

F. W. A.
1941

CHILDREN
DON'T GO TO WAR!

ANNUAL REPORT

DOMESTIC RELATIONS COURT
JUVENILE COURT
CHILD STUDY INSTITUTE
AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN

LUCAS COUNTY
TOLEDO, OHIO

P R I O R I T Y A.A.1

As a leading editor recently observed, "While we are grappling mentally with foreign enemies, we should not forget those enemies which are among us all the time. These are the vice and crime which prey on human weakness. **during the war years there is a tendency to relax our customary watchfulness over home problems."

So that we may not forget "it is just as important to have strong citizens of the future as it is to have them today", the Lucas County Juvenile Court has prepared a moving picture, with sound, THE MARCH OF CRIME, depicting the necessity of preventing delinquency, insofar as possible, while the war is on, and portraying specific methods of doing so.

Also, sensing the lack of a board of directors or trustees such as other agencies have—a group which could both hold the court in check if need be and at the same time see that no essential services are curtailed—an ADVISORY BOARD has been named, definitely non-political, largely to fulfill the customary offices of a board of directors. Citizens who have consented to serve in this capacity are:

Mrs. Beatrice B. Bloch
Mrs. Ward M. Canaday
Michael Y. DiSalle
Rev. Michael J. Doyle
Robert C. Dunn
Mrs. Grace Eversman
Mrs. Geo. N. Fell
Rabbi Morton Goldberg
Arthur W. Gratop
Harry N. Hansen
Harold H. Hartley

Rev. Russell J. Humbert
Mrs. Eleanor M. Jones
Howard Lewis
Ray S. Loftus
Stephen K. Mahon
Rev. S. C. Michelfelder
Grove Patterson
Frazier Reams
Rev. Calvin K. Stalnaker
Mrs. Duane Stranahan
Mrs. Pearl Trost

JUVENILE COURT

1941 Staff

PAUL, W. ALEXANDER, JUDGE

EXECUTIVE

L. Wallace Hoffman	- Chief Probation Officer
Arthur G. Keller	- Child-support Referee
Rita F. O'Grady	- Girls' Referee

ADMINISTRATIVE

Nellie C. Hildred	- Intake Supervisor
Marcile Humbert	- Secretary

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

John M. Mahoney	- Probation Officer & Referee
Paul F. Koprowski	- Probation Officer & Referee
Daniel B. Conlin	- Probation Officer
Joseph E. Doneghy	- Probation Officer
Clifford A. Straus	- Probation Officer
Doris R. Fenneberg	- Probation Officer & Referee
Nellie Matt	- Probation Officer
Ladonia Speedwell	- Probation Officer
Velma V. Wood	- Probation Officer

CLERICAL DEPARTMENT

Martha S. Martin, Chief Clerk	
Mary Ando	Maude Ford
Catherine Beck	Romeyn Harr
Margaretta Brisbin	Augusta Managhan
Maxine Brown	Mary Stahura

DELINQUENCY DATA

Sending a child to a correctional institution appears to be no cure-all; of the 267 repeaters in court last year 103 (39%) were "graduates" of a correctional school (public or private).

- - -

Commitments to the Industrial Schools have been reduced by one-third; they averaged 37 annually for the past five years (present administration) compared with an average of 56 for the preceding seven years.

- - -

Repeaters (children in court second or subsequent time) are down from 23.3% to 22.9%; this percentage has remained fairly constant, averaging 22.2% for the past five years, almost exactly half of what it was formerly.

- - -

By far the most successful treatment continues to be foster home placement; of over 50 children in foster homes last year only two got into trouble and the percentage of recidivism (repeaters) in this type of treatment since we started it in 1937 is about 3%.

- - -

Yet foster home placement was employed less in 1941; 34 placements compared with 60 the year before. Same old story: lack of finances.

- - -

Each foster home costs the county \$4 to \$5 weekly and the amount required for the carry-over from 1940 reduced the amount available for new placements.

- - -

Vicious circle: lack of funds also prevented hiring experienced home-finder to dig up new foster homes, including free homes and wage homes.

- - -

There were 1257 delinquency cases, involving 1077 individual children; an increase of 58 cases and 98 children over 1940. The increase is attributable to the girls. (See page 6). The percentage of Negro children dropped from 18% to 15%. For the fifth consecutive year no Jewish child appeared before the judge.

- - -

The increases were in the lesser offenses: truancy, traffic, runaways. The more serious offenses showed marked decreases: sex, burglary, larceny, auto-theft, malicious mischief.

- - -

As in previous years exactly 100% of the drivers whose cars were stolen by juveniles had cooperated nicely with the boy by leaving the keys in the ignition switch.

- - -

October again witnessed the most delinquency, and the summer months were again the lightest. We're not bothered much with truancy in the summer time.

- - -

The typical delinquent boy is still 14, the girl 15. Median ages: white, boys 14 yrs. 5 mos., girls, 15 yrs. 6 mos; negro boys 13 yrs. 3 mos., girls 14 years. 9 mos.

- - -

The scholastic standing of our children fell off. The average child should be in the 9th grade. Heretofore he's been in the 8th, but in 1941 he was only in the 7th.

The number of children probated to individuals increased from 115 to 178. The number committed to private correctional institutions jumped from six to 18. (During the year a new law became effective permitting payment for children in such schools wherever situate).

Geographically speaking, South End, Downtown and Pinewood districts showed delinquency decreases; increases occurred in Lagrange-Stickney, East Toledo, Point Place and North End districts. Others were about stationary.

Some say poverty causes delinquency; others say delinquency and attendant evils cause poverty. Which came first, the hen or the egg? Here is the economic status of the homes from which the delinquency cases came: Affluent 28; Comfortable 205; Marginal 573; Sub-marginal 89; Dependend 79; Chronic Poverty 16; Undetermined 267; Total 1257.

WHAT IS THE WITCHING HOUR ?

NOT MIDNIGHT

BUT EIGHT O'CLOCK!

As the result of a school principal's question, "At what time of day do most delinquent acts occur?", we started during the year to record the hour of the commission of each specific offense. The program did not get into full swing until early fall, so while a few summer cases are included, whatever validity the figures have applies mainly to the fall months.

Obviously offenses involving no single overt act, such as truancy, and those involving a series of acts, such as incorrigibility, had to be excluded. Our sampling consists of 284 offenses committed by boys.

The figures indicate that boys are better behaved in the forenoon and early afternoon (school hours); the curve ascends immediately after school, recedes during the supper hour, reaches a climax about eight o'clock, and is no worse around midnight than during the afternoon.

A.M.	Offenses	P.M.	Offenses
12 - 1	14	12 - 1	8
1 - 2	4	1 - 2	6
2 - 3	4	2 - 3	12
3 - 4	3	3 - 4	25
4 - 5	8	4 - 5	12
5 - 6	0	5 - 6	17
6 - 7	0	6 - 7	11
7 - 8	5	7 - 8	40
8 - 9	0	8 - 9	39
9 - 10	10	9 - 10	26
10 - 11	2	10 - 11	22
11 - 12	4	11 - 12	12

BOYS WILL BE BOYS

BUT THE GIRLS —!

The number of delinquency cases brought to court in 1941 showed an increase from 1204 the preceding year to 1257. But—

The credit for this goes exclusively to the girls! In other words, the intake (which the court cannot control) of girls brought to court by parents, police and others more than accounted for the apparent increase in delinquency.

While the number of boys in court was the lowest in the past three years, the number of girls was the highest ever. The boys numbered 834—five less than the year before and 107 less than two years before. The girls numbered 243—a 32% increase over the preceding year, and a 37% increase over the average of the three preceding years.

