

COPY

THE
SEATTLE JUVENILE COURT
REPORT *for the* YEARS
1920-1921

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IT IS ALWAYS A DISTINCT GAIN
TO THE CHILD, AND TO THE
COMMUNITY, WHEN THE LESSON
OF SOCIAL WELL BEING HAS
BEEN LEARNED BY THE CHILD
WITHOUT HIS PASSING
THROUGH THE CHAGRIN AND
SHOCK OF SOCIAL DISPLEASURE

JANUARY 1, 1922
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
200 BROADWAY

PERSONNEL OF STAFF

The Court

HONORABLE KING DYKEMAN, *Judge*

KATE NYE, *Clerk*

Investigation and Probation Department

HAROLD K. VANN, *Chief Probation Officer*

GLADYS SCHUSTER, *Secretary*

CAROLYN EVERTS, *Investigator**

FLORENCE BALL, *Investigator†*

MARTHA CASTBERG, *Supervisor of Probation Department*

JANET DONALDSON, *Probation Officer*

P. V. MILLER, *Probation Officer*

VIOLET STOUT, *Stenographer*

DR. LILLIAN C. IRWIN, *Medical Examiner for Girls*

DR. STEVENSON SMITH, *Consulting Psychologist*

Detention Home

FRANCETTE P. MARING,

Superintendent and Assistant to Judge in Girl Cases

ANNA NAERENTS, *Boys' Attendant*

MINNIE G. McOMBER, *Girls' Attendant*

HELEN E. MARING, *Night Assistant*

LOUISE MCKEE, *Kitchen Attendant*

LUELLA COE, *School Teacher*

C. S. WOOD, *Building Attendant*

Mothers' Pension Department

LENA E. HEMPHILL, *Commissioner*

MARJORIE LEWIS, *Secretary*

JOSEPHINE PORTER, *Investigator*

BESSIE MAYNARD, *Field Visitor*

EMILY CURRY, *Field Visitor*

*Resigned December 1, 1920

†Appointed December 1, 1920

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PROBATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEARS 1920 AND 1921

INASMUCH as no report of the Juvenile Court work was published last year, this volume covers the two years, 1920 and 1921. Many interesting items are shown and comparisons of increase and decrease along certain lines are easily accessible. The year 1920 shows a marked increase in the number of cases brought to the Court's attention, the yearly total being the largest in the Court's history. This same marked increase was almost universal throughout the United States. The cause can undoubtedly be charged to the world war and its after effects. The periods of rehabilitation following a great war are often as trying as the conflict itself. Juvenile problems, of course, logically increase with the population; but a sudden leap upward, as shown by the figures of 1920 in comparison with earlier years, can only be explained by reviewing the closing of all industries and the sudden and forced idleness of thousands who fell in a day from fabulous wages to nothing. This was true especially of many young men and boys who had been spoiled through an excess of spending money and could not readjust themselves to pre-war wages. Stringent economic conditions meant, in many cases, desertion of homes and responsibilities and a growing tendency to take from the community by wrong methods that which could no longer be obtained rightfully. Many men, absent temporarily from homes and still feeling the restlessness of war, were unable to quickly readjust themselves and assume former obligations.

The year 1921 shows a decrease in the number of Court cases as compared with 1920, but it is doubtful if the extremely low figures of former years will ever again be attained. One reason for this is

the increased community interest in child welfare, which will continue to bring to the Court's attention larger numbers of children for the Court's assistance and protection.

