 major cases developed at great length. The less elaborated cases are, however, often equally important in content.

Dr. Karpman has evidently given an almost incredible amount of time to these studies. I should say that he has worked in an extra way on them for six or seven hours daily during the period of ten years. He states that he has given more than 200 hours to several cases and many hours to each of them, and this is quite credible. The bulk of the material is very large. Dr. White, Superintendent of the hospital, has evidently been very generous in facilitating this work, but has not been able to provide any funds.

In addition to the routine hospital examinations, all of which are incorporated in Dr. Karpman's records, he has analysed these patients. He has, however, done this objectively, his sole purpose apparently being to get as complete a record as possible of the life-experiences of the patient. Contrary to what I anticipated, he is not attempting to set up a new school of psychoanalysis. He has working hypotheses, but so far as I can determine he is not working for the substantiation of any preconceived theory. He uses analysis only as a method of securing data.

The extensive character of the records is due to the fact that the life-history of the patient is given in the greatest possible detail. The patient himself assists in the preparation of this. Dr. Karpman has provided several typewriters which are transferred from room to room and the patients write their own stories, and rewrite them under the direction of Dr. Karpman.

I was greatly impressed with the importance of these materials and surprised to find them in existence. The printed literature of this character in this field is very meagre. Extensive cases showing the experiences, family situations, early conditionings, crises contributing to the formation of different types of personality and behavior reactions are very desirable at the present moment, especially for hypothesis-forming purposes. This question has been under discussion recently, and I will say that Dr. Karpman has gone ahead and richly exemplified an approach which a number

of students of behavior have been advocating and experimenting with in a small way.

I regard his work as exceptionally well done. I understand that in the projected volumes he plans to print the cases in detail, with minimum and provisional interpretations. From my standpoint, the Council could not support a more desirable undertaking than this one.

I have read Dr. Karpman's proposal to the Council, which calls for a considerable sum of money, and I am impressed with the fact that the plan requires a considerable sum. The very extensive records were made bit by bit, without any necessary reference to chronology, but as the spirit moved the patient. One heavy task will be the rearrangement of the narrative, in order to give it a somewhat connected character. I have gone hurriedly through about ten of the major cases and glanced through a number of others, and I find that this work can be done by an assistant, under the direction of Dr. Karpman. While I am not speaking for Dr. Karpman, I should say that he should be provided with both a stenographer and an assistant.

Very truly yours,

W. I. THOMAS
333 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK

File

June 25th
19 29

Dear Mr. Dunham:

I am late in sending you the final report of our committee and also the accompanying letter which I sent to Ogburn.

Harrison, Lynd and I had a meeting and discussed the psychiatric representative. You will see in my letter to Ogburn that we did not reach a very clear decision on that point.

Ogburn's letter to me stated that they wished me to act as chairman, and that they decided to appoint a nucleus committee of four or five until the Hanover meeting, and asked my opinion of that. I replied agreeing, of course, with the idea. But he has not yet sent me the names of this nucleus committee, although he mentioned a number.

I enclose a copy of a letter to Ogburn concerning the chairmanship. I was not, of course, speaking for the committee when I suggested that one of the legal profession might be chairman. But this program as our committee laid it out seems to me to be practically a full-time job, and Miller or Marshall or someone in an institution might arrange his work in such way as to give practically his whole time to the work.

I do not know that there is anything we could do until I hear again from Ogburn, and perhaps nothing much then, but I will call you up and see whether you have anything in mind.

Sincerely yours,

W I Thomas

Enclosure

Rec'd 6.26.29
Rfd. to LBD

Thomas W I

June 12th

Professor William F. Ogburn
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Ogburn:

Our committee has instructed me to add a supplementary statement to you, to be used at your discretion.

Our recommendation for a committee consisting of nine members is: Dunham, Miller, Sutherland, Burgess, Stearns, Wolman, Woodworth, Scammon, Wilson. (Dunham is not named in the report, but his name is proposed by Harrison and myself.

Commenting on the proposed committee of nine:

Vollmer is the most distinguished man in police work, but would not be so serviceable as either Dunham, Harrison or Smith. If Dunham is appointed it would be his wish to retire at the end of a year on account of his connection with the Social Hygiene Bureau.

Miller is recommended partly because he is the representative of the American Bar Association "for the appointment of representatives or delegates to coöperate with the Social Science Research Council and its appropriate committees in formulating, studying and carrying out research in the field of crime and the administration of criminal justice." His letter on this point adds: "The Association will also provide a budget for traveling expenses incident to the work of its representatives."

