

pleted a vocational training course in borstals. The Council have been in touch with both sides of industry and are aware of the difficulties. Most of these stem from the fact that the majority of borstal boys are too old on release to complete a period of apprenticeship by the age of 21, even if account is taken of the training they have received in borstal. The Council nevertheless recommend that an approach be made to the national joint organisa-

tions concerned with apprenticeship and training in the different trades.

The report—that is, the booklet containing it—concludes on the outside of the back cover with words which are not the Council's own, but which are nevertheless of interest to the Prison Service: "Printed in England for Her Majesty's Stationery Office at H.M. Prison, Leyhill". It will be agreed that the quality of the printing and production compares favourably with booklets printed commercially.

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## Crime in Africa

TSOTSIS are the teddy-boys of South Africa. An article from *Lumen*, 'the voice of the Catholic African leaders', (reprinted in *Excerpta Criminologica*, 1962 November/December), describes their behaviour and its causes. They spend a lot of time gambling, drinking and smoking 'dagga'—the local variety of reefer. They occasionally work for short periods, but generally live by theft and extortion. They are violent: they have been known to kill another African by throwing him from a moving train—for the offence of wearing a necktie and therefore looking like 'one of them', that is like a conformist or goodie-goodie.

What makes them like this? The African author mentions four of

the reasons. The first is overcrowding. Many places have no recreational facilities. Even in the Government's new housing estates, boys and girls in large families often have to share a room. Girls who live on their employer's premises are easily accessible to young men: in Alexandra Township, 75% of the children are illegitimate. The author also spells out the effects of poverty, unemployment, and the disintegration of the closely-knit African community.

The article ends on a mildly optimistic note: the church and its members can help by supporting clubs and football teams, by providing a library in every parish, by helping youths to find jobs.

M. WRIGHT.