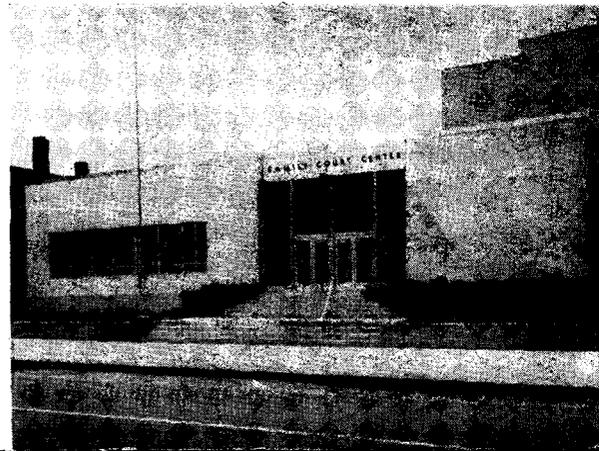


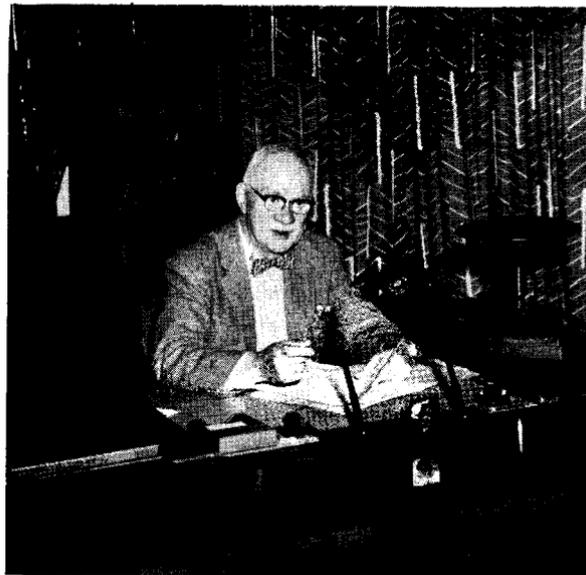
*Just*      *all by reference*

*Family Court*  
of  
*Lucas County*

**Toledo, Ohio**

**1956**





**Paul W. Alexander, Judge**  
**Court of Common Pleas**  
**Division of**  
**Domestic Relations**

## FOREWORD

In our view the most significant development in the past 20 years affecting juvenile delinquency has been the marked deterioration in the mores and morals of the people of our communities. Perhaps nowhere is this so sharply reflected as in some of the statistics covering releases of delinquent children to their parents.

In those cases where it is apparently warranted by all the known facts, the children may be released at the preliminary hearing to go home, their parents assuming full responsibility for their future conduct.

Fifteen years ago (1941) we found that half of the children so released committed new violations and were again brought before the court. In an effort to improve our means of selecting the children to be released to parents we have gradually reduced the number of repeaters of children so released from 50% in 1941 to 37% in 1956. This has been made possible by assigning more referees to preliminary hearings and devoting more time to analysis of the case at this stage. We are still unhappy that any of these children repeat and are devoting increased efforts to improve our screening process at the preliminary hearing stage so that the percentage of repeaters can be reduced still further. The record, from the figures above would seem to indicate that referees are developing greater skill in selecting the acceptable "risks" for release on probation to parents.

The figures in the following report will show an increase in the rate of repeaters during recent years. This is largely a personnel problem. A counselor can handle only a given amount of work. When children needing counseling services to straighten out their maladjustments come to court in increasing numbers, it is obvious that an increased number of counselors will be required to deal with them. The needed increase in court staff has not been possible because of budget limitations. As a result many young people needing close probationary supervision have not been given it and have continued in their delinquent behavior.

Parents whose methods of training and supervising such children permitted the development of these maladjustments have not had the advice and counsel they needed.

There is but one answer, an increase in staff of the probation department is essential if repeaters are to be reduced. Steps in this direction will be taken during the coming year.

Other factors having to do with the general trend in Juvenile court should be mentioned at this point.

Another factor might be increased aggressiveness of the police in apprehending juvenile offenders. There is little doubt that the skill of the police in catching them has steadily increased and that a larger percentage of the youthful offenders is being apprehended now than 20 years ago. This assumption, however, could not account for more than a minor fraction of the increased repeater rate.

Then we must reckon with the second World War, the most devastating factor in the past 20 years—perhaps in all history. Fathers left their children for military service; mothers left their children for work in war factories. War sowed the wind of neglect and the juvenile courts of America in recent years have been reaping the whirlwind of juvenile delinquency. The pre-school children neglected in those years have been getting old enough for the juvenile court, and hundreds of thousands of them have been swept into it. (This delinquency wave of the mid-50s was amply predicted in our annual reports of the mid-40s.)

Some obvious after-effects of World War II—of any war, in fact—are the inevitable cheapening of human values, the subverting of normal peace-time standards. In the minds of millions, might became right; cruelty became necessary; hardness was to be cultivated; toughness grew popular; fighting was a profession; destruction, a science; the killer, a hero; greed replaced honesty; the honest man was a sucker; mercy was weakness; chastity was silly; promiscuity became a legitimate sport. To the undisciplined character right became wrong and wrong became smart. Is it strange, then, that war's calculated cruelty and brutalizing influence should manifest itself in increasing adult crime and carry over into the behavior of the younger generation?

Just one little sample of modern youth's idea of smartness: Nowadays a high school commencement is also the commencement of an organized all-night spree for the class. The idea has spread to remote corners of the country and has grown to such proportions that parents in some cities have counter-organized and by working in shifts have stuck with the graduates all night in order to avert such possibilities as drunkenness, disorder, rioting, auto accidents, unpermitted pregnancies.

Another influence might be the growing tendency to multiply force by numbers in order to gain our ends. When we don't seem to be getting just what we want we simply gang up and beat up. Race riots, violent strikes, prison riots, are cases in point. Mob psychology seems to have permeated the air, even the supposedly pure atmosphere of our schools and colleges, judging by the number of student strikes and riots.

The trouble is, modern youth has learned, often in his own community, how much power lies in concerted action and how much safety lies in numbers. He has seen or heard what mob violence can do and what a trifling fraction of the mobsters get hurt or get into trouble. Why shouldn't he ape his elders in this respect as in others!

He doesn't need a "cause" or an object of hatred. Any trivial pretext will serve to start the fun. What sheer joy to break windows, smear paint, jam machinery, turn everything upside down! The cops may be very decent fellows, but when reason has flown, what a thrill to clobber a cop! What excitement to wrest the hose from the firemen and play it back against them!

Another factor contributing to the phenomenon probably is the wide-spread diffusion of unaccustomed wealth. Millions of people have been finding themselves in possession of pretty sporty cars, tidy homes, money for liquor and plenty of leisure in which to make mischief. From the evidence that comes out daily in divorce court it looks like it takes more strength of character to withstand the temptations of affluence than the tribulations of comparative poverty.

And we must remember that 20 years ago we were enduring the great depression. In those days people weren't going wild trying to spend new-found wealth because they didn't have any at all. Crime was at a low ebb. Domestic discord was almost at its lowest ebb, as indicated by the divorce rate.

These phenomena are not peculiar to Toledo, but are characteristic of the entire country. A West German scholar, Dr. Wolf Middendorf, of Freiburg, who has made a comparative study of delinquency in various lands, finds two facts in the American scene that impress him more than sheer volume. He speaks of what he terms the crime wave of wealth. He notes that it appears in countries and communities not suffering from indigence, and that an undue proportion of juvenile malfeasance comes from well-to-do families. "These good-for-nothings," he comments, "commit crimes for the sheer pleasure of it, out of adventurousness and boredom."

