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THE PSYCHOPATHOLOGY OF CRIME, by
Ben Karpman. Vol. II. Lord Baltimore Press,
Baltimore, 1944. Pp. 738. \$16.00.

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sonnel. With respect to mining and industry requisitions of both property and personal services were much rarer. One is led to wonder whether in all cases the requisition of personnel was not more a protective device than an economic necessity."²

The author has a remarkable power to display to the reader the essential features of a complex situation. Thus, in a dozen pages devoted to jurisdiction in Italy over cases related to requisitioning, not only is mention made of the various tribunals which might hear such cases, but an illuminating discussion is given of the "special jurisdictions"—committees or boards which assess damages and otherwise handle cases in particular fields—and a deeply interesting paragraph is devoted to the distinction in Italian law between the legitimate interest and the right of the individual, when the state requisitions his property.

A brief introduction stresses the emergency aspect of requisition, as distinguished from expropriation, and points out the fact that in all countries there is a close similarity in the public needs to be satisfied and the possible ways of satisfying them. The conclusion emphasizes the fact that the eve of the present war compelled France and Italy to take very similar steps. "Despite large differences in theories of government, the requisitory law of the two countries was once more forced into parallel channels. Total war has, indeed, come to require total mobilization and total power in the government to effect it." The reader who has followed the historical and legal exposition of Dr. Wise will probably be thankful, as the reviewer is, that our democracy can still ask its government to give an accounting for the use of the power entrusted to it, even in the midst of total war; but he will probably find himself in agreement with the author's view as to the inevitability of a very broad exercise of requisitory power by every government during a major war.

MIRIAM E. OATMAN*

THE PSYCHOPATHOLOGY OF CRIME, by Ben Karpman. Vol. II. Lord Baltimore Press, Baltimore, 1944. Pp. 738. \$16.00.

The author, well known to the reviewer, has devoted a great many years of earnest effort to uncovering the psychological or, one might say more accurately, the emotional mechanisms under-

* Foreign Economic Administration, Washington, D.C.
2. P. 37.

lying criminality. His material is taken from inmates of the wards for mentally ill criminals at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington. In a sense therefore the prisoners under investigation are those who have failed to adjust to prison life and required care in a mental hospital. This must be borne in mind in the evaluation of his findings.

It is generally accepted today, on the basis of Sigmund Freud's contributions, that all behavior is purposive whether in the physiological realm, or in our social or interpersonal relations. In other words, to understand human behavior one must look beneath the surface, and to early conditioning of the individual if one is to appreciate why people do what they do, be it constructive or destructive, social or antisocial, efficient or inefficient. The practice, at least as far as psychiatry is concerned, is toward understanding the individual rather than passing judgment upon him. It is along these lines that the author has directed his investigations. Dr. William A. White, to whom this volume is dedicated, was a pioneer in American Psychiatry in fostering the dynamic concepts of Freud, and one who insisted upon a thorough understanding of the individual as a basis for proper treatment whether he be neurotic, psychotic, criminal or just unhappy and inefficient.

The first volume of this series dealt with individuals who had committed predatory crimes, while the one under review deals with individuals who have committed sexual crimes. It is a volume of over seven hundred pages containing intimate detailed histories of four criminals. Although the crimes charged at the time of incarceration consist of (1) Theft of the U. S. Mails—Drug Addiction, (2) Violation of the Mann Act, (3) Rape, and (4) Mail Train Robbery, not all sexual crimes, the psychosexual development of these individuals is so lurid as to rival Smollet's "Peregrinations of Peregrine Pickle." However, as one reviews the psychosexual development of many non-criminal individuals, it is doubtful that these facts contribute much to an understanding of why these particular people should have pursued a career of crime, especially crimes of a sexual nature. It is hoped, that in time, the author will offer a digested review of his material, sufficient in scope to permit of formulating a more concise concept of the dynamics of the criminal individual. It is evident that he has such formulations in mind as his successful treatment in some cases indicates that psychotherapeutic, or more broadly stated, individualization of treatment can be expected to produce better results than the sterile programs of incarceration and punishment.

As one reads these records it becomes increasingly clear that treatment of the youthful criminal in so-called reformatories is a totally inadequate, misconceived method which only tends to foster tendencies which they are supposed to combat. Vindictiveness towards criminals, certainly youthful ones, on the basis of our present concepts, is an indication that the originators of such a system have set up a strong defense against their own innate criminal tendencies. What the criminal needs is more understanding and less judgment, and to this end it is felt the author is making a distinct contribution.

These are chronicles of human beings with their problems, albeit handled under difficult circumstances and with poor judgment fostered under parental misconceptions. As one reads them, let it be with the feeling that "Except by the Grace of God, there go I."

This volume is to be recommended to judges, lawyers, social workers, student health councillors, psychiatrists, lay citizens who have taken the responsibility for supervision of this unfortunate group of our population, and to any others who have dealings with those who do not fit into the pattern of community life.

H. O. COLOMB*

MUNICIPALITIES AND THE LAW IN ACTION, edited by Charles Rhyne.

National Institute of Municipal Law Officers, Washington, 1944. Pp. 553. \$10.00.

This volume, the seventh in the series entitled *Municipalities and the Law in Action*, not only reports the proceedings of the 1943 conference of the National Institute of Municipal Law Officers, but contains in detail many subjects only summarily discussed at the meeting.

A shift in emphasis from the 1943 publication is noticeable. This shift has been from civilian defense to post-war planning. Standing at a legal nexus, the institute offers cities the opportunity to express current problems of planning in a widespread fashion and to encourage its members to cooperate in the solution of such problems. The major part of the volume consists of studies and reports on such diverse subjects as city-state and city-federal relationships, municipal finance and revenue, tort

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