

ENGLISH STUDIES IN CRIMINAL SCIENCE

PSYCHO-ANALYSIS AND CRIME

EDITORIAL NOTE

by

L. Radzinowicz and J. W. C. Turner

It is nowadays agreed that if the causes of crime are to be discovered and if satisfactory measures for reducing its volume are to be devised, a scientific investigation must be conducted into every aspect of the personality of the offender. The criminal scientist must therefore profit by the work of the biologist and the psychiatrist. It must be remembered, that although biology and psychology have already made important contributions to a better understanding of the human personality, the conclusions reached by the workers in these sciences must be carefully examined by the criminal scientist before he can feel assured that they provide a suitable foundation on which to base practical measures for the reduction of crime. This care is especially needed when the doctrines of psycho-analysis are under review. Psycho-analysis is opening new ground for the development of psychology and there are still differences of opinion, not only among psychologists in general, but also among the members of the psycho-analytical school itself. It is, however, all the more important that the criminal scientist should keep in touch with this new movement and we therefore regard ourselves as fortunate in obtaining the collaboration of Major Foulkes who, in the following pages indicates some directions in which psycho-analysis may be able to assist in solving problems of delinquency. In order that lawyers may be able to see this matter in its proper perspective, Dr. Cyril Burt has very kindly provided a preface to Major Foulkes' study, showing not only the historical setting of the Freudian theory but also its relation to the other branches of psychology.

On behalf of the Cambridge Department we wish to offer our grateful thanks to both Professor Burt and Major Foulkes for their most valuable contributions.