

- 1938 -

ANNUAL REPORT

JUVENILE COURT

Lucas County
Toledo
Ohio

R. W. Indy

1938 S T A F F

J U V E N I L E C O U R T

Paul W. Alexander, Judge

Executive

L. Wallace Hoffman - Chief Probation Officer and Referee
Arthur G. Keller - Registrar and Referee
Rita F. O'Grady - Girls' Referee and Case Work Supervisor

Administrative

Nellie C. Hildred - Intake Supervisor
Marcile Humbert - Sec'y to Judge and Chief Probation Officer
Herbert DeVautent - Bailiff

Probation Department

Probation Officer and Assistant Referee
Doris Fenneberg

Probation Officers:

Joseph Andriola	Marie Magerfleisch*
Joseph Doneghy	Ladonia Speedwell
John Mahoney	Jean Wilson
Ellick Maslan	Velma Wood
Joseph Skiba	

Investigators:

Freda Braun**
Sara Kaufman

Clerical

Myra Wheeler	-Chief Clerk	Mary Ando	-Stenographer
Asta Sundling	-Clerk	Catherine Beck	-Typist
Kate Woodside	-Clerk	Maude Ford	-Typist

* Resigned September 1, 1938.

**Resigned May 17, 1938 to become "Friend of the Court",
Domestic Relations Division.

- CHILD STUDY INSTITUTE -

(Formerly Detention Home)