The committee emphasizes the importance of the representation of psychiatry on the Crime Committee, but thinks there would be an advantage in deferring the appointment for a year. We suggest that the Crime Committee consult in the meantime psychiatrists, including perhaps Meyer, Macfie Campbell, Orton, Ralph P. Truitt and others; also H.S. Sullivan. Sullivan is the representative of the American Psychiatric Association appointed to approach the Social Science Research Council and the American Sociological Society with reference to a coördination of interests.

It would seem that Sullivan is the logical person to appoint for psychiatry, in view of the action of the American Psychiatric Association just mentioned, but his appointment was mediated by the psychoanalytic wing of the Association, and he does not represent the whole psychiatric field. While psychoanalytic theory is in a very chaotic condition an extremely important procedure in the study of behavior is being developed by its followers, and their standpoint should eventually have a representation in the Crime Committee. Unfortunately it is difficult to find a suitable person. They represent more or less a cult. You know yourself that it is hard to talk to Sullivan. Lowrey becomes violent when opposed. William A. White was discussed. He is pan-psychoanalytic, hospitable to all the schools and accessible in conversation, but would not be useful on a Crime Committee. Hamilton has made a contribution to psychoanalytic technic, but is unstable, probably unavailable, and appears to be entering journalism. He is not called a psychoanalyst. Lasswell would be most valuable to the Committee, but to appoint him would be a snub to both wings of the psychiatrists.

On the other hand, Meyer, who is to be the psychiatric representative in the Social Science Research Council, is not a psychoanalyst and is the most eminent man in the psychiatric field. Our committee is, however, unwilling to urge his appointment. He has always been regarded as obscure by his pupils, and seems somewhat defeated in his effort to organise his own science. He would, however, have been our choice at this point if we had named anyone.

These are the considerations which have led us to suggest the postponement of the designation of a representative from the psychiatric field. I do not know whether I speak for the committee, but I should be satisfied if your Committee decides to appoint both Meyer and Sullivan.

C.B. Davenport would seem to be the logical choice to represent heredity and the biological aspect of crime, but is so extreme as to make his appointment doubtful. Scammon is an anatomist and Lillie a zoologist, but both are competent for the work involved.

In addition to Sutherland, Stearns is recommended in order to secure a representative who has an active relation with penal institutions. (Stearns is also a psychiatrist). Sutherland is a competent academic criminologist, but has no institutional connection or experience.

Wolman is recommended at this time because of his active relation to the labor world.

The following are points in our report which seem to call for explanation: Slesinger was suggested pending further organization in the Yale Law School and the Institute of Human

Relations. He is a member of the Law School and Secretary of the Institute. Under heading 4 of the report one person was left unnamed. Dunham and myself suggested Shelby M. Harrison at that point.

For your information I may add that Sheldon Glueck was discussed in our committee on account of the attention he has given to legal psychiatry, but was not proposed.

Sincerely yours,

June 25th
19 29

Dear Mr. Ogburn:

I appreciate the action of the Problems and Policy Committee in proposing to designate me as chairman of the Committee on Crime, but I do not think this at all desirable. My own interests are along the line of investigation and I do not wish to undertake responsibility for the organization of practical programs. In the present case, and considering the scope of the program outlined in the report handed you by our committee, this would be a very serious task and would be irreconcilable with my plans.

I am inclined also to recommend that the chairman of this committee should represent the legal profession and should be from one of the law schools. You may know that the appointment of an advisory committee on crime was not the result of any agitation of the question on my part. It was recognized that the original Crime Committee was not well balanced and not sufficiently representative of other approaches than the legal. I understood that the purpose of the committee which has just reported to you was to consider the formation of a well balanced program, emphasizing causation as much as treatment. But the legal profession is showing deep concern over the crime problem and is actively organizing in this direction, and I think it would be appropriate to give it the direction of the Crime Committee of the Council. I will say that Miller's record for work and interest as member of the original Crime Committee was excellent. He represents at present the Bar Association, has some money for expenses, etc., and I should be satisfied with his appointment as chairman.

Sincerely yours,

W F Ogburn

1 D

REPORT TO THE PROBLEMS AND POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE TO ADVISE ON THE APPOINTMENT OF A CRIME COMMITTEE

The committee has taken into consideration the fact that the number of organizations and individuals planning and pursuing studies of the causation and treatment of crime is large and increasing. The state surveys of crime, the municipal crime commissions, the commission recently appointed by President Hoover, the Hearst conference in Chicago, plans for legal research at present agitated by the Bar Association and the American Law Association, the Harvard crime survey, the Yale program, the Johns Hopkins Institute, the proposed Institute of Criminology, are examples of this interest.

