

*Leo Hoffman. Personal Copy Please Return!*



## *Family Court Center*

JUVENILE COURT  
DIVORCE COURT  
DOMESTIC RELATIONS  
CHILD STUDY INSTITUTE

## *Annual Report*

1953

TOLEDO

LUCAS COUNTY

OHIO

To The Honorable Waldo Shank  
Franklin W. Mohn  
George Schoonmaker

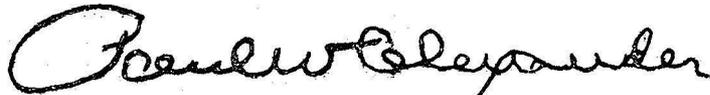
Commissioners of Lucas County

And to the Honorable John D. Porterfield, M.D.  
Director of Department of Public Welfare of the State of Ohio

Dear Sirs:

In compliance with Section 2151.18 General Code, I submit herewith the Annual Report of the Court of Common Pleas of Lucas County, Ohio, Division of Domestic Relations, which includes the Juvenile Court, covering the calendar year 1953, showing the number and kinds of cases that have come before it, and other data pertaining to the work of the Court of interest to you and the general public.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Paul W. Alexander". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name "Judge".

Judge

June 1, 1954

STAFF  
of  
FAMILY COURT CENTER

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Paul W. Alexander, Judge  
L. Wallace Hoffman, Director  
Rita F. O'Grady, Asst. Director

Referees

Robert. Baumgartner, Ch.Sup.Ref.	L. Wallace Hoffman, Boys' Ref.
Margaret Casteel, Intake Ref.	James R. Kelly, Boys' Ref.
Joseph E. Doneghy, Boys' Ref.	E. Wade McBride, Boys' Ref.
	Rita F. O'Grady, Girls' Ref.

Probation Department

Counselors

Gerald D. Conley	C. Donald McColl
Daniel B. Conlin	Joseph J. Prebeg
Mary Eliz. Hiatt	Phyllis A. Rochelle
William Johnson	Francis R. Sidle
Harold Kalmeyer	Edward A. Sikora
Carmah A. Lawler	Eleanor Wisner
Kathryn A. Lesmeister	Ted O. Wisner
William Clark	

Foster Home Finder

Rena U. Thatcher

Domestic Relations Department

Nellie M. Matt, Administrator

Counselors

Ralph P. Bridgman, Chief Marriage Counselor

Floyd M. Anderson	Oscar B. Latin
Warren V. Grissom	Pat O. Mancini
Margaret Jorgensen	Fred Richert
Donald C. Merriman	

Child Study Institute

Thomas B. Bourque, Administrator  
Dr. Rudolf Lassner, Senior Psychologist  
Harry E. Miller, Psychologist  
Ruth M. Williams, Psychologist  
Dr. Henry L. Hartman, Psychiatrist  
Dr. I. H. Kass, Pediatrician  
Lois M. Dehnbestel, Nurse  
Janet M. Lindecker, Music Therapist

Leaders

Boys

Charles J. Hinkelman, Chief  
Raymond Bester  
Donald W. Drain  
Wayne J. Haefner  
Robert H. Hensley  
Herbert G. Hood  
Norbert J. Stein  
Kenneth Williard, Jr.

Girls

Hattie Kolinski, Chief  
Daisy R. Cooke  
Dorothy G. Dearing  
Leone Hinehline  
Angela Lloyd  
Margaret Jamison  
Lucy R. McCormick  
Stella E. Shields  
Catherine R. Shrider  
Lorene Todd  
Mary L. Valliant  
Georgia A. Vines

Office and Operating Personnel

Sue Abood  
Emma C. Babione  
Winifred Bailey  
Harold R. Beuschlein  
Jesse J. Billups  
Maxine Brown  
Helen I. Chapman  
Helen M. Csendes  
Alice M. Cunningham  
Charlotte E. DeWese  
Catherine A. Gaffney  
Frances Gibbons  
Lillian B. Gibson  
Helen C. Goodrick  
Carl S. Guy  
Hazel M. Helm

Jane Hatfield  
Elsie Humberger  
Marcile Humbert  
Mary H. Lindsey  
Augusta C. Managhan  
Grace Messerer  
Alma F. Miller  
Betty J. Porter  
Matt A. Reid  
Donna Mae Reisner  
Laura M. Roth  
Edna L. Sanford  
Annie R. Thomas  
Marie Winzeler  
Marian Wright  
Ethel Wynn

Victor Young

## INTRODUCTION

To the People of Toledo and Lucas County :

**FAMILY PROBLEMS CENTERED HERE**      The story of what goes on in your Family Court Center generally has something of surprise and something of interest for almost everybody. It is really the seat of the Court of Common Pleas, Division of Domestic Relations. Hither come all manner of domestic problems and conflicts that arise within and concern the family and its members.

The efficient new building is called the Family Court Center because the legal handling of family cases is centered here, e.g., divorce, alimony, annulment of marriage, juvenile delinquency dependent children, handicapped children, illegitimate children, unwed mothers, child marriages, absconding parents, neglectful parents, non-supporting parents, contributing to delinquency of minors, abuse of children, disputes over child custody, visitation and companionship, child labor law violations, filiation proceedings, etc.

**ONE COURT,  
ONE PURPOSE,  
ONE STAFF**      Not only are all these types of family problems centered under one roof; even the very children who must be temporarily detained for study and for the protection of themselves and of the community live in the Child Study Institute under the same roof. All these problems and all these people are handled within the jurisdiction of one court, having one staff of specially skilled personnel, under one leadership, with one philosophy or underlying purpose, working as a unit, with one set of family records, all in one place.

**UNLIKE  
OLD-STYLED  
COURT**      The fine new building has plenty of the new look. With its straight, box-like lines, absence of pillars, arches, pediments or any ornamentation, it doesn't look like the kind of court house we are used to. Yet that's what it is--a court house. The court within has plenty of the new look, too. With its simple, conference-like procedures, absence of ceremony, forensic battles, sensational dramatics, or crowds of spectators, it doesn't look like the kind of court we are used to. But it is a court, nevertheless--a modern family court.

You see, the old-fashioned court has one main function: the judicial. It finds the facts and applies the law. It decides the case--and that's that. What happens afterwards to the parties or their finances or their property is of no concern to the court. It has performed its judicial function--let the chips fall where they may!

SECOND FUNCTION But, the modern family court has a dual function. VERY IMPORTANT The first is judicial. It may never for an instant lose sight of its duty to find the facts and apply the law--to decide the case. That's just the beginning. And it's far less difficult than its second function. For the family court deals with families, not finances; with children, not chattels; with mothers, not mortgages; with fathers, not fame or fortune; with wives, not wills; with husbands, not houses; with people, not property. So, what happens afterwards (and before, and during) to these families and children is of utmost concern to the family court.

And so it has a second and more constructive, if more difficult function: the therapeutic. That means healing. It puts the emphasis on the constructive rather than the destructive; on the preventive rather than the punitive. Confronted with a delinquent child it aims to correct rather than condemn; with a disintegrating family, to conserve rather than consign to the rocks; with an obstreperous spouse to give him help rather than hell--usually he's already had more than he can take of the latter.

SHALL WE  
KILL 'EM OR  
CURE 'EM? Indeed, all the clients of the family court, from the innocent dependent child to the unregenerate reprobate who beats his wife and starves his infant, are in some form of trouble, are standing in the need of help. So the constant aim of every member of every department of the family court is to render the kind of help he is especially fitted to render to every client to whom he can be helpful. Understanding, sympathy, patience, kindness have been found to work better than superficial criticism and castigation.

~~Withal~~ the family court worker's idealism must have a firm and soundly practical realism in the approach to every problem. For some there are, and always will be, who are not amenable to good

will, and by whom sympathetic kindness is misconstrued as simple-minded weakness. These are easily and quickly detected, and as easily and quickly disposed of by means of strict discipline, or by downright punitive measures on the rare occasions when absolutely necessary.

DELINQUENCY            But seldom has your family court been required  
ONCE WAS                even to approach the stern philosophy of olden  
CAPITAL OFFENSE        days toward the juvenile delinquent. Time was  
                                 when it was a capital offense for a boy to disobey  
his parents, or be stubborn and rebellious, or become a glutton or a  
drunkard. He was not hanged, or electrocuted or guillotined. He was  
merely stoned to death.

Mankind has made a little progress since those Biblical days. Nowadays throughout America it is the fashion for the more bloodthirsty among us, when particularly annoyed or frustrated by some shockingly cruel and brutal offense committed by a boy devil in him, indignantly to demand more refined tortures. They don't literally cry out for the death penalty or even the ordeals of the Dark Ages. They are content to settle for the modern substitute for death by stoning, to wit, a good long incarceration in a present-day prison.

SOME ADULTS            They react in precisely the same fashion as the  
REACT LIKE              delinquent child whom they condemn. When we  
DELINQUENTS            are struck our primal instinct is to strike back.  
                                 If we are hurt our first impulse is to hurt in return.  
If someone calls us a bad name it is natural to want to call him a bad name. Stemming from the law of self-preservation, the desire to hit back, to get even, is instinctual; it is shared by all races, all ages, all classes, all sexes, even by the lower animals. Hence the current clamor for revenge.

The manner in which we control this primal urge is a fair indication of the degree to which we have become civilized. In the early days of mankind this urge to retaliate was often overpowering and it was customary for the injured party not merely to get even but to give worse than he got, often even to the extermination of the wrong-doer. It got so something had to be done about it and Moses laid down the lex talionis, the law of retaliation—an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, etc., but no more.

**WE'RE ALL  
ANXIOUS TO  
STRIKE BACK**

However, although this doctrine was intended merely as a curb on vengefulness and blood-thirstiness, succeeding generations have construed it as an authorization to get even. They haven't noticed any multitudes of the meek inheriting the earth; they disregard the doctrine of turning the other cheek. This idea is too subtle and too hard to understand; it requires too much patience and courage. So it is not hard to understand why the present generation is entrenched in the idea of hitting back, getting even--and why our younger generation not only believes in it but holds that anyone who doesn't do so is a coward and a sucker, "chicken"!

Oh yes, today's juvenile delinquents know all about getting even, hitting back! Just try handling them once on a purely punitive basis. You remember, of course, that to punish means primarily to hurt, to inflict pain. The words "pain," "punch" and "penalty" all come from the same root as "punish." Try getting a boy to do your will be hurting him, and see how quickly he strikes back. Oh, he won't hit you literally--you're bigger than he is. He may do your will while you stand over him--he doesn't want to be hurt some more. But wait until the pressure, the fear is removed. Then watch out! For you will find, of course, that your hurting him has only strengthened his desire to get even--and more. You will merely have intensified his antagonism.