The experience of most juvenile courts through the years has been that about 15% of delinquent children are girls and 85% boys. That was exactly Toledo's experience in 1938. But the percentage of girls increased to 18% the following year, and remained there in 1940. In 1941 it rose to almost 23%. This means the proportion of girls increased over 50% in three years.

The war? Frequently we are asked about the effect of the war on juvenile delinquency. It is too soon to be sure of any answers, The war in Europe was only 16 months old when 1941 began, and the United States was at war only 24 days during 1941. Selective service really got under way around the beginning of 1941.

Fear was expressed that so many young men in uniform, uprooted from normal pursuits and environment, would prove the undoing of large number of local young girls. However well grounded, that fear may have been, our figures so far

indicate there is no cause for undue alarm in Lucas County. For, the girls' sex cases decreased in 1941--in fact have decreased steadily since 1938. In 1941 only twelve girls of juvenile court age were unmarried mothers.

The main increases have been in incorrigibility, and runaways. One could surmise a number of things about the effect of the war on these factors, and on truancy, but they would be only surmises. There were 58 cases of incorrigibility (and some of them plenty incorrigible) as compared with an average of 37 for the three preceding years. Runaways were second with 55, compared to an average of 36. Truancy, larceny and sex cases tied, with 35 each. The truancy curve was slightly upward, larceny barely even and sex a little downward.

Of all the incorrigibility cases 58% were referred directly by the parents. They were at their wits' end, like the discouraged mother who once wrote the court, "I wish you would come and get my boy and sike him. I can't do a thing with him."

The runaways were almost wholly girls who sought escape not to something but from something--a difficult, often impossible home situation.

The court found much to indicate that mothers do a better job of managing their households and finances than their adolescent daughters. Plenty of parent-education resources are available but those who need it most will have none of it, at least not until after the fat is in the fire.

So far the increase in feminine delinquency appears more interesting than alarming. Our sampling is too small to point any definite trends and we disclaim the right to draw any sweeping conclusions; although the frequency with which parents voluntarily ask the court's help may be some indication of their increasing appreciation of the psychological child guidance service offered by the court through its Child Study Institute.

B E T T H E E C H I L D R E N S P E A K

WHAT CAUSES DELINQUENCY?

By skilful, patient case work most of the children are brought to analyze their own delinquency and name what they believe to be the principal causative factor or factors. Like adults, they are inclined to blame someone other than themselves, or some situation beyond their control.

However, with equal patience and sometimes rare ingenuity, each child is brought to realize that regardless of causes or conditions to which he or others may ascribe the delinquency, the child himself is also responsible because he did not commit the delinquent act until he had first made up his mind to do so; and that he will never be free from trouble until he himself makes up his mind he wants to go straight.

But although the children are never permitted to "get away with" their attempts to shift or avoid their own individual responsibility, it is interesting to note that the contributing factors named by them in 1941 tally pretty well with causes of juvenile misconduct as laid down by the leading authorities.

Following are the factors appearing most frequently and the number of times named:

Bad companions	477
Lax discipline	321
"Broken Homes"	306
Parental indifference to trouble	301
Parental failure to sense problem	300
Lack of affection and security	248
Bad neighborhood	238
"Truancy"	165
Quarreling parents	161
Delinquent brothers or sisters	117
Ill health of parents	89
Delinquency of parents	70

WHAT RETARDS DELINQUENCY?

The reports of the children further bear out the fact that those who are reached by the church, the character building agencies and salutary leisure-time activities are less apt to become delinquent:

Boys' Club: Only 11 boys reported contact with this Agency during the 12 months preceding their arrest.

YMCA--YWCA: 222 boys and two girls reported contact with the "Y" during the year. Very few were active at time of arrest.

Scouts: 260 boys and one girl reported contact with scouting during the year. None was active at time of arrest.

Churches: 128 children reported some affiliation with church social groups during preceding year.

It would appear that of the 1077 children in court an overwhelming majority were never reached by these character-building agencies, and what contact there was was slight.

The children further reported on the negative side: 409 made no use of leisure-time organizations, neighborhood houses, etc., and 561 engaged in no constructive pastime such as reading, music, hobbies, etc; and only 177 denied engaging in destructive pastimes such as gambling, excessive movies, drugstore cowboys, gangs, etc.

C H I L D R E N A N D F I R E - A R M S
A F A T A L C O M B I N A T I O N

Six juvenile shootings--one fatal, all serious--with weapons ranging from a ".22" to a double-barrelled shot-gun, was the tragic record of 1940 in Lucas County.

No juvenile shootings--fatal or otherwise--was the 1941 record.

As the fateful year of 1940 wore on it became increasingly apparent to the Juvenile Court that parents failed to comprehend the dangers involved in allowing children to have fire-arms and further failed to realize that it is a criminal offense to furnish any sort of gun, even an air-rifle, to a child under 17, or to let him use one.

So the PTA's were asked to sponsor a campaign to send a friendly, advisory letter to the parents of every school-child, and the cooperation of the school principals was sought. With two exceptions every school in Toledo and many outside the city agreed to cooperate.

Before the close of the year a total of 45,000 letters had been prepared by the court. They called attention to the seriousness of the situation, quoted the law, and provided at the bottom a place for the parent's signature, testifying that the child does not "now" have access to any fire-arms or air-gun, and promising to keep such weapons away from the child until past the legal age limit.

These letters went out over the signature of the local PTA president, were taken home by the child, signed by the parent, returned to the principal, and finally filed with the court.

During the course of its investigations the court also learned that many dealers in ammunition and fire-arms, through ignorance of the law or otherwise, were in the

habit of selling weapons to minors. So more letters, very friendly in tone, were prepared and sent directly by the court to every department store, hardware dealer and other merchant handling fire-arms in the county. The letters quoted the law and bespoke the cooperation of each dealer.

One set of parents who "could see nothing wrong" in furnishing their child an air-rifle was, in 1941, prosecuted, convicted and fined. One hardware merchant who sold ammunition to a boy scout, thinking he was "old enough", was prosecuted, convicted and fined.

It cost over \$100 to prepare the 45,000 letters to the parents (to say nothing of the labor), but the cost was almost wholly met by a contribution by the Toledo Edison Company, which has to foot the bill for all the street lights shot out by air-guns.

Our 1940 Annual Report made no mention of this campaign to educate parents and merchants on the subject of children and fire-arms, but now that 1941 has passed and the shootings have dropped to zero the facts are reported and allowed to speak for themselves.

In our 1940 report we quoted the 1939 Declaration of Principles of the Ohio Welfare Conference that Juvenile Court "is not authorized by law to institute community planning for the prevention of delinquency, but should cooperate with other groups ** and endeavor to stimulate the further development of such programs"; also the report of the 1940 White House Conference on Children in a Democracy that "children come to the court because the home, the school and other agencies in the community fail to meet their needs."

In accordance therewith the "gun letters" were an effort by the court to stimulate such a program in cooperation with home and school.

H A L L O W E E N V A N D A L I S M

- A L E S S O N I N

C I V I C C O O P E R A T I O N

A 50% reduction in police complaints for vandalism; a 73% reduction in false fire alarms; an 80% reduction in broken street lights--figures furnished by the police department and the Toledo Edison Company covering Halloween seasons of the past five years bring to light these phenomena. (The figures for 1941 are compared with 1937).

The answer: A monumental example of civic cooperation.

