

HANDBOOK OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION. By Col. Maurice J. Fitzgerald, PMC, U.S. Army. Edited by Paul Weston. Greenberg: Publisher, New York. About 411 pages. Distributed by Alemar's. P9.10.

A great many books have been written on the subject of criminal investigation. They have been good books, but none of them emphasize the fundamentals of criminal investigation techniques. They stress laboratory techniques in the scientific evaluation of physical evidence; the technique of investigating homicides, jewel thefts, and other major crimes; and they detail the methods of examining tiremarks, the taking of fingerprints, the use of the lie-detector, etc. Such books aid and train the *specialist* in criminal investigation, but they do not teach the ordinary techniques of criminal investigation.

These techniques start with interviewing the victim and other witnesses to a crime, and progress through procedure at the scene of a crime to the apprehension of the fugitive. Then the techniques of interrogation and their application to both prisoners and suspects are detailed. And since the great majority of crimes requiring investigation are committed by professional or habitual criminals, the operation technique of such criminals is itemized crime by crime.

The most modern techniques now in use by successful investigators in all fields of criminal activity are set forth in this handbook which lays down rules on exactly how to investigate any crime, large or small, relatively inconsequential or of major importance. It is for the modern criminal investigator—the detective, the policeman, the investigator in the Armed Forces, the agent of any law enforcement agency, private investigator, lawyer, and all those charged with investigating crime. It is a manual for fieldwork, for daily reference, for use in the conduct of any investigation. It can be supplemented by texts on specific phases of criminal investigation and the application of scientific aids in evaluating evidence, but it can hardly be replaced by such texts.

Each chapter of this book is planned in the same manner as a lecture upon the identical subject is planned in a school that trains investigators. Reading a full chapter may be described as equivalent to attending a lecture on the same subject. At the end of each chapter is a series of questions.

Answering these questions may be likened to taking a short quiz following a lecture. Questions are based on the material in that chapter only and are progressive. Questions No. 1 and No. 2 are based on the first few paragraphs of the chapter; following questions move progressively through the text of the chapter concerned. This is in order that the reader may locate the answer to every question in the text of the chapter.

The last chapter of the book contains a glossary of words and phrases used by criminals. Many of these are odd and unusual. Criminal slang has a meaning all its own. An investigator who does not know the language of criminals is severely handicapped. Samples of these words and phrases are: *Action*, which means, betting, wagering, gambling play; *copping a plea*—pleading guilty to a lesser charge to escape penalty for a more serious charge; *hush money*—a bribe to insure silence, usually to some person who would inform if not paid off.

At the end of the book is an answer section with the answer to all questions, by chapters. After checking the text of each chapter and comparing his answer with the text, the reader can turn to this section and make sure he has located the proper material.

The book is the result of eight years of compiling and editing material on the subject of criminal investigation. It was not originally intended for publication.

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COURTROOM. By Quentin Reynolds. Garden City Books. 419 pages. Distributed by Alemar's. P5.50.

"Courtroom" is the story of one of America's greatest criminal lawyers—Samuel F. Leibowitz. It is written not only to fascinate the mind of the reader by means of a dramatic presentation of the trials wherein he was the star defense lawyer, but also to provide lawyers and students of the law an opportunity to learn, from the life of a great criminal lawyer, what makes a lawyer great. After reading the book one realizes that the key to greatness is not only the possession of great intellectual capacity but rather one's willingness to devote the whole of his time to the defense of his case.

The book is divided into the several trials in which Samuel