**CHILD MAY BE  
HURT ONLY  
INCIDENTALLY**

(This is not to say a child may never be hurt. A physician doesn't hurt his patient to cure him. Yet in order to cure some conditions he may find it necessary to hurt the patient. While a court doesn't make a business of hurting children to correct them, it sometimes--one might say frequently--finds it necessary in the course of disciplining the child--bringing about a change in his attitudes--to hurt him. But the hurt must never be punishment in the sense of getting even with him for a wrong he has done. There are far better ways to teach him he will always be held responsible for the natural and reasonable consequences of his acts.)

In our brief experience of 17 years in the juvenile delinquency business, handling some 25,000 delinquent boys and girls, we have learned how right were our many illustrious colleagues and

predecessors when, out of their lifetimes devoted to the study of the causes and cures of juvenile delinquency, they have sounded the warning cry, "Aggression begets aggression."

**DELINQUENT  
IS AGAINST  
GOVERNMENT**            When the child is brought to court he is naturally hostile. (Who among us isn't a little bit hostile when he merely gets a traffic tag?) He is frightened, and resentful at having his liberty curtailed, even temporarily. For the moment he can't have what he wants when he wants it. He resents the forces that restrain him. He is against the cops, his teacher, his school, his parents, his brothers and sisters, his home, the court--he is "agin' the government." He is anti-social. Chances are he has felt pretty much that way for some time before he committed the anti-social act or acts that brought him into court.

Now the job of the court is not to stone him to death with stones, not to get even or hurt him because he hurt somebody else (no matter how grievously) nor because he hurt all of us, society, by breaking our laws. Your court's job is to correct his anti-social tendency, to change his wrong attitudes and replace them with proper ones (thereby protecting society against future wrongs). This is something nobody can do for him. He must do it himself. No power on earth can make him do it. All we can do is show him the way back to the fold. He cannot be driven but he may be led. We can make the way back as easy as possible. We can expose him to right examples, right ideas and right thinking, and try to make them so attractive he will let them replace his anti-social attitudes.

**ATTITUDES NOT  
CHANGED BY  
PLATITUDES**            Attitudes are not changed by platitudes. We could preach at him but it would go in one ear and out the other. We could lecture him and denounce his evil ways, but he would only freeze up. We could reason with him and he might accept the facts intellectually, but not emotionally--he would still feel the same way. We could bribe him with promises, but attitudes, particularly juvenile anti-social attitudes, are not changed by beatitudes. We could threaten him, but neither punishment nor fear of punishment has proven very effective to change anti-social attitudes. Then what can we do?

Human conduct is changed by human contact. This is easily demonstrable. It has been proven through the ages. Especially is it true with children and youths. The kindly, beneficent contact of wise, devoted adults, specially educated and trained in the mysteries of child behavior and the labyrinths of child psychology has proven to be the best answer yet devised. The experience of your own court and of the juvenile courts of the land have increasingly borne this out in the past half century.

CHILDREN ARE TREATED WITH CONSIDERATION      If you want to win somebody to your point of view you don't start out by scaring him or threatening him or making him mad at you. You are nice to him; you try to make him like you. Well, that's what we do with the rebellious, recalcitrant kids brought to your court. We purposely don't treat them like outlaws or criminals. As indicated above, every reasonable effort is made to treat them like human beings even though they be children--to receive them with respect for their individual dignity, with quiet kindness and courtesy; and throughout their stay at the Child Study Institute and in all outside contacts to be personally interested, friendly and helpful, to dispel their fears and resentments and help them find courage and self-confidence. They are encouraged to engage in many forms of recreation, within and without the Center, and during most of their waking hours they are kept busy doing something enjoyable or useful or both. If you have visited their quarters you know that while at the CSI they are well housed, well fed, well clothed and well cared for.

YES WE COD-  
DLE KIDS--  
WITH REASON      Once upon a time the English scholar, Thomas Carlyle, when asked how he liked babies, snapped: "Boiled!" Today some American adherents of the old "stone-'em-to-death" school of thought, finding the humane approach to cantankerous kids not gory enough for their taste, give voice to the awful indictment that such children are being merely coddled. These people are distressed because obviously they prefer their delinquents boiled briskly. You see, to coddle is merely to "boil gently, to seethe, to stew," according to the Century Dictionary.

To be sure, "coddle" has other meanings: to make much of; treat tenderly as an invalid; humor. In these senses we

proudly proclaim that, considering their individual needs rather than offenses, the wards of your court are intentionally and assiduously coddled. Many of the children have become delinquent because nobody ever made much of them. They feel unwanted and insecure. So when they give the right answer in class, or make a good play in a game, or construct a bird-house or knit a scarf or weave a rug, we are right there to make much of them--thereby helping to build up their self-respect and self-confidence. (On the other hand, those who are delinquent because they have been made too much of must be gently whittled down to size.)

THEY MOSTLY  
NEED KINDLY  
TREATMENT

And many must be treated tenderly too. For they are really invalids--emotionally. They have gone through misery; the trouble they are in appalls them. They are sick at heart and often emotionally disturbed. Not to treat them tenderly would cancel our curative measures. And within reason some are humored to keep them and their fellows in good humor; but never at the expense of good discipline. Nor may there be appeasement. No child may keep ill-gotten gains nor be permitted to pursue wrongful ways.

Juvenile delinquency is again on the increase. It is not rising as rapidly as it did some ten years ago during the war, after which it subsided. We predicted an increase in the mid-fifties because of the foreseeable increase in the number of children of delinquency age, 8 to 18, and because of the neglect due to the war effort, of the younger children who would then be reaching delinquency age. But, having sowed the wind, we are reaping the whirlwind, for the delinquency rate is increasing faster than the child population of delinquency age.

HYSTERIA DUE  
TO LACK OF  
UNDERSTANDING

When the reasons for this phenomenon are better understood we may expect a lessening of the current hysteria which has led so many otherwise good Americans to cry out in wrath for revenge delinquent children, and to advocate the spurious panacea known as "getting tough" with the tough kids. Such easy answers will be less fashionable when we fully grasp the fact that juvenile delinquency is a reflection of adult delinquency.

During the half century juvenile courts have been in existence we adults have been imperceptibly but surely hacking away at our moral standards. Despite all warnings we have been gradually making many things that used to be wrong seem right, and things that used to be right seem foolish. Considering the examples we set, the wrong things we condone and the right things we scoff at, it is only to be expected that more and more of our children will get out of hand. But that is another story. The juvenile court is not primarily a delinquency prevention agency; it doesn't get the child until after he has become delinquent.

**FAMILY COURT  
NOW STUDIED  
VERY WIDELY**

However there is a silver lining to this cloud. While some frustrated folks about the country wax furious over the modern, humane approach to the treatment of juvenile delinquents, a growing number of other folks in all parts of the country are becoming increasingly interested in the same therapeutic approach to the problems of the embattled spouses in divorce court. Committees and commissions, local and statewide, official and unofficial, from the Atlantic to the Pacific are studying the philosophy, organization and methodology of the family court, and you have a right to know that your own court here in Toledo has been visited and studied by judges, lawyers, sociologists and journalists from many states and foreign countries, and is from time to time cited in the press of New York, Washington and other large cities as a model for their respective communities to pattern after.

Now we, your servants, disclaim operating a model court. We know better. We have never suggested or faintly intimated such a thing. We are more conscious of our weak spots and shortcomings than any of our visitors or even clients and attorneys who use the court. And we are resolved to continue trying our best to overcome these weaknesses and improve the operation of the court in every department and respect.

**OUR CITIZENS  
DESERVE ALL  
THE CREDIT**

Not only we who work for you but litigants and lawyers, parents and children to whom your court administers, are grateful to you citizens of Toledo and Lucas County for your loyalty. Generations unborn, destined to use the court, will rise up and bless you for your farsighted support.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF 1953

### WHAT THE CHILDREN DID

Sex offenses showed a substantial decrease from 62 complaints to 37 in 1953.

Auto thefts dropped from 71 in 1952 to 51 in 1953.

Forcible entry of buildings dropped from 71 to 51.

Malicious mischief dropped from 92 complaints in 1952 to 57 in 1953.

Miscellaneous thefts increased from 184 to 227.

About 60% of all cases referred to the court are classified as Minor cases. This is true in practically all classes of offense. This classification means that the amount of money involved or the results of the damage done is slight even though the nature of the act makes it a violation of law. However, we frequently find in such cases that the need of the child for special attention and care is sufficient to justify the court in assuming guardianship in order to forestall further delinquent conduct of a more serious nature.

23 children voluntarily presented themselves at the Child Study Institute during the year and requested detention and assistance from the court in meeting their problems. In none of these cases had the children committed a delinquent act.

There were no escapes from the Child Study Institute in 1953 (This is the fourth successive year that we had had no escapes from detention.)

1103 children were brought to court for traffic violations - the largest number in the history of the court. 290 or 26% of them carried no insurance on the vehicle they were driving, and would have been unable to meet any financial obligation incurred as the result of accident.

Accidents involving juvenile drivers resulted in injury to 50 people - 4 of whom died.

More than 800 children were on probation during 1953. Only 28 violated their conditions of probation for a successful percentage of 96.5.

WHAT THE COURT DID

During 1953 the court removed from the community 202 children who presented the most serious problems of adjustment. These children were placed in private training schools where parents payed all or part of the cost in most instances; in boarding homes; in state operated industrial schools; in Children's Homes; and at Mansfield Reformatory.

In cooperation with the Toledo Automobile Club and the Toledo Board of Education a school for the special instruction of traffic violators was conducted. This was the first such school organized in the country for retraining juvenile traffic offenders. Average attendance at classes during the year was 20 at each of two sections of the school. Classes are conducted at the Automobile Club and follow the pattern of the classes taught in the public school curriculum with certain modifications to meet the specific needs of this group.

478 children were placed on probation during the year to court counselors; 102 were placed on probation to private social agencies; 363 were placed on probation to individual citizens in the community.

WHAT CITIZENS HAVE DONE ABOUT CHILDREN IN COURT

The League of City Mothers presented the Child Study Institute with a completely equipped medical clinic also a public address system for carrying on a musical therapy program.