Formerly the vandalism, starting around Oct. 1st, reached a climax on Halloween with police and fire sirens screaming to all parts of the city in a frantic effort to catch up with the youthful mischief makers. Even though only a small proportion were apprehended, it was enough to be reflected in the Juvenile Court records for October 1937. That set the court to thinking. A plan was eventually mapped out.

In September 1938, a small group of interested citizens and agency executives was called together. The plan was unfolded: parties, more parties, still more parties; enough to avoid large concentrations; in every neighborhood, all over the city; every night for a week, up to and including Halloween; everybody invited, no charge; real good fun, under capable leadership.

The plan was accepted. Churches, schools and agencies cooperated--in what numbers we cannot say definitely, as the records for 1938 are incomplete. But the police records were not incomplete. They showed: decrease of 5% in vandalism complaints, 30% in false alarms and 19% in broken lights, as compared with the preceding year.

in 1939 the committee was expanded. The schools conducted an educational campaign in the class rooms. There were 135 parties attended by nearly 50,000 people. Result: police complaints down 30%, false alarms down 20%, broken lights down 25% from the year before.

In 1940 the city council of PTA's took over and sponsored the program, retaining the chief probation officer of Juvenile Court as chairman. The City Recreation Department turned over all shelter houses. An intensified campaign was carried out in every school room. Forty-six churches, 52 schools and 100 Boy Scout troops cooperated with the program. There were 315 parties with over 2500 persons assisting. Result: police complaints reduced 15%, false alarms 38%, broken lights 61% from the preceding year.

Last year under the same sponsorship and chairmanship there were over 500 parties with over 3000 people serving on the various sub-committees. Police calls were down 2%, false alarms 30% and broken lights 30% from 1940.

Thus, through unstinted and expanding cooperation by public agencies, notably the City Welfare Department, Police and Fire Departments, private agencies, churches, schools, and others, Halloween vandalism appears to have been brought under reasonable control. It has not been stopped. There will always be an irreducible minimum. Indications are that the campaigns will be continued so that that irreducible may be reached and maintained.

While Juvenile Court is not by law or philosophy designed to prevent juvenile delinquency--the child comes to court only after he is delinquent--this illustrates what the court may do in furnishing leadership to prevent delinquency.

C H I L D R E N B O R N O U T
O F W E D L O C K

Fifty-six bastardy complaints were filed in Juvenile Court in 1941; 61% were adjusted and jury trials avoided.

Forty-one of the mothers were white, 15 Negro.

Only 12 (21%) of the girls were under the age of 18, i.e., of "juvenile court age", and only three of this group had prior contact with Juvenile Court. Two of these had been sent to the Girls' Industrial School; the third was a school truant. Apparently the ranks of the unwed mothers are not largely recruited from the court's delinquency cases.

Nine of the girls were 18 years old and eight were 19 years old. The period between 18 and 20 appears to be the "danger" age--41% of the young unmarried mothers were in that age group.

The youngest mother was 15, the oldest, 43. The youngest alleged father was 17, the oldest, 43. Fifteen of the alleged fathers were married men; four were divorced; one of the mothers was a divorcee.

Forty girls appealed to the court for assistance prior to the birth of their children, and 16 following the birth.

The court referred 16 mothers to private agencies for assistance in planning for confinement, securing maternity home care, supervision of the mother, plan for the child, etc.

- - -

Thirteen of the unmarried mothers were referred to court by private agencies to secure funds for confinement expenses and support for the child.

- - -

DISPOSITION OF BASTARDY CASES

<u>Official</u> (affidavit filed)	<u>1941</u>	<u>1940</u>	<u>1939</u>
Compromise	1	3	1
Plead guilty at preliminary hearing	8	3	7
Affidavit withdrawn	3	3	2
Alleged father not located	4	3	3
Mother & alleged father married	4	3	2
Awaiting birth of child or jury trial	13	15	15
	<u>33</u>		
 <u>Unofficial</u> (informal complaint filed)			
Compromise	13	13	10
Complaint withdrawn	2	7	5
Alleged father not located	1	1	2
Mother and alleged father married	3	0	3
Pending	4		
	<u>23</u>		

C H I L D - S U P P O R T D E P A R T M E N T

<u>Services</u>	<u>1941</u>	<u>1940</u>	<u>1939</u>
Consultation with parents	1665*	3842	3767
Motions for lump sum judgment	50	60	52
Contempt proceedings	102	67	109
Modification of support order	83	72	130
New orders entered	14	10	13
Criminal actions (misdemeanors)	94	84	84
Motions for order pendente lite	468	383	351

To accomodate attorneys and litigants in divorce cases, speed up assignment of hearings and avoid unnecessary delays on hearing day, motions for temporary child-support are routinely referred to the child-support referee, the judge retaining motions for temporary alimony. Nobody is compelled to go before the referee, but once the hearing is started before him the law governing such refernces is followed. In 1202 motions in three years six attorneys and two litigants have declined to go before the referee.

Child-support collected (thru Toledo Humane Society):
1941, \$323,297.69; 1940, \$138,163.51; 1939, \$118,701.90
Collected by court for support of children in foster
homes, for restitution in delinquency cases, etc:
1941, \$ 8,459.43; 1940, \$ 5,229.86; 1939, \$ 3,866.78

These remarkable increases are a reflection of the gain in employment in 1941. Oddly, the increased earnings tended to increase the work thrown upon the court--for the fathers were much too busy earning their new-found wealth (and spending it) to be bothered with a mere citation to appear in Juvenile Court. This meant postponements, extra calls for sheriff's services and even an S.O.S. to the city police department. But once the fathers were in court their self-acknowledged indispensibility to the war effort suddenly dwindled and they acknowledged their obligation to their children, with the results indicated above.

* Referee only; equal number staff interviews excluded.

P R O F E S S I O N A L L Y S P E A K I N G

Last year under this heading, to show something of the efforts of the staff to keep abreast of the times professionally, we listed some of the 104 books and 54 periodicals studied during 1940.

The professional standing of the court can be judged better by others than by ourselves. Possibly some indication of that standing can be gathered from the recognition the court has received on a national scale.

An Australian judge, commissioned by his government to visit and study courts throughout the world, filed a printed report in which he advocated adoption of the plan of Toledo's Child Study Institute (the ideas, not the quarters) in preference to all other methods of handling delinquents.

The chief probation officer has been twice elected chairman of the Professional Council of the National Probation Association by many regarded as the highest honor that can be conferred upon a probation officer in the U.S.

The judge has been elected to office in the National Association of Juvenile Court Judges, National Conference of Juvenile Agencies and National Probation Association.

Articles by various members of the staff have appeared in six different national publications.

A generally favorable "write-up" of the court appeared in a non-professional magazine of national circulation, Coronet.

The judge has been invited to address conferences in eleven states outside Ohio, from Boston to Los Angeles.

More than half a dozen out of state courts and two state legislative committees have visited or consulted the court with a view to emulating the Child Study Institute.