What most baffles our German observer (and the rest of us) is what he calls the phenomenon of discrepancy, the absence of a reasonable proportion between the motive and the crime; a boy of 17 kills another boy because somebody in his gang merely offended him; a boy of 16 kills his mother, brother and sister for refusing to give him money to see a baseball game. Here is something sinister and irrational because there is no sense in the horrible misdeed. Granted the children are most likely giving vent to some form of frustration, but still, by all reasonable standards, the vent is out of all proportion to the force of the frustration. And we concur with Dr. Middendorf.

Doubtless there are other factors. But one fact is inescapable; it is in the home and community to which the child is returned that he gets into fresh trouble.

Forgive us for reiterating the trite but true observation that juvenile delinquency is but a reflection of adult delinquency. We are demanding an awful lot of the youngster if we expect him in his code and in his conduct to rise above his home and his community.

## **FAMILY COURTS — IDEA TO PRACTICE — TO IDEAL**

Probably almost everything man has ever devised or invented has been in response to a felt need. Instances by the million could be cited, from the first crude wheel of the oxcart to the latest electronic tube. This is true of institutions such as the Family Court. Nobody that we know of ever sat down and said to himself: "Well, this is Tuesday; having nothing else to do I guess I'll dream up something. I guess I'll invent a Family Court."

The Family Court has come into being through a process of experiment and evolution to meet needs felt by untold thousands of persons. It is doubtful if at any time during the last hundred-odd-years — since the law placed upon the courts the responsibility of attempting to straighten out marital discord through the pseudo-remedy of divorce, that the judge of such a court has not almost constantly been besought by individuals here and there: "Judge, can I see you, please? I want to talk to you about my wife"; "Please, Judge, Your Honor, I'm having trouble with my husband. Can I talk to you?" "Please, Mr. Judge, will you help me get back my refrigerator?" and so on.

It is natural for these people in domestic difficulty to turn to the courts for help in their time of domestic trouble. They turn to the court because they don't know where else to turn. They know nothing about family service agencies and still less about marriage counseling. Millions of them are frantic to be rid of their present spouses so that they can enjoy new ones. Millions more are desperate to mend their marriages and hang on to their present spouses. Still more millions are miserable and sick at heart, frightened, frustrated, discouraged, distressed and don't know what they ought to do or what they could do.

As we sat in our court, hearing one day juvenile delinquency cases and the next day divorce cases, it quickly became apparent that while sitting as a juvenile judge we were able to accomplish a very respectable portion of good for the children, their families and for the general public; and that while sitting as a divorce judge, we achieved nothing but the burial of a dead marriage — usually of a marriage so long dead that its decomposition had become socially and morally malodorous.

While the divorce court seemed to be essentially destructive, the juvenile court seemed to be constructive. This was due to the essential differences in the philosophies, functions and facilities of the two courts. The juvenile court's main philosophy was to help the child; to do what was best for him and society; to this end it was staffed with persons trained and experienced in various social sciences, there to cooperate with legal science. The divorce court's fundamental philosophy was to ascertain the guilt of the defendant and punish him by destroying his marital status (by that time a purely legal fiction); it spurned other social sciences — anything that wasn't traditionally strictly legal.

In 1938, the second year of our tenure, a new law went into effect authorizing the divorce court to investigate, among other things, the family relations in divorce cases. Immediately a case worker was assigned to this department, at first called "Friend of the Court." Later, as the work grew and developed, the workers came to be known as marriage counselors and the court to be known as a family court. In 1956 Lucas County court was staffed with six marriage counselors, all specially trained and skilled.

The same phenomenon has been in evidence in other parts of the country as well, originating in Ohio. Family courts already exist in the Carolinas, Texas, Louisiana, Oregon and elsewhere. Also, family court acts were submitted to the 1957 legislature in Connecticut, Utah, California, and some other states.

The true or integrated family court has jurisdiction over all justiciable family problems from juvenile delinquency through divorce, separation, annulment, etc. In the matrimonial department the court lifts bodily the main features of the philosophy, methodology and procedure of the juvenile court and adapts them to matrimonial actions. Thus, in addition to integration it has in common with the juvenile court two other distinguishing characteristics, to wit: the "therapeutic approach" and a specially trained staff.

A true family court is one designed and equipped to protect and safeguard family life in general and family units in particular by affording to the members thereof, in addition to their purely legal remedies, various other types of help; and by resolving all their justiciable problems and conflicts arising

from their intrafamilial relationships in a single, integrated court, having one staff of specially skilled personnel, with one philosophy, one underlying purpose, working as one team, with one set of records, all in one place, under one direction, that of a specialist judge or judges. When the community is not large enough to support integration, a state-wide court, similar to the Connecticut and Utah juvenile courts, is envisioned.

There are a half dozen guiding principles which generally govern the practices and policies of family courts in so far as they are not prohibited by or in conflict with the substantive law of the state:

1. Persons involved in various kinds of family litigation or proceedings are generally in need of guidance and aid of various kinds, in addition to that rendered by the impersonal, judgmental and punitive processes of the law.

2. With rare exceptions such persons are unfamiliar with the varieties of aid available and are quite insensible of the particular types of help appropriate to their individual problems.

3. It is better for the family and all its members to make peace, resolve conflicts, and compose differences than to engage in pitched battles in the courtroom.

4. The traditional adversary procedures of the law when employed to resolve intrafamilial conflicts tend to fan the flames and intensify antagonism between and among members of the family; therefore such procedures should be displaced as far as possible by the non-adversary or conference type of procedure in both determining issues and prescribing remedies; provided that the conventional adversary procedure must always be available to any person demanding it for the finding of disputed facts.

5. Prevention is better than punishment. The family court should apply the law and exercise its powers, express and implied, in such a way as to serve the best interests of the family unit, conserving the marriage if possible; and in case of irreconcilable conflict between or among members of the family, then so as to protect the more helpless members of the family as equitably as possible.

6. Care must always be taken to see that no person is permitted to take advantage of, or profit by his own wrong.

7. Persons seeking relief from marital and other family problems by recourse to law and courts should not be denied appropriate help or turned away whether before, during or after litigation; provided it is desirable for lawyers and courts to refer such persons to other agencies when it is clear that neither lawyer nor court has the means to afford such persons the type of help indicated, or that such help can be rendered better by the other agencies.

A few years ago the Association of the Bar of New York City, through a committee headed by Allen T. Klots, made a study of existing courts with a view to the possible establishment of a family court in New York. The report was prepared and filed by Walter Gellhorn, of Columbia Law School, assisted by Jacob D. Hyman, Dean of the Buffalo Law School, and Sidney H. Asch, of Columbia.

A dozen conclusions are found on page 12 of their report, which is entitled: "Children and Families in the Courts of New York City." To quote a few:

"1. Cases which are the subject of this report differ in important respects from the purely adversary proceedings ordinarily litigated in a court of law. The issues involved are varying aspects of family deterioration which call for judicial determination of the root cause and for the application of therapeutic and preventive measures.

"2. A specialized judiciary equipped by training and disposition with the proper approach and skill in handling the matters involved is required for such cases.

"5. A new, single, integrated court should be created by constitutional amendment which should have jurisdiction (exclusive, except as indicated) over the following matters: (Here are listed the topics from delinquency through divorce.)

“6. Special facilities, including social case work, counseling, probation, medical, clinical psychiatric and psychological services, co-ordinated with and supplemented by the work of appropriate qualified religious and philanthropic agencies, are essential for the proper handling of these matters. The integrated court should be properly equipped with such facilities.”

