

CRIMINOLOGY-INVENTION

Eye-of-All-Work Machine Aids Pasadena Police

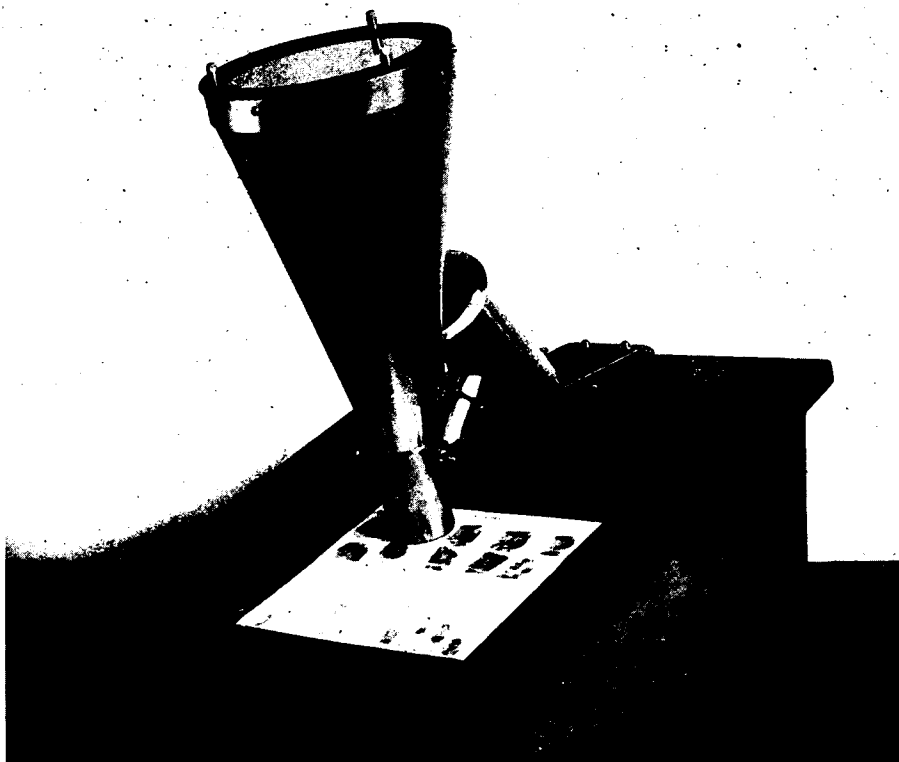
CATCHING criminals has become so active that mass production methods are being employed by the Pasadena Police Department. Newest aid is a machine for easily examining fingerprints and known as a dactyloscope.

The new fingerprint machine projects the image of a fingerprint so that it can be viewed in normal posture and with both eyes at once. Moreover, several observers can see the image at the same time.

The projection screen is not at a distance as in motion pictures but only about two feet from the eye. This arrangement permits a tracing to be made of the enlarged fingerprint in a few seconds which may be compared with a latent print taken at the scene of the crime or with suspected prints in the extensive fingerprint files.

The new apparatus has also been found useful for the study and measurement of written and typed material and, in fact, is used as an eye-of-all-work at Pasadena Police Headquarters.

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NO MORE SQUINTING

Replacing the detective's trusty magnifying glass, this machine makes it far easier to examine finger prints.

PSYCHIATRY

Lost Memory Restored By Hypnosis Treatment

A SNOWY sidewalk . . . a fall with a hard blow on the back of the head . . . a memory lost to new impression . . . three years during which the injured man would forget any new happening as soon as it occurred. Then treatment with hypnotism and a restoration to normal except that those three years remained always blank.

This was the dramatic story told to the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science by Dr. Hans Syz, of New York City.

The case was of great interest to scientists, not only because it was an unusual type of lost memory, but also because it demonstrated that this sort of injury to the mind from a physical cause may respond to a mental treatment.

Originally the injury was a physical one to the brain. The loss of memory of recent events was accompanied by headache, dizziness, and partial paralysis.

The patient, who had been an efficient foreman in a silk mill, healthy, popular, and intelligent, after the accident was unable to carry on a conversation because he could not remember what the talk was about. If he left his room in the hospital, he had to carry with him a note so that he could find his way back. When his daughter visited him, he would greet her affectionately and ask her whether she had heard of the accident, but if she left the room for an instant, he would greet her again the same way on her return. This state of affairs lasted for three years.

He did not forget his name or "lose his personality," as is more common in such cases. Up to the moment of his fall, everything was known to him. Everything that happened after that was lost.

"I think I am in a hospital," he would say. "But I believe there is something wrong. . . I saw my wife the

last time—if I am to say it as I feel it—yesterday, Friday, the day before the accident. But when I think it over, I realize that something must have happened in between. It is not winter any more and my wife must have been told something of the accident."

When he was hypnotized, it was found that he could remember to do things five or ten minutes after he was told to do them. That was a hopeful sign. Then it was found that under hypnosis he could remember some of the things that occurred during his waking state.

An increasing number of facts were given in this way so that he gradually became acquainted again with his immediate environment.

During the treatment, the patient remembered and revealed the mental problems that had worried him at the time of the accident. He also remembered a conversation that he heard during his illness that made him think that his wife was unfaithful to him. These problems accounted for the fact that he failed to recover from his loss of memory after he had physically recovered from the blow on the head, Dr. Syz believes.

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