The Newcomers Club fully equipped three rooms on the girl's living floor.

The 1952 Board of the Federation of Womens Clubs furnished one activity room in the younger girls division of the Child Study Institute.

The Women's Auxiliary of the Typographical Union furnished 35 pairs of roller skates for the recreation program.

A clothes mending program was carried on throughout the year by the Missionary Society, St. Paul's Baptist Church.

A full length Hollywood feature movie was furnished once a week by the Police Athletic Association, Mr. Abe Ludacer, President. Also the League of City Mothers gave us quite a large sum of money to pay for our Sunday night films.

**FACTS YOU SHOULD  
KNOW ABOUT THE  
COURT AND ITS  
PROBLEMS**

Repeaters showed a drop during 1953. The number of repeaters in any given year is related to the caseload carried by probation counselors - the smaller the caseload, the fewer repeaters.

There was a decrease in the more serious types of offense, auto theft, burglary, robbery, sex, during 1953.

The median age of all children appearing before the court in 1953 was 15 years 4 1/2 months. 80 children 10 years of age or younger were brought before the court.

At any given time approximately 200 Lucas County children are receiving correctional care and training away from their own home and under the supervision and control of the court.

The prosecution of adults contributing to the delinquency of children continued during the year, 228 complaints being filed. Contrary to public opinion such complaints are not made by the court itself but must be made by a citizen and prosecuted for the state by the Lucas County Prosecutor.

Investigations of offenses are made by the police and the Sheriff - not by the probation counselors. The court which must hear the complaints does not file them. Probation Counselors are responsible only for making character investigations to assist the court in making disposition after the child is found delinquent. Citizens wishing to make reports of offenses committed should make such reports to the police, not to the court.

The Crime Prevention Bureau of the Police Department handles the investigation of all cases involving juveniles within the city of Toledo. The Sheriff handles investigation outside the city but within the county.

In 18 years Lucas County has had no organized gangs of juvenile delinquents known to have continued their activity after a court appearance. Individual members of a group have repeated but under conditions unrelated to the original group.

The spread of population into the outlying communities has brought with it an increase in the number of referrals from the areas immediately adjacent to the city of Toledo.

The marriage counseling and divorce investigation services have been sought on a voluntary basis with increasing frequency. Many such requests come directly from attorneys for one of the parties.

The investigation of pending divorces has resulted in a decrease in the bitter litigation revolving around the custody and companionship of children.

Unemployment during the year has resulted in an increase in non-support cases and contempt actions.

Increased capacity of the Child Study Institute has made it possible to reduce jail detention - however, during the 96 days of 1953 that the new building was in operation we were overcrowded 65 days and forced to use rollaway beds in the hall ways. This emphasizes the validity of the original planning of the building and the urgent need for its future completion according to the original plan.

Inspection of the Family Court Center has been made by numerous judges, public officials and building commissions from other cities where similar facilities are being planned, and from other countries.

The Family Court Center is a recognized training center for the Ohio State University, University of Michigan

and Bowling Green State University. One or more students from these universities are in training at all times.

Staff members have served during the year on numerous state and national professional committees having to do with the planning and organization of conferences, workshops, special research in the field of delinquency and marriage counseling. During the year one staff member conducted a class in Child Welfare at Bowling Green State University and one conducted a class in Marriage Counseling technique at the University of Wisconsin, another led a marriage counseling seminar for Toledo pastors, conducted a seminar for marrying couples, lectured at a training program at the Menninger Clinic in Topeka, and led a summer workshop at the University of Minnesota, another conducted an institute for marriage counselors for the State Welfare Conference of Indiana. Two staff members served on a committee for the study of Detention Standards and the final report of the committee was prepared by one of these members. This report has since been adopted and approved by the Ohio Probation and Parole Association, the Ohio Association of Juvenile Court Judges and by the National Probation and Parole Association.

Staff members have written articles and manuscripts dealing with delinquency, Family Courts and Divorce. All these articles have been published in magazines of national circulation.

Nine different staff members hold major offices or committee chairmanships in state and national professional organizations in the field of probation, psychology and marriage counseling and office management.

5 staff members undertook further study during the year (on their own time and at their own expense) in the field of probation, marriage counseling, psychology and office practice and management.

## JUVENILE COURT

In cases of children appearing before the court for delinquency, the state law has always provided for social investigation of the facts by a probation department and for the supervision of such children as the court ordered. Many years ago it was recognized that children commit acts in violation of law for reasons and under circumstances sometimes quite different from those of adults. The establishment of Juvenile courts in Ohio officially recognized this fact and placed upon the juvenile courts a special charge not given to the adult courts of the state. The statute directs the judge of the court, in exercising jurisdiction over children's cases, to act "in the interests of the child in assuming its guardianship" (Sec. 1639-4). The court is specifically forbidden to file "criminal charges" against children. A complaint in delinquency is not legally considered to be a "criminal charge".

The probation department and the counselors who operate thereunder are charged with the responsibility of conducting investigations to inform the court of the child's needs and then to supervise such children as may be placed on probation. In so doing "the department shall keep informed concerning the conduct and condition of each person under its provision and shall report thereon to the judge as he may direct. Each probation officer (counselor) shall use all suitable methods to aid persons on probation and to bring about improvement in their conduct and condition." (Sec. 1639-19 GCO).

To carry out the provisions of the law as to divorce cases and children's cases, your family court has provided the necessary personnel consisting of referees, counselors, psychologists, teachers, group workers, pediatrician, nurse, psychiatrist and the clerical staff to maintain records of investigations and counseling services.

### HEARINGS

Every case referred to court is given a preliminary hearing. This hearing is conducted by a referee who listens to the evidence and determines whether or not the facts have been substantiated and if further court action shall be taken. A large number of the complaints made in juvenile court are in themselves relatively minor although they are always a danger sign. Sometimes it is apparent that both child and parents recognize the danger signs and will take the necessary steps to prevent a repetition. In such

cases the referee may close the case at the preliminary hearing without further court action. Other cases are of a more serious nature and give indication that the child is showing a disturbed pattern of behavior or even has developed well defined delinquent tendencies. These cases will be turned over to a probation counselor for investigation. The more serious cases will be placed in the Child Study Institute for psychological study in addition to the social investigation. On completion of the investigation and study the child will be brought before the judge or a referee for a final hearing and determination of the court action to be taken.

### The Peoples' Right to Privacy

Hearings in children's cases are never secret but generally private. The law of every state makes provision for the private hearing of children's cases, and with excellent reason. Everyone is entitled to his privacy, especially children and families in trouble.

When you take a bath you make no secret of it, but you certainly don't open the door and invite the public in. When an expectant mother goes to the hospital to deliver her child, she doesn't hide that fact, yet the public is not allowed in the delivery room. When a patient tells his troubles to a doctor, when a businessman confides in his lawyer, when a sinner confesses to his pastor, it is not ordinarily kept secret, yet every word uttered is private and privileged and the law protects the individual in his right of privacy and forbids doctor, lawyer and pastor to violate it. The public has neither ethical nor legal right to know what is said or done.

It is much the same with children and families in court. They, in a sense, often take a moral bath. Much dirty linen must be washed and aired. Birth must be given to new and often strange ideas and arrangements. Money confidences must be shared and confessions made to the court worker. And these unfortunate people have as much right to and often more need of privacy than their more fortunate fellow citizens.

The reason the need for privacy may be greater is that the child and parents are generally at a crisis, a turning point, just as a patient reaches a turning point in a fever. To open the

doors and windows at that critical stage and let in a draft might end the patient's chances to get well - might defeat everything the doctor had done to cure him. Just so, to open the doors of privacy and let the morbid and the curious, see and hear everything said and done in the hearing of a child's case, might end his chances to get the best of the things that have been causing his delinquency -- might so hurt and frighten the parties and so embarrass and humiliate them as to discourage them from further effort to mend their ways and frustrate all remedial efforts of the court workers.

To be a little technical a moment, there are different classifications of delinquents. One is the social, the asocial and the neurotic delinquent. Another is the basically normal, the basically frightened, the impulsive, and the conscienceless or psychopathic delinquent. It is true that some of these types would be less harmed than others by exposure of their sins and weaknesses, a few perhaps not at all. But the trouble is, it takes time and much study to make sure which classes the delinquents belong in, and only those skilled workers who have had close contact with the delinquent are in position to judge whether exposure would be harmful. It should be noted that the type of offense, or its seriousness, has nothing whatsoever to do with the type of delinquent. Exactly the same offenses are committed by children in any and all classifications.

Of course, the court being a public agency, the people have a right to know how their agency handles delinquents, what it does about them or with them or for them or to them. Every official action taken by the court is by law a matter of public record and is open to the inspection of anyone during business hours.

There can be nothing secret about the court's operations, but there can be, should be and is necessary and salutary privacy.

#### DISPOSITIONS

Experience has showed us that all children are different. What may suffice to correct the behavior of one would be useless as treatment for a code linquent who was associated with him in the same offense. As a result, the court has developed extensive treatment plans which are applied according to the needs of the child under consideration. Probation may be right for one

child, for another removal from home and placement in another private home may be indicated. For still another placement in a private correctional school with the parents paying all or part of the bill is indicated. And for still others placement in the Boys or Girls Industrial School seems to be the proper solution. Whichever disposition is selected by the referee, it is done only after a full investigation by a probation counselor and a thorough discussion of all the factors with child, parent and other interested parties. In order to provide the necessary training needed by the various children coming to our attention we have a selection of more than 30 different private schools that are available for the use of Lucas County children. At any given time we have from 100 to 150 children attending such institutions.

**COOPERATION WITH  
COMMUNITY  
AGENCIES**

The administration of a probation department of a juvenile court would not be possible without extensive cooperation on the part of various social agencies of the community.