The committee has considered also the question of the appointment of a Crime Committee and the character of the composition of such a committee from the standpoint of what may be the future general policy of the Social Science Research Council and what may be the contribution of a Crime Committee to that policy.

The committee appreciates the importance of financial support to individual research projects but suggests, on the other hand, that the main function of the Social Science Research Council may well be the determination of what research approaches, in what fields, in what combinations and conditions, will prove adequate for the solution of social problems.

The committee recognizes that there are lines of research whose social meaning cannot be predicted, where we can only wait and see what may be the eventual contribution to social control. It recognises also that the so-called abnormal expressions of behavior - social disorganization, personal demoralization, crime, etc. - cannot be adequately approached except as particular manifestations of a general process which must be appreciated as a whole.

In this whole connection the committee is of the opinion that a properly constituted Crime Committee would be able to contribute in an important way in shaping the policy of the Council, and that the problem of crime, representing a deviation from the regularized and desirable social order, would perhaps be the most favorable starting point and field of reference in undertaking to organize this policy.

The committee therefore recommends to the Problems and Policy Committee the appointment of a Crime Committee whose functions shall be:

1. To be informed in detail as to the important programs of research in progress or planned by various organizations and individuals in the field of crime, to observe and study the results of these programs with reference to the determination of the more adequate approaches, to promote relations between the various organizations interested in crime study with a view to securing a coördination of effort, a more adequate selection of approaches and a sounder methodological procedure, and to advise organizations and institutions in the organization of their programs.

The committee has reason to believe that a Crime Committee of the Social Science Research Council would be able gradually to assume an important rôle in determining the programs arising in the whole field of criminology. For example, the Commissioner of Correction and the Commissioner of Mental Diseases of Massachusetts have expressed to the committee an interest in introducing into all the penal and psychopathic institutions of the state any desirable and practicable lines of investigation which may be proposed to them.

2. To study the problem of the desirable organization of research in social pathology by means of conferences, sub-committees, etc., with reference more specifically to the contribution it may be able to make to the formation of the policies of the Social Science Research Council.

3. To consider programs of crime research seeking support from the Social Science Research Council which may be referred to it by the Problems and Policy Committee and report on the methodological adequacy of the given plans, the competence of the personnel, the adequacy of the budget, the duration of the study, the sponsoring organization, and the importance of the program in view of other and perhaps similar programs in operation or planned, and in view also of the character of the contribution which the program undertakes to make.

The committee understands that it was requested to prepare a list of names which may be considered in the appointment of a Crime Committee. In proposing the following list the committee has attempted to secure a representation from the special fields more directly related to the crime problem and has also had in mind two kinds of competence as desirable in the membership of a committee on crime (not shared alike by all its members) - competence on the basis of standards and techniques developed in special fields, and competence on the basis of ability to relate various special studies to the field of criminology in general and to pass on the implications of the special materials for the problem as a whole. It is desirable to know, for example, to what extent anatomical studies of the criminal are considered adequate according to the standards developed by the anatomists, to what extent psychiatric or psychometric studies follow good practice in these fields, but it is also desirable to know to what extent the methodology in these fields

gives comparable data for correlations, and how the specific factors may be related to the field of criminology in general. In some cases, specialists have been suggested from the point of view of their standing as specialists and not necessarily from the point of view of their knowledge of or participation in criminological investigation. They may be expected to pass upon criminological investigations involving their specialty from the point of view of the validity of the data and methods, judged entirely by the standards of their own fields. In other cases, the committee has had in mind more particularly the ability of the proposed members to relate special studies to the field as a whole.

The committee points out, further, that the arrangement of the proposed names by their specialties and under certain headings is not to be taken as representing anything necessarily permanent, and that the number of the Committee is not positively indicated. It is also the opinion of the committee that the eventual constitution of the committee (its membership and size) is a problem to be worked out from point to point, in the light of experience and in relation to the development of the policies of the Council.

The committee suggests the following as suitable members of a Crime Committee, and adds some explanation in case of names which may be not so well known to the members of the Problems and Policy Committee:

1. August Vollmer, or Leonard V. Harrison, or C.B. Smith (1 member), to represent problems relating to police administration, the improvement of the police force and crime detection.

Harrison has been working on the police problem for years, was associated with Fosdick in the preparation of the volumes on European and American policy systems, and has now been loaned by Dunham to President Hoover's committee. Smith has published a study of

the New York police, is completing a police study for Dunham, and is to be Director of the Chicago study of police.