Executive

Edna Gordon*

- Clinical Psychologist and Director

Psychological

Victor Rainy*

- Assistant Psychologist

Loyal Calkins

- Assistant Psychologist

Thomas Wilbur

- Assistant Psychologist

Psychiatric

Alfred C. LaBine,* M.D. Psychiatrist

Medical

I. H. Kass, M.D., Pediatrician

Supervisory

Ralph Miller

- Boys' Counsellor

Charles Singleton*

- Night Supervisor

Robert Lightner*

- Night Supervisor

Harris Simons*

- Night Supervisor

Mary Schmidt

- Girls' Supervisor

Hattie Kolinski

- Girls' Supervisor

Savanah Hunt

- Cook

Anna Mueller

- Laundress

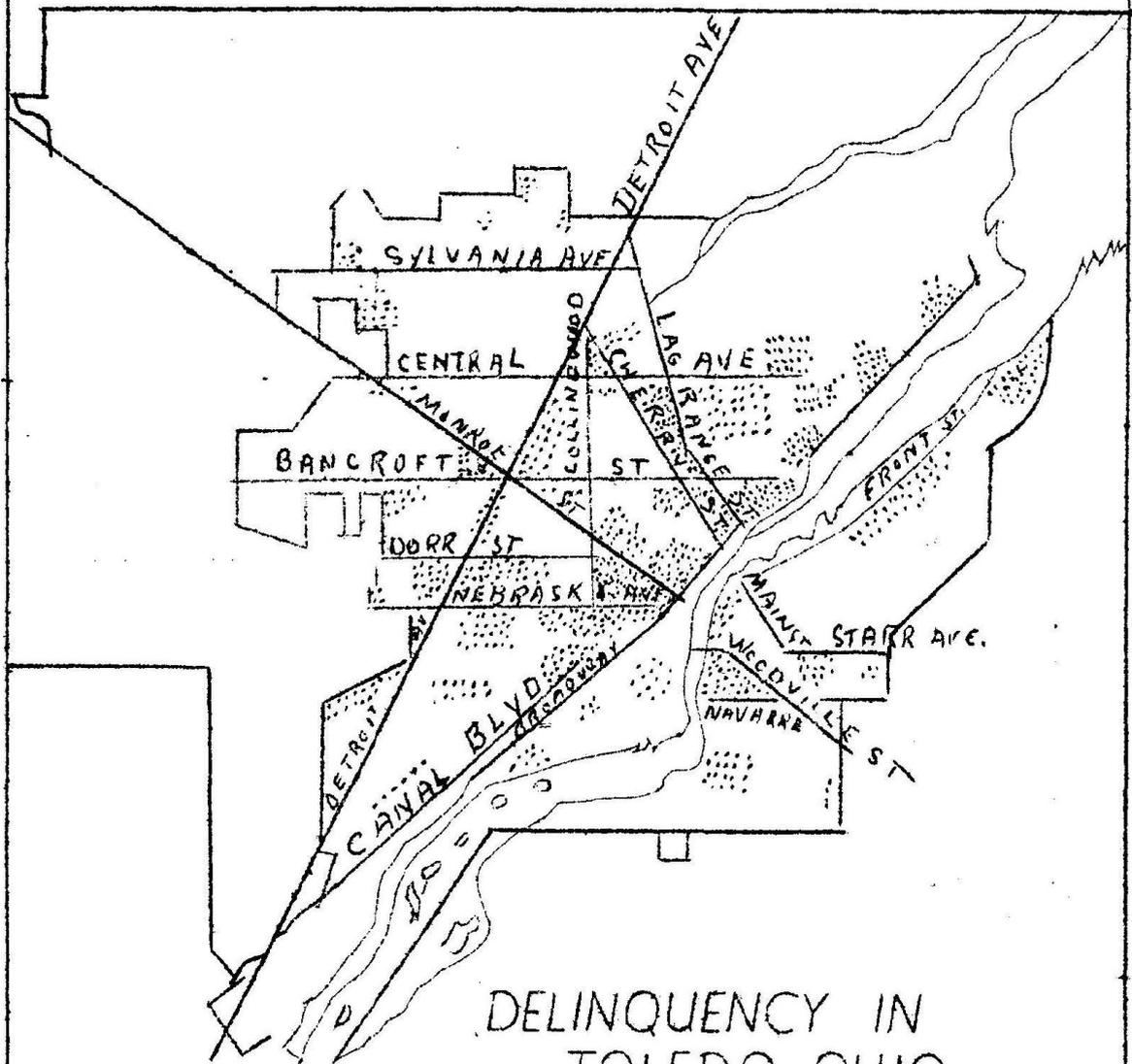
Temporary appointments during 1938

George Gilliotte*

Elizabeth Michelfolder*

Robert Lewinski*

*Resigned during or at close of year.



DELINQUENCY IN
TOLEDO, OHIO

1938

KEY:
ONE DOT=ONE OFFENSE

DELINQUENCY HIGHLIGHTS OF 1938

Some Comparative Figures

	<u>1935</u>	<u>1936</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1938</u>
<u>Commitments to Industrial Schools:</u> This represents a savings to the taxpayers in 1937-38 of \$17,000 over the two previous years.	57	49	26*	36*
<u>Delinquents Placed in Foster Homes:</u> This method of treating delinquents was first tried in Lucas County in April 1937. Of the total of delinquent children placed in 1937 and 1938 not one repeated the offense that led to the placement. The plan cost \$2,200 as compared with the \$17,000 saved by reducing commitment to the Industrial Schools. Results so far indicate it is incomparably superior as a crime preventive.	None	None	7	19
<u>Repeaters:</u> Previously dealt with since January 1, 1937.	635	580	198	197
<u>Sex Offenses:</u> Sex offenses constituted the smallest single group of offenses.	57	47	25	28
<u>Truancy:</u> Indicates increase not in truancy, but in the number of cases referred to court. School records show actually less truancy in 1938.	22			

DELINQUENCY HIGHLIGHTS OF 1938

		<u>1937</u>	<u>1938</u>
<u>Traffic:</u>	12	33	80
Indicates increased activity by the Juvenile Court. These cases were previously handled in Police Court. 			
<u>Runaways:</u>	86	135	236
Most runaways  "have the habit". Decrease in 1938 due to recognition of this fact and more careful planning to prevent repetition.			
<u>Mischief:</u>	205	147	130
Much of this type of complaint now handled by the Juvenile Division of the Police Department with fewer cases referred to the court.			
<u>Burglary:</u>	54	98	37
This figure is just below average of three preceding years.			
<u>Auto theft:</u>	49	74	50
In all but three of the stolen cars the keys were left in the switch, In two the motors were running.			
<u>Larceny:</u>	176	294	209
Largest single group of offenses in all Juvenile Courts. Increase largely due to fact that many merchants who formerly handled their own shoplifting juveniles now refer them to the court for treatment.			

ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

946 different children came before the Court a total of 1032 times.

84% of the cases handled were "unofficial" cases (no formal complaint filed.

85% of the children dealt with were boys and 15% girls.

*

86% of the children dealt with were white and 14% Negro.

*

78% of the parents were American born; 10% Polish; 4% German; and the remaining 8% divided among various nationalities.

*

No Jewish children were brought before the Judge for delinquency in either 1937 or 1938.

*

44% of the children came from homes broken by divorce, separation or death.

21% of the children came from homes devoid of any church affiliation whatsoever. Almost none were active.

*

• Only 3% of the children came from homes that might be classed as economically "secure".

*

93% of the children had been known to other social agencies before coming to court.

*

Less than 1% of the children were active participants in the Y.M.C.A., Boy Scouts, or Boys' Club (formerly Newsboys).

*

The average age of all these children was just over 14 years.

*

The average delinquent child was in the 7th grade. Normally he should have been in the 9th.

*

42% of the cases of delinquency centered in 10 school districts having only 25% of the school population.

*

July witnessed the least delinquency; August, October and November the most.

*

At the close of the year the average case load of Probation Officers was 79. This is over 100% greater than the burden prescribed for most effective service, and 58% greater than the prescribed maximum for Juvenile Court workers.

*

Probation Officers' salaries are substantially lower than in other cities.

THE REDUCTION OF AUTO THEFTS AND THEFT OF ARTICLES FROM PARKED AUTOS CAN BE MOST EFFECTIVELY BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE PRIVATE CITIZEN rather than by the police or the court.

The observation of two simple rules by every citizen in the community would practically eliminate the problem of automobile stealing by juveniles:

1. NEVER LEAVE YOUR KEYS IN THE IGNITION.
2. ALWAYS LOCK YOUR CAR AND CONCEAL VALUABLE ARTICLES IN THE POCKETS OF THE CAR OR IN THE LUGGAGE CARRIER.

A strict adherence to this policy would give protection against auto theft except by the professional auto thief of whom there are few in the county.