While the court must of necessity furnish most of the basic services needed by the children and their families it is obvious that the total needs of these children and families exceed the facilities which can be supplied by the court itself. To include the names of all the agencies which have given supplementary service to the court and aided us in our investigations would mean a listing of practically all of the social service agencies of the community. However, a few of these agencies are called upon almost daily to augment our services and because of their important contribution to our total services they should be mentioned at this point. They would include:

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Child Welfare Board       | Toledo Dental Dispensary |
| Child and Family Agency   | Maumee Valley Hospital   |
| Toledo Catholic Charities | Mental Hygiene Clinic    |
| Aid to Dependent Children |                          |
| Lutheran Welfare Service  |                          |

**PROBATION -  
What is it? How  
does it work?**

The term 'probation' was selected years ago to apply to a person released by the court to return to live in the community instead of being confined to a penal institution. It is an opportunity given the offender to "prove" that he can conduct himself in a law-abiding way in the future. To assist the probationer in meeting

the requirements the law has provided for the appointment of probation officers or counselors. The evidence of poor judgment shown by violators of the law is ample indication of their need for personal counseling services. Such counseling includes adjustment of misunderstandings between the probationer and members of the family, school and the community and the interpretation of life situations which may have caused the person to react in an aggressive and hostile fashion. Successful counseling is not always rapid. Probationers, as a rule, have been in conflict with family, school or community for some time before they are brought to court. The change over from an aggressive, hostile reaction to the understanding considerate reactions of a well adjusted citizen is not easy nor rapid. In order to guarantee certain minimum standards of conduct it is frequently necessary to impose certain restrictive conditions. This is a necessary part of probation and may include such things as restricting driving rights, setting a curfew, requiring the individual to perform certain family chores, limitation of leisure time activity and restriction from attendance at certain places which might be hazardous to that person, also prohibition of certain associations. The conditions of probation are of both a positive and a negative nature. There are "do's" as well as "don'ts". In the main they are obligations imposed which we hope will, in time, be accepted and done willingly and as a matter of choice.

Probation counselors maintain contact with their probationers at intervals varying from once or twice a week to once a month. The frequency of contact depends upon the nature of the problem presented by the probationer and the extent to which he has showed his ability and willingness to make the correct choices of behavior. The period of probation may vary from a few weeks to several years. The length of probation has little relationship to the offense committed but rather is related to ease or difficulty which the child has in getting along with other people and in solving his own problems.

#### FOSTER HOME SERVICE

Many years ago it was found that there are certain children who are in need of care and supervision of a type that can be best provided in a family setting. However, their own homes, for one reason or another, are not adequate or suitable. Such children have for the past 17 years been placed in foster homes. The cost for this type of care is considerably less than the cost of institutional care and the results, in

carefully selected cases are excellent. The Family Court Center has a full time worker who locates such homes, conducts the investigation required by state law and then arranges for the licensing of these homes by the state Welfare Department before children are placed. All Foster Homes are carefully supervised on a regular schedule and the children in them are closely supervised. Children remain in such homes for periods ranging from a few months to several years, until they can be returned to their own families. During the placement the parents are urged to correct the defects in their own home situation and to make conditions suitable for the early return of the child.

Our experience has been that children placed in foster homes as well as those placed in special training schools show a very much lower rate of repeating their delinquent tendencies than those on probation. The obvious conclusion to be from this fact is that there are still many children who would profit by special training away from their own home but the limitation of suitable schools and homes and the limitation of funds makes it impossible for us to place as many children as seem to need this type of care. Under existing restrictions we are able to place only those who show the most serious problems and the most urgent need for such placements.

REPEATERS                      Prior to 1937 the repeater rate for delinquents in Lucas County was about 50%. That is for every 100 children passing through the court 50 of them had been in court previously.

In 1937 with the establishment of the policy of making use of all possible professional services for the correction of behavior disorders, the rate of repeaters dropped. During the past 17 years it has fluctuated between 22% and 29%. In 1953 it was 25.4%.

Examination of the causes for this fluctuation shows that it is directly related to the number of counselors who were on the staff during the year. This is so conclusively shown over the years that we can now say with assurance that the numbers of repeaters could be cut still lower by the addition of several new counselors to the probation staff. It is to be hoped that this can be accomplished during the coming year. If we could reach the point that no counselor would be required to carry more than 40 children under supervision at any given

time and where all children needing supervision could be placed on probation then it is probable that the rate of repeaters could be reduced to about 15% per year. Such an accomplishment would be possible and would be economically feasible. Delinquency is expensive - not only in the actual cost of the offense, its investigation and supervision, but in the less tangible costs of damage to the individual and his family. Anything, within reason, that can be done to reduce the participation of children in delinquent activity is a net gain to the community.

**TYPE OF OFFENSE**                      The following table indicates the type of offense which brings young people into court. They range from very trivial charges to the most serious type of offense including burglary and robbery. As a rule, the delinquent activity of a child begins with some trivial incident. And as a rule these trivial incidents have occurred repeatedly without being brought to the attention of any person or agency able to take corrective measures (other than the parents). As a result a child brought to court for the first time on a serious offense, presents a problem of serious proportions and one which may be most difficult to correct because of a well established habit pattern.

It has frequently been said that the delinquent children of the community constitute but a small fraction of the total population (3-4%). This is true for any given year. But it also is true that delinquency among children starts at an early age and sometimes continues for several years and even into adulthood. Although only 3-4% of the child population is involved in delinquency in any given year it is also true that in any given year as many as 20% of the child population of the community may have been engaged in delinquency which at some time in the past brought them into Juvenile Court. This figure is pointed out at this time not to overemphasize the problem but rather to forestall any tendency to become complacent about the situation and lulling ourselves into any false sense of security with the excuse that - "it's only a few who give teen-agers a bad name".

**COMMUNITY PROTECTION**                      Children commit serious offenses. Many of these cannot be cared for on a probation basis in the community. In some instances we have tried to do so but repetition of the offense has necessitated a placement outside of the community. In the main the policy of the court

over the past 18 years has been to prevent the development of organized delinquency. To accomplish this a careful scrutiny is made of every complaint involving more than one child. If there is any indication that the situation represents any suggestion of a delinquent gang then the leader of the group is removed from the community. With the leadership thus destroyed the rest of the gang can be handled on a probation basis. During the past 17 years 150 to 200 children per year have been placed in foster homes, private correctional schools and the state industrial school. This program supplementing the high grade of police activity provided by the local police has kept Lucas County free of organized gangs of juvenile delinquents which has plagued so many large cities in recent years.

#### ON PUNISHING PARENTS

All sorts of catch phrases have been created in recent years to emphasize the responsibility of parents for the delinquency of their children. That there is no such thing as a delinquent child but rather it is delinquent parents has been told to us over and over by public speakers, writers, radio and press.

The implication is that all we need to do is to punish the parents and the problem will be solved. Unfortunately it is not as simple as that. The fact is that while parents have a tremendous responsibility for the care of their children and if they do the job thoughtfully and effectively the children will turn out well; it is also a fact that the vast majority of parents want their children to be law-abiding and respected. Even the parents of the most seriously delinquent children have displayed the best of intentions. They have tried within the limits of their knowledge and abilities but have failed. Punishment or the threat of punishment adds nothing to their understanding of the problem of the teen-ager.

Some ten years ago the judge of this court made a survey of parents who had been "punished" during a one year test period. May we quote from the conclusions of that study:

"During 1943 while we were handling the prosecution of 158 adults for contributing, we handled 1538 delinquency cases. Approximately one adult was prosecuted for every 10 children brought into court and one parent for every 23 children. Does that

mean that 22 out of 23 parents were blameless? That is not the reason they were not prosecuted. Far more likely that one parent was blameless and 22 were responsible for their children's delinquency!

"Of course, the main reason that the 22 were not prosecuted is that they could not have been convicted.

"Why couldn't these fathers and mothers be convicted? Largely because their offense is not only subtle and intangible, but it consists of acts of omission, seldom of commission, overt acts. These parents have failed to give their children proper training and supervision. How can we prove that? By the fact that the child's behavior shows it? Hardly! What if the parents and all the relatives and friends and neighbors swear that the parents did properly supervise and train and it's all the child's fault?

"\*\*the defendant can demand a jury trial. You don't have to be a prosecuting attorney to know that a jury is not going to convict a fellow parent except in a flagrant case - and of course, flagrant cases are always (and will continue to be) prosecuted as soon as discovered when sufficient legally competent evidence has been obtained."

"So even if it were possible to punish parents without breaking up homes and punishing the child, here is a cogent reason why a vast majority of contributing parents\*\*go forever unprosecuted and hence unpunished. Trying to put parents in prison is no panacea."

Actually the only approach to this problem which we can see as offering any genuine help is a matter of education. Education undertaken by the community and directed toward parents in general at the same time that the court is undertaking a program of education directed toward the delinquent child and his parents who have failed in their training of the child.

We look forward to the time when the community itself through the churches and organized clubs groups will accept the responsibility for the interpretation of a code or personal morals which will call upon everyone to place interest of family before per-

sonal interests. The callous and indifferent attitude of parents who pursue their own interests with increasing disregard the the needs of their children for companionship and guidance is a major factor contributing to our steady increase in the rate of divorce and delinquency. It is slowly gnawing away at the very foundations of our society. The job of control and correction of the problem is not one that can be farmed out to some small group of public officials. It is a problem which must be met and dealt with by the community itself - on a community wide basis and with special application to the family. The court can act only as a stop-gap to take over the problem after it has happened. The community through an educational process could if it would, create a renaissance of family life and parental responsibility. Then and only then will the problem be attacked at its source and prevented from becoming a problem.

#### MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

The court is called upon from time to time to perform miscellaneous services for citizens of the county. All of these services relating to the welfare of children and the family fall within the legal jurisdiction of the court and when formal legal action is needed it can be taken. Included in these actions are (1) consents to marry (boys under the age of 18 and girls under 16). This is required by law even when the parents give their consent. (2) Crippled children commitments. These are actions taken to provide specialized care for children falling within the provision of the crippled children's act. (3) Illegitimate children (legally known as Bastardy cases) The mother of an illegitimate child files action in this court to determine the legal paternity of her child and to obtain a support order for such child. (4) Visitation and companionship; this may be a motion on a former divorce case or it may be filed when parents have separated without obtaining a divorce.

Probably the most frequent request for assistance comes from parents who are having difficulty in the supervision of their children. We can often be of assistance to such families without filing formal delinquency charges alleging "incorrigibility". Conferences between the child, parent and referee serve to clarify problems that have existed between parent and child and to give them a better understanding of their respective obligations and rights.

## CHILD SUPPORT

Throughout the year one referee devotes full time to the hearing of support motions related to divorce cases and subsequent Non-Support cases arising out of failure to abide by an order of the court for the support of minor children. During the year 1953, \$1,840,695.68 were collected through the Toledo Humane Society and the Juvenile Court for the support of minor children in the case of divorce and separation of parents.