2. Five of the following: Justin Miller, L.C. Marshall, J.E. Waite, August Bettman, Francis B. Sayre, Donald Slesinger, Felix Frankfurter, Raymond Moley, to represent judicial administration; the machinery by which cases are prepared, prosecuted, defended and adjudicated in courts preliminary to commitments to penal institutions; on what basis the prisoner shall be sentenced; the type of institution to which he shall be committed; the question of an intermediate stage between conviction and sentence, where the prisoner is detained in a hospital or institution for examination, consideration of his record, physical and mental condition, danger to the public, etc.; research and reform in criminal law and procedure; the legal profession; criminal evidence; political influence, etc.

3. Two of the following: E.H. Sutherland, A.Warren Stearns, Raymond F.C. Kieb, James A. Johnston, to represent the administration of penal institutions; the study of the prisoner; the preparation of adequate case records; parole and probation; follow-up work; the efficiency of existing penal machinery.

Stearns is a psychiatrist, has had much to do with court cases, is at present Dean of Tufts Medical College, and has just been appointed Commissioner of Correction of the state of Massachusetts. Kieb was formerly Medical Superintendent of Matteawan, and is now Commissioner of Correction of the state of New York. Johnston is Chairman of the California Crime Commission.

4. E.W. Burgess and R.E. Park, to represent the causation of crime from the sociological standpoint: the rôle of the home, the neighborhood, the school, the visiting teacher, the clinic, the boys' gang, the boys' club, commercialised pleasure, the public press, recreation centers, etc., in forestalling or promoting delin-

quency and crime; the study of criminal careers; and one additional member to represent the social service organizations (3 members).

5. Adolf Meyer, Samuel T. Orton and Harold D. Lasswell (3 members), to represent the psychopathic factors in crime and psychiatric procedure.

Orton is a psychiatrist (not psychoanalyst), has been professor of psychiatry at the State University of Iowa, Director of the Iowa State Psychopathic Hospital, etc., and is now practicing in New York City. Lasswell is giving his attention to psychoanalytic procedure, has recently visited Europe in that connection, has organized a program of research, and is capable of making a fair representation of psychoanalytic theory and procedure.

6. Edmund E. Day, Harold G. Moulton, Leo Wolman (3 members), to represent the relation to crime of income and wages, the character of the occupation, unemployment, instability of employment, and other economic factors.

7. One of the following: R.S. Woodworth, Florence Goodenough, Frank N. Freeman, Mark A. May, to represent the factor of mental deficiency in crime, and the psychometric procedure.

Goodenough is in the Institute of Child Welfare, University of Minnesota. Freeman is in the School of Education, University of Chicago.

8. One of the following: R.M. Seammon, F.R. Lillie, T.H. Morgan, C.B. Davenport, to represent the factor of heredity, and biological determinism in crime.

9. One of the following: E.B. Wilson, W.C. Mitchell, W.F. Ogburn, Dorothy S. Thomas, to represent statistical procedure.

[redacted]

Although the committee has not advised the appointment of all the persons named above, the number tentatively suggested has run to twenty. The Problems and Policy Committee will probably feel that this is much too large a number for a working committee. We agree with this, but think it has been desirable to present the foregoing record of our study of the question.

We recommend, therefore, the appointment of a Crime Committee of nine persons, and our suggestions concerning the constitution of this Committee are handed to your Chairman.

Our committee has discussed the advisability of arranging a crime conference. In our opinion, twenty of the persons named in the preceding headings 1 to 9, and distributed among the special fields in the proportion there indicated (or perhaps all the names mentioned, together with other names which may be thought desirable) would represent a desirable organization of a crime conference. We advise, however, that this question be left to the Committee on Crime for its consideration.

If an opinion as to the duration of the period of service of members of a Crime Committee is desired, the committee suggests one year.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelby M. Harrison

Lawrence B. Dunham

W.I. Thomas (Chairman)

W. I. THOMAS
333 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK

March 27,1930

Dear Mr.Dunham:

I am sending under separate cover some abstracts. I have been very much engaged on the Columbia study.My report will be something of a volume,and I will send you a copy when it is finished.I have no doubt you are arranging to have a copy of Sutherland's report kept in your office also. These reports are much more extensive than what will appear in the report prepared by Michael.

I am giving Thrasher's study a good deal of attention now. I am going over his material and will help him organize it. He has a good worker,Mrs.Nelson. I think now this will be a very notable study--the most important thing that has been done along these lines.

I am planning to go to Europe in July or August. I regret that I do not see more of you.I will invite you to lunch sometime.