Table No. 1

TRENDS OF THE PAST SIX YEARS

	<u>1941</u>	<u>1940</u>	<u>1939</u>	<u>1938</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1936</u>
Commitments to Industrial Schools	48	48	33	36	26	49
Delinquents placed in foster homes	34	60	44	45	32	—
Repeaters	267	230	288	197	198	580
Sex Offenses	57	67	83	28	25	47
Truancy	139	98	129	98	39	94
Traffic	113	84	68	80	33	24
Runaways	108	81	100	53	236	135
Malicious mischief	70	85	107	65	130	147
Burglary	110	142	94	62	37	98
Auto Theft	39	80	32	64	50	74
Larceny from stores, etc.)	265	352	158	305	209	294
Larceny from individuals)						

Table No. 2

DELINQUENCIES BY THE MONTH

<u>Month</u>	<u>White</u>		<u>Negro</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	
January	61	23	10	2	96
February	81	17	12	5	115
March	44	21	11	—	76
April	74	19	8	2	103
May	97	22	11	4	134
June	70	19	15	—	104
July	49	17	16	6	88
August	72	8	13	3	96
September	58	12	4	2	76
October	112	18	14	1	145
November	85	25	8	5	123
December	65	17	15	4	101
	<u>868</u>	<u>218</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>1257</u>

Table No. 3

OFFENSES FOR WHICH BROUGHT INTO COURT

	White		Negro		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	
<u>Group I</u>					
Truancy	95	30	9	5	139
Runaway	43	51	10	4	108
Traffic violation	101	8	4	-	113
Incorrigibility	43	48	1	10	102
<u>Group II</u>					
Larceny from person	5	1	1	-	7
Larceny of auto	42	-	3	-	45
Larceny of bicycle	41	1	7	-	49
Larceny, all other	177	25	53	10	265
Burglary	92	1	17	-	110
Robbery and hold-up	7	-	1	-	8
<u>Group III</u>					
Malicious mischief	69	-	1	-	70
Creating nuisance	17	1	12	1	31
<u>Group IV</u>					
Sex Offense	21	35	1	7	57
Arson	4	-	-	-	4
<u>Group V</u>					
All other	111	17	17	4	149
	<u>868</u>	<u>218</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>1257</u>

Table No. 4

DISPOSITION OF CASES

<u>Disposition</u>	<u>White</u>		<u>Negro</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	
Probation to a court officer	204	45	35	24	308
Probation to an agency worker	50	35	1	-	86
Probation to individuals	155	5	18	-	178
Committed to Industrial School	23	12	12	1	48
Committed to other correctional school	13	5	-	-	18
Sentenced to Ohio State Reformatory	5	-	2	-	7
To other institution (non-correctional)	13	6	3	-	22
Parole violator returned	3	-	1	-	4
Runaway returned	7	11	2	1	21
Fined	5	-	-	-	5
Drivers license suspended	29	3	-	-	32
Restitution required	34	-	2	-	36
Placed in foster home	26	6	2	-	34
Other	93	51	49	5	198
Exonerated or dismissed as too trivial	34	6	2	3	45
Adjusted	174	33	8	-	215
	<u>868</u>	<u>218</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>1257</u>

Table No. 5

TABLE SHOWING COURT APPEARANCE

<u>Appearance in Court</u>	<u>White</u>		<u>Negro</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	
Number of different children in court	790	217	122	33	1162
Number previously in court at any time	191	14	58	4	267
Number previously in court in 1941	72	1	16	1	90

Table No. 6

AGE RANGE OF DELINQUENTS

<u>A g e</u>	<u>White</u>		<u>Negro</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	
8 and under	31	12	-	1	44
9	16	3	4	1	24
10	50	7	4	-	61
11	44	9	16	-	69
12	54	15	12	3	84
13	86	18	17	7	128
14	108	26	21	7	162
15	152	42	21	6	221
16	181	51	26	8	266
17	140	34	13	1	188
18	5	1	2	-	8
19	1	-	1	-	2
	<u>868</u>	<u>218</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>1257</u>

Table No. 7

SCHOOL ATTENDING

(Public)				(Parochial)	
Woodward	79	Marshall	4	Central	20
Gunckel	60	Walbridge	4	St. Hedwig's	11
Robinson Jr.	59	Whitney	4	St. Adalbert's	8
Waite	57	Birmingham	3	St. Patrick's	7
Scott	53	Kleis	3	St. Agnes'	6
Sherman	34	Burroughs	2	St. Anthony's	6
DeVilbiss	33	Longfellow	2	St. Michael's	6
Parkland	33	Monroe	2	St. Teresa's	6
Libbey	28	Nathan Hale	2	Holy Rosary	5
Lincoln	27	Pickett	2	Immac. Conception	5
Lagrange	25	DeVeaux	1	St. Joseph's	5
Macomber	21	Fulton	1	Rosary Cathedral	4
Warren	18	Hathaway	1	St. Ann's	3
Washington	18	Indiana	1	St. Frances de	
Jones Jr.	15	McKinley	1	Sales	3
Oakdale	15	Newbury	1	St. Mary's	3
Whittier	14	Wayne	1	St. Stephen's	3
Glenwood	13	Private	1	St. Vincent de	
Cherry	12			Paul's	3
Franklin	12	(County)		Bl. Sacrament	2
Chase	9	Holland H.S.	11	Good Sheperd	2
Irving	9	Burnham	8	Nativity	2
Raymer	9	Whitmer	8	St. Stanislaus'	2
Auburndale	8	Clay	5	St. Thomas	
E.S. Central	8	Coy	4	Aquinas	2
Stickney	8	Crissey	4	St. Hyacinth's	1
Webster	8	Jerusalem Twp.	4	St. James'	1
Navarre	7	Holland Elem	3	SS. Peter &	
Pt. Place Jr.	7	Sylvania Elem	3	Paul's	1
Roosevelt	7	Tribby	3	Our Lady of	
Spring	7	Maumee H.S.	2	Lourdes	1
Westfield	7	Monclova	2		
Hamilton	5	Wernert	2	Not Attending	102
Riverside	5	Maumee Elem	1	Unknown	189
Arlington	4	Mt. Vernon	1	Out of County	7
Feilbach	4	Shoreland	1		
Garfield	4	Whitehouse	1		

* Schools not listed had no cases in court.

Table No. 8

BY DISTRICTS

<u>District</u>	White		Negro		<u>Total</u>	1940
	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>		<u>Total</u>
West Toledo	52	7	-	-	59	65
Collingwood	71	16	2	1	90	87
West End	43	7	-	-	50	56
Nebraska	45	15	4	2	66	62
South End	82	20	-	-	102	127
East Side	158	23	3	-	184	164
North End	72	24	4	1	101	90
Lagrange-Stickney	93	24	6	-	123	95
Downtown	94	27	8	6	135	149
Pinewood	34	10	96	24	164	172
Point Place	12	5	-	-	17	5
Adams Twp.	14	1	-	-	15	19
Jerusalem Twp.	4	-	-	-	4	3
Washington Twp.	12	7	-	-	19	19
Oregon Twp.	8	5	1	-	14	9
Swanton Twp.	-	-	1	-	1	0
Springfield Twp.	12	2	-	-	14	12
Sylvania Twp.	15	3	1	-	19	15
Monclova Twp.	3	3	-	-	6	5
Richfield Twp.	1	-	-	-	1	0
Waynesfield Twp.	8	3	-	-	11	5
Outside County	35	16	11	-	62	40
	<u>868</u>	<u>218</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>1257</u>	<u>1199</u>

CHILD STUDY INSTITUTE

1941 Staff

PAUL W. ALEXANDER, JUDGE

EXECUTIVE

Dr. Robert J. Lewinski * - Director & Chief Psychologist
L. Wallace Hoffman - Acting Director

PSYCHOLOGICAL

Loyal B. Calkins - Psychologist
E. Thomas Wilbur - Psychologist
Mary E. Young - Psychologist

PSYCHIATRIC

Dr. Elizabeth Adamson - Psychiatrist

MEDICAL

Dr. I. H. Kass - Pediatrician
Glenous Pfeifer - Nurse

CLERICAL

Marie M. Winzeler - Secretary

EDUCATIONAL

Lottie Ford - Teacher (Board of Education)

SUPERVISORY

William Freeh - Boys' Supervisor
Hattie Kolinski - Girls' Supervisor
Mary Schmidt - Girls' Supervisor
Ronald Spalding - Relief Supervisor
Harris Simon - Night Supervisor & Custodian

DOMESTIC

Elizabeth Horvath - Dietitian & Cook
Anna Mueller - Laundress

* On leave of absence with U.S.Navy

THE SCIENTIFIC APPROACH

To eliminate the guesswork in diagnosing and treating juvenile delinquency the organization of the Child Study Institute was begun in 1937. Prior to that time the Institute served only as the Detention Home.