## TRAFFIC

Traffic violations have presented an increasing problem to the Juvenile Courts of the country. Lucas County has been no exception. During the year a total of 1,103 traffic violations were cited to court. These offenses ranged from improper mufflers to driving without due regard to safety resulting in fatal accidents.

We at the court are unpleasantly aware of the increase in the problem and in some of its implications. Parents are apparently extending wider use of the family car to their children and not safeguarding such use with adequate restrictions. They are demonstrating an inability to withstand the pressures of their children for the privilege of driving the car under any and all circumstances. They are permitting children to drive without adequate knowledge of the operation of the car and the need for exercising care in its use. Basically, there seems to be an attitude all too prevalent among young drivers that a car is a toy rather than a vehicle of transportation.

In the hearing of cases we are amazed at the reaction of parents and the children as well. In spite of obvious and wilful violation of basic rules of safety it is not infrequent for parents to protest bitterly at even brief suspension of driving rights. And sometimes such protests are on the basis of "he drives me to go shopping", etc... There are still a substantial number of violators appearing before the court who are financially irresponsible and who have taken no steps to provide themselves with insurance. There is noted an increasing number of young people (under 18) who own their own cars or at least have cars which are considered their exclusive property even though they may be in the name of the parent. Parents seem to have even greater difficulty in controlling the use of such cars than they do in controlling the use of the family car. The increasing rate of violation of traffic offenses and the increase in the accident rate should be ample warning to parents to place workable restrictions on driving by teenagers.

## DRIVERS SCHOOL

During the current year the court initiated the organization of a traffic school for young people coming before the court. The school itself is operated by the Toledo Automobile Club in cooperation with the Board of Education. Selected violators are ordered to attend a series of 5 class meetings. For this they pay a fee of \$10 and their rights are

suspended until the course is successfully completed. Generally speaking, the response to this has been good. The young people report that they have learned much about automobile operation and the instructors report an improvement in attitude on the part of students after the completion of the course.

## SUPPORT DEPARTMENT

In the Child Support Department a referee assists the Judge in hearings involving adults on matters relating to child-support and temporary alimony and other matters arising from the problems of divorce. One day each week the Court hears all motions which have been filed on pending divorce and alimony cases on or before the previous Friday. These hearings are divided by the Judge and Referee and involve such matters as temporary alimony and child support, custody, visitation and companionship, contempt, and other matters relating to the difficulties which arise in a family during the pendency of a divorce action. During the remaining four days of the week the Referee hears cases in the Juvenile Division of the Court involving adults, such as motions to modify support orders, contempt actions to enforce support alimony and custody orders, lump sum judgments, bastardy cases, non-support cases, and, during the absence of the judge, cases involving the contributing to the dependency or neglect of minors.

Cases involving failure of a parent to provide support for children present the greatest challenge to the Court in the Support Department. Actually, the real reason behind a genuine non-support case is not the lack of money or employment, as is commonly believed, but the personality of the individual involved, which may lead to lack of employment. Many of the persons involved are alcoholics; some are psychopaths, with their personalities so maladjusted that it takes months, and sometimes years of work with the party to adjust his personality to meet the obligations of parent to child. Conversely, many so-called non-support cases are adjusted with comparative ease because the parties involved have better adjusted personalities and the non-support case is the result of legitimate causes. In many cases the parties are engaged in a minor conflict over matters relating to visitation with the children or some imagined grievance against the other.

The accompanying tables, which do not include hearings on pending divorce cases, indicate the types of hearing, and their frequency, which are heard in the support department. It is interesting to note one comparison between 1946, the first complete year after World War II, and 1953: in 1946 the parents of Lucas County, very largely in obedience to court orders, paid \$786,854.68 thru the Toledo Humane Society for child support and in 1953, \$1,840,695.68 was paid for the same purpose, an increase of nearly 250%.

## CHILD STUDY INSTITUTE

CHILD STUDY INSTITUTE                      Actually the Child Study Institute performs two functions. It provides emergency detention for children who for some reason cannot be returned to their family pending the preliminary hearing. It is also a study center for the psychological, medical and social study of children whose cases are pending before the court.

During 1953, 556 children were detained for further study to assist the court in making a final disposition. 220 were given complete psychological studies as well as social studies and 336 were held for sociological studies only.

DETENTION                                      A total of 1360 children were detained during the year for a total of 13,339 days (36 years, 6 months). 810 of these were boys and 373 were girls. The average length of detention was 9 days per child. November was high with an average daily population of 48 while September was low with a daily average of 31. This trend is in keeping with previous years.

Only 99 dependent and neglected children were cared for during the year at the Child Study Institute. Most of these were emergency cases and detention was for only a day or two and until such time as the Child Welfare Board could make plans for them. Since the Child Study Institute is the only receiving home for children in Lucas County, it is obvious that dependent children will have to be provided for on an emergency basis until such time as the Child Welfare Board can provide shelter care facilities for dependent and neglected children.

The facilities of the Child Study Institute for detaining children were overcrowded on 65 of the 96 days of 1953 that the new building was in operation. This had been anticipated. When restricted funds made it necessary to eliminate one of the living units for children it was a foregone conclusion that we would have many days of overcrowding our capacity. On such days the overload is taken care of by providing roll-a-way beds.

#### EDUCATION

While at the Child Study Institute, children attend school. There are two school rooms - one for grades 1 thru 8 and one for grades 9 thru 12. Teachers are furnished by the Toledo Board of Education. The program of the school is essentially remedial. Most children placed in CSI are having difficulty in their regular school placement. Every effort is made to personalize the school approach to determine the weaknesses of the child, correct and strengthen them before his return to his regular class. Lack of interest or even an open antagonism to the school program is sometimes encountered. To interest this type of youngster in the classroom situation, an emphasis is placed on handicraft activities. It is not uncommon for us to find a child who develops a tolerance for and eventually an interest in the classroom activity after having been introduced to it through the handicraft program. Teachers work in close conjunction with the psychological staff which provides testing of reading and arithmetic achievement levels to enable the teachers to determine the level at which to begin instruction.

#### RELIGION

Through the Council of Churches a Protestant Chaplain has been assigned to the Child Study Institute. He has an office within constant view of the children and they may arrange for an interview at any time outside of school

hours. A routine interview is conducted with each protestant child immediately upon admission. Protestant church services are conducted by the chaplain every Sunday. The Chaplain works in close cooperation with the probation counselors and with the pastor of the church which the child attends.

Catholic children are interviewed by members of Toledo Catholic Charities. Children are taken to Sunday Mass at a nearby church by members of the St. Vincent De Paul Society who have volunteered for this service. Contact with the parish priest is maintained by probation counselors and staff members of the Catholic Charities. While it has never been the policy of the court to order church attendance upon any child it has been our experience that children with regular attendance seldom find their way into court. Therefore, every effort is made during the investigation and supervision to interest children and their parents in church attendance and to secure their voluntary participation.

#### RECREATION

The recreation program of the Child Study Institute is an extensive one. In order that it not be misunderstood, it should be pointed out that we are not primarily interested in entertaining the child during his stay. The Child Study Institute is a study center. It is our intent to try and learn as much as we can about that child during his period of residence with us. Therefore, the program is designed to provide the opportunity for staff members to observe the child under varying conditions. We want to know how he cooperates with other children in group activities - both active and passive in nature. We want to see what skills he has in performance and to observe his ability to coordinate. Some of the activities are carefully planned and require adherence to instructions. Others are designed to give the child some freedom of choice. There are "free periods" during the day when the child makes his own selection of activity. These various situations presented to the child give us the opportunity to further our study of him and to evaluate his probable adjustment when he is released to return to the community. That the recreation program is also entertaining and helps pass the time agreeably is a by-product. It is not the main purpose of the program.

#### FOOD

The kitchen is under the supervision of an experienced cook. Menus are carefully planned to give variety that is appealing to the eye and taste. A

record is kept of all menus which are subject to the final approval of the Administrator of the Institute. A large number of children admitted are under weight. Experience has showed that children who remain for a week or more will make an average gain in weight of 3-5 pounds per week for the first several weeks.

#### MEDICAL SERVICES

Resident medical services are provided for children at the Child Study Institute by a visiting pediatrician who comes to the building each morning to give examinations of children brought in during the preceding 24 hour period. A full time registered nurse is on duty throughout the day. She assists the doctor in the conduct of examinations and provides emergency first aid as needed. Other than the emergency first aid we do not give treatment at the Child Study Institute. Through arrangements with local clinics, dispensaries and the Maumee Valley Hospital it is possible for us to provide all types of medical and surgical care as they are needed. Arrangements for such treatment are made by the nurse in cooperation with the parents and the probation counselor.

#### PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

Three full time psychologists and a visiting psychiatrist provide psychological and psychiatric service for all branches of the Family Court Center. In addition to tests of general intelligence, numerous special tests are available for administration to children to determine educational level in various subjects. The testing program is coordinated with a series of interviews designed to aid the psychologist in evaluating the tests and to prepare reports which will be of assistance in planning the treatment of the individual children at final hearing. During the past year complete psychological studies were made and reports written for court.

#### PRIVILEGE SYSTEM

The granting of special privileges to children under study is one of the devices which has been used for 17 years to aid us in the evaluation of children in the Institute. Under this system every child has the opportunity to qualify for privilege ranging from special activities within the building to selected activities outside the building, some under the supervision of a staff member and some unsupervised. Outside privileges include attendance at sports activities, theatre, concerts etc...also swimming at the Boys Club or YWCA, planned picnics during

good weather, trips to the Zoo and Museum.

The purpose of privilege is to reward improved adjustment and behavior and to give staff members an opportunity to observe the interests of the children and incorporate the findings in the final report to the court.

It is particularly significant to note the reaction of children to this feature of the program. It has been in operation for 17 years. In that time more than 10,000 different children have been released from the building during their period of detention and for a total of more than 50,000 different functions. Violations of the conditions of these releases has occurred in less than one half of one per cent of total releases.

MUSIC HATH  
CHARMS

"They were having a bit of trouble one day at the Child Study Institute of Lucas County's Family Court Center.

"A girl being held there for pre-hearing study learned that she was to be sent away to a special school. She didn't like the idea, so she started kicking up a fuss.

"A companion decided to add her screams and curses to the uproar. A few other girls in the section day room also were getting excited, and CSI staffers in charge of the section were unable to quiet the group.

"Then, Janet Lindecker, the Institute's visually handicapped music therapist, decided to see what she could do. She entered the day room and sat down at the piano to see if she could 'reach' the girls through group singing.