As we indicated at the outset, people, for the most part, never have heard of the family service agencies or of pastor or marriage counseling services. Or, if they have heard of them, their ideas about them are distorted or dim or downright hostile. Even if they had a perfect understanding of the services available, a large percentage of them would by-pass even the best of agencies, even the friendliest and wisest of pastors, for a number of reasons. These are apt to be the ones who are angry, vindictive, confused, ashamed, their pride is wounded. In their overwrought emotional state they want only one thing. They don't want to learn how to make a go of their marriage, how to save their family from the final coup de grace, how to live with their so-and-so of a spouse. They don't even want to learn how to live with themselves. They can't or won't recognize any difference between symptom and cause. They certainly don't want to look within themselves for any causative factor. All they feel is that their spouse gives them pain which they deem intolerable, and to rid themselves of the pain all they want is to be rid of the spouse. So they have recourse to the only redress they know, the law. And the law offers them the only remedy it has developed in all the centuries. divorce.

The social agencies have too often made a practice of preparing a feast, beating the dishpan and crying: “Here it is: Come and get it!” Then the very people most in need of it pass by on the other side of the street. The agencies haven't taken it where the people are. Now, in the simplest military strategy when the enemy must file through a narrow pass, that is where we concentrate our fire. The advertiser doesn't post his signs in a secluded glade for the chance beauty-seeker to see, but beside the highway where the multitude must pass by. The Indian who must catch all the salmon he can does not wait patiently by the inviting pool for the fish to swim into his net; he stations himself beside the narrow gorge up which the salmon must fight his way to the spawning grounds. So the State which really wants to

save all the marriages it can will not sit by in the side street and wait for the victims of marital malaise to find their way to the clinic; it will station itself by the busy highway down which these unhappy victims are lugging their moribund marriages to the morgue, and there offer its element and therapeutic services. Surely if the State really wants to reach people to help them, there can be nothing wrong with its going where the people are who need to be helped.

It thus appears that in a substantial proportion of marriage failures the social agencies are ineffectual. This is through no fault of their own. They can hardly go along the street pushing doorbells and saying to each housewife: "Good morning, are you having domestic trouble today? We would like to demonstrate our latest model in family service." The only trouble is that there just isn't any way to get all the people who need this kind of service to seek it. Only after that happy day arrives will there be no need to repose such services in the court.

But until then there is no by-passing the family court. All marriages destined for ultimate burial, and many merely sick ones are channeled through the court. As pointed out above, it sifts out the utterly defunct marriage from the merely moribund, and when it discovers a spark of viability it goes to work thereon. And even when it does not succeed to the point of reuniting the disunited, it may and does succeed in helping a party to learn to live with himself in spite of himself. It helps those in need of help with the *kind* of help they need.

## IN A HURRY? OUR REPORT IN BRIEF —

Unlocked cars — keys in the ignition were the chief factors in almost all auto thefts during 1956.

At the crossroads between New York and Chicago; Detroit and the South we handled 188 runaways during 1956.

Pearl Harbor babies have come of age. The increased number of children passing through the court reflects the increased birth rate of the '40s and the larger number of children in the community.

Boys outnumber girls in court by a ratio of more than five to one.

Offenses that showed any substantial change in frequency during 1956 included:

Robbery (100% increase over last five year average)

Burglary (50% increase over last five year average)

Sex offenses (15% decrease over last five year average)

Other offenses showed no change in percentage of occurrence but did show an increase in numbers corresponding to the general increase in the population.

The average age of children brought before the court was 15 years 4 months for boys and 15 years for girls.

Overcrowding at the Child Study Institute continued to be a problem during 1956. On 354 days of the year we had boys sleeping in hallways and corridors. 171 children were detained in county jail because of lack of facilities at Child Study Institute.

## SINGLE SENTENCE SUMMARIES

Our records show that it is frequently the “good boy” who is a “bad driver.”

Drinking of alcoholic beverages by teen-agers (sometimes obtained at home during absence of the parents) is a factor occurring more frequently in court referrals.

The increased number of repeaters during 1956 is largely due to the inability of the probation department to provide the necessary supervision of boys and girls. One probation counselor can provide adequate supervision for 50 to 60 children a year. During 1956 800 children were on probation. More than 1500 needed the services of probation but were denied this service for lack of staff in the probation department.

The purpose of the investigation and psychological examination of a child is to determine what method of counseling of child and family will produce a change in behavior and enable the child to take his place at school and in the community with a minimum of conflict with other people.

We see an increasing need for parents to accept the responsibility of setting ‘limits’ of behavior within which children must operate, and also the necessity for insisting on those limits and not permitting children to ‘talk their way out.’ Make your decisions and stick to them.

Private families, providing foster homes for our children during their probation period, have been a big help. By removing children temporarily from their homes and communities, we have been able to bring about the necessary changes in home life and attitudes so that children can be returned later. We need more homes for this service and we are prepared to pay persons who furnish such services.

With a nationwide increase in delinquency, many private training schools which have provided services for this court in past years are now being filled with children from their local communities. A real need is developing for such a school in Lucas County.

Use of narcotics by children is not a problem in Lucas County. It has been more than five years since we have received a bona-fide complaint.

For 20 years the records will show that probation is the most effective corrective measure as applied to children. The rate of repeaters is lower and the cost of supervision is lower than placement in training schools or other institutions. Probation costs the taxpayers about \$125 per year per child. Commitment of a child to a training school or Industrial school costs from \$1200 to \$2000 per year.

During 1956, 200 children were removed from their homes and placed in training schools or foster homes or industrial schools. These children will remain away from the community until their conduct and attitudes have improved to the point where the court feels reasonably sure that they can live without the rights and safety of other persons in the community being threatened.

Intensive psychological study was given to 277 new children during 1956; review of 159 probation cases for advice in changing of supervision plans.

56 children studies were above average in intelligence. 84 were below average.

The average child before court is retarded from one to three years in school subject matter.

A shortage of foster homes continued in 1956. Only 15 new ones were approved. We could use three times that number.

One out of every three licensed drivers under the age of 18 came into court during 1956 on traffic violation.

626 divorce cases involving children under 14 were investigated in 1956. Many other families having children under 14 and also children between 15 and 18 years of age could not be investigated because of lack of personnel.

376 persons applied for marriage counseling. Most of these came before filing divorce and many came at the suggestion of their attorney.

	1936	1946	1956
Commitments made—			
State Industrial Schools	49	48	62
Private Schools		77	71
Foster Homes		41	34
Other Institutions		41	33
●ffenses—			
Sex	47	75	67
Truancy	94	49	117
Runaways	135	85	189
Burglary	98	181	223
Auto Theft	74	112	188
Larceny	294	218	569
Mischief	147	50	369
<hr/>			
All cases	913	1619	2719
Repeaters	580	538	803
<hr/>			

## EXTENT OF PROBLEM

Delinquency covers the full range of behavior from incorrigible at home and school to burglary and robbery. The offenses in juvenile court, from a practical standpoint are not unlike those found in an adult criminal court. However, the motivation is usually quite different and subject to somewhat different form of treatment. And therein lies the big difference in treatment of juvenile and adult offenders—a difference that is overlooked when we try to analyze the delinquency of a child in the same terms as that of an adult.

The table shows the frequency of some of the more prominent types of delinquency during 1956.

**DELINQUENTS ARE NOT FREAKS —**

They are pretty much average American boys and girls. They come from what appear to be average families — your neighbors and mine. They have no distinguishing marks to set them apart from other children.

However they have not had the training and supervision they needed to help them meet the problems of every day living — to accept the limitations within which they must operate and to respect the rights of other people. Delinquency, to them, becomes a means of proving their own status to themselves.