It is interesting to note that not a single car stolen by juveniles was resold. A few of them had their more valuable accessories stripped from them but most were taken out on the highway and driven until they ran out of gas or oil and were then abandoned. Most of the cars were returned to their owners, with small damage. A few were damaged beyond repair and a few others were repaired, at considerable expense to the owner or the insurance company.

One cannot help but be impressed by the number of runaway children during the year. Those are children most of whom have left home because they found conditions there so intolerable that a life away from home - anywhere - would be preferable. Our experience has shown us that economic considerations have played but a small part in causing runaways. The most important reason is a lack of understanding on the part of one or more members of the family.

HOW DOES TOLEDO STACK UP ?

The Children's Bureau of the U.S. Government prescribes standards for Juvenile Courts. Below is a synopsis of these standards and in the opposite column the extent to which the Lucas County Court measures up to each of them, at the close of second year of reorganization.

Federal Govt. Standards

1. JURISDICTION of Court should attach immediately; parents should be notified as soon as child is apprehended.
2. When apprehended child should immediately be placed in CARE of officers of court and placed in detention only when deemed necessary.
3. Police should COOPERATE closely with Juvenile Court, and should understand clearly difference between procedure in children's and adult cases.
4. POLICE SHOULD NOT HANDLE cases after child is apprehended. Police should not place children on probation without referring them to court.
5. Police should NEVER hold child IN POLICE STATION. When child is delivered to juvenile home authority of police should terminate except for giving in-

Lucas County Conformity

1. Police, Sheriffs, and court officers have rigid instructions to conform to this rule.
2. Police and Sheriffs have been given discretion to determine when child should be turned over to parents or placed in detention.
3. Crime Prevention Bureau of the Police Dept. handles all juvenile cases and cooperates closely with court. Officers are selected for ability to handle children.
4. Court has had no difficulty with police or sheriff in this respect.
5. Children are not detained in police station. Immediately upon delivery to the Child Study Institute they are taken over by the court.

formation as to the cause of arrest and filing formal complaint.

6. From the moment child is apprehended he SHOULD BE SHELTERED to the greatest possible extent from public observation and from every treatment tending to make him as an offender; transportation in a police van, escort by a police officer in uniform and any visible physical restraint are objectionable and should be avoided. Transportation of girls should be by women officers.

7. Judge or a PROBATION OFFICER designated by him should examine all complaints, and after investigation DETERMINE what ACTION should be taken. Court should adjust all cases without formal action when pos-

8. SUPERVISION should be exercised by court in "unofficial" cases when it is desirable to safeguard the child or keep in touch with developments.

9. SOCIAL INVESTIGATION should be made in every case and should be set in motion at the moment of the court's earliest knowledge of the case.

When necessary police have permission to interview children at the Child Study Institute.

6. Police, sheriffs and court officers shelter children to greatest possible extent. Transportation in scout cars is unavoidable but children are never transported with adults. Children are still transported by uniformed officer because the Juvenile Division of the Police Department is still a uniformed branch of the Department. Girls are always transported by women officers.

7. Court maintains a regular Complaint Department. Formal action by affidavit is taken only with approval of Chief Probation Officer or Girls' Referee. 84% of all cases are adjusted without filing formal affidavit.

8. Same careful consideration is given unofficial cases. Many unofficial cases are taken over by private social agencies for supervision.

9. Limited personnel had made it impossible to meet this standard. Thorough investigation is made of all serious cases, but staff is already overburdened

and there are not enough officers to investigate many minor offenders, with a view to preventing them from becoming serious offenders.

10. PSYCHIATRIC and PSYCHOLOGICAL study of the child should be made in at least all cases where the social investigation indicates special need for such study; should be made before decision concerning treatment; should be made only by a clinic or a thoroughly qualified examiner.

10. This was the purpose of the organization of the Child Study Institute in August 1937. Psychiatric and psychological facilities are now available and between 300 and 400 studies can be made annually by present staff. All persons making such studies are thoroughly trained specialists in their respective fields.

11. The PHYSICAL EXAMINATION should be thorough and all community facilities for diagnosis and treatment should be utilized.

11. A pediatrician examines every child within 24 hours of his arrival. He diagnoses and recommends treatment but lack of funds leaves much to be desired in the way of treatment.

12. The HEARING should be held as soon as proper notice can be given to the parents and within 48 hours of child's apprehension.

12. A preliminary hearing is held the day following arrest. A tentative finding is made and the case is referred for investigation and study.

13. There should be NO PUBLICITY in a Juvenile Court case. The hearing should be private with no one present not directly concerned. Witnesses should not be permitted in the court room except while testifying. Children

13. Little publicity is given children's cases. Names are never released. Witnesses remain in the hearing only long enough to testify. However, children awaiting hearing are forced to remain in a public waiting room. Present quarters are too crowd-

- awaiting hearing should be shielded from the public and given necessary supervision.
14. One or both PARENTS or the legal guardian of the child should be required to be present at all hearings.
15. Hearing should be conducted INFORMALLY; practice and procedure of a criminal court should be avoided.
16. It is imperative to prevent child or parents from gaining idea child is being TRIED FOR A CRIME. Rules of evidence should be borne in mind but this does not mean the hearing should be formal.
17. The court should keep written RECORDS of all proceedings for reference in future cases involving same child.
18. There should be NO JURY trials in children's cases.
19. It is desirable that girls' cases be heard by a properly qualified GIRLS' REFEREE.
20. Where the Judge cannot personally attend promptly to all cases the court
- ed to permit any other course.
14. No hearings are held in absence of a parent or legal guardian.
15. All hearings are informal and conducted in private chambers of the Judge or Referee.
16. In every case special pains are taken to explain to child and parents that child is not on trial for a crime. The dangers inherent in incompetent evidence are recognized.
17. Complete and extensive records are kept in all cases. By law the court must keep them confidential.
18. Jury trials are forbidden by statute in Ohio.
19. All girls' cases are heard by a woman referee. A few extraordinary cases are brought before the Judge.
20. It has been found necessary to utilize the services of qualified ref-

should utilize a properly qualified Referee.

erees daily in order to keep pace with the volume of cases.