Sincerely yours,

W I Thomas

I am asking Sutherland to arrange with Col.Woods to let us see the material prepared by Windsor. I hope you will help out on this if necessary. I gave Winsor some help and some materials,and I believe Col. Woods will agree to let us see this report.We will not use anything without permission.

Rec'd 3.31.30
Rfd. to LBD

Mr. Burke to arrange to make the material available to Prof. Sutherland.

Thomas Dr. W. I.

IN THE HEART OF EVERYTHING



UNITED REALTIES, INC.
MANAGMENT

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HOTEL ANNAPOLIS
ELEVENTH, TWELFTH & H STS. WASHINGTON, D.C.

May 6

Dear Mr. Dunham:

The enclosed is a very good description of what is going on. I will bring back all the leading papers, which are printed.

Yours

W J Rogers

Rec'd 5/7/30

Rfd. to LBD

Thomas, W. D.

LBD

June 6, 1930.

Dr. W. I. Thomas,
333 East 41st Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Thomas:

When the budget was set up for this year, arrangements were made for the very modest honorarium that goes to you, on the basis of your going abroad in July. Will you let me know if there has been any change in your plans, because if there has been, I should very much like, if possible, to work out some kind of arrangement whereby we might continue to have the benefit of your advice and assistance until you do sail.

Very sincerely yours,

LAWRENCE B. DUNHAM

LBD/HF

Thomas, Dr. W I

LBD

June 20th
1 9 3 0

2

Dr. William I. Thomas
333 East 41st Street
New York City

Dear Dr. Thomas:

Following is the paragraph from Wilson's letter to Sutherland which I spoke to you about this morning:

> "The question was raised as to whether the activities of members of the Committee during the past year which might lead to the use of their reports by Columbia University, in a drive to establish at that university a large criminological institute, might not work out deleteriously to the general activities of the Committee and of the Council in the criminological field. The difficulty seemed to be felt by some that the Committee and we might be too much involved with a particular piece of propaganda for a particular institution, whereas the Committee and we as the Council should of course be in a position to view the whole situation judicially and particularly to face judicially the question as to where any criminological institution should be established, if one were established."

Sincerely,

LBD/G

Thomas, W. I.

T. F.
October 1, 1930

Copy

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Department Institutions and Agencies

Trenton, New Jersey

July 22, 1930.

Dr. W. I. Thomas
333 E. 41st St.
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Thomas:

Under separate cover I am sending you the material which I promised you in the course of our conversation on Saturday.

It strikes me that the classification into five groups which we have established is a practical classification which has certain definite implications with respect to the economic as well as the human side of penological programs. If only 55% of our criminal population needs to be housed in very expensive fortress type institutions, there is obviously no point in spending a lot of money to lock up 100% of our population. Furthermore, inasmuch as one of the necessary considerations of the industrial program is the return to the state of a certain part of their investment, this classification has a bearing on the industrial program. We know that those men who fall in the difficult class are not good workers at a high industrial level, and we should be so able to plan our industries that we can get the best return from the assignment of the better grades of men to the higher types of employment.

While these figures contained in the report of the National Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor* hold for New Jersey, and we can assume that they will hold for any of the Middle Atlantic Seaboard States, there is grave question in my mind as to whether the percentages would hold in other sections of the country. I would think it a good plan if some national organization were to begin to collect similar information on the prison population of different sections of the country, and keep it on file to be used by any state in planning its penal and correctional programs. This information could be gathered and kept up to date without a great deal of expense, and it should justify itself by making an intelligent basis for future plans.

I might say that I am beginning this morning to work over these five classes for the purpose of making them more specific as to the characteristics of each group. If you will be interested, I shall be glad to send you the results of that study.

* Rest of correspondence and material in that folder.

Thomas, W. I.

I enjoyed my talk with you on Saturday very much and shall look forward to the pleasure of seeing you in New Jersey when you return from Europe.

Yours very truly,

DEPARTMENT INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES

(Signed) F.Lovell Bixby

F. Lovell Bixby, Assistant Director
Division of Classification

FLB:AP

The material sent under separate cover is working material in our department and I am asking that it be not quoted or published without being referred back here. F. L. B.

Recd 8/18/30 Thomas

Norddeutscher Lloyd Bremen

D. „Bremen" Aug 6

Dear Mr. Dunham:

In my change of plan about sailing I neglected to send copies of the Scandinavian proposal to the following addresses:

Mrs. W. F. Dunmer
1001 Adella Ave
Coronado, California

E. H. Sutherland
Bankers' Trust Co
26 Old Broad St, London, E.C. 2

You have four copies of this proposal. Will you kindly mail one to each of these addresses, and also a copy to me,
care Hotel Carlton,
Stockholm, Sweden.