As they sit in the waiting room at Juvenile Court with their parents they are probably preoccupied with the thought of “How will I get out of this?” Parent and child alike must be made to realize that “to get out of this” calls for a change on the part of both. Stronger and more understanding supervision by parents. The finding of socially acceptable means of expression for the child.



## WHAT HAVE THEY DONE?



All investigations of complaints are made by a member of one of the police agencies of the community. This phase of the case is never handled by the court itself. Having determined the facts and apprehended the child, the police may return child directly to his parents to appear in court the following day or he may bring the child to the Child Study Institute to have the decision on detention made there.



For most children, the first contact with the court is at the intake desk of the Child Study Institute. Here the children are brought by the police. An immediate interview determines whether the child will be held in detention pending his preliminary hearing or released to his parents to return for the hearing. Ohio law does not provide for release of a child on bond as in the case of adults and so the promise of a parent is accepted unless it is apparent that child's attitude is such that the parent would probably not be able to control him during the intervening time.

## PRELIMINARY HEARING —

A review of the complaint before a Referee is the first step in the handling of the case of a child.

Safeguarding the rights of the child — an informal atmosphere — friendly understanding of the problem, all carried on under the direction of an experienced referee.

At the preliminary hearing parents and child are informed as to the next steps in handling. A decision is made as to whether child shall be detained for study or released to parents pending final hearing. Conditions under which release is granted are clarified and a probation counselor is assigned to prepare the report for final hearing.





### STUDY — OBSERVATION

Study of those boys and girls who seem to present the more serious behavior and personal problems, is made at the Child Study Institute. Here, for a period of two to four weeks, the child is under study by experienced psychologists, psychiatrist, teachers and recreation workers — all of whom are trying to help the boy or girl learn to live with other children and to understand better the forces that have led to the court referral.

In the community, the probation counselor assigned to the case visits the home and school to learn what the behavior has been and to try and locate those situations which have contributed to the behavior that brought child to court.

Psychologist and counselor work together in reaching an analysis of the case and in presenting that analysis to judge or referee for final hearing.

## STUDY AND OBSERVATION AT CHILD STUDY INSTITUTE

Recreational activity — so much a part of a child's life in the community, is made a part of our study and activity program. We find that by duplicating these play situations under the watchful eye of trained observers we can learn many of the reasons why children fail to adjust to a group activity in the community. This information is passed to psychologist and counselor who make use of it in later counseling on probation.

Most of our children are retarded in one or more subjects — sometimes as much as three or four years. Two classrooms serve the residents of the Child Study Institute. Emphasis is placed upon remedial work in those subjects most needed. Teachers are regularly certified teachers furnished by the Toledo Board of Education.





### STUDY AND OBSERVATION AT CHILD STUDY INSTITUTE

Medical conditions that affect school attendance are frequently a part of the total problem. Thorough physical examinations are given every child at the Child Study Institute. Any treatment, including needed surgery is arranged through the family physician or through the Maumee Valley Hospital. All this is carried out under the supervision of the staff pediatrician of the Child Study Institute.

Numerous psychological tests are available for use by psychologists to determine intellectual capacity — level of maturity and to give clues to emotional disturbances that may be evident.

The religious phase of the child's life while in residence at the Child Study Institute is in the hands of the Chaplain for Protestant children. All Protestant children are seen by the Chaplain immediately after admission and thereafter whenever requested by the child. Catholic children are taken to religious services by members of St. Vincent de Paul Society and Sisters designated by Toledo Catholic Charities.



Meal time is an important time in the life of any child, and this is true at the Child Study Institute. Carefully planned and balanced meals are prepared by the cook under the planned supervision of the medical staff to assure proper balance of foods.



Final Hearing of the case is held three to five weeks after the preliminary hearing. During this time, staff members have been accumulating a wealth of information concerning the child, his behavior, factors that have influenced his behavior and the people with whom he has lived and will live in the future.

The report submitted to the Judge or referee will be a composite of the contacts of five to seven staff members with child and family, and frequently will cover a total of more than 400 clock hours spent with that child and the family. Many small details of behavior not previously known or noticed by parents and school officials have been observed, and have helped to make up the jig saw puzzle of a child in trouble.

The hearing becomes a means of interpreting to child and parents the nature of the child's behavior and what steps must be taken to correct it so that he can take his place in the community.

## **TREATMENT SERVICES**

During 1956, there were 763 children placed under the supervision of probation counselors. Some remained under supervision throughout the year — others were released within 6 months. In all, more than 800 children received the benefit of counseling during some portion of the year.

Thirty-four children were removed from their homes and placed with private families, where they lived as a part of the family, attending local schools and churches and participating in the community life under the guidance of foster parents and a probation counselor.

Seventy-one children were placed in private training schools — most of them outside of Toledo. In these cases, the need for close supervision and training did not permit their release to the community. While here, parents pay part or all of the cost of care.

Sixty-two children were committed to the state training schools at Lancaster or Delaware.

## SUCCESSSES

It is always good to see and hear about young people doing things well. It is especially gratifying to know that you may have been the one who furnished the needed counseling that helped a boy find himself.

Such happens frequently as it did with one of our counselors last year. He had under his guidance a boy known to the court for disturbance and sex offense. After four weeks study at the Child Study Institute, the boy was placed on probation. Psychiatric treatment was provided, and probation counseling following that. Today this boy is headed for a promising career in engineering having enrolled in one of our leading engineering colleges.

Then there was another boy we will call Tom, who seemed headed for a career in crime. His second court appearance in two years was for burglary. It took a lot of looking to see the potential that Tom had for good citizenship. A counselor found that potential and convinced the court. Today Tom also is headed for the university, with promise of making a name for himself and a real contribution in his chosen field of work.



**But life is not always smooth!**

Boys and girls do repeat their offenses in spite of a previous court appearance. Many factors contribute to this. Sometimes it is the failure of adults themselves to provide the kind of home and supervision needed — the same thing that brought the child to court in the first place. Sometimes it is the inability of the court to provide the kind of care and treatment needed. In 1956, the same number of counselors were called upon to handle 2719 cases as we had in 1952 to handle 1599 cases. Obviously something had to give. An increase in the number of repeaters during the year is a direct reflection of the number of young people who failed to get the attention to their problem that was needed.

Our repeater rate increased from 28.3% in 1955 to 35.9% in 1956. As it takes more doctors to handle an epidemic, so it takes more counselors to handle any substantial increase in cases referred to court. A major problem now — to secure enough counselors to do adequate counseling to reduce repeaters.

**35.9% of  
CHILDREN  
in  
COURT  
in 1956  
had  
been  
in  
COURT  
BEFORE**

## HIGHWAY COWBOYS —

In spite of the repeated protests of young people and their ardent admirers, the records show that they are not good drivers in the broad sense. Nearly one-third of the licensed drivers under the age of 18 found their way into Juvenile Court during 1956

Of these young people, 21.9 were involved in accidents which resulted in property damage to 385 vehicles, 41 pieces of property and personal injury to 77 persons. . . . .

11 persons were hospitalized. . . . .

4 died as a result of such injuries.



## SPEED WAS THE DEMON —

Speeding .....	383
Operating without due regard to safety.....	268
Running red light.....	118
Failure to stop at stop street.....	91
Failure to yield the right of way.....	75

All of these offenses indicate impatience and lack of respect for the rights of their fellow drivers.

**PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY** (or rather the lack of it) showed in 137 cases of youths driving without a license (and in many instances with the knowledge of the parent). Unless parents are willing to assume responsibility for curbing the driving habits of their children, it seems that drastic legal steps will have to be taken to impose an adequate curb upon them.

