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Preface

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chief interest of mankind. Cooperation toward making the administration of justice the best that it can be made is a duty of all of us.

March, 1943.

ROSCOE POUND

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

PREFACE*

I have come to the conclusion through the years that the scientific and legal traditions have much in common. In medicine there is a constant search for facts to fix the diagnosis and to orientate treatment. In law we cannot turn a wheel of the judicial process without facts for fuel. All lawyers who are worth their salt favor better methods for discovering facts before trial, and proper mechanisms to protect the purity of proof. In recent years a wave of enlightened reform in legal procedure has begun to move across the American continent. Physicians and other people of scientific breeding have begun to realize that the law is social property and partly theirs. The progressive spirits in both professions are becoming conscious that law and science together may move some heavy cargoes.

It was only recently that Dr. George Morris Piersol, Editor of *CLINICS*, asked me to develop a Symposium Series. The season did not seem ideal for planting any kind of seed. We were both astonished at the way the garden grew. *CLINICS* did not say: "Let us plough up what we cannot use." Dr. Piersol thought it better that we ask others to help grow the crop. Neither he nor his staff made claims upon any of the produce. They left it to me to make a final and equitable distribution among all participants. The result has been that other important journals have been brought into the publication plan on an equal footing. I cannot conceive of a finer spirit or a more generous attitude than *CLINICS* has shown in the process of broadening the enterprise.

The theme of our Series is "Scientific Proof and Relations of Law and Medicine." We endeavor to awaken interest in full-fledged cooperation of the legal and medical fraternities by showing the broad range of their joint interests.

Our mode of demonstration is to present a number of valuable pragmatic studies to exemplify these fruitful interrelationships. Some papers lay down criteria of proof to guide the expert witness, the trial lawyer and the court. We may expect these pronouncements to inspire confidence, by virtue of the fact that the medical writers are accredited spokesmen of the profession on the subjects of which they treat. Other papers open up entirely different vistas into the realms of medical criminology, scientific crime detection and social policy. The learned law

* Will appear also in 1 *CLINICS* (April 1943) 1351.