The Institute is the scientific arm of the court. Its purpose is to provide for the medical, psychological and psychiatric diagnosis and treatment of delinquent children as well as detention. A number of referrals for study come directly from parents, social agencies, schools, public health authorities and churches.

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC

The Institute is among the psychiatric clinics recognized by the National Committee for Mental Hygiene. The Institute furthermore is the only full-time child guidance clinic in Lucas County. Psychological tests and measures are selected with the view toward high reliability and validity. The 64 tests available to the clinicians cover most areas of psychological measurement.

PSYCHOLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS

Besides the delinquency problems the Institute studied: (1) Personality disturbances; (2) behavior problems; (3) scholastic maladjustment; (4) speech defects; (5) mental deficiency. Every effort is made to determine accurately the fundamental causes underlying each child's problem and to take the necessary steps to alleviate these causes so that further problems will be diminished. Each child is, insofar as desirable, assigned to a psychologist for a complete study.

MEDICAL DIAGNOSIS

Each child is given a complete examination shortly after entering the Institute. In many instances it has been found that there are contributing physical causes behind the child's behavior problems and in this event, it is essential for the psychologist and physician to work hand in hand to remedy the situation. In some

cases, also, it has been found that the child's maladjustment is so severe that psychiatric treatment is indicated.

PSYCHIATRIC
SERVICE

Fifty-four cases appeared serious enough to warrant psychiatric diagnosis and treatment. (Three were parents). A few showed definite beginning schizophrenic reactions; one was a full-blown cyclothymic in the manic phase. Many of those socially maladjusted evidenced well marked psychoneurotic symptoms with the attending emotional conflicts. In about one-third of the cases treatment was planned with the psychologist or probation officer; in the remainder psychotherapy was given.

OBSERVATION
REPORTS

Each child is under observation twenty-four hours per day. Since it is obvious that a child's behavior will tend to differ when he is in a play or work situation from that displayed when being interviewed by a member of the staff, each psychologist is required to spend over one-fourth of his time supervising and observing the children in their group activities, games, etc. Moreover, behavior reports of the day and night supervisors have proven invaluable. Reports submitted by the school teacher of the Institute provide insight into each child's academic adjustment.

PERIOD OF
RESIDENCE

It has been found profitable from the standpoint of diagnosis and therapy to keep children under observation for varying periods of time. However, every effort is made to avoid prolonging the period of detention to the point where the child becomes resentful. Experience has proven that the adjustment of a child in detention improves up to an optimal temporal point and after that time there is danger of the child reacting against detention to the degree that any remedial efforts might prove futile.

Provision is made to afford each child with religious education by conducting both Protestant and Catholic services on Sunday afternoon.

**DEFECTIVE
DELINQUENTS**

The comparatively high incidence of mental deficiency (17.6%), when compared with the distribution of intelligence in a normal population, accounts in large part for the number of repeat cases. A child who has not the mental capacity to tell right from wrong is hard to re-direct. The Institute cannot keep him indefinitely. The Industrial Schools may not legally accept him. The Feeble-minded Institute is hopelessly over-crowded. So we do what we can, send him home and sadly await his reappearance.

**PRIVILEGE
SYSTEM**

In keeping with accepted principles, corporal punishment is never employed. Instead, the granting and withholding of "privileges" have proven effective in this regard. When a child has been in detention for a period and has demonstrated good behavior during this time, he or she is granted special privileges which include one swim at the YMCA or YWCA, one downtown movie or one sports event each week. Though privileged boys are under supervision while swimming, they attend the movie in groups of three, entirely unchaperoned. (For obvious reasons, girls are chaperoned at all times).

This is done in an endeavor to build up within each privileged child a feeling of trustworthiness and self-respect. Then too, the privilege system affords a means of juvenile social control. When there is a violation of privilege on the part of one child, the remaining privileged children have their privileges suspended for varying periods of time. This procedure has tended to create within each child the feeling that he is responsible not only to himself, but to the rest of the group as well.

**SOME BATTING
AVERAGE**

An important thing to note is that although a total of 1976 privileges were granted, only one child escaped while on privilege, one committed a major violation and four committed minor violations. These data indicate that during 1941 the privilege system again operated on a basis 99.7% perfect.

**BREAKING
OUT**

Six children escaped from the building in 1941; three, in each of the years 1938, 1939 and 1940. In 1937 when the privilege system was in operation only two or three months, there were 32 escapes. For a long period before that the escapes averaged 48 per year. Yet the building is no more secure now than formerly.

**BREAKING
IN**

Probably ten or twenty times as many children have tried to break into the Child Study Institute as have tried to break out. In other words, children have kept coming back on their own initiative, seeking sanctuary or refuge perhaps from intolerable home conditions or gang temptations. One mother brought her boy in and arranged to have him spend his days at the Institute and go home nights--and willingly paid for the service! This change in the children's attitude is only partially accounted for by the privilege system. Primarily it may be due to the fundamental change in atmosphere that came to pass when the old detention home was converted from a child jail to a child study institute.

**FINE HEALTH
RECORD**

For four years the Institute operated without a single quarantine for contagious disease--a record the medical profession has called unusual in view of the fact every child brought in has to be accepted and there are no adequate isolation facilities and no hospital facilities at all. But last year this proud record was broken by two quarantines for scarlet fever and measles, totalling 37 days. These quarantines occurred when the Institute was even more over-crowded than usual, and had the effect of substantially increasing the period of residence of the children caught thereby, of suspending privileges, and of making the children restive. Four of the six escapes occurred during quarantine. The healthful effects of residence in the Institute are noticeable even to casual observers. It is not uncommon for boys to gain three to seven pounds the first week. One girl suffering from malnutrition gained 25 pounds during a month's residence. Fortunately the girls don't have to "reduce".

**OVERCROWDING
CONTINUES**

The Institute's quarters were designed for 15 boys and 15 girls. There are 24 beds for boys. If there were any more they would have to be placed on the sidewalk or roof. Frequently during 1941 (as before that) there were more than 30 boys in residence, the highest figures on any one day being 32 boys and 13 girls. So mattresses were hauled out and spread on the floor in hallways and on every available foot of floor space, even in the lavatories--and there the boys had to sleep. And the difficulty would be intensified if the five or six boys who are daily quartered at the county jail were housed in the Institute where they legally and rightfully belong--but where they cannot stay because of the insecurity of the building and for other valid reasons.

**SOME
IMPROVEMENTS**

Despite overcrowding and the hopelessly inadequate design of the building from the modern functional standpoint some physical improvement can be noticed. Scrupulous cleanliness is still the rule. New lighting fixtures have been installed. The reception room and main office have been covered with rubber tile. Material was purchased from the court budget and made into benches, chairs and tables by the NYA. And the boys can now take the weight off their feet when they wish, for new chairs were purchased during the year. Still, a great deal remains to be done.