"From her studies, Miss Lindecker knew she had to approach the girls musically 'on the level of their mood.' So she decided to start with something lively. Something that would allow the group to continue to 'blow off steam.' Something like 'Chattanooga Shoe Shine Boy.'

"And Miss Lindecker began to quiet them gradually, tune by tune. They were still feeling rather aggressive when she reached 'Jealous Heart.' But by the time she got to 'Cruising Down the River' and 'Harbor Lights', conditions were back to normal at the Child Study Institute.

"Miss Lindecker doesn't have dramatic experiences like this every day, of course. But the story reveals some of the possibilities of music therapy..."

The foregoing, quoted from the Toledo Catholic Chronicle, illustrates a practical application of the music therapy which has been afforded the disturbed children since 1951. Besides having a charming personality, Miss Lindecker, daughter of Attorney Carl Lindecker, is a thorough professional, having obtained a degree in music therapy from Michigan State College after graduating from Mary Manse College in Toledo. She practiced her therapy in the Detroit Medical Hospital and the Toledo State Hospital before coming to the CSI.

Group singing, musical films (lent by the Public Library), recorded music, the violin, piano and autoharp (which fascinates even "the biggest, toughest boys"), piped music, talent shows, musical quiz shows, square dances, musical games, musical aptitude tests (sometimes leading to the discovery of hidden talent and free lessons by members of the Ohio Music Federation) plus personal interest in the individual children and the beneficent influence of her personal contact, are among the techniques the therapist uses (to say nothing of the inspiring example she sets by so gallantly overcoming her handicap of almost total blindness!)

The results of this program do not lend themselves to statistical tables, but even the sedulous sifter in the seat of the scornful would not dispute the genuine value of music therapy for the children at the Child Study Institute.

## DOMESTIC RELATIONS

In August, 1938, a law went into effect that permitted the court to investigate, among other things, the character and family relations of the parties to a divorce case. From the first day the Lucas County Court was never without one or two full-time investigators, originally called "Friends of the Court".

They were kept busy working largely with cases where their services were requested by the defendant, an attorney, some friend of the family or the judge.

In August, 1951, an amendment to the law made it compulsory for the court to investigate every divorce case involving a child under 14 (about half of all cases). The staff was augmented and throughout 1953 consisted of six full-time marriage counselors with an administrator and necessary clerical help. This, of course, increased the total number of man-hours available to devote to the broken families; also, in proportion to the amount of counseling time available, a considerably larger number of families received service than during the previous year.

Even so, we were unable to catch up or keep up with the demand. Some cases we were unable to reach at all. Some we reached too late to do any good. The pressure was so great that many families in urgent need had to wait two or three weeks before time could be found to render the service needed.

It should be made clear that the investigations required by the law are not primarily to find facts to constitute a ground for divorce or to help the judge decide whether or not a divorce should be granted. The former is a legal function which is performed by the legal counsel retained by the parties. The latter is purely a judicial function and the decision to grant or deny a divorce must be based solely upon competent evidence adduced in open court by a counselor at law.

The marriage counselor's investigations are supplementary; they are preventive and protective (not, however, preventive of the attorney's obtaining his fee for services rendered). They are designed to prevent the unnecessary and undesired divorce going through and to protect all members of the family, especially the children, from injury or injustice. They deal not primarily with what happened, but with how the partners and their children feel about it, and with how they are handling their feelings, and with what effects their reactions have on each other, and on their children.

1. To provide the court and legal counsel with social information about the family, which the attorney is not required to obtain, and which the judge is unable to bring out in the brief time available for the hearings. Thus the court, in performing its judicial function, has valuable background information pertinent to the adjustment and welfare of all members of the family.

2. To increase each client's awareness of all the influences contributing to his marriage failure, and of the consequences upon himself, a partner and children of pursuing the conflict to a final severance of the matrimonial bond. This tends to have a sobering and salutary influence, especially in cases that were started under the stress of violent emotion.

3. To help ready the client to consider reconciliation, and when ready, to encourage him and his mate to make another try at making a go of their marriage, for their own sakes as well as the children's.

4. To try to bring the confused and over-emotional client to the point of asking for help with his problems and conflicts (you can't force help on a person who doesn't want it, and then to begin the process of deeper therapy technically called marriage counseling, or to refer him for this purpose to another counselor or agency or psychiatrist.

5. To serve as peacemaker and lessen the hateful and vindictive attitudes of all clients even though it be apparent that because of their insistence and their legal rights the divorce will go through. This is of immeasurable benefit not only to the children, presently and in the future, but to the spouses themselves and to the legal counsel in that it often makes possible and always facilitates the amicable adjustment of money matters and property settlements.

6. To help clients whose cases are going through to final decree to prepare themselves for the new status of "single blessedness"; or if they intend to remarry to help them with the selection of the new mate (a service sometimes much appreciated) and to help them not to make the old mistakes over again. (The amount of voluntary post-divorce counseling attests to the value of continuing service.)

Thus, to repeat, it is seen that the questions answered by the divorce investigation are never whether divorce should be granted, or how much support-money should be awarded by the judge (although the counselor's efforts often result in the parties agreeing upon the amount - to the delight of the lawyers who are thus spared the ill-paid task of fighting it out in court.)

Rather, the counselor's concern is, what are the relevant social facts and needs and how can he and the court be of greatest service to these bruised people, struggling with each other, and in conflict with themselves.

Our experience under this law is encouraging. Many of those who persist with the divorce idea, we notice, learn to soften their hostility and let up on the bitter recriminations which, in the past, kept old wounds open, caused fresh ones, and brought on the family break-up. The greatest beneficiaries, when this happens, are the children. We observe less wrangling over questions of custody (although there is still far too much!) We find it easier to work out amicable plans for visitation and companionship.

The deeper therapy technically known as marriage counseling is both a science and an art - and one which requires special training and highly developed skills. When engaged in this process the marriage counselor aims specifically:

1. To help each partner become better acquainted with all the currents of emotion and desire within himself - to understand how some set up tensions, others erupt, and still others impel him to unreasonable behavior - and to understand this clear-eyed and without fear.

2. To guide each partner in practicing the skills of emotional regulation and control.

3. To help each partner, now gaining new insight into, and new discipline over himself, to a more complete understanding of the personality of his mate.

Research workers tell us that the rate of admissions to mental hospitals among the divorced and divorcing is three

times higher than that among married persons. (Which is cause and which is effect, mental illness or marriage failure, they do not say; probably it works both ways.) We observe that many persons who are in the process of getting a divorce tend to be unstable. The counselors responsible for work with these persons must be trained in dealing with such difficulties. And they are. What's more, they keep in close touch with the court psychiatrist. What's still more, independent psychiatrists frequently refer their clients to the court counselors for marriage counseling!

Marriage counselors are required to have a degree of skill in all of the department's main tasks: (1) intake, that is, helping the inquirer with marriage trouble to clarify his problem, get a fair picture of available sources of help, and then decide to what agency or department in the court to go; (2) divorce investigation, (3) counseling-treatment; and (4) referral, that is, helping a confused and bruised client enter a relationship with another agency to be of help on his problem.

Of the partners who worked with the three counselors responsible primarily for counseling-treatment, three out of five were not litigants. Referred most of them by attorneys, pastors and satisfied clients, they came to get help in avoiding divorce. It has been gratifying to note that an increasing number of attorneys (distinguishing the responsibilities of legal counsel from those of the marriage counselor) refer for counseling service before deciding whether or not to accept a divorce client. It is this phase of the Center's program that has won the heartiest praise from visitors and sociological students. Who could be more apt in helping to work out other solutions than those who know the divorce road because they help so many struggle over it? It is this work, they say, that really saves marriages - and breakdowns - and public money.

With regard to the number of families who, on our recommendation and with our help, move to become clients of other agencies, complete statistics are not now available. It is estimated that of all the new families who sought help from us during the year, 8 to 10% became clients of other agencies. At all times, furthermore, there are from 12 to 16 families in this class of clients in which one partner counsels with us and the other with another agency.

Over several years, we have noted that up to 40% of the families from which divorce petitions come are already known to the Court through previous action by one of the partners, and through the difficulties of their children in the juvenile division. This year the counselors responsible primarily for marriage counseling have conducted a number of interviews (at the instance of one of the troubled parents or of a juvenile court worker) with couples whose children were in difficulty. Some of these initial contacts have ripened into programs of marriage counseling (parallel with the guidance of the children by the juvenile court worker) that have produced benefits for all concerned.

In this connection it should be noted that the County's Adult Probation Department and the Probation Department of the Municipal Court both have referred a number of their clients to our Court for the specialized service of a marriage counselor. This practice seems to be increasing, and during 1954 will probably gain in volume.

## APPENDIX

## JUVENILE COURT STATISTICS

Table No. 1

### TRENDS FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Commitments to Industrial Schools	35	39	56	55	71
Commitments to Private Correctional Schools	64	86	91	72	76
Commitments to Other Institutions	10		10	6	15
Delinquents placed in Foster Homes	43	58	67	35	40
Total children removed from community	152	184	224	168	202
Number placed on probation	303	466	638	874	943
MAJOR CASES ONLY					
Sex offense	36	51	62	62	37
Robbery	6	11	4	1	8
Burglary	94	105	116	91	72
Auto theft	20	59	33	71	51
Larceny	205	131	161	184	227
Malicious mischief	19	18	25	92	57
Truancy	44	32	45	52	60
Runaway	73	65	77	95	105
All other offenses	159	190	220	264	329
Tráffic	11	15	26	-	*
	667	677	769	912	946

\* See pages 52 - 53 & 54

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

	Boys	Girls	Total
January	77	11	88
February	107	21	128
March	130	36	166
April	105	32	137
May	128	42	170
June	102	22	<del>124</del>
July	143	51	194
August	117	37	154
September	124	37	161
October	109	29	138
November	110	37	147
December	83	18	101
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1335	373	1708

~~813~~

Table No. 3  
OFFENSES FOR WHICH BROUGHT INTO COURT

	Major		Minor		Total
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
Robbery - hold-up	8	-	1	-	9
Burglary	72	-	39	-	111
Sex	23	14	3	3	43
Auto theft	49	2	9	-	60
Other stealing	189	38	148	30	405
Malicious mischief	51	6	120	18	195
Ungovernable	46	45	12	8	111
Truancy	40	20	29	5	94
Runaway	35	70	14	13	132
Injury to person	10	3	16	2	31
All other	167	58	254	38	517
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	690	256	645	117	1708

