

Call to train police as professionals

BRITAIN'S police service has its friends, but judgement from recent months has also had a great many enemies. Never has the service and its modern operations been so much in the public eye. The tendency to praise and criticise rather than praise and criticise all too often criticism has been ill conceived.

Out today to counter some of these attacks is a book entitled factually enough "The Police" which seeks — by and large successfully — to analyse police problems from a contemporary standpoint.

The author is Ben Whitaker, a barrister who lectures in law at London University.

No one would quarrel with his statement that a society will have the police it deserves. Looking to the future Mr. Whitaker says the time has come for realistic and scientific thinking about the police service and its problems.

Snap v. 'hobbies'

It is said that in our society more money is spent on hobbies than on research into all the problems of the police put together.

Mr. Whitaker says: "The Government should no longer hesitate to spend heavily on gaining people's goodwill for public services; it should recognise that to do so would save immeasurable friction and money in future years."

"Private commercial companies are far more alive to this necessity than public services which are infinitely more wasteful. It is our old story of private waste and public neglect."

He says that what is and is likely to remain an even greater problem than recruitment in police work. Overwork can be reduced if we are prepared to spend more money. But a policeman must also feel that his job is constructive, interesting and important.

'Attractive myth'

The attractive myth of a policeman being just a member of the public in uniform cannot be continued any longer; in fact, he performs a number of professional roles, each of which requires extensive specialised training.

"Most people would like the police to be both humane and efficient," he says. But as its tasks have increased in number and difficulty, the police had not had the equivalent advances in training or equipment to accomplish them. The new Police Bill did nothing to cure the overwork which is responsible for most of the complaints both by and against policemen.

He says that without adequate help from the public some officers develop their own methods against criminals.

Once the police are given adequate powers we must then see that they keep them in law enforcement, ends never

justly even slightly dubious means: violence or threats undermine a society more surely than the crime they are intended to prevent.

On the case for uniform, Mr. Whitaker says that traditionalism was at its worst in Lancashire where there were 17 separate forces. Two-thirds of a sample of policemen, however, favoured local forces.

A regional structure seemed the most likely development and this would probably be acceptable to those who had a lingering political fear of one national force.

Recruiting advertisements, Mr. Whitaker comments, appear designed to appeal above all to the immature. Emphasis was on the "spirit of adventure" rather than the "spirit of service" and police contact with schools and at careers conventions was often unattractive.

The Police, by Ben Whitaker, Barrister and Spokesman; also a P. S. Publishing, 3s. 6d.

Nearly knee-deep in honey

Friermen were nearly knee-deep in honey yesterday after a lorry overturned at Dove Ridge, Derbyshire.

Honey from 30-40 ton containers flooded across the road and a fire officer said: "The stream of honey was about six inches deep." Using hoses, firemen treated it into the River Dove.

Hospital units experiment

Regional hospital boards are arranging with contractors for the construction of six or seven hospital maternity units using industrialised building methods, the Ministry of Health announced yesterday.

Challenge to Sierra Leone merger

Six natives of Sierra Leone, in the High Court yesterday, challenged the validity of the merger of Sierra Leone with the Colony of Sierra Leone and the sovereign State of Sierra Leone within the British Commonwealth.

They contended that, as descendants of the settlers in the Colony who were mostly freed slaves bonded together as the Free Community of Settlers, they and other members of the Settlers' Descendants Union were entitled to a constitution and government of their own.

In an action against the Attorney-General, they sought the annulment of the Sierra Leone Constitution Order in

A WORLD RECORD MIXED ART SALE

In just under two and a half hours yesterday the sale of Sotheby's impressions and modern paintings, drawings and sculpture realised £211,190, a world record for a mixed sale of this kind.

The highest price paid was £63,000 for a portrait of a girl with a white veil by Bessie, bought by the Agnes Vela Gallery of New York.

Another Bessie, a small, brilliantly-coloured picture of a vase of chrysanthemums, painted in 1880, was sold to the same buyer for £26,000.

£48,000 Monet

Mr. I. Harding paid £48,000 for a picture by Claude Monet, *Le Pont de Bois a Argenteuil*.

A third Bessie — was bought for £26,000 by the London dealer Mr. A. I. Betts, who also paid £20,000 for a small picture of a flowerpot of geraniums painted in 1905 by Odilon Redon.

Mr. A. Tooth paid £24,000 for a picture by J. M. W. Turner, *The Chemist of Spinye*, painted in 1820.

