

with the prominent forehead and square jaw to be associated exclusively with the strong silent man of initiative and power nor the concave type with the more or less receding chin to be thought of only in connection with the patient, docile underling. Examination of a hundred students, chocking up the judgment of their intimates with their college records, shows that there was only a preponderance of two per cent. of the boys with the convex type of profile who displayed marked qualities of leadership.

In commenting on the researches of his colleagues, Prof. Brandonburg declares that "in the light of critical studies on the question we must conclude that as a method of character analysis the physiognomic system is wholly devoid of any scientific basis."

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#### TABLOID BOOK REVIEW

THE REPRESSION OF CRIME. By Harry Elmer Barnes. New York. George H. Doran Co. 1926. 382 pages.

Here is an unusually satisfactory survey of that important phase of life in America, the great crime wave. Dr. Barnes devotes a considerable part of his book to looking systematically backward at crime in America from Colonial days, and he presents the inevitable conclusion that getting even with the law breaker has never worked. Vengeance taken by the state has never reformed criminals nor deterred other persons from breaking the law. At present, he declares, our legal system has not caught up to modern biology, psychology, and social science. Much scientific knowledge is available, but the legal machinery is still founded entirely on medieval metaphysical and theological presuppositions.

As for the future, the method of dealing with crime advocated by the author is to regard the criminal as a patient to be given the sort of treatment and rehabilitation that will make an honest citizen of him. If this is impossible, he should never be released to menace society again. "The guilt of the accused is far less important than the matter of his potential danger to society," Dr. Barnes holds.

The account is brought very much up-to-date by a critical chapter on recent literature on crime and prisons, Usefulness as a reference book is increased by the listing of "selected references" at the end of each chapter.

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THE ORIGIN, NATURE AND INFLUENCE OF RELATIVITY; by George David Birkhoff. New York, The Macmillan Company, 1925. 185 pp.

This book is based on a course of lectures which the author gave in Boston in 1923, and which he repeated in Los Angeles a year later. Now it has been revised and published in a permanent form. Leading up from the Euclidean geometry, he discusses the nature of space and time and then relativity itself, concluding with its philosophic aspects. Though he does not refrain from using occasional mathematical expressions, the non-mathematically trained reader will find much in it of interest that is comprehensible to him.

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