21. In all cases heard by Referees, the JUDGE should pass on the findings and recommendations and review all dispositions.

21. A written report and recommendation in all referred cases is submitted to the Judge who makes final disposition after waiting three days to give parties a chance to object to findings and apply for re-hearing before Judge.

22. Sufficient resources of various types should be available for supervision of child in his own home, in FOSTER HOME, or in INSTITUTION so that court, may fit treatment to the child's need.

22. Unless home or parents are unfit child is returned to his own home. During 1937 court began placing delinquents in foster homes and results to date are almost perfect. The State provides no institution intermediate between foster home and industrial school; efforts to place children in such institutions outside Ohio were thwarted in 1938 by ruling of the Attorney General, to the detriment of the children and in some cases at increased cost to the County. Likewise the State provides no institution for treatment of defective delinquents.

23. INSTITUTIONAL CARE SHOULD be utilized only when careful study clearly indicates necessity for it, or when repeated attempts to adjust child to

23. In every case the court exhausts every known possibility before committing a child to the industrial school. Reports for 1937

home life and the community have failed.

24. FINES should never be imposed in children's cases. RESTITUTION should be required only when indicated as a disciplinary measure or to instill respect for property rights.

25. The compensation of probation officers should be such that the best type of service could be secured. The SALARY should be comparable with that paid to workers in other fields of social work.

26. Not more than 50 CASES should be under the supervision of one probation officer at any one time.

27. A definite plan for constructive casework, even if tentative, should be made and recorded in each case, and should be checked up at least monthly in conference with a CASE-WORK SUPERVISOR.

28. A general minimum PROBATION PERIOD of 6 months to 1 year is desirable. Exceptions should be allowed. Length of probation should

and 1938 show marked decreases in such commitments.

24. Two small fines were imposed in 1938. Occasionally a child is required to make a contribution to the Community Chest. Restitution is frequently required.

25. Considering the education, training and over-time work required of probation officers they are probably the lowest paid public employees. The present salary range of \$1500 - \$1900 is about the lowest of any metropolitan area.

26. At the close of 1938 the average case load per officer, was 79 with one officer handling 127 cases.

27. This requirement is met as far as volume of business and demands upon time of Chief Probation Officer and Girls' Referee permit. The requirement cannot be fully met without additional personnel.

28. Length of probation is determined by progress by probationer and parents in meeting specific requirements, that are laid down after careful study

be determined by needs and progress.

29. SCHOOL AUTHORITIES should be requested to cooperate through weekly reports, frequent conferences and detailed reports for each child on probation.

30. The court should have an adequate RECORD SYSTEM to provide statistics and ready reference to case material. Case records should be complete.

and planning.

29. The school authorities are cooperating with the court in every possible way in meeting these standards.

30. Through a W.P.A. project completed in 1938 detailed statistics will be available. Case records contain adequate social, medical and psychological data.

S T A T I S T I C S

Reason for which children brought to Court

Reason for Referral.	Total	White		Colored	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Larceny from property	153	131	4	18	
Larceny from store	99	61	25	11	2
Truancy	98	62	20	12	4
Incorrigibility	89	32	31	11	15
Traffic Violation	80	75	1	4	0
Malicious Mischief	66	52	4	9	1
Auto theft	64	62	1	1	
Burglary	62	54		8	
Larceny from individual	53	35	2	16	
Destruction of property	53	50		2	1
Runaway	53	27	15	8	3
Disorderly conduct	26	15	8	3	
Sex offense	28	15	11	2	
Injury to a person	19	11		8	
Forgery	7	4		3	
Bicycle theft	11	8		3	
Other	62	50	3	8	1
TOTAL	1032	753	125	127	27

Table No.2

Type of Complaint
By
Sex and Color

TYPE	TOTAL	COLORED		WHITE	
		GIRLS	BOYS	GIRLS	BOYS
TOTAL	1032	27	127	125	753
Formal	163	4	25	13	121
Informal	864	23	102	107	632

Table No.3

Delinquencies by Month
By
Sex and Color

MONTH	TOTAL	COLORED		WHITE	
		GIRLS	BOYS	GIRLS	BOYS
TOTAL	1032	27	127	125	753
January	91	1	12	12	66
February	91	3	17	15	56
March	76	5	6	3	57
April	94	1	22	13	58
May	79	1	10	10	58
June	86	3	11	6	66
July	34	0	3	0	31
August	103	5	15	9	74
September	85	2	8	10	65
October	104	2	5	18	79
November	102	0	6	17	79
December	87	4	12	7	64