The Whitestair Gallery paid £21,000 for a picture of a tall warrier in a country district painted by C. Pinney in 1873 for an autumn landscape entitled *Le Post de Moret* by Alfred Sisley.

A's Van Vugh, *The Husband of St. Es*, belonging to the late film actor Errol Flynn, was withdrawn before the sale.

Devon campaign for new industry

A £20,000 publicity campaign by the Devon County Council to attract more industry to the county was covered in London yesterday.

The chairman of the council, Mr. George Hayer-Rams, told a press conference: "The last thing we want to do is to make the lovely county of Devon into a smoky chimney-stack of place."

The aim was to strike a better balance between industry, agriculture and the holiday trade.

Descendants' aim

The object of the Settlers' Descendants Union was to establish a separate nation in the former Colony (now called the Western Area) linked with the British Commonwealth.

The Solicitor-General, Sir Peter Rawlinson, Q.C., submitted that whether the Order in Council was part of the law of Sierra Leone could not concern the British Government or courts.

The hearing was adjourned until today.



HANDEL AT STOURBRIDGE

ISRAEL in Egypt, chorally the most arduous of all Handel's oratorios, was sung in Stourbridge Town Hall on Tuesday night. It was a most commendable enterprise on the part of Frank Edwards and the Stourbridge Concert Society. One very warmly hoped to feel able unreservedly to commend the results of it.

And there was in fact quite a lot to commend. The resources were ample according to the standards of Handel's own day: a double chorus well balanced with some 40 voices on each side and tenors by no means inferior to the Egyptians; a full orchestra, including the trumpets and trombones which Handel asked for even some clarinet which he did not. The chorus's part, at least, had been well-prepared and one clearly heard the whole complex of entries in *He led them through the deep*.

It may well be that the heavily curtain-framed promenade of the stage, upon which both chorus and orchestra were placed, deduced something of brightness from the performance. Undoubtedly however, a good deal was pedestrian, stolid, lacking in dramatic fire and expressiveness of phrase.

Some of Mr. Edwards's tempi, just too slow to allow a real lifting thrust, seemed to be based upon the metronomic marks of a Victorian edition designed for lumbering monstrous choirs. But things did improve a good deal in the second part: *Fly right hand* of *Lord* was admirably sung. The two soloists, Lily Kesteven (contralto) and Edgar Fleet (tenor), were excellent. Mr. Fleet threw off a splendid credit for *In the enemy hand*. Miss Kesteven deserved special credit for so firmly holding her own in *For lead brought forth* from among some very worthy orchestral intruders. The equal-voice canon-duet, *The Lord is my strength*, was sung by (if he will not misunderstand me) "full women"; the famous duet for basses, *The equal-voice canon-duet*, was sung by the women, were probably the choir's best contributions.

J. F. W.

Six months for Pat Arrowsmith

Pat Arrowsmith, Field Secretary of the Committee of 100, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment at Belling, London, yesterday for committing a breach of the Commissioner's directions during the demonstration at the United States air force base at Ruislip on March 28.

She pleaded guilty to sitting down during the demonstration after the police had ordered her to move, and was fined 40s and ordered to keep the peace for 12 months.

It was stated that she had ten previous convictions for similar offences.

Brian McCoe (22), of Benicote Street, London, was also sentenced to six months for a similar offence.

A warrant was issued for the arrest of Ellen Farr, of St. Stephen's Gardens, London W., when she failed to appear on a similar charge.

GIRL'S HAIR ON FIRE IN CINEMA

Mr. Albert Farrer, a cinema manager, told Redditch magistrates yesterday that he was called into the stalls by a girl with her hair on fire, who complained that youths, sitting three rows behind her, had been throwing cigarettes end.

One of the youths, Roger John Hall Atkins, of St. George's Road, Redditch, described as "spokesman of the youths," was fined £5 for using threatening and abusive language and conduct in a place of public entertainment.

Mr. Farrer said that Atkins used obscene language when asked to leave the cinema, and threatened him with violence.

Record entries for show

The Strophair and West Midlands Show to be held at Shrewsbury on May 20 and 21 already has received entries for a number of classes.

Each of three breeds of horses and three of cattle run to three figures, including 172 British Friesians and 188 huziers.

THEATRE

Dagger work in a Sussex village

By our Dramatic Critic

F. C. TRAVIN

VALDEVILLE THEATRE
'Amber for Aps'

Arthur Watkyn's puzzle opens in the kind of scene that reminded me vaguely on Tuesday of the new American play *Shy Locks Me* at the Lyric Theatre, London. It ran for nine months in New York.