**PUBLIC
APPRECIATION**

If voluntary contributions and unsolicited offers are any indication, the Child Study Institute is definitely coming into its own. Seventeen organizations and five individuals made valuable material contributions during 1941. Many more gave their personal services. Still others came and said, "We want to see the delinquent children get the same breaks as the dependent and crippled children. What can we do?"

Cash for handicraft materials (which the county is unable to furnish), boxing gloves, volley balls, basket balls, magazine subscriptions, books, all sorts of Christmas presents, valentines, stamps, a silk flag, sewing materials, plants,

games, puzzles, scrap books, fruit, cookies, candy, ice cream--all these and more came in abundance and were deeply appreciated by the children. However, there was no surplus.

**CHILDREN'S
RED CROSS**

Altogether \$75 was received for handicraft. The girls have organized their own Red Cross unit to hem diapers and make quilts for babies. They also make yarn dolls, embroider towels, etc. The boys make model airplanes, keyholders, ping-pong paddles, bone rings, book-ends, checker-boards and many other useful articles. These articles are displayed in a show case (donated by a sorority) and when they are sold the proceeds go back into more handicraft materials.

**THE FOLLOWING ARE THE
BENEFACTORS**

Following are the 18 organizations which made contributions during 1941:

Toledo League of City Mothers, long faithful to the Institute.
Alpha Xi Delta, Toledo Alumnae (who have also undertaken to decorate the waiting room).
Florence Dority Guild, First Unitarian Church.
Child Conservation League, Senior Circle.
Walter Weller Post, American Legion, Junior Auxiliary.
King's Daughters.
Women's Educational Club, Civics and Philanthropy Dept.
Women's Republican Club, 21st Ward.
Vernon McCune Post, American Legion.
Vernon McCune Post, American Legion, Women's Auxiliary.
Child Conservation League, Ottawa Circle.
Rotary Club of Toledo.
Bishop Tucker Guild, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church.
Women's Auxiliary, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Maumee.
Women's Christian Association, W.C.T.U.
Seneca Gospel Tabernacle.
Girl Scouts, Lagrange School Troop.
Basch & Company.

Also the following individuals:

Mrs. Geo. Fell	Mrs. Elsie Backus
Mrs. Charles Brunson	Mrs. Warren Goon
Mrs. Wm. Byers	

Table A
NUMBER OF CHILDREN ADMITTED

	1941			1940		
	<u>White</u>	<u>Negro</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Negro</u>	<u>Total</u>
Boys	643	116	759	633	131	764
Percent	62.2%	11.2%	73.4%	58.8%	12.2%	71%
Girls	226	48	274	263	48	311
Percent	21.9%	4.7%	26.6%	24.5%	4.5%	29%
Total	869	164	1033	896	179	1075
Percent	84.1%	15.9%	100%	83.3%	16.7%	100%

Table B
STATUS OF CHILDREN ADMITTED

	1941		1940	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Delinquent	819	79.3%	873	81.2%
Dependent	170	16.5%	174	16.2%
For observation	44	4.2%	28	2.6%
	1033	100.0%	1075	100.0%

Table C

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION OF CHILDREN

	1 9 4 1		1 9 4 0	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Protestant	765	74.0%	774	72.0%
Catholic	255	24.7%	285	26.5%
Jewish	5	.5%	2	.2%
Greek Orthodox	5	.5%	5	.5%
Mohammedan	2	.2%	0	0.0%
Gypsy	1	.1%	0	0.0%
No Religion	0	0.0%	9	.8%
Total	1033	100.0%	1075	100.0%

Table D

AGES OF CHILDREN

	1 9 4 1		1 9 4 0	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
6 and under	59	5.7%	42	3.9%
7	21	2.0%	8	.7%
8	22	2.1%	11	1.0%
9	22	2.1%	16	1.5%
10	46	4.5%	35	3.3%
11	58	5.6%	57	5.3%
12	83	8.0%	83	7.7%
13	156	15.1%	141	13.1%
14	151	14.6%	174	16.2%
15	210	20.3%	284	26.4%
16	137	13.3%	140	13.0%
17	65	6.4%	79	7.4%
18	3	.3%	4	.4%
19	0	0.0%	1	.1%
	1033	100.0%	1075	100.0%

Median Age (1941): 14 yrs. $3\frac{1}{2}$ mo.

Median Age (1940): 14 yrs. 3 mo.

Table E

PERIOD OF RESIDENCE OF CHILDREN

	1 9 4 1		1 9 4 0	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Less than 10 days	724	70.1%	803	74.7%
10 days to 1 month	215	20.8%	206	19.2%
1 month to 2 months	72	7.0%	46	4.3%
2 months to 3 months	20	1.9%	18	1.6%
3 months to 4 months	2	.2%	2	.2%
More than 4 months	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	<u>1033</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>1075</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

Table F

AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF CHILDREN
IN RESIDENCE

	1 9 4 1			1 9 4 0
	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
January	22	13	35	28
February	20	13	33	35
March	21	14	35	31
April	24	11	35	35
May	19	11	30	36
June	12	10	22	29
July	17	9	26	27
August	18	9	27	30
September	22	10	32	31
October	24	12	36	33
November	25	12	37	36
December	26	14	40	34

Daily average, 32.

On 18 days there were 40 or
more in residence.

Table G

PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS ADMINISTERED

<u>Name of Test</u>	<u>1 9 4 1</u> <u>Frequency</u>	<u>1 9 4 0</u> <u>Frequency</u>
Revised Stanford Binet, Form L	183	258
Revised Stanford Binet, Form M	6	27
Arthur Performance Battery	15	90
Group Intelligence Tests	29	25
Goodenough Drawing Test	0	20
Bell Adjustment Inventory	8	18
Stanford Achievement Battery (10 tests)	8	20
Stanford Arithmetic Test	0	5
Stanford Reading Test	2	6
Ishihara Color Vision Test	3	12
Haggerty Reading Test	2	0
Maller Personality Sketches	36	77
Cleeton Vocational Interest Inventory	0	6
Thurstone Vocational Interest Schedule	5	8
Purdum Diagnostic Questionnaire	1	6
Zyve Scientific Aptitude	0	1
Terman Masculinity-Femininity Scale	1	0
California Test of Personality	8	0
Hoppock Information Test	1	0
Meier Art Judgment	2	0
Monroe Reading Test	1	0
O'Rourke Mechanical Aptitudes	2	0
Lewerenz Orientation Test	1	0
Lowe-Shimberg Scale of Information Test	1	0
Miscellaneous	0	30
Total	<hr/> 315	<hr/> 609

Decrease due mainly to working short-handed,
account of war and lack of finances.

Table H

NUMBER OF REPORTS RENDERED

<u>Type of Report</u>	<u>1 9 4 1</u> <u>Frequency</u>	<u>1 9 4 0</u> <u>Frequency</u>
Psychological	210	330
Psychiatric	109	66
Observation	37	120
Social Histories	51	30
Total	<u>407</u>	<u>546</u>

Table I

SUMMARY OF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

Number individual children examined		465
Total number medical examinations		645
Number of treatments given in clinic		850
Nutritional status of children:	Good 74%	
	Fair 13%	
	Poor 13%	
General Health of children when admitted:	Good 58%	
	Fair 24%	
	Poor 18%	
Percent children having visual defects		31%
Percent children having dental defects		54%
Percent positive Wasserman tests		.94%
Percent positive N & T cultures		.001%
Immunizations (prior to admission):	Small Pox 49%	
	Diphtheria 28%	
	Pertussis 1.2%	
Heart disease		7
Number girls pregnant		13

Due to strained budgets, city as well as county, we were without nurse service for five months. This explains decrease in number of examinations.