Table No. 4

Delinquencies
by
Census Tracts-1938

Census Tract Number	Total Cases	Colored		White	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1	6				
2	4				
3	5				
4	3			1	2
5	3			3	
6	7			3	4
7	17			15	2
8	8			8	
9	12			8	4
10	20			15	5
11	13	1	2	7	3
12	24	2		17	3
13	5			5	
14	14			13	1
15	15			15	
16	5			5	
17	21			15	6
18	32			28	4
19	25	1	2	20	2
20	33			30	3
21	4			3	1
22	3			2	1
23	17	4		12	1
24	11			11	
25	16			14	2
26	17	3	1	13	2
27	27			24	3
28	38			26	12
29	62	3		50	9
30	25			24	1
31	4			4	
32	22	2		19	1

Table No.4 (continued)

Census Tract Number	Total Cases	COLORED		WHITE	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
33	34	23	2		
34	63	36	8	16	
35	7			7	
36	25	3	1	15	6
37	51	39	9		
38	31			29	2
39	17			16	1
40	12	6		4	2
41	14			11	3
42	6			6	
43					
44	6			3	3
45	3			3	
46	31			23	8
47	31			22	9
48	13			12	1
49	16			13	
50	4			4	
51	31	3		28	
52	19			18	1
53	4		2	2	
54	9			7	2
55					
56	1			1	
Adams	Twp. 17	1		16	
Washington	" 39			32	
Oregon	" 7			5	2
Waterville	" 4			4	
Swanton	" 1			1	
Springfield	" 4			4	
Sylvania	" 1			1	
Waynesfield	" 4			3	1
Monclova	" 1			1	
Spencer	" 2			2	
Out of State	" 4			4	

Table No. 5
Age of Parents

By
Sex and Color

AGE	COLORED					WHITE			
	TOTAL	GIRLS		BOYS		GIRLS		BOYS	
		FA.	MO.	FA.	MO.	FA.	MO.	FA.	MO.
TOTAL	2064	27	27	127	127	125	125	753	753
24	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
26	12	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	9
27	5	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	2
28	7	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	5
29	11	-	-	-	3	1	-	2	5
30	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	8
31	19	-	3	-	2	-	2	4	8
32	28	-	-	1	1	-	1	5	20
33	41	2	-	-	1	1	6	6	25
34	42	-	-	-	3	1	6	13	19
35	59	-	-	2	6	3	4	7	37
36	96	3	4	7	1	4	15	15	47
37	86	-	-	4	10	3	6	23	40
38	115	-	2	7	11	7	5	38	45
39	73	-	-	5	6	5	7	15	35
40	99	-	3	2	10	4	10	35	35
41	88	-	1	14	8	5	8	27	25
42	89	3	-	3	10	3	2	40	28
43	76	3	2	4	4	4	2	43	14
44	70	-	1	4	1	9	3	29	23
45	76	1	-	6	4	6	6	33	20
46	59	-	-	4	5	4	2	27	17
47	54	1	-	1	5	3	-	20	24
48	69	-	-	3	1	2	4	30	29
49	39	-	-	1	4	15	1	9	9
50	58	-	-	6	2	1	1	22	26
Over 50	238	4	1	19	3	17	9	127	59
No Record	246	5	2	10	6	16	11	95	101
Deceased	188	4	8	24	14	11	13	78	36

Table No. 6

Religion of Parents
By
Sex and Color

RELIGION	TOTAL	COLORED				WHITE			
		GIRLS		BOYS		GIRLS		BOYS	
		Fa.	Mo.	Fa.	Mo.	Fa.	Mo.	Fa.	Mo.
TOTAL	2064	27	27	127	127	125	125	753	753
Protestant	983	19	23	78	92	46	55	319	340
Catholic	579	1	1	1	6	42	42	240	246
Hobrew	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
None	82	-	-	14	2	1	-	42	23
Unknown	354	5	1	25	18	36	15	125	129
Dead	62	2	2	9	9	-	2	26	12

One is immediately impressed by the small number of Jewish cases appearing before the Court during the year.

Two things are responsible for this situation in the eyes of the Court. First it is a known fact that family life among the Jewish people is stronger than among any other people of the community. Secondly, the very excellent work done in family welfare by the Jewish Federation has preserved the integrity of many families which might have been adversely effected by social and economic conditions.

Table No.7.

Racial Descent of Parents
By
Sex and Color

RACIAL DESCENT	TOTAL	COLORED				WHITE			
		GIRLS		BOYS		GIRLS		BOYS	
		Fa.	Mo.	Fa.	Mo.	Fa.	Mo.	Fa.	Mo.
TOTAL	2064	27	27	127	127	125	125	753	753
American	1469	22	24	124	123	89	93	484	510
Italian	9					2		4	3
English	32	2	2			1	4	16	7
German	83					1	5	35	42
Hebrew	6							3	3
Hungarian	38					3	3	15	17
Irish	32							18	14
Polish	187					16	7	90	74
All Other	66					3	2	27	34
No Record	110	3		2	1	10	11	43	40
Dead	32		1	1	3			18	9

Table No.8

Economic Status of Parents
By
Sex and Color

MONTH	TOTAL	COLORED		WHITE	
		GIRLS	BOYS	GIRLS	BOYS
TOTAL	1032	27	127	125	753
Affluent	1	0	0	0	1
Comfortable	30	0	1	4	25
Marginal	333	4	42	48	239
Sub-Marginal	282	9	39	30	204
Dependent	108	9	26	12	61
Not Recorded	278	5	19	31	223

Affluent - income in excess of \$5,000 per year.