**DISPOSITIONS****HOW GOOD IS THE TEEN AGE DRIVER?**

The records show that there are 3226 licensed drivers in Lucas County under the age of 18 and attending our public and parochial schools. 984 of them (30.5%) appeared in Court during 1956 on traffic violations—not a very good showing.

**WHAT HAPPENS TO THESE VIOLATORS?**

Sent to driver training school.....	434
Use of license restricted to employment or other special purpose.....	333
License suspended .....	457
License revoked .....	29
Fined .....	923
Restitution for damage incurred.....	37
Dismissed for lack of evidence.....	60
All other .....	91

**DOES DRIVER TRAINING IN SCHOOL HELP?**

2554 young people under the age of 18 in Lucas County have received driver training in the school program. Of these, 158 were referred to court during 1956. This represents 6.1% of the total number of drivers who have received driver training. This compares with 30.5% of the untrained licensed drivers who found their way into court during the same period for traffic violations.

These figures would indicate that there is no question about the value of the driver training program in the school system.

## OTHER TYPES OF CASES HANDLED —

Families and children in trouble have a wide variety of problems brought to the attention of the court for handling.

A review of these problems gives one an appreciation of the extent to which these problems interfere with the productive lives of people. Their prompt and effective solution contributes to the general welfare of the community and reduces the drain upon public and private resources for social aid.

### CASES HANDLED IN 1956

Non-support .....	79
Consent for minors to marry.....	18
Custody and visitation.....	41
Dependency .....	67
Bastardy .....	149
Motions .....	956

**Mandatory Divorce Investigations** are made in all cases where there are children under fourteen, in accordance with the law of Ohio.

Much of the work of the department is concerned with helping men and women get through the emotional crises that arise when divorce is pending; often one partner is adamant about seeking a divorce, and the other more than reluctant. Each needs help. Sadly enough, in many cases the husband who has badly mistreated his wife becomes extremely guilty and unable to accept what has happened. Knowing as we do, that children should always think the best of both parents and should have the opportunity to know both, we tax our energy and our ingenuity to work toward that end, to assist with plans for support and custody, helping the parents to avoid the use of the children as pawns in the struggle. One counselor states that he feels his work has brought about a wholesome modification of the litigant's attitudes in about 30% of the cases, as well as less anger in cases where reunion is neither desirable nor desired. Even though the partners refuse to continue the marriage, surely reconciliation without reunion is better — especially for the children — than divorce obtained in a spirit of hatred and revenge!

In some cases, the counselors do find hope for a reconciliation; consider the story of Mrs. X. Even at first glance, there seemed to be more in the case than met the eye. Mr. X had filed for divorce, yet his wife could show that her husband had been a heavy drinker, neglected her and the children, and had even enjoyed an extra-marital fling. The pastor of the church had been trying to help the couple with understanding, and a realization that Mr. X's behavior had been a response to a wife who was too "bossy," a little too competent, but his help had not been sufficient to arouse the wife to see herself as she really was. After the divorce was filed, both the attorney and the pastor combined forces in advising the couple to work with a marriage counselor. It was hard for the wife to gain insight and see that she had possessed a great need to dominate, to be her husband's conscience, to dictate his every move. Wasn't it for his own good? However she did begin to see it from her husband's angle; she could ease off the controls; the husband could relax too, when his daily life could be his own again. They learned a lot also, from books suggested by the counselor. There was time now and energy as well, for activities with their children and for church work. They had learned to talk things over together, in fact, their marriage became a going concern. The petition was dismissed.

Only about 60% of the divorces requested are eventually granted, and in some of these the counselor can have few regrets. Take Jack, for instance, who when 18 and still in high school, married Jill, age 22, because she expected a child, of which he was the father. Jack was not ready for marriage, and became

very resentful when Jill bragged of other sexual experiences. She could not bear to leave her mother's home where the young husband's income was desperately needed; and when they did have a home of their own, Jill was dominant and nagging, unwilling to let Jack out of her sight. The boy, still not 21, sued for divorce, even though he dearly loved the year-and-a-half old baby. He was determined to end what for him had been a loveless, unhappy experience, and he refused to consider marriage counseling. The counselor's efforts were therefore concentrated on mitigating the disappointment, frustration, anger and bitterness, so that an amicable agreement for support of the child and the father's contacts with it, were reached.

## **WHAT IS MARRIAGE COUNSELING?**

How valuable is a marriage? What does it mean to a child whose world has barely reached the family circle to experience the disintegration of this world? Ask parents who love each other what their child means to them. Ask the loving husband or wife what their life would be without the other. Or ask the disturbed adult who has spent agonizing hours with his doctor searching, re-experiencing and re-organizing the emotionally crippling blows of a childhood lived with unhappily married parents. In answering such a question, these people would be groping for words to express the meaning of life itself as they see and feel it.

Broken marriages are tragedies not only in the effects on the people involved but also because each could have been avoided. The partners have within themselves the means to make their marriages more as they want them to be if only they could find ways to search out the elements within and between themselves that have blocked the satisfactions for which they hoped. Once this has been done the potentials within each to develop a better relationship can be tapped. Marriage counseling is the process of helping partners who become willing, to find ways of doing this.

Of course marriage counseling is not forced upon an unwilling or reluctant litigant. There is no such thing as compulsory marriage counseling. Every litigant in divorce court (except perhaps those who have been separated for years) either consciously or unconsciously stands in need of some form of help beyond the purely legal pseudo-remedy of divorce. Counseling is reserved for those able to recognize such help offered.

In many cases, the counselor and psychiatrist work together as in the following: One morning a very guilty and very worried husband appeared at the intake desk; his wife wanted a divorce after years of

marriage and a home in which there were still teen-agers. The husband who had been a wandering Romeo was distracted; he had fun philandering, of course, but not without a home to come back to. Luckily, the wife, after an interview agreed to try marriage counseling because her love for her husband was a hardy perennial and because she found some relief in talking about her troubles.

In counseling, the husband began to realize there was a connection between his present attitude toward women and his childhood experiences with an unloving mother. With new hope, he sought psychiatric help while his wife continued marriage counseling. In time, the parents began to understand the roots of their miseries and their feelings toward each other began to change. The wife no longer had cause to feel humiliated and the doubts she had developed over the years about her own femininity began to disappear. For the first time in the marriage, the partners began to understand each other and to enjoy their marriage and their children.

The marriage counselor gets a real reward when he gets a typical thank-you. "After we talked with you, it was pretty rough for a while, but we stuck to it; the psychiatrist and the counselor both helped my husband a lot; he used to chase all over the lot, but now he stays at home and he is a good father; we have two more children and we are very happy; we hope you will go on helping families like us."

### INCIDENTAL SERVICE AND REFERRALS

The services of a counselor are always available to explore a problem when people in trouble come in, preferably by appointment. While we listen we ask ourselves, "What is the most appropriate community resource? Can we help here and now? Should the client go to some other agency? Should he get legal advice?" Many of the problems can be helped at other family agencies; many should go to their doctor, their lawyer, their pastor, and we do all we can to facilitate the referral.

● Often, of course, the real problem is not one of marriage gone astray: Mrs. T. was so frightened when she came in for an interview that she could not give the information we take for simple record. Her age? Her husband's age? Her first husband's name? She could not remember. She did remember she had been brought up in an institution where she was placed when her mother died, and had only recently come to know her father and her brother. Her husband's unstable personality had evidently been set off by these new interests of hers, and he had been threatening the wife's life, holding a knife

at her throat, saying he would burn down the house. Sometime ago, he had attempted to shoot himself, but had only creased his scalp. Mrs. T in a whisper told more and more of her husband's strange actions, but she had been unable to admit even to herself that the man was mentally ill. Little by little we could tell her that was not a situation in which marriage counseling could help her husband, he needed medical care. We talked about Mr. T's family, and learned they were a reliable prosperous group, and could help the wife plan proper institutional care. Mrs. T could see that this mental condition should not have been concealed from others and she was able to accept her responsibility to consult her husband's parents. We also made alternative plans in case the parents did not wish to participate, but these were never needed.