Table J

DISTRIBUTION OF INTELLIGENCE QUOTIENTS

I.Q. Range	1 9 4 1				1 9 4 0	
	Number	Classification	Percent		Percent	
0 - 19	4	Idiot	2.0%		.4%	
20 - 49	9	Imbecile	4.6%		3.2%	
50 - 69	22	Moron	11.2%		14.0%	
70 - 79	23	Borderline	11.6%		11.6%	
80 - 89	44	Dull normal	22.2%		20.0%	
90 - 109	59	Normal	29.8%		32.6%	
110 - 119	23	Superior	11.6%		7.4%	
120 - 129	9	Very superior	4.6%		3.8%	
130 plus	5	Near genius or genius	2.4%		7.0%	
Total	198		100.0%		100.0%	

Mean Intelligence Quotient: 85

Median Intelligence Quotient: 88

Incidence of Mental Deficiency (1940): 17.6%

Incidence of Mental Deficiency (1941): 17.8%

Table K

THE PRIVILEGE SYSTEM

	<u>1 9 4 1</u>	<u>1 9 4 0</u>
Number of children granted privileges	225	301
Number of privileges granted	1976	2687
% total population granted privileges	21.78%	28%
Number of escapes while on privilege	1	1
Number of major violations*	1	-
Number of minor violations**	4	3
% non-violated privileges	99.7%	99.99%

* e.g., committing a delinquent act while on privilege.

** e.g., exceeding time limit, visiting home, smoking, etc., while on privilege.

Decrease partially accounted for by quarantines.

BUREAU OF AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN

1941 Staff

JUDGE PAUL W. ALEXANDER, ADMINISTRATOR

Helen Hodge Taylor	- Director
Mary Kibble	- Vocational Advisor & Case Worker
Mary Timm	- Acting Case Work Supervisor
Dr. Harry G. Pamment	- Medical Supervisor
Dr. Elizabeth Adamson	- Psychiatric Consultant

Case Workers

Lois Felsted Fraker
Mayme Szumigala Klimek
Ruth Richardson
Floy Hisey Wernert
Florence Wonders

Clerical

Velma Boulton
Luella Knecht
Maude Riblett

SCOPE OF PROGRAM
ENLARGED

This program is broader than "Mothers' Fensions" which it supplanted in 1936. Formerly for the benefit of children who had become dependent through death of the father, it is now required to care also for children whose fathers are totally disabled or have deserted. It is still necessary that the children be living with the mother or a specified relative.

The aid is in the form of monthly cash grants, the amount being determined by the actual budgetary need of each family. Each case is thoroughly investigated and, if found legally eligible, closely supervised by the case workers to see that the funds are really used for the children's benefit. To prevent loss due to unnecessary illness or physical incapacity each person is periodically examined and necessary preventive measures (e.g. tonsillectomy) are taken.

To help each family to become self-supporting at the earliest possible moment vocational guidance is given. This service is not limited to placing mothers or older children in jobs, although in 1941, through the cooperation of the State Employment Bureau, 30 high school graduates became gainfully employed. Also 33 mothers who came to apply for grants were assisted in finding jobs so that they did not have to make formal application or become recipients of the aid. Several mothers receiving grants were assisted in finding part-time employment, usually in their own homes. About 76 older employable children were likewise given counsel so that they either went to work or found new jobs better suited to their capacities. The counselling has a long range view covering capabilities, training, skills, job adjustments, etc., to avoid the possibility of square pegs trying to fit into round holes. This service directly benefits the taxpayers in that it lessens the number of grants that have to be made, and permits the discontinuance and reduction of many existing grants.

P E R C A P I T A C O S T L O W E R E D

The cost to the taxpayers of the aid in 1941 was \$2.62 per week per person benefitted as compared with \$2.78 the preceding year. These funds came mostly from the federal and state governments, only about one-fourth being furnished locally: Federal \$88,260; State \$70,495; County \$55,793; previous balance (all sources) \$13,099; Total \$226,647.

Because of the overwhelming proportion contributed by state and federal governments they exercise rigid supervision and control. During 1941 instructions were received to reduce the waiting list (applicants awaiting award of grants) to the minimum. So 100 new grants were awarded; 54 old ones were discontinued. The number of families cared for rose from 322 to 368 and the number of children from 1012 to 1122. The waiting list was reduced from an all-time high of 264 in 1939 to 49 at the close of 1941.

The nationality background of the families is as follows: American, white 260; American, negro 37; Polish 36; Italian 7; Hungarian 6; German 4; ten others 18.

No grant is awarded, increased, decreased, discontinued or disallowed until it has been thoroughly examined by a volunteer CASE STUDY COMMITTEE. These representative citizens, especially interested in the welfare of children, devote one or two entire afternoons monthly to this service. Among those participating in 1941 were:

Mrs. Thomas Butler, Chairman	Mrs. S. E. Lindower
Rev. Paul Baumgartner	Mrs. S. C. Michelfelder
Mrs. Wilbur Bunker	Rev. Lewis Nicol
Mr. Arthur Cline	Mr. S. H. Ourbacker
Mr. Neil Crowley	Mrs. Helen O'Shay
Mrs. Frank Daly	Mrs. Hugh Paul
Mrs. Dan Degan	Mrs. Ollie Randolph
Mrs. Geo. Fell	Mrs. Glenn H. Reams
Mr. John Froelich	Mrs. Ruth Rustad
Mrs. Arden Liles	Mrs. Oscar Smith

DOMESTIC RELATIONS COURT

1941 Staff

PAUL W. ALEXANDER, JUDGE

Freda Braun Lyons - Friend of the Court
Herbert J. DeVautent - Bailiff

F R I E N D O F T H E C O U R T

Conciliation before it is too late--before the parties get into court--was one of the objects of the founders of the Domestic Relations Court. Lucas County has no specific marriage counselling bureau, although the court and several private agencies offer their services in this respect to all who apply.

In court this service is performed chiefly by an officer authorized by statute, whom we call "Friend of the Court." To her are referred persons who seek domestic advice; also divorce cases where the court or someone interested suggests an investigation or attempt at reconciliation. The counsel given cannot be evaluated statistically. Nor can the number of reconciliations achieved be enumerated definitely. The figure runs about 20%; it is small because the cases are aggravated before they reach the officer. And we cherish no illusions about the permanency of any of these reconciliations--but we don't let that discourage us.

<u>Here are the statistics:</u>	<u>1941</u>	<u>1940</u>	<u>1939</u>
Investigated before action filed	267	89	93
Pending actions formally investigated	27	95	68
Cases referred to other agencies	79	41	23
Interviews with attorneys	344	370	339
Conferences, both parties present	272	264	248
Interviews in field	160	200	280
Persons receiving advice	192	203	185

D I V O R C E S I N L U C A S C O U N T Y

The number of divorce suits filed has sky-rocketed, but--

The number of divorces actually granted has been steadily reduced.

The year 1941 set an all-time high record with 1706 cases filed seeking divorce, alimony or annulment. This means that more than half of the 3391 civil actions filed in Common Pleas Court were divorce cases.

Divorce cases have increased 83% in eight years. In 1933, the earliest year for which complete figures are furnished, there were only 932 suits filed.

On the other hand, the year ending July 1, 1941 (the latest period for which figures are furnished), witnessed the smallest number of divorces actually granted in the past six years, 1044; and the curve has been steadily downward for the past three years.

The increase in divorce suits filed appears to be wide-spread. In Hamilton County (Cincinnati) which has always enjoyed an enviable reputation in this respect, the increase was so alarming a general inquiry has been started. In all other Ohio cities from which we have received reports the increase is large.