Table No. 4

## DISPOSITION OF CASES

	Major		Minor		Total
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
Probation to Court Counselor	329	103	40	6	478
Probation to an Agency Worker	31	21	25	25	102
Probation to Individuals	38	7	299	19	363
Committed to Industrial School	60	11	-	-	71
Committed to other Correctional School	46	30	-	-	76
Committed to Ohio State Reformatory	6	-	-	-	6
To other Institution Non-Correctional	6	9	-	-	15
Placed in Foster Homes	24	16	-	-	40
Fined	22		82	3	107
Restitution	7		26	6	39
Other	40	15	19	15	89
Exonerated or dismissed as too trivial	18	13	59	6	96
Adjusted	57	30	88	36	211
Referred to other Court	6	1	7	1	15
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	690	256	645	117	1708

Table No. 5

REPEATERS

Total number of individual children in Court on delinquency	1708
Number of first offenders	1272
Number of repeaters	436
% of total number who were repeaters	25.5%

Table No. 6

AGE RANGE OF DELINQUENTS

	Major		Minor		Total
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
Under 7 years	1	1	7	-	9
7	1	2	5	1	9
8	6	-	12	1	19
9	17	-	23	3	43
10	33	2	36	4	75
11	28	8	51	9	96
12	55	12	44	12	123
13	57	13	73	12	155
14	107	36	82	12	237
15	127	65	104	22	318
16	147	65	106	16	334
17	107	51	99	24	281
18,	4	1	3	1	9
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	690	256	645	117	1708

Median Age - 15 years 4 1/2 months.

Table No. 7

SCHOOL ATTENDING \*

Scott HS	100	Whittier	<del>6</del>
Waite HS	91	Clay	<del>5</del>
DeVilbiss HS	83	Hamilton	5
Robinson Jr.	80	Monroe	5
Macomber HS	75	Trilby	<del>5</del>
Libbey HS	67	Anthony Wayne	<del>4</del>
Woodward HS	46	Beverly	4
Gunckel	45	Hillview	<del>4</del>
Burnham HS	<del>42</del>	Irving	4
Parkland	29	Maplewood	4
Washington	28	Martin	4
Sherman	26	Pickett	4
Jones Jr. HS	25	Wernert	<del>4</del>
Garfield	24	Westwood	4
Franklin	22	Crissey	3
Oakdale	21	Dorr	3
Lincoln	20	Feilbach	3
Lagrange	18	Glendale	3
Raymer	17	Harvard	
Whitmer HS	<del>17</del>	McKinley	3
Whitney Voc. HS	16	Westfield	3
Chase	15	Cherry	2
Swanton	<del>14</del>	Convalescent	2
Other	13	Fulton	2
Navarre	12	Glann	<del>2</del>
Nathan Hale	11	Marshall	2
Holland HS	<del>10</del>	Maumee HS	<del>2</del>
Birmingham	10	Mt. Vernon	<del>2</del>
Glenwood	9	Newbury	2
Longfellow	9	Bancroft Hills	1
Warren	9	Berkey	1
Riverside	8	Clay Elementary	1
Roosevelt	8	Holland Elementary	<del>1</del>
Stickney	8	Hopewell	<del>1</del>
Washington Twp. HS	<del>8</del>	Kleis	1
Burroughs	7	Neapolis	1
Coy	<del>7</del>	Parkland Craft	1

(continued on next page)

DeVeaux	7	Waterville	†
Ottawa Hills	7	Whitehouse	†
Point Place	7	Wayne	†
Spring	7	Wynn	†
Irwin	6	Not attending	279
Walbridge	6	Out of County	62
(Parochial)			
Central Catholic HS	41		
St. Hedwig's	21		
Good Shepherd	14		
St. Francis de Sales	9		
St. Mary's	8		
St. Vincent de Paul	6		
Other	5		
St. Anthony's	5		
St. Teresa's	5		
St. Ann's	4		
St. Benedict's	4		
Marybrook	4		
St. Adelbert's	3		
St. Michael's	3		
Rosary Cathedral	3		
St. Stephen's	3		
Holy Rosary	2		
Immaculate Conception	2		
Our Lady of Lourdes	2		
St. Catherine's	2		
St. Charles'	2		
St. Hyacinth's	2		
SS Peter & Paul's	2		
St. Thomas Aquinas	2		
Nativity	1		
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	1		
Sacred Heart	1		
St. Agnes	1		
St. Clement's	1		
St. James	1		
St. John	1		
St. Louis	1		
St. Patrick	1		
St. Stanislaus	1		
		*Schools not listed had no	
		Cases in Court	

---

1708

Table No. 8  
BY CENSUS TRACTS

Census Tract No.	Total	Census Tract No.	Total
1	26	36	48
2	12	37	63
3	18	38	10
4	20	39	16
5	5	40	13
6	11	41	12
7	12	42	14
8	5	43	7
9	9	44	2
10	21	45	9
11	9	46	37
12	53	47	78
13	14	48	41
14	41	49	18
15	21	50	20
16	22	51	60
17	27	52	21
18	22	53	27
19	16	54	16
20	8	55	34
21	10		
22	30		
23	42	58	30
24	12		
25	48	60	5
26	41	61	3
27	16	62	19
28	22	64	2
29	20	65	2
30	35	66	30
31	8	67	21
32	16	68	63
33	66	69	67
34	88	70	6
35	4	71	5
		72	5
		Out of County	<u>74</u>
			1708

Table 8a

DISTRICTS

East Toledo	302
Pinewood	217
Collingwood	156
North End	105
West Toledo	104
Downtown	100
South End	99
Lagrange-Stickney	95
West End	88
Nebraska	76
Point Place	34
Washington Township	67
Sylvania Township	63
Adams Township	30
Springfield	30
Swanton	21
Oregon	19
Waterville	6
Jerusalem Township	5
Ottawa Hills	5
Waynesfield Township	5
Monclova	3
Richfield Township	2
Spencer Township	2
Out of County	<u>74</u>
	1708

Table No. 9

SOURCE OF REFERRAL

	Major		Minor		Total
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
Police	565	154	613	97	1429
Parent	28	54	10	7	99
School	33	27	9	10	79
Social Agency	3	8		1	12
Probation Counselor	26				26
Other Court	16	10	4	2	32
Other source	19	3	9		31
	<u>690</u>	<u>256</u>	<u>645</u>	<u>117</u>	<u>1708</u>

Table No. 10

MARITAL STATUS OF PARENTS

Common Law Marriage	4
Parents married and living together	924
Parents married but separated	102
Father deceased, mother not remarried	87
Mother deceased, father not remarried	24
Divorced	103
Father widowed and remarried	29
Father divorced and remarried	52
Mother widowed and remarried	59
Mother divorced and remarried	119
Both parents deceased	6
Parents not married	35
Both parents divorced and remarried	138
Unknown	26
	<u>1708</u>

Table No. 11

FOSTER HOME SERVICE 1953

INVESTIGATION.

Applications for boarding home license  
pending as of January, 1953..... 2

Total number applications received..... 51

Disposition of applications:

Approved..... 31  
Withheld..... 7  
Referred to other agencies... 4  
Disapproved..... 1  
Pending..... 8  
Total..... 51

SUPERVISION:

	Boys	Girls	Total
Placements made.....	24	16	40
Removals	26	14	40

Children in Foster Homes  
(as of December, 1953.)

	Boys	Girls	Total
Boarding	12	8	20
School Wage	0	1	1
Pay Own Board	1	1	2
Free	1	0	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	14	10	24

Total number homes licensed..... 35  
" " " Withdrawn..... 4  
" " " Recertified ..... 19

Table No. 12

JUVENILE COURT - CHILD SUPPORT  
DEPARTMENT - 1953 YEARLY REPORT

Motions to show cause	363
Motions to modify	250
Motions for custody	26
Motions for visitation	6
Bastardy hearings	147
Hearings on non-support affidavits	154
Hearings on contributing	29
Reciprocal support act cases heard	41
Hearings on stay of execution	8
Motions for lump sum judgment	48
State Aid hearings	1
Proceedings in aid	2
Unofficial hearings involving support	8
Motions for injunction	5
Motions for imposition of sentence	1
 Children involved	 1583
 Monies paid through Toledo Humane Society on child support cases . . . . .	 \$1,840,695.68
 Monies paid through Juvenile Court	
Restitution	\$11,814.98
Support	1,365.00
Boarding Homes	<del>35</del> ,215.58
State Aid	<u>1,393.94</u>
	<u>49,789.50</u>
	\$1,890,485.18

Table No. 13  
BASTARDY CASES 1953

Official (aff. filed)	115
Unofficial (aff. not filed)	0
Compromise	1
Plead guilty prelim. hearing	57
Alleged father not located	5
Mother and alleged father married	3
Awaiting birth of child or jury trial	42
Found guilty by jury	2
Found not guilty by jury	0
Dismissed	3
Pending	1
Plead guilty at time of jury trial	_____
	115

Table No. 14

Type of complaint			
Reckless driving	11	Over three in front	1
Without due regard	216	Prohibited turn	23
Speeding	332	Standing violation	1
Running stop light	79	Temporary permit - no licensed driver	46
Failure to yield right of way	7	No driver's license	175
Failure to yield right of way to other vehicle	41	Defective vehicle (brakes, etc.)	39
Running red light	109	Defective or illegal muffler	93
Hit-skip	4	Other violation	97
Wrong way on one-way street	9	Other	315
Total of both columns		1,598	

Table No. 15

Occupants of car	
Alone in car	437
With friend(s) same age - sex	451
With friend(s) opposite sex	83
With mixed group	77
With adult members of immediate family	46
With other adult(s)	9
Total	<u>1,103</u>

Table No. 16

	Accident		
None	876	Medical treatment received by one or more	38
Collision with other vehicle	207	Hospitalization received by one or more	12
Other property damage	20	Fatal injury	4
		No medical treatment	1053
Total	1103	Total	1103

Table No. 17

	Insurance	
No insurance		290
Personal liability and property damage		808
Other		5
Total		1103

Table No. 18

	Disposition		
License suspended	425	Dismissed	48
License restricted	283	License plates lifted	1
License revoked	15	Defective parts - vehicle repaired	55
Fine	251	License suspended pending insurance	132
Probation to parents	7	Other	15
Probation to counselor	6		
Attend traffic school	507		

Table No. 19

Day and Time of Violation

Day			554
Night			<u>549</u>
			1103
Sunday	94	Thursday	160
Monday	120	Friday	172
Tuesday	162	Saturday	172
Wednesday	223	Total.....	1103

Table No. 20

## DOMESTIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

	1952	1953
1. NUMBER OF FAMILIES RECEIVING SERVICE	851	1324
a. Number of children under 14	1378	2361
b. Number of children over 14	210	401
c. Total number of children involved	1588	2772
2. SOURCE OF REFERRAL:		
a. Mandatory Divorce Investigation	479	842*
b. Self	184	155
c. Former client this department	2	102
d. Attorney	40	92
e. Judge or Referee	52	60
f. Pastor	12	24
g. Other Court Counselor	30	25
h. Client other department	3	12
i. All other	49	12
3. ELAPSED TIME OF COUNSELING:		
a. Less than 30 days	156	322
b. 30 to 89 days	203	322
c. 90 days to 6 months	430	247
d. 6 months to one year	35	249
e. Over one year	2	122
4. RESULTS REPORTED BY COUNSELORS:		
a. Apparent reconciliation	266	377
b. Disposition of children planned and approved before final decree	353	413
c. Contests amicably adjusted (not involving money matters)	44	164
d. Friendly property and alimony settlements facilitated	82	125
e. Both partners helped to overcome crisis of marriage failure	318	455
f. One partner helped to accept problem and meet it	95	202

\*Over 300 families with children not included, due to incomplete service because of heavy caseloads due to lack of sufficient personnel.