Burgess is to come to Stockholm and I am suggesting it to Sutherland, but don't know whether he will be able. Dorothy Thomas is on this boat.

Thomas W
File

August 27th
1 9 3 0

Dr. W. I. Thomas
Hotel Carlton
Stockholm, Sweden

Dear Dr. Thomas:

As your letter dated August 6th to Mr. Dunham arrived when Mr. Dunham was out of town I took the liberty of opening it, and noted your request regarding the copies of the Scandinavian proposal. As I was able to locate only two copies in our office I gave one to Dr. Sutherland, and have had copies made of the other one. One is being mailed to Mrs. Dummer today, and a copy is enclosed herewith for you.

I hope you are having an interesting and enjoyable trip.

Very sincerely yours,

K.S.

Secretary to Mr. Dunham

Thomas, W. D.

August 27th
1 9 3 0

Mrs. W. F. Dummer
1001 Adella Avenue
Coronado, California

My dear Mrs. Dummer:

At the request of Dr. W. I. Thomas, who is at present in Stockholm, we are sending you herewith a copy of a PROPOSAL FOR THE STUDY OF THE RELATION OF BEHAVIOR TO SOCIAL STRUCTURE IN SCANDINAVIAN COMMUNITIES IN AMERICA.

Yours very truly,

K.G.

Secretary to Mr. Dunham

Sutherland

September 3, 1930

Dr. W. I. Thomas,
Hotel Carlton,
Stockholm,
Sweden.

Dear Thomas:

I am enclosing the program of the conference on Personality at Hanover, and do not care to have it returned.

Three principal criticisms or questions came out in the discussion of the Scandinavian project:

1. Why should deviate behaviour be emphasized as in this project? is the purpose to secure an understanding of acculturation and personality, or to understand crime, insanity and other deviations from codes and standards? Sapir said this was one of the principal questions raised in Chicago when the project was discussed there, and he believed that it needed to be considered from that point of view.

2. The Scandinavian culture is not sufficiently different from American culture to make a sharp contrast. A similar study of the Orientals or American Indians would be more likely to yield results for that reason. Sullivan emphasized this point.

3. The whole methodology should be discussed in advance in a conference of psychologists, psychiatrists, and sociologists. This is true especially if the committee in charge is to be composed entirely of sociologists. Alport made this suggestion. A good many specific suggestions regarding methods were made during the course of the conference.

Thomas, W. I.

Wilson told me he had no idea what decision would be beached in the conference regarding this project, and I judged from his general tone that he felt rather pessimistic about it.

Cordially yours,

EHS:WR

Stockholm Sept 3. 1930

Dear Mr. Burham:

This says: The criminal prosecutors (state's attorneys) of Sweden are of the opinion that an improvement of the methods of the criminal police is necessary, in order to secure greater efficiency. The association of state's attorneys calls the attention of the ~~social~~ minister of social affairs to the desirability of establishing a criminal ~~tech~~ ~~ordinary~~ police institution in order to develop a better trained personnel for the more difficult problems and investigations, and a criminological laboratory for the study and registration of criminals. It is desirable that this should be undertaken at the earliest possible moment. The association will also request from the government funds ~~to~~ for travel, in order to study foreign police systems and methods of prosecution.

These items are not so important but appear in the "Svenska Dagbladet" which is the "Times" of Stockholm.

Everything very favorable here.

Yours

W J Thomas

Thomas, Dr. W. I.

September 25th
1 9 3 0

Dr. W. I. Thomas
Hotel Carlton
Stockholm, Sweden

Dear Doc:

It is hard for a one-legged man to get along without his crutch, and so we miss you very much. It has been nice to hear from you from time to time, and the children were more than delighted with the postcards which you were thoughtful enough to send to them.

We were interested in learning from your last letter that the Swedes were feeling the need for an institute of criminology. Things are beginning to pick up here after the vacation period. Poor Stearns is having trouble with Gill. The latter seems to be like the Langley flying machine, with the result that his genius may result in a nose dive unless something can be done to supply him with a balance wheel. Speaking of Stearns, I must perform a duty of friendship and advise you of his highly slanderous remarks with regard to yourself. Windsor has been over spending a couple of days with him and reports that Stearns accuses you of becoming a Freudian, because of your support of the Karpman project. Sellin, who is now with us, and I, got a big kick out of this report.