Our attention has not been directed to any other county where the number of divorces granted has declined.

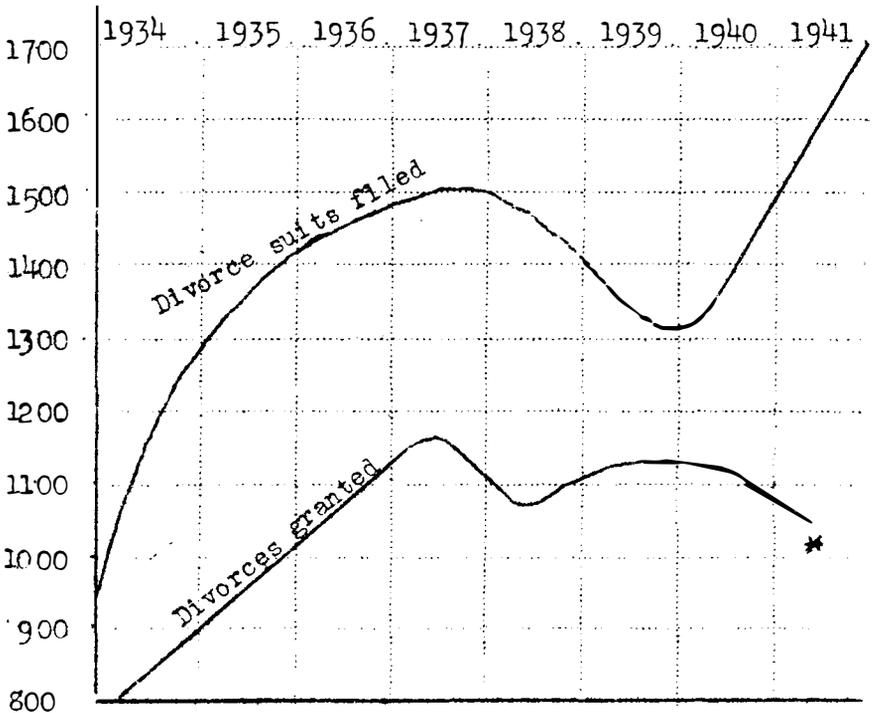
As usual, divorce cases have increased as prosperity has increased. This does not necessarily mean that marital unhappiness becomes more acute as employment gains and incomes grow; or that people are happier and get along together better when they have less money.

The main answer is probably the financial factor. Divorces cost money. Court costs must be prepaid and at-

torneys' fees must be taken care of. So, lacking necessary funds, many couples just separate and remain apart until times get better. Someone has said they regard a divorce as a sort of luxury they can do without during hard times, so they postpone filing until they can better afford it.

Some taxpayers may see a silver lining in this cloud of domestic discord. In 1941 the Domestic Relations Court collected from divorce litigants and turned over to the county's general fund the sum of \$19,921.89. This is about \$2000 more than collected in any previous year.

GRAPH SHOWING RELATION
OF DIVORCES SOUGHT AND GRANTED



* By law, statistics on divorces granted are from July 1 to June 30 instead of by the calendar year.

D I V O R C E S T A T I S T I C S

<u>12-month period *</u>	<u>Cases Filed</u>	<u>Decrees Granted</u>	<u>Denied & Dismissed</u>
1933 Jan - Dec	932		
Jul '33 - Jun '34,.....		831,.....	331
1934 Jan - Dec	1272		
Jul '34 - Jun '35,.....		976,.....	203
1935 Jan - Dec	1403		
Jul '35 - Jun '36,.....		1077,.....	165
1936 Jan - Dec	1478		
Jul '36 - Jun '37,.....		1173,.....	227
1937 Jan - Dec	1500		
Jul '37 - Jun '38,.....		1069,.....	262
1938 Jan - Dec	1407		
Jul '38 - Jun '39,.....		1130,.....	435
1939 Jan - Dec	1304		
Jul '39 - Jun '40,.....		1122,.....	242
1940 Jan - Dec	1451		
Jul '40 - Jun '41,.....		1044,.....	268
1941 Jan - Dec	1706		

* Note: A legally required, as well as desirable, interval must elapse between the filing and hearing of a case. In most cases it runs from two to six months. Thus in 1934 the court disposes of many cases filed in 1933, and so on. Moreover the law requires the clerk to compile and report disposition of cases not by calendar years, but for the 12-month periods from July 1st through the following June 30th. These are the reasons the divorces granted and denied in above table are reported for a period six months behind the cases filed.

Above figures include annulments (1%-2% of total) and suits for alimony only (6%-7%).

P R E - T R I A L H E A R I N G S

<u>Year</u>	<u>Contests</u>	<u>Adjusted</u>	<u>Tried</u>	<u>% Adjusted</u>
1939	62	48	14	78%
1940	81	68	13	84%
1941	78	66	12	85%

Last year we commented that the pre-trial hearing appeared to have passed the experimental stage. The results for 1941 are even more encouraging. For those not familiar with the procedure we append the following:

Whenever a marriage goes on the rocks so completely that one partner goes to court for a divorce or alimony, the other partner is almost always equally or even more eager to be released from the bonds of matrimony. Consequently, most divorce cases are uncontested. Extremely seldom does a contest arise over the simple question whether there should be a divorce; and in every such case in the past five years (with one exception), it has been necessary to deny a divorce. In the small number of cases where a real contest develops (last year less than 5%), the bone of contention is usually the amount of alimony (not child-support) and occasionally the custody of the children.

It is in these cases that the court invokes the pre-trial hearing. The judge calls the attorneys for both sides into his chambers, and after acquainting himself with the charges and counter-charges and hearing statements as to what the evidence is expected to show, the issues are clarified and narrowed down to the ultimate matter in dispute. At this point offers of compromise are usually forthcoming or are elicited.

The attorneys are delightfully reasonable and ready to agree upon a compromise. The trouble usually comes from

obstreperous and obstinate clients who are reluctant to swallow their pride and follow their attorney's advice. When this situation develops the embattled spouses are called before the judge and all the legal, social and financial implications are spelled out. Unlimited patience is always required and sometimes amazing psychological contortions have to be performed in order to guarantee the necessary face-saving and assuaging of wounded pride.

To try a contested divorce consumes from one to 12 days. It requires the services of two attorneys whose fees increase with the amount of time in court. The court costs mount constantly. Earnings of the parties are at a standstill. The wear and tear on their nervous systems is visible. The damage to the reputations of both may be irreparable. The intangible injury to the children is incalculable. And when it is all over either or both parties may be dissatisfied, so both are confronted with the expense of an appeal and additional attorney's fees. And if the case is reversed the parties are right back where they started from with nothing to show for the terrific price they have paid, except fresh wounds and bitter experience.

All of these evils were spared the parties in five out of six cases through the pre-trial hearings, as indicated by table set forth above.

A c k n o w l e d g m e n t .

Without the cooperation and support of countless civic organizations, groups and individuals, the work of the court herein reported would have been far less effective. The interest and generosity of these citizens made possible some features and activities which the county does not afford, such as handicraft for children in the Child Study Institute; admission to theaters, sports events, swimming pools, etc; clothing for children in foster homes, etc. While the entire staff is grateful for all this cooperation, the principal thanks come from the children themselves for whose benefit these things have been done.

The public officials of the city and county, the police, the schools, the churches, the social agencies have likewise benefitted the children through their close cooperation with the court. To name all the citizens, organizations, officials and agencies to whom the court and children are indebted would run into a list several pages long, so here's just a big THANK YOU from all of us.

* * * *