In summing up, one counselor says "Rare is the client, even if he gets only one interview, who does not gain something, in a new perspective, or in greater peace of mind, or in more self-confidence for tackling his troubles, etc. Hence counseling with the humans who ask our help is a satisfying investment of time and energy", and we might add "and a saving of the tax-payers' money".

### — TO DELINQUENCY PROBLEMS

One thing stands out above all else in the work of the Juvenile Court in handling the problem of young offenders:

By and large the methods now in use for the correction and treatment of the young offenders have proved effective. However the limitations in applying this treatment, the fact that many children must be returned to their parents without adequate investigation and supervision because of lack of counselors point to the need for expanding the counseling staff as quickly as possible. The behavior shown by these young people is of such long standing and has not responded to the corrective measures of parents and schools that it is apparent that some method not available to schools and home must be used. The treatment methods of the court — probation — foster homes — private training schools and the state training schools have, over the years, proved their effectiveness when used properly. Now we must find a way — through increasing staff, to apply it to every case where it is needed.

### — TO DETENTION PROBLEMS

Increasing the effectiveness of the Child Study Institute is a “must” in the developing program of the Juvenile Court. The Child Study Institute has already proved its value and effectiveness. Lack of space however, has placed limitations upon its services. Four years ago when the present building was constructed, it was hoped to have facilities for 15 additional boys. Our overcrowding, almost from the first day, and the need for continued use of the County Jail is evidence of the wisdom of the original planning. Early completion of the remainder of the building, in accordance with the original plans and specifications, would provide a greatly improved service to the public and the means for aiding the court to reduce the number of repeaters in the field of delinquency and crime.

### — TO DIVORCE PROBLEM

The Family Court should never be allowed to become a clerical service for merely processing an application for divorce. People file divorce actions because they do not know what else to do to correct an intolerable situation.

Our experience has proved that divorce is not always the best or the right answer. And even when

it is the right answer we have found that there are right and wrong ways of going about it. This information can and should be made available to everyone.

An increase in the counseling staff of the Domestic Relations Department of the court would enable us to aid any family which wants such aid. On the basis of present population of the county and the number of cases brought to the attention of the court it would take 12 counselors to do the job adequately. This is the goal towards which we should strive.

### — TO THE FAMILY COURT AND THE COMMUNITY

Lucas County families which have received services from the Family Court during the past year total more than 5,000. Roughly 20,000 persons were affected by decisions of the court. Living in the county at the present time, there are more than 15,000 families in which one or more members of the family have had a case decided in this court. It is important to the welfare of the county that such services be of the best that can be provided.

However, we recognize that many services needed by these families do not come within the scope of operation of the Family Court. Our experience emphasizes the need for extended recreational facilities for both children and adults — specialized services for handicapped children — housing for low income bracket families — increased police protection — Mental Hygiene Center. All of these are services we pay for in one way or another. By not having them, in full measure, the price we pay is random vandalism of bored children — unproductive efforts of maladjusted children in schools — lowered family morale — and continued activity of the lawless element.

**AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION IS STILL WORTH A POUND OF CURE** — So often do our analyses of problem family situations point to relative simple means that could have prevented the problem situation that we are impelled to emphasize the need for the community in general to take note of our community needs and to take steps to meet these needs in preference to correcting problems that develop as a result of their lack.

During the year collections for all types of cases showed increase

For support of children in institutions —

There has been a substantial increase. This represents those children who are cared for in private correctional schools. The county guarantees the account and parents are ordered to reimburse the county according to their ability. Collections increased from the 10 year average of \$28,000 per annum to more than \$52,000 during 1956 with no increase in initial expenditure by the county.

Support of minor children assessed against fathers who are separated from their children reached an all time high of \$2,230,887.83.

Payment of restitution by children whose delinquency resulted in financial loss to the victims increased from \$9,706 to \$13,011.77 in 1956.

All three of these categories indicate a measure of relief to the taxpayer and law-abiding citizen and reflect the increased efforts of the Court to place responsibility where it belongs.

# JUVENILE COURT STATISTICS

## Table No. 1

### TRENDS FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Commitments to Industrial Schools .....	55	71	74	76	62
Commitments to Private Correctional Schools .....	72	76	60	57	71
Commitments to other Institutions .....	6	15	17	11	33
Delinquents placed in Foster Homes .....	35	40	62	66	34
Total children removed from community .....	168	202	213	210	200
Number placed on probation .....	874	943	920	910	1306

#### MAJOR CASES ONLY

Sex offense .....	62	37	29	49	47
Robbery .....	1	8	5	1	17 ✓
Burglary .....	91	72	104	107	148 ✓
Auto theft ..	71	51	81	112	175 ✓
Larceny ..	184	227	164	176	211 ✓
Malicious mischief .	92	57	45	80	83 ✓
Truancy .....	52	60	64	62	61 ✓
Runaway ..	95	105	103	108	132 ✓
All other offenses ..	264	329	273	295	413
	912	946	868	990	1287

**Table No. 2**  
**DELINQUENCIES BY THE MONTH**  
(except traffic)

	Boys	Girls	Total
January .....	124	40	164
February .....	125	42	167
March .....	131	26	157
April .....	185	18	203
May .....	161	33	194
June .....	186	31	217
July .....	238	35	273
August .....	227	31	258
September .....	208	37	245
October .....	279	41	320
November .....	202	41	243
December .....	214	32	246
	2280	407	2687

**Table No. 3**  
**OFFENSES FOR WHICH BROUGHT INTO COURT**

	Boys	Girls	Total
Robbery — hold up .....	17	1	18
Burglary .....	222		222
Sex .....	58	9	67
Auto theft .....	187	1	188
Other stealing .....	472	93	565
Malicious mischief .....	350	13	363
Unmanageable .....	169	51	220
Truancy .....	84	31	115
Runaway .....	75	113	188
Injury to person .....	50	3	53
All other .....	596	92	688
	2280	407	2687

**Table No. 4**  
**DISPOSITION OF CASES**

	Boys	Girls	Total
Probation to:			
Court Counselor .....	682	81	763
Agency worker .....	30	74	104
Individuals .....	360	79	439
Committed to Industrial School .....	54	8	62
Committed to other Correctional School .....	52	19	71
Committed to Ohio State Reformatory....			
To other Institution, Non-correctional...	23	10	33
Placed in Foster Homes .....	14	20	34
Fined .....	252	8	260
Restitution .....	287	8	295
Other .....	187	25	212
Exonerated or dismissed as too trivial...	102	17	119
Adjusted .....	223	56	279
Referred to other Court .....	14	2	16
	2280	407	2687

**Table No. 5**  
**REPEATERS**

Total number of individual children in Court on delinquency .....	2234
Number of first offenders .....	1431
Number of repeaters .....	803
% of total number who were repeaters.....	35.9%
1) Of the above 803 repeaters 302 (or 37.6%) had their first case settled at preliminary hearing without any investigation.	
2) Of the above 803 repeaters, 158 were released to parents without any probation (19.6%)	

**Table No. 6**  
**AGE RANGE OF DELINQUENTS**

	Boys	Girls	Total
Under 7 years .....	3		3
7 .....	10	2	12
8 .....	17	3	20
9 .....	46	6	52
10 .....	77	4	81
11 .....	112	13	125
12 .....	189	30	219
13 .....	282	55	337
14 .....	341	59	400
15 .....	433	88	521
16 .....	444	79	523
17 .....	319	66	385
18 .....	5	2	7
19 .....	1		1
20 .....	1		1
	2280	407	2687

Median age —  
Boys — 15 yrs. 4 mo.  
Girls — 15 yrs.