Harrison is apparently on about his third lap around Europe, and I am afraid he is going to wear out the railroad. Sutherland has gone to Chicago. Merriam is not sure that it is a good move on his part. Thinks Sutherland was the right man in the right place when he was with us. Has doubts as to Sutherland's administrative ability. Merriam is a very canny citizen,

Thomas. Dr. W. I.

but the truth of the matter is that Sutherland had some doubts himself as to how he would get along trying to run Adler's institute.

After a terrific battle, the uniform crime accounting system went over one hundred per cent. If my information is correct, the Attorney General's last remaining doubts were swept away when he found out that the sub-committee of Wickersham's Commission had examined the Warner plan and found it utterly useless for their purpose, and adopted the Smith police plan. It seems to me that Frankfurter, Warner, and Lowenthal followed a course in this matter which reflects little credit on them. One of the happy results of the victory was the resignation of Lowenthal as Secretary to the Wickersham Commission, at least we are informed that there is a close relationship between the two events.

When Miss Dorothy Thomas gets back I hope it will be convenient for her to foregather with Sellin for the purpose of discussing the Thrasher project. Speaking of Miss Thomas raises a point that I have had in mind for some time, and that is that we have come perilously close to imposing on her kindness and good nature, because of the fact that there are several projects in the office to which she has devoted a considerable amount of time, with substantial benefit to the work. I am going to ask the Trustees to vote a very modest sum by way of an honorarium to show our appreciation of her assistance, but of course have no way of knowing as to whether they will consider that a proper expenditure. As the sum will be very small, I hope you won't speak to her about it unless it goes through.

There is great excitement over the republican convention which meets on Thursday. According to the newspapers, there is at least an even chance of the adoption of a platform plank calling for the repeal of the eighteenth amendment.

Very sincerely yours,

LBD/G

BSH: Rec'd 10.20.30
Rfd. to LBD

File

Stockholm
Oct. 6. 1930

Dear L.B.D.

Your letter was most welcome, though I did not expect a reply.

The crime situation here is just now very interesting. There is a "epidemic" of crime, as the papers call it. Something, they claim, not known heretofore. One day last week there were 22 criminal arrests in Stockholm, which is, they say, a record. Automobiles, ram running, burglary, murder, are involved. The county districts show increased crime. I am clipping the newspaper items.

From what I have noticed I have an impression that the police work here is not particularly good. Kinberg (psychiatrist at the Stockholm prison) says police work is rather poor. But offenders seem to be captured because there is as yet no anti-social growth in which they can hide themselves. The population in general has been very moral and information comes to police from the public as it does not with us. Criminals here also, because they do not belong to a solidary growth, seem to have a "conscience" and confess at the first opportunity. The police and courts are honest, and that is something, but I have at present the impression that "police scientific," is not fundamentally responsible for whatever good points there may have been in the law and order of Sweden.

Thomas M. Tousey

I think it was unfortunate that Sutherland left, but he was almost obliged to do it under the circumstances. If you had been able to offer him a five year job he would probably have stayed. With a wife and child it is not so comfortable to have a one year job. He is the man you want, if any. With a five year job, opportunity to publish (e.g. on the Scandinavian study!) he ought to come back, if you want him. He would also, probably, like a slight academic connection in order to work with students on problems, and this could be arranged with Columbia — a seminar (without pay) in the law school or department of Sociology.

Dorothy Thomas is in America now. She left here about a month ago. Address: Dorothy S. Thomas, School of Law, Yale Univ.

Card

I am going Kinberg and others to a home for alcoholics today. I sail on the Scandinavian liner "Kungsholm" Oct. 25th. Have had a grand time and it will be fine to see you again

Yours

W. I. T.

Tele Talks

YALE UNIVERSITY

INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RELATIONS

Rec'd 10.29.30 Opened By RT

To Ans'r LBD Ans'd 11/3/30.

Ackd by RT 10.29.30

To Note

To Note

To Note File

333 CEDAR STREET
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

October 27, 1930.

Mr. Lawrence B. Dunham,
Bureau of Social Hygiene,
61 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Dunham:

It was certainly good of you to think of me in connection with Mr. Wood's plans. I have been thinking over how I might possibly be of service to you. I rather think that I can be most useful with a purely informal connection and on a friendly rather than a professional basis. I shall be glad to criticize any reports, etc., that you wish me to, if you think this is desirable.

I don't think it will be possible for me to be associated in any other capacity. The process of getting the program under way here is terribly strenuous and I find myself working not only full time but overtime. I don't feel, therefore, that I could do justice to your study, simply because I would be able to spend so little time on it.

I hope you will feel free to call on me if I can do anything on this other basis.

With cordial regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas.