Comfortable - income less than \$5,000 but able to carry themselves for 4 months in case of unemployment.

Marginal - income meeting the present needs of the family, no luxuries, if special expense incurred family would need help.

Sub-Marginal - income supplemented by friend, relative, taking in boarders or supplementary relief.

Dependent - major portion of support by other individual or agency.

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The fact that only 31 of the 946 children brought before the court were known to come from families that were entirely self-supporting would seem to indicate that the problem of delinquency is one highly correlated with financial standing of the family. In a measure this is true. It is also a known fact that the above table is not entirely accurate as to the condition in Lucas County. During the past year our investigations

have taken us into every community in the county. On many occasions we have had brought to our attention, delinquencies committed by children who were never referred to the court. In many instances they were delinquencies as serious or more serious than those of many children who were known to the court. Out of court adjustments were made by the families and the complaint never brought to the attention of the court.

The court administration recognizes the desirability of out of court adjustment of cases where such adjustment can be safely and effectively carried out. It is, however, important at this time to point out that many cases brought into court for the first time are later found to be children who have had previous cases adjusted out of court by the parents and friends. Sometimes this has happened on several occasions. The result is that while the child appears to be before the court for the first time he has actually been a serious problem over a long period and that now the bad habits have become so firmly fixed as to require rather drastic steps for their correction.

Being fully aware of the large number of cases settled out of court, one hesitates to make any hasty generalization condemning this procedure which has come to be accepted by a large group in the community. One thing is obvious - as long as the practice continues the true picture of delinquency in community will never be known and therefore many of the well known effective methods of treatment cannot be applied.

It has been suggested that some effective plan should be worked out for the registration of all known cases of delinquency with the juvenile court in order that an effective program for control might be developed by the community. Such a plan need not involve the making of official court records in all cases but it would provide the community with a more accurate picture of the problem and offer the court a basis upon which to build an effective program of control.

Table No.9

Marital Status of Parents

By
Sex and Color

STATUS	TOTAL	COLORED		WHITE	
		GIRLS	BOYS	GIRLS	BOYS
TOTAL	1032	27	127	125	753
Married	578	7	54	52	465
Both Dead	12	2	3	3	4
Father Widowed	70	6	13	12	39
Mother Widowed	125	3	22	11	89
Divorced	137	1	12	25	99
No Record	12	0	4	5	3
Separated	89	8	15	15	51
Common Law	9	0	4	2	3

Much has been said and written about the effect of broken homes upon delinquency. That it is an important factor has never been seriously questioned. Our own experience in the questioning of the various children appearing before the court indicates that the state of the home does ~~not~~ have an important bearing even more than is reflected by the statistics of table No.8.

The happy or unhappy attitudes of the parents are quickly reflected in the children of that family and in turn in the actions of those children. On many occasions we have heard children discuss in considerable detail the petty quarreling which takes place in the home between parents. One is constantly impressed with the depressing effect that such quarreling has upon the lives of small children frequently creating in them such a feeling of unrest, dissatisfaction and fear as to be a basic cause for their truancy. The picture of the young boy constantly exposed to the bickering between parents over family finances and finally turning to petty thievery to

secure some long desired articles which his family experience has taught him he cannot hope to acquire legitimately is not an uncommon experience of the worker with juvenile delinquents.

The true significance of the picture of domestic disharmony is not revealed by Table No.8 which shows only those which have acquired a more or less "legal status".

Table No.10

Number of Agencies
By
Sex and Color

	TOTAL	COLORED		WHITE	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
TOTAL	1032	27	127	125	753
0	77	2	3	9	63
1	91	2	10	8	71
2	129	3	18	13	95
3	129	2	14	16	97
4	114	7	25	11	71
5	159	7	31	16	105
6	107	3	6	17	81
7	70	1	7	6	56
8	72	-	-	12	60
9	28	-	1	5	22
10	24	-	1	7	16
Over 10	24	-	10	5	9
NO Record	8	-	1	-	7

The above table illustrates what has often been said about juvenile court work; namely, that only after all other agencies have tried and failed is the case referred to the court.

This is as it should be. Every effort should be made by the many private agencies in the community to affect adjustments before the formality of court motion is entered upon. The table also points out rather conclusively that these children are in many cases serious social misfits and their maladjustment has been shown in various ways. The social agencies referred to in the above table have furnished all types of social welfare assistance from the giving of direct relief to the guidance and supervision of the several child welfare organizations.

In view of the fact that there have been many organizations active in the case prior to the entrance of the juvenile court and still the maladjustment continues it is not surprising that a considerable number are to be found later listed among the unsuccessful cases of the court. The surprising thing is not that we have repeaters in juvenile court, but that we don't have more of them.