**Table No. 7** ✓  
**SCHOOL ATTENDING**

Woodward HS .....	173
Waite HS .....	156
Scott HS .....	153
Libbey HS .....	134
Macomber Voc. HS .....	128
DeVilbiss HS .....	103
Robinson Jr. HS .....	93
Parkland Craft .....	81

Jones Jr. HS .....	72
Sherman .....	59
Burnham HS .....	55
Clay HS .....	41
Lagrange .....	41
Holland HS .....	35
Gunckel .....	31
Washington Twp. Jr. HS .....	29
Hamilton .....	25
<u>Lincoln</u> .....	24
Franklin .....	23
Dorr Street .....	22
Oakdale .....	22
Other .....	21
Birmingham .....	21
Whittier .....	20
Garfield .....	17
Whitmer HS .....	17
Whitney Vocational .....	17
Glenwood .....	16
Irving .....	16
Navarre .....	16
Nathan Hale .....	15
Stickney .....	15
Swanton .....	15
Chase .....	14
Hillview .....	14
Riverside .....	14
Raymer .....	13
Fulton .....	12
Irwin .....	12
Private .....	12
Washington .....	12
Burroughs .....	11
Clay Elementary .....	11
Holland Elementary .....	11
Roosevelt .....	11
Glann .....	10
Longfellow .....	10

Westwood .....	10	Martin .....	1
Crissey .....	9	Providence Local .....	1
Springfield Local .....	9	Washington Local .....	1
Old Orchard .....	8	Waterville .....	1
Cherry .....	7	Wernert .....	1
Glendale .....	7	Not Attending .....	256
Walbridge .....	7	Out of County.....	82
Warren .....	7		
Arlington .....	6		
East Side Central.....	6	(Parochial)	
Anthony Wayne .....	5	Central Catholic .....	73
Monroe .....	5	St. Francis de Sales.....	30
Robt. Rogers HS.....	5	Rosary Cathedral .....	23
Westfield .....	5	Good Shepherd .....	13
Glansman .....	4	St. Stephen's .....	12
Harvard .....	4	St. Francis de Sales HS.....	10
Maumee HS .....	4	St. John's .....	9
Mt. Vernon .....	4	St. Mary's .....	9
Point Place .....	4	Holy Rosary .....	8
DeVeaux .....	3	St. Catherine's .....	8
Fort Miami .....	3	St. Thomas Aquinas .....	8
Jerusalem Local .....	3	Blessed Sacrament .....	7
Linconshire .....	3	Immaculate Conception .....	7
McKinley .....	3	St. Charles .....	7
Newbury .....	3	St. Michael's .....	7
Ottawa Hills HS.....	3	Gesu .....	6
Pickett .....	3	Sacred Heart .....	6
Stranahan .....	3	St. Ann's .....	5
Whitehouse .....	3	St. Hyacinth's .....	5
Central Avenue .....	2	Notre Dame Academy.....	4
Coy .....	2	Our Lady of Lourdes.....	4
Fall-Meyer .....	2	St. Hedwig's .....	4
Shoreland .....	2	St. James .....	4
Spring .....	2	St. Louis .....	4
Wynn .....	2	St. Teresa's .....	4
Beverly .....	1	Little Flower .....	3
Feilbach .....	1	Our Lady of Perpetual Help.....	3
Horace Mann .....	1	St. Adelbert's .....	3
Hopewell .....	1	St. Clement's .....	3
		St. Vincent de Paul.....	3

Blessed Pious .....	2
Nativity .....	2
St. Agnes .....	2
SS Peter and Paul.....	2
Ladyfield .....	1
Immaculate Conception (Swanton) .....	1
Marybrook Academy .....	1
Regina Coeli .....	1
St. Joseph's, Maumee.....	1
St. Ursula Academy.....	1
Other Catholic Institution.....	1
	2687

Washington Township .....	79
Oregon Township .....	58
Adams Township .....	56
Maumee (Waynesfield Township).....	19
Swanton Township .....	19
Jerusalem Township .....	14
Waterville Township .....	9
Ottawa Hills .....	7
Richfield Township .....	7
Monclova Township .....	6
Spencer Township .....	3
Harding Township .....	1
Out of County.....	103

2687

**Table No. 8**

**DISTRICTS**

East Toledo .....	409
South End .....	271
Collingwood .....	248
North End .....	223
Downtown .....	186
Pinewood .....	177
West Toledo .....	154
Lagrange-Stickney .....	144
Nebraska .....	109
West End .....	107
Point Place .....	62
Springfield Township .....	114
Sylvania Township .....	102

**Table No. 9**

**SOURCE OF REFERRAL**

	Boys	Girls	Total
Police .....	2113	290	2403
Parent .....	49	57	106
School .....	51	18	69
Social Agency .....	3	11	14
Probation Counselor .....	42	17	59
Other Court .....	3	3	6
Other Source .....	19	11	30
	2280	407	2687

**Table No. 10**  
**TRAFFIC CASES**  
**TYPE OF COMPLAINT**

Speeding .....	383	Hit Skip .....	6
Without due regard.....	268	No drivers license.....	137
Running red light.....	118	Temporary permit—No licensed driver.....	32
Stop Street .....	91	Defective vehicle (lights, brakes, etc.).....	54
School Stop sign.....	12	Defective or illegal muffler.....	155
Fail, yield right of way, vehicle.....	64	All other violations.....	218
Fail, yield right of way, pedestrian.....	11	Driving while license suspended.....	26
Prohibited turn .....	58	More than 1 violation this appearance.....	72
Wrong way—one way street.....	36		

**Table No. 11**  
**ACCIDENT**

(Property damage)		(Personal injury)	
None .....	1193	No injury .....	1360
Damage other vehicle.....	227	Injury to pedestrian.....	18
Property damage (other than vehicle).....	41	Injury to occupant of other car.....	22
Damage own car.....	158	Injury to occupant own car.....	33
		Fatal injury .....	4
		Medical treatment only to injured.....	25
		Hospitalization of one or more.....	11

**Table No. 12**  
**DISPOSITION OF TRAFFIC CASES**

Attend traffic school .....	431	Placed on probation.....	15
License restricted .....	333	Dismissed .....	60
License suspended .....	457	Other .....	91
License revoked .....	29	Return license on proof of insurance.....	115
Fined .....	923	Table 14—Accident cases	
Repair defective parts.....	219	Table 15—Insurance	
Restitution .....	37	Available on request.	

**Table No. 13**  
**JUVENILE COURT**  
**ALL CASES HANDLED**

Juvenile Court	
Bastardy .....	149
Consent to Marry...	18
Contributing ....	234
Delinquency	2687
Dependency	67
Motions	
Custody	41
Impose sentence	74
Lump sum judgment...	81
Other	56
Show Cause	499
To Modify .....	205
To set support.....	43
Non-support	79
Traffic .....	1741
Domestic Relations	
Original divorce actions filed.....	2203
Motions	3318
Total of all actions in Court, 1956.....	11,495

Table No. 14

## ADMISSIONS

	Boys	Girls	Total
January .....	145	40	185
February .....	142	49	191
March .....	133	42	175
April .....	169	25	194
May .....	150	39	189
June .....	154	40	194
July** .....	143	25	168
August .....	199	42	241
September .....	161	47	208
October* .....	241	54	295
November .....	142	41	183
December .....	176	48	224
1956 Totals .....	1955	492	2447
1955 Totals .....	1288	454	1742

\* High Month—October

\*\*Low Month—July

Table No. 15

## AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION

	Boys	Girls	Total
January .....	42	16	58
February .....	44	16	60
March .....	37	16	53
April .....	36	15	51
May .....	31	17	48
June .....	21	15	36
July .....	18	10	28
August .....	22	13	35
September .....	32	15	37
October .....	36	17	53
November .....	36	18	54
December .....	39	18	57
Average for 1956.....	33	15	48
Average for 1955.....	32	18	50

Days of population beyond room capacity for boys was 356 out of 366 days in 1956.