DST/MS

W. I. THOMAS
333 EAST 41st STREET
NEW YORK

Nov 3, 1930

Dear LB.D.

I got in yesterday. Dorothy Thomas had left a note saying you wanted to see me and mentioned unemployment. I happen to have a report on the mangagement of unemployment, specially prepared for me, which seems quite important. I translated it on the boat. I called you three times today before I learned it was election day. At noon I have to go to Yale to prepare, with Dorothy Thomas, a report for Wilson. This document has to be incorporated in the report, so I cannot send you my translation. But I will bring you back a typewritten copy. I shall be gone probably two days. It will be fine to see you.

Yours,

W. I. Thomas

Rec'd 11.5.30 Opened By RT				
To Ans'r		Ans'd		
To Note	LBD			
To Note				
To Note				✓

November 3, 1950

Miss Dorothy Swaine Thomas,
Institute of Human Relations,
Yale University,
333 Cedar Street,
New Haven, Conn.

Dear Miss Thomas:

Thanks a lot for your cordial note. The truth of the matter is that most of my Washington job seems to have disappeared into thin air. When the Colonel took over the affairs of the Commission he found that much of the work he wanted me to do was pretty well in hand. The rest of it I believe I can organize through the International Association of the Chiefs of Police and the Department of Justice in Washington. Both agencies have readily consented to full cooperation. If things take a turn and I get in a jam, I will surely avail myself of your kindly offer.

Sincerely yours,

LAWRENCE B. DUNHAM

LBD:WR

W. I. Thomas.

November 5, 1930

Dr. W. I. Thomas;
533 East 41st Street,
New York City

Dear Doc:

Glad to hear of your safe return. I am on my way to Washington this afternoon. I shall be most interested in seeing your unemployment article. We must get together in the near future.

In haste,

LAWRENCE B. DUNHAM

LBD:WR

W. I. Thomas

Gehlke, C. E.

WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
CLEVELAND, OHIO

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

November 4, 1930

Mr. Laurence Dunham,
Bureau of Social Hygiene,
61 Broadway,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Dunham:

Dr. Thomas requested me to send you the copy(1) of his report to the Columbia Committee when I have finished with it. I have therefore today sent it to you by American Railway Express.

Sincerely yours,

C. E. Gehlke

CEG:W

Rec'd 11. 7. 30 Opened By RT				
To Ans'r ~~RT~~		Ans'd RT		11/7/30
To Note	LBD	✓		
To Note				
To Note			File	

(1) Rec'd 11. 6. 30.

Thomas, Dr. W. I.

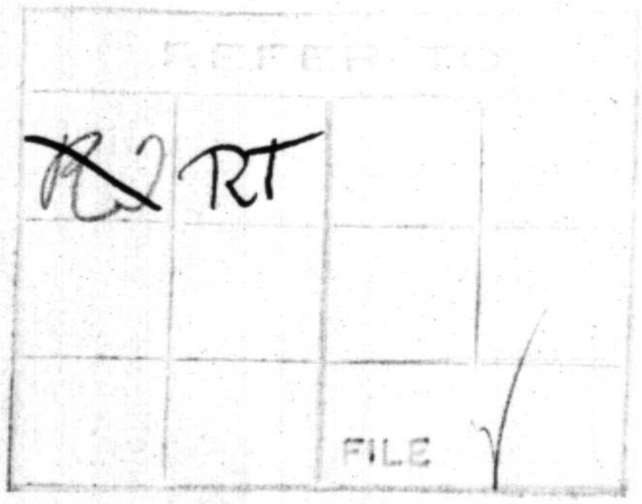
November 17, 1930

To: Miss Payne.
From: Mr. Dunham.
Subject: DR. W. I. THOMAS.

Dr. W. I. Thomas will resume his services for the Bureau on November 15th, and he should go on the regular payroll as of that date. He is to help out on various matters in connection with the Bureau's activities, particularly the Boys' Club study which is being conducted by Dr. Thrasher of New York University.

LAWRENCE B. DUNHAM

HP-



Dr. Thomas

December 23, 1930.

To: Miss Payne.
From: Mr. Dunham.
Subject: DR. THOMAS' SALARY FOR 1931.

Since Dr. Thomas has been giving considerable time to the institute of criminology study at Columbia, it seems proper to pay part of the honorarium which he receives from the Bureau for consultant services, from the grant made by the Bureau to Columbia. Will you therefore please charge Dr. Thomas' salary for the months of January and February, 1931 ($200. a month) to appropriation #2825, which is the appropriation for the above mentioned project.

LBD

Noted
H.P

Thomas, W. I. BSH