* * * * *

Table No. 11

Age of Delinquents
By
Sex and Color

AGES	TOTAL	COLORED		WHITE	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
TOTAL	1032	27	127	125	753
8	33	-	1	1	31
9	23	-	4	3	16
10	49	2	9	1	37
11	51	-	6		
12	63	2	11	9 ⁴¹	41
13	107	5	9	11	82
14	183	2	28	17	136
15	185	7	17	42	119
16	185	4	23	16	142
17	149	5	19	20	105
18	3	-	-	-	3
19	0	-	-	-	-
20	1	-	-	1	-

The median age of the cases handled by the court was 14 years one-half month. Four of the cases were over eighteen, being made wards of the court prior to their eighteenth birthday they were continued under the jurisdiction of the court. The median ages of girls both Negro and white is 14 years 6 months. The median age of Negro boys is 13 years 10 months, and white boys 13 years 11½ months.

Note is made at this point of the predominance of boys over girls and also the fact that the median age of girls is higher than for boys. This finding is in keeping with findings made in other counties comparable to Lucas County.

Table No.12
School Attended

By
Sex and Color

SCHOOL	TOTAL	COLORED		WHITE	
		GIRLS	BOYS	GIRLS	BOYS
TOTAL	1032	27	127	125	753
Auburn dale	4	-	-	-	4
Beverly	2	-	-	-	2
Birmingham	19	1	-	4	14
Blessed Sacramento	3	-	-	3	-
Burnham	8	-	-	-	8
Cathedral Chapel	4	-	-	-	4
Chaso	8	-	-	1	7
Cherry	6	-	-	-	6
Central High	14	-	-	2	12
Coy	1	-	-	-	1
DeVaux	2	-	-	-	2
DeVilbiss High	21	-	1	2	18
East Side Central	3	-	-	-	3
Edgewater	1	-	-	-	1
Franklin	2	-	-	-	2
Feilbach	1	-	-	1	4
Garfield	5	-	-	-	5
Glenwood	9	-	-	-	9
Good Shepherd	3	-	-	-	3
Gunckel	73	12	56	1	4
Hamilton	1	-	-	-	1
Holland	9	-	-	2	7
Holy Rosary	4	-	-	1	3
Immaculate Conception	1	-	-	1	-
Indiana	2	-	-	-	2
Irving	5	-	-	-	5

Table No.12 (continued)
School Attended

By
Sex and Color

SCHOOL	TOTAL	COLORED		WHITE	
		GIRLS	BOYS	GIRLS	BOYS
Jones Jr.High	22	-	3	2	17
Lady of Perpetual Help	1	-	-	-	1
Lagrange	36	-	-	6	30
Libbey High	30	1	9	6	14
Lincoln	14	-	-	-	14
Longfellow	6	-	-	2	4
Maunee	3	-	-	-	3
McKinley	7	-	-	-	7
Mount Vernon	3	-	-	-	3
Nathan Hale	5	-	-	1	4
Nativity	3	-	-	1	2
Navarre	15	-	-	2	13
Newton	31	-	-	1	30
Oakdale	17	-	-	1	16
Parkland	16	1	-	1	14
Pickett	2	-	-	-	2
Pt.Place Jr.High	2	-	-	1	3
Raymer	4	-	-	1	22
Riverside	25	-	1	2	25
Robinson Jr.High	48	-	11	12	2
Roosevelt	8	1	5	-	4
Sacred Heart	4	-	-	-	4
Scott High	50	5	12	6	27
Sherman	50	-	3	5	42
Spring	10	-	3	-	7
Stickney	13	-	-	2	11
St.Adelbert's	2	-	-	-	2
St.Agnes	6	-	-	-	6

Table No.12 (continued)
School Attended

By
Sex and Color

SCHOOL	TOTAL	COLORED		WHITE	
		GIRLS	BOYS	GIRLS	BOYS
St. Anne's	5	-	-	-	5
St. Anthony	8	-	-	-	8
St. Francis	3	-	-	-	3
St. Joseph	7	-	-	-	7
St. Hedwig	20	-	-	1	19
St. Mary	1	-	-	-	1
St. Michael	1	-	-	-	1
St. Patrick	4	-	1	-	3
St. Stanislaus	4	-	-	-	4
St. Stevens	2	-	-	-	2
St. Thomas Aquinas	2	-	-	1	1
Sunset	2	-	-	-	2
Trilby	3	-	-	1	2
Ursuline Academy	1	-	-	1	-
Vocational High	21	-	1	5	15
Waite High	33	1	2	2	28
Walbridge	5	-	-	1	4
Warren	17	1	-	3	13
Washington	13	1	9	-	3
Wayne	12	-	-	-	12
Webster	4	1	-	1	2
Whittier	8	-	-	3	5
Woodward High	61	-	1	12	48
Witmer	9	-	-	5	4
Wernert's	3	-	-	-	3
Waterville	2	-	-	-	2
Out of Town	20	-	-	-	20
Not Attending	71	2	6	12	51
Work Permits	46	-	3	8	35

Table No.13

Grade in School
By
Sex and Color

GRADE	TOTALS	COLORED		WHITE	
		GIRLS	BOYS	GIRLS	BOYS
TOTAL	1032	27	127	125	753
1	18	-	-	1	17
2	24	-	1	-	23
3	42	-	15	1	25
4	49	3	8	-	38
5	75	2	15	8	50
6	110	1	26	10	73
7	155	3	11	8	133
8	124	2	9	15	98
9	163	5	9	33	116
10	86	2	12	18	54
11	30	-	2	5	23
12	12	1	2	1	8
Special	74	6	10	10	48
Unknown	67	2	6	15	44