Without doubt, this is going to be straightforward — or as far as one can get with it in the circumstances — a murder play. When *Amber for Aps* opens on Tuesday night, it is immediately clear that there will be a murder very soon and that everybody will be implicated.

There is, and they are, at this stage, a number of crime dots. He can report the lethal use of his Sussex murder. I am not going to say that the people are especially plausible; still a murder play has to begin somewhere, and we have to go as far as we can to meet the author. Here the author can write more wisely than we expect in this kind of piece. Thus Miss Landon says of her comatose husband: "If he had a dog at his feet he could be in Canterbury Cathedral."

Miss Landon's performance is quite enough to justify the play, cool, subtly understated, every lift of the eyebrow counting. Owen Cherrill carries off an infuriating character: David Hutchinson presents with slow drology a personage preserved in spirit and generally, the cast, in an exceptionally rapid production by Gillian Howell, maintains its dramatic.

I am not saying it is a master work, but it is more exciting than the run of puzzles it has. Miss Landon says of her comatose husband: "If he had a dog at his feet he could be in Canterbury Cathedral."

Alcoholism growing

Bag. H. Phillimore, Senior Medical Officer at the Ministry of Health, said that there was an increase in the admission of alcoholics to hospitals.

In Scotland, male admissions to psychiatric hospitals for alcoholism in 1961 were almost one-fifth of all admissions, and if one considered the peak age for first admission, with alcoholism and alcoholic psychosis (45 to 54 years) these represented to less than 31 per cent of all male first admissions in this age group.

"It has been shown that admissions to psychiatric hospitals for alcoholism have been increasing rapidly in the past seven years in Scotland and England and Wales."

In the last five years it has been found that one boy in ten

£100,000 APPEAL

The Baptist Missionary Society last night opened a £100,000 medical mission appeal.

'MOTORING, DRUGS, DRINK ADDICTIONS'

MOTORING was classed as an addiction, together with drugs, drink and smoking, Professor D. V. S. Horne, Viceroy of the Royal College of Physicians, said in his presidential address to the Preventive Medicine section at the Royal Society of Medicine at Torquay yesterday.

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Tenth of income being saved

A good saver was nearly always a good worker, Viscount Mackintosh of Halifax, chairman of the National Savings Committee, said yesterday when he visited Birmingham to present certificates to factories in recognition of their efforts in promoting the savings movement.

In the past few years the people of Britain had been saving 10 per cent of their income, compared with 2 per cent 19 years ago.

Lord Halifax visited the Austin and Cadbury's,

started smoking before he left the primary school, Dr. H. D. Chalk, a medical officer of Health for Camberwell, London, said. Less than three per cent of girls indicated in the occasional cigarette at this age, he added.

Surveys in Camberwell among 2,000 children showed that at the time of entry to senior schools 11 per cent of boys and one per cent of girls smoked.

At Halesbury public school it was found that 48 per cent of boys between 13 and 19 were regular smokers. Also, 50 per cent of women students in a teachers' training college smoked.

Dr. Chalk said that women now smoke less than men as much as they did in 1932. Three out of four men who smoked, averaged one large packet each every day. Half the female population smoked regularly with a daily average of a packet of ten.

ESTATE PLAN 'IGNORES' BUCHANAN

Chipping Norton Council Buildings Committee is annoyed at the area planning sub-committee's refusal to accept plans for an estate of 285 houses on the Churchhill Road site.

The planning authority objecting because the project does not conform with one of the ideas of the Buchanan Report — that people on a housing estate should be able to reach the estate's shopping centre without having to cross a road.

"This is the first time this condition has been imposed in the country and it seems a bit odd," said Mr. A. S. Stamford, the borough architect, said upon hearing the news. There is no question of traffic passing through the estate, which will be practically self-contained.

The committee decided to re-submit the plans without any change whatsoever after it had met in committee.

Down, J. W. Bendish said: "I have never come across such a date; approach and thinking in all my life. The planning department have obviously not a clue of what is involved."

Never content to stand still "the next step forward" has always been uppermost in our minds. As soon as one object has been reached another is being planned. For instance, to serve our markets in the Southern Hemisphere we opened a factory in Australia many years ago and more recently we established a branch in Western Germany to cater for our interests in Europe. To expand our production capacity in Birmingham we have recently acquired another factory of 65,000 sq. ft. This continued expansion calls for increases in our labour force. If you are an Engineer, Press Operator, Toolmaker or a Shorthand Typist we can offer you a worthwhile position with good rates of pay and excellent working conditions. Our Personnel Department would be glad to give you any further details.

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