Days of population beyond room capacity for girls was 25 out of the 366 days in 1956.

**Table No. 16**

**AGES OF CHILDREN RECEIVED**

	Boys	Girls	Total
6 and under.....	1		1
7 .....	4	1	5
8 .....	5		5
9 .....	27	6	33
10 .....	29	10	39
11 .....	61	11	72
12 .....	115	20	135
13 .....	206	69	275
14 .....	298	112	410
15 .....	414	103	517
16 .....	463	80	543
17 .....	327	77	404
18 .....	4	3	7
19 .....	1		1
Totals .....	1995	492	2447

Median Age, 1956: 14 years, 5 months

Median Age, 1955: 14 years, 7 months

**Table No. 17**  
**SUMMARY OF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**

	1956	1955		1956	1955
Total number of children examined.....	471	378	Number of Impetigo Cases .....	2	2
Total number of children re-examined.....	215	179	Number of Infected Tonsil Cases .....	4	1
Uncompleted medical examinations .....	3	7	Number of Chronic Otitis Media Cases .....	8	7
Number of daily treatments in clinic.....	2450	2395	Number of Parotitis Cases (Mumps) .....	1	0
Nutritional status of children:			Number of Varicella Cases (Chickenpox)....	0	0
Good .....	91.8%	86.9%	Number of Scarlet Fever Cases .....	1	0
Fair .....	6.9%	11.8%	Number of Obesity Cases .....	28	12
Poor .....	1.3%	1.3%	Number of Malnutrition Cases .....	3	2
General Health when admitted:			Number of Scabies Cases .....	1	
Good .....	88.9%	82.9%	Number of Hypospadias Cases .....	1	1
Fair .....	10.5%	16.8%	Number of Petit Mal Epsilepsy Cases.....	1	1
Poor .....	0.6%	00.3%	Number of Grand Mal Epilepsy Cases.....	1	1
Percent having visual defects.....	31.8%	24.8%	Number of Deafness Cases .....	2	2
Percent having dental defects.....	35.6%	31.3%	Number of Hernia Cases .....	2	2
Percent having positive Wasserman Tests....	0.0%	0.3%	Number of Arthritis Cases .....	0	0
Percent positive Nose and Throat Cultures	0.0%	0.0%	Number of Diabetes Mellitus Cases .....	0	1
Number of positive Gonorrhea Cases.....	4	3	Number of Cerebral Palsy Cases .....	0	1
Number of pregnancies.....	9	14	Number of Drug Addiction Cases .....	0	0
Number of cases of Chronic Pelvic			Number of Tuberculin Patch Test Reactors	7	6
Inflammatory Disease .....	20	23	Number of Tuberculosis (Pulmonary Cases)	0	1
Clinic Cases .....	15	12	Number of Rheumatic Fever Cases	1	1
Immunizations (prior to admission):			Number of Endocrine Dysfunction Cases....	2	3
Smallpox .....	50.2%	52.7%	Number of Nephritis Cases .....	0	2
Diphtheria .....	19.4%	16.9%	Number of Chancroid Cases	0	1
Typhoid .....	19.2%	19.1%			
Pertussis .....	0.5%	0.5%			

Table No. 18

Total divorce cases filed .....	2203
Total divorces granted (55%) .....	1218
Total dismissed and denied (35%) (balance pending).....	771
Total "Walk-ins" (persons voluntarily seeking help) Estimated.....	4000
Total Phone calls for help (voluntary) Estimated.....	3600
Mandatory Divorce Investigations (Registered).....	1108
Marriage Counseling (Registered) .....	133
Out of Town Inquiries .....	9
Special Divorce Investigations .....	9
Contributing Cases .....	3

# Staff of Family Court 1956

L. Wallace Hoffman, *Director*  
Rita F. O'Grady, *Assistant Director*  
Thomas B. Bourque, *Administrator C.S.I.*  
Helen Hodge Taylor, *Administrator Domestic Relations*

## *Referees*

Margaret Casteel  
Joseph Doneghy  
Harry A. Everett  
Mary Eliz. Hiett  
James R. Kelly  
Nellie Matt  
E. Wade McBride

## *Casework Supervisors*

Edward A. Sikora  
Daniel Weber

## *Probation Counselors*

Kenneth Bierly  
Walter Bouck  
Mae Bridges  
Herbert W. Darling  
Ralph H. French  
R. Wayne Gambill  
Alfred Gordon  
William Johnson  
Harold Kalmeyer\*  
Marcia LaBonte\*  
C. Donald McColl  
Leo J. Paquette\*  
Donald H. Rich  
Phyllis Rochelle\*  
Harry Tharpe  
Rena U. Thatcher  
Mary M. West

## *Marriage Counselors*

Floyd M. Anderson\*  
Ariel L. Branch  
Ralph P. Bridgman  
Warren V. Grissom  
Fred Richert  
Charles Riseley

## *C.S.I. Professional Staff*

Robert R. Benson  
Lois Dehnostel\*  
Dr. H. L. Hartman  
Leone Hineline  
Dr. I. H. Kass  
Janet M. Lindecker  
Harry E. Miller  
Helen E. Moyer  
Geraldine Walczak  
Rev. F. R. Williams  
Ruth M. Williams

## *C.S.I. Leaders*

Raymond Bester  
Joseph Cram  
Dorothy Dearing  
John E. Doan  
Robert Donovan  
Howard Gorgas  
Wayne Haefner  
Charles Hinkelman

Emma Hischka  
Hattie Kolinski\*  
Angela Lloyd  
Wm. P. Lumbeck\*  
William Monroe  
Margaret Jamison  
Lucy R. McCormack  
Halloway C. Sells  
Bernetta Shields  
Stella Shields  
Cath. R. Shrider  
Mary L. Valliant  
Georgia A. Vines  
Eunice Williams

## *Office Staff*

Emma Babione  
Mildred Baker  
Maxine Brown\*  
Marie Brunsman  
George Conner  
Alice Cunningham  
Charlotte DeWese  
Fred Dickerson  
Catherine Gaffney  
Marie Gerbich  
Frances Gibbons  
Helen Goodrick  
Helen Gray  
Carl Guy  
Hazel Helm

Melba Harrison\*  
Jane Hatfield  
Elsie Humberger  
Arthur Huntley\*  
Marcile Humbert  
Jane Jones  
Louise Juarez  
Frank Jurski  
Dorothy Keller  
Augusta Managhan  
Martha Martin  
Grace Messerer  
Alma Miller  
Carol Mohler  
John Pickens  
Betty Porter  
Matt Reid  
Laura Roth  
Jean Sohalski  
Pauline Soltysiak  
Selma Schmidt  
Agnes Somers  
Henrietta Spanoudis  
Jimmie Stinson  
Ann Thomas  
Harriette Twiss  
Evelyn Wernert  
Marie Winzeler  
Edward Wolny  
Marian Wright  
Ethel Wynn

\*Employment terminated during year.