Table No. 14

Source of Referral
By
Sex and Color

SOURCE	TOTAL	COLORED		WHITE	
		GIRLS	BOYS	GIRLS	BOYS
TOTAL	1032	27	127	125	753
Police	626	6	82	36	502
School	102	4	13	22	63
Individual	201	4	17	30	150
Parents	89	11	13	34	31
Relatives	6	2	1	1	2
Other Agency	6	-	1	2	3
Probation Officer	1	-	-	-	1
Other Court	1	-	-	-	1

TRENDS IN DELINQUENCY

For the period from 1930 to 1936, the reports of the U.S. Children's Bureau show a steady but small decrease in the amount of delinquency handled by Juvenile Courts. Unofficial reports for 1937 show a slight increase. No reports are available for 1938.

The trend in Lucas County does not follow exactly the trend reported by the Children's Bureau. Our figures follow:

<u>1935</u>	<u>1936</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1938</u>
815	1074	860	1032

Two influences are found to be operating to affect these totals. The first is the policy of the court and the second the policy of the police department.

In 1937 both the court and the police revised their policies as to the handling of juvenile offenders. More intensive work by the court was directed toward runaways and first offenders. The children placed in detention at the Child Study Institute were detained slightly longer. The reason for this was that parents were required to give definite assurance of their ability to supervise the child during the period before a final court hearing. The subsequent investigation also included a large number of complete psychological examinations, especially of those boys and girls previously known to the court. The immediate result of this policy was the reduction in the number of repeaters appearing before the court and consequently a reduction in the total number of cases for the year.

The increase in delinquency as handled by the court is the result of three things:

1. Closer cooperation with the schools and their Attendance Department. This is reflected in the increase in truancy cases handled by the court from 26 in 1937 to 98 in 1938.

2. Closer cooperation with downtown merchants as reflected in the increase in the number of cases referred to the court from 136 in 1937 to 201 referred in 1938.*

3. The handling of traffic cases. In 1937 the Juvenile Court handled only 33 such cases, but in 1938 there were 80.

Theft brings nearly as many children into court as all other offenses combined. The most common type of theft is from the home of a friend or relative, stealing from the pocketbook of a parent, and stealing from parked autos, classes as "theft from property". It is interesting to note that all of the thefts from autos were from unlocked cars and in most instances with the stolen article in plain view from the sidewalk.

Auto theft is another offense which is important in Juvenile delinquency. In all but three cases reported to this court last year the stolen cars were unlocked and had the key in the ignition. A great deal of responsibility for this type of offense rests with the car owner himself. While the right of an individual to acquire and possess property is fully recognized, it must also be admitted that such rights also carry with them certain responsibilities. To leave a car unlocked with valuable property in it or to leave a car standing at the curb with the keys in the ignition is to place unwarranted temptation in the way of susceptible children.

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*Negotiations carried out with several downtown merchants during the year revealed that they were handling their cases of shoplifting without referring them to either the police or the court. Discussion brought out the fact that they frequently dealt with the same boys and girls over and over again. They had refrained from contacting the court for various reasons, such as personal sympathy for the child and fear of undesirable publicity for the store. The frequent examples of repetition by the same children served to impress upon them the fact that a more effective handling of the problem was necessary.

NON-SUPPORT DEPARTMENT

Complaints:

Total complaints	1767
Cases adjusted and closed	1395
Cases pending to January 1, 1939	372
Children involved in cases	4750
Total number of interviews	3062

Official Cases:

Motions:

Modification	87
To Show Cause	88
Lump Sum Judgment	54
Order of Support	<u>15</u>
	244

Non-Support	
Affidavits	<u>91</u>

Total official cases 335

The year 1938 showed a marked increase in the activity of this Department.

Possibly no one feels the brunt of a depression or recession sooner than the children of divorced parents. Many fathers, charged with supporting their children in the custody of the ex-wife, find it distasteful to pay her money even when times are normal. When their income is reduced or cut off they not unnaturally look after their own sustenance first and when it comes to supporting the children they "let George do it".

Filling the jails with such fathers is a dubious remedy. It means the taxpayers must support the fathers often in addition to the children. It is used only in flagrant and wilful cases. In most cases the cooperation of the fathers is enlisted by patient interviews, helping them to obtain employment, planning, budgeting their incomes, etc. Results show that it is better to keep them gainfully employed and paying regularly, even if inadequately, than reposing in jail in which latter case everybody loses - children, mothers, fathers and taxpayers.

The work of the department could be made immeasurably more effective by an increase in personnel, but curtailed appropriations make this impossible. Additional office space is also needed badly.

C O L L E C T I O N S

The results of the policy of this department may be judged by the fact that during 1938 approximately \$120,000 was paid through the Toledo Humane Society on specific court orders for the support of minor children. This constitutes about 60% of the total paid through the Society for this purpose. In addition to this, considerable sums were paid direct to the children's custodians, and in a few instances the money was paid through the court.

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