

Courts Act, 1952, consolidated the many statutes in England dealing with the practice, powers and procedure in courts of summary jurisdiction. Paley has now become in essence a commentary on this Act and on the Rules and Forms prescribed thereunder. The preservation of some of the earlier text in other parts of the book, combined with the precise, modern and useful commentary on the recent Statute, lends a patchwork quality to this edition. There can be no doubt of the value of this edition of Paley to the English practitioner; but the difference in practice, procedure and law regarding summary offences in the various states of Australia from that applying in England lessens the importance of this work for the Australian lawyer. Nevertheless, those whose practice takes them frequently into our courts of Petty Sessions will find much useful reference material in Paley.

N.R.M.

*The Indeterminate Sentence.* (Department of Social Affairs, United Nations, New York, 1954) pp. i-v, 1-92; Australian price, 6s. 3d. (Document ST/SOA/SD/2).

*Parole and After-Care.* (Department of Social Affairs, U.N., N.Y. 1954) pp. 1-86; Australian price 6s. 3d. (Document ST/SOA/SD/4).

*Practical Results and Financial Aspects of Adult Probation in Selected Countries.* (Department of Social Affairs, U.N., N.Y., pp. i-vii, 1-112; Australian price, 6s. 3d. (Document ST/SOA/SD/3).

*European Seminar on Probation.* (Department of Social Affairs, N.Y. 1954), pp. i-vi, 1-237; Australian price 13s. 9d. (Document ST/TAA/SER.C/11).

Today in dealing with adult offenders, there is a tendency to favour flexible methods of treatment adapted to the needs of the individual offender and to the protection of society, rather than fixed-term sentences, implying a retributive penalty imposed by the Courts. Three of the main treatment methods which have been devised are parole, probation and the indeterminate sentence, and the United Nations publications listed above, in focussing on these three topics, illustrate the continued interest of the specialist agencies of the United Nations in issues of world-wide social importance. The publications are concerned with the principles underlying these methods and their application in different countries, the aim of the studies being to make available to governments information on current trends in policy and practice under different legislative and administrative systems.

The report on the indeterminate sentence was prepared by Marc Ancel, consulting expert to the United Nations, and presents a concise account of the development of the concept of indeterminacy and those categories of offenders for whom it has been considered

an appropriate sentence. The latter section of the report deals comparatively with the use of this sentence in 23 countries, and the general conclusions which may be drawn regarding its future application.

The report on parole and after-care, prepared by Professor Kempe of the University of Utrecht, Netherlands, follows a similar pattern. He concludes that, while in the 12 countries which he surveyed there is general acceptance of the idea of parole, there is a greater need for thorough parole preparation and selection in prison and more adequate parole supervision. This implies a need for more trained staff and co-ordination of their activities.

In 1951 the United Nations published a comprehensive report, *Probation and Related Measures*, and the present publication on practical results and financial aspects of probation prepared by Dr Max Grünhut, Reader in Criminology, Oxford University, is intended to be complementary to this. Descriptive and statistical material is presented on the results of probation in the United Kingdom, three Scandinavian countries, the Netherlands and the United States, and general conclusions are drawn in respect of the common experience, the methods of assessment, the predictability of post-treatment conduct and the financial aspects of probation.

The *European Seminar on Probation* is a report of a conference held in London in October, 1952, and contains the papers presented by a number of experts in criminology, who have dealt with such aspects of probation as the selection of offenders for probation, organization of probation services, techniques of treatment and probation personnel.

Victoria is obviously lagging well behind the field in the use of these treatment methods and for those who are interested in the development of these services, these publications are essential reading.

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*Winfield on Tort*. 6th Edn, by T. ELLIS LEWIS. (Sweet and Maxwell, London, 1954), pp. i-ix, 1-835. Australian price £3 10s.

With almost daily changes in the law of tort, new editions of standard textbooks on the subject must be issued frequently to keep up with the continuous output of the courts, maintain practical value and ensure commercial success. Thus, one who takes over the task of producing a new edition of such a work has little opportunity to leave any firm impression as to how the textbook is shaping under his guidance.

This edition of *Winfield on Tort*, under the editorship of T. Ellis Lewis, the first to be published since the death of the author, has little change in its arrangement and remains basically the same as the last edition produced by Sir Percy in 1950. The editor's close association with the author over a long period of years, dating from