	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
g. Other adjustments in non-litigated cases:		
1. no net change	*	72
2. marked improvement in adjustment	*	119
3. moderate improvement in adjustment	*	129
4. marked deterioration in adjustment	*	5
5. moderate deterioration in adjustment	*	6
5. POST-DIVORCE COUNSELING GIVEN:		
a. Husband	37	16
b. Wife	36	20
c. Both	*	6

\* Not available

DIVORCE STATISTICS

Five Year Intervals	<u>1933</u>	<u>1938</u>	<u>1943</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1953</u>
Divorces Sought (Petitions filed)	932	1407	2095	2217	2266
ON DIVORCE CASES HEARD					
Past Five Years	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
Average duration of marriage before divorce (in years)	9.3	9.4	9.0	8.7	8.9
Average length of separation before divorce (in years)	2.04	2.05	2.00	2.2	1.89
Per cent following child marriage (girl under 21)	67.4%	68.2%	68.4%	67.9%	69.1%
Average age of wife, first marriage (in years)	19.5	19.6	19.4	19.8	20.1
Per cent of divorces following runaway marriage	31.4%	30.8%	32.1%	31.4%	32.1%
Married less than year (divorce seldom granted)	4.3%	3.3%	3.8%	2.6%	2.9%
Married less than three years	22.8%	19.2%	15.5%	20.7%	17.7%
Cases involving unfaithful husbands	45.0%	47.3%	47.4%	44.5%	46.6%
Cases involving unfaithful wives	15.0%	16.3%	16.2%	15.1%	17.3%
Husband a repeater (second or subsequent divorce)	28.8%	31.5%	33.5%	33.7%	34.0%
Wife a repeater (second or sub- sequent divorce)	33.8%	34.4%	38.4%	35.5%	35.5%
Action started by husband (wife defendant)	25.9%	26.8%	25.3%	25.9%	27.0%
Cases heard involving child under 21	40.0%	41.4%	41.4%	41.6%	45.3%
Total number divorces granted	1077	1113	1393	1230	1422
Ratio of divorces granted to divorces sought	52.6%	58.6%	66.3%	57.7%	62.3%

## CHILD STUDY INSTITUTE STATISTICS

Table A

NUMBER OF CHILDREN ADMITTED:

	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
January	77	25	102
February	58	23	81
March	91	28	119
April	64	42	106
May	82	28	110
June	63	28	91
July	78	43	121
August	57	46	103
September	89	32	121
*October	103	39	142
November	105	31	136
December	92	36	128
	959	401	1360

\* Denotes first month of operation in new building.

SUMMARY:

	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
Boys	959	810
Girls	<u>401</u>	<u>372</u>
Total	1360	1182

(Includes readmissions of same child if he was received more than once during the year.)

Increase over 1952: 178 children; 8.7% over 1952.

Table B

RATIO OF ADMISSIONS BY SEX:	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
Boys	70.5%	68.5%
Girls	<u>29.5%</u>	<u>31.5%</u>
	100.0%	100.0%

Table C

ADMISSIONS OF REPEATERS DURING 1953:	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
January	34	9	43
February	16	11	27
March	22	4	26
April	21	10	31
May	28	11	39
June	22	8	30
July	19	16	35
August	22	10	32
September	26	12	38
October	26	12	38
November	37	13	50
December	26	8	34
TOTAL	<u>299</u>	<u>124</u>	<u>423</u>

Total Number of Repeaters: 423  
 Total Number of New Children: 937  
 Repeaters comprised 31.1% of all children received in 1953.

Table D

TOTAL DAYS OF DETENTION IN 1953:

	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
January	751	426	1177
February	663	379	1042
March	740	352	1092
April	621	356	977
May	756	496	1252
June	604	410	<del>1014</del>
July	822	520	1342
August	573	542	1115
September	576	409	985
October	776	330	1106
November	770	386	1156
December	707	374	1081
TOTAL	8359	4980	13339

6554

There were 13,339 individual child days of detention in 1953, as compared with 11,488 in 1952.

Table E

AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION:	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
January	24	14	38
February	23	12	35
March	23	12	35
April	22	13	35
May	27	17	44
June	19	14	33
July	18	13	31
August	20	17	37
September *	17	14	31
October	22	11	33
November	31	17	48
December	29	17	46

\*Month of lowest average population was September

\*\*Month of highest average population was November.

Annual Daily Average was 23 boys, 14 girls, or a total of 37 children.

Table F

THE PRIVILEGE SYSTEM:	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
Number of children granted outside privileges	623	612
Number of individual releases for outside privileges	4435	4841
Percent of Total Population granted privileges	45.8%	51.8%
Major violations*	2	3
Minor violations**	12	15
Percent of Non-violated privileges	99.69%	99.63%

\* e.g., Committing a delinquent act.

\*\* e.g., Exceeding time limit, visiting home, etc.

Table G

STATUS OF CHILDREN ADMITTED:			1953	1952
	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL	TOTAL
Delinquent	875	347	1222	1037
Dependent	53	46	99	123
For Observation	31	8	39	22
Totals	<u>959</u>	<u>401</u>	<u>1360</u>	<u>1182</u>

Table H

AGES OF CHILDREN RECEIVED:	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
6 & under	18	12	30
7	3	6	9
8	14	7	21
9	29	6	35
10	40	14	54
11	44	13	57
12	75	23	98
13	99	33	132
14	153	51	204
15	199	91	290
16	187	74	261
17	94	67	161
18	4	4	8
	959	401	1360

Median Age, 1953: 14 years 2 months

Median Age, 1952: 14 years 4 months

Table I

LENGTH OF STAY AT C.S.I.:	TOTAL
Less than 10 days	1058
10 days to 1 month	199
1 month to 2 months	84
Over 2 months	19
	1360

TABLE J  
SUMMARY OF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
Total number of new children examined	358	340
Total number of children re-examined	117	123
Uncompleted medical examinations	5	6
Number of daily treatments in clinic	1950	1825
Nutritional status of children:		
Good	80.6%	83.7%
Fair	15.2%	12.6%
Poor	4.2%	3.7%
General Health (when admitted)		
Good	79.7%	73.1%
Fair	20.3%	26.9%
Poor	0.0%	0.0%
Percent having visual defects	32.6%	29.8%
Percent having dental defects	27.8%	25.7%
Percent having positive Wasserman tests	0.4%	0.6%
Number of positive Gonorrhea cases	1	0
Percent positive Nose & Throat cultures	0.2%	0.0%
Number of pregnancies	26	19
Number of cases of chronic pelvic inflammatory disease	34	24
Number of cardiac cases	2	5
Clinic cases	22	22
Immunizations (prior to admission)		
Smallpox	51.1%	49.8%
Diphtheria	20.2%	22.8%
Typhoid	20.0%	21.8%
Pertussis	1.0%	1.3%
Number of impetigo cases	4	2
Number of Infected tonsil cases	7	6
Number of Chronic Otitis Media cases	4	0
Number of Parotitis (Mumps) cases	2	0
Number of Varicella (Chickenpox) cases	0	0
Number of Scarlet Fever cases	0	0
Number of Obesity cases	34	22
Number of Malnutrition cases	5	5
Number of Scabies cases	0	1
Number of Hypospadias cases	1	1
Number of Petit Mal Epilepsy cases	0	0
Number of Grand Mal Epilepsy cases	2	1
Number of Albuminuria cases	0	3
Number of Deafness cases	2	3
Number of Hernia cases	2	3
Number of Arthritis cases	1	2
Number of Diabetes Mellitus cases	2	0
Number of Cerebral Palsy cases	1	0
Number of Drug addiction cases	1	0
Number of Tuberculin Patch Tests Reactors	6	10
Number of Tuberculosis cases on followup X-Rays	0	0

## CHILD STUDY INSTITUTE

### Psychologists' Annual Report

Studies during 1953½	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>ADULTS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1. Carried over from 1952	132	17	1	150
2. Received 1953	141	96	8	245
3. Total under study	273	113	9	395
4. Completed during 1953	123	90	7	220
5. Dropped without study	11	6	1	18
6. Carried over to 1954	139	17	1	157
<b>Treatment Cases:</b>				
7. Carried over from 1952	22	11	1	34
8. Received 1953	6	9	0	15
9. Total under treatment	28	20	1	49
10. Terminated during 1953	3	3	0	6
11. Carried over to 1954	25	17	1	43
<b>Distribution of Levels of Intelligence (Cases, Line 4):</b>				
12. Superior	7	3	0	10
13. Above Average	10	10	1	21
14. Average	49	35	3	87
15. Below Average	37	28	1	66
16. Mental Defective	9	7	1	17
17. Intelligence Test Not Administered	11	7	1	19

#### **Retardation in Basic School Subjects:**

Out of 69 school age children who had average intelligence or above and were given the Wide Range Achievement Test,

29 were retarded 2 or more years in Reading

34 were retarded 2 or more years in Spelling

36 were retarded 2 or more years in Arithmetic