In compiling the 1921 report, several interesting changes were noted as compared with 1920. A decrease of eighty-six cases is shown, the dropping off being in the dependent cases most largely. The delinquent cases remained about stationary; for, while the boys numbered seventy-six less, there were eighty-seven more girls. The increase among the girls is almost equally divided between truancy, sex-misconduct and insubordination. This increase is possibly largely due to the fact that the new school law has brought to our attention for the first time many girls who had dropped out of school. Many of these were brought in because of trouble at home and for truancy and found upon examination to have been involved in more serious trouble. The fact that each girl brought into the detention home is now examined reveals many sex problems which formerly were not discovered. The dropping off in the number of boy cases is due seemingly to closer follow-up work on the part of the school officers and the Court staff. The knowledge also passed among boys that laws are being enforced may have something to do with it. Special attention has also been paid to the boys during the year through the Y. M. C. A., Boy Scouts and many athletic activities such as those managed by the Elks, the Seattle Times and other newspapers.

The largest decrease was among runaways. Next came the cases of insubordination. There was also a dropping off in dishonesty. While there were more girls charged with truancy from school, there were fewer boys. The part-time and vocational schools have doubtless been a strong factor here and have received a closer response from the boys than from the girls. Another interesting fact is a decrease of ninety-three cases of inadequate moral guardianship, and an increase of fifteen in cases of abandonment. Along the same line it is noteworthy that the percentage of broken homes shows an increase from 66 per cent to 75 per cent. The realization

that 75 per cent of our delinquent girls come from homes broken through death, divorce or desertion shows urgent need of adequate parental supervision. The greatest number of delinquents coming in at one age still remains at seventeen for the girls, but in the boy cases a dropping off from sixteen to fifteen is shown. The greatest changes among the boys is a decrease of thirty-six at twelve years and a decrease of fifteen at seventeen years with an increase of sixteen at fourteen years and an increase of thirty at fifteen years. The early years up to fourteen show a decrease of ninety-one. Among the girls the largest increase is nineteen at seventeen years and seventeen at sixteen years. Another significant fact is an increase of thirteen at fourteen years for the girls and fifteen at the age of thirteen years; an increase of twenty-eight at the same ages, where the boys show a decrease of fifty-three.

In the matter of dispositions seventeen more were placed under supervision despite the fact that there were eighty-six fewer cases. The number of the girls sent to the Parental School was increased by fifteen, due partially to the fact that there was room at the school, which was not true the year previous. As compared to this, there was a falling off of twenty-two in those sent to the Boys' Parental School. Seventeen less were sent to the State Training Schools, but the number sent to the State Custodial School increased by eleven, and there was an increase of five in those sent to the House of the Good Shepherd. This fact shows that the opening of the Ruth School has not affected the use of the House of the Good Shepherd as an institution filling a certain definite need. That the Ruth School also has filled a real need is shown in that, outside of certain relief cases, twenty-seven girls were committed to the school by the Court.

The matter of Court petitions shows a falling off of nineteen in petitions signed by the school department and a decrease of forty-five in Probation Officers' petitions. The evident explanation is better response to advice and supervision.

Dr. Lilburn Merrill, a pioneer and noted expert in Juvenile Work, severed his connection with the Court December 1, 1920, after

some ten years of continuous service. Dr. Merrill is now in charge of the State Custodial School at Medical Lake; and while we regret the loss of his services here, it is gratifying to know that the Custodial School is under such competent care and supervision.

Upon Dr. Merrill's resignation, Judge King Dykeman appointed as Chief Probation Officer, Harold K. Vann, a graduate of the University of Southern California, who had been Chief Probation Officer of Los Angeles City and County Juvenile and Adult Probation Department since June, 1915, until his resignation to come to Seattle. Mr. Vann has been engaged in some form of welfare work ever since he graduated from college. He was the first president of the Los Angeles Social Workers' Survey Club; has served as president of the Probation Officers of California, and for four years was president of the Southern California Probation Officers' Association.

In December, 1920, Mrs. Josephine Stuff, Commissioner of Mothers' Pensions, resigned and the Court appointed as Commissioner, Miss Lena Hemphill. Miss Hemphill was a member of the Mothers' Pension Department; is a native daughter of Seattle, and received her preliminary training at Geneva College and the Psychological Laboratories at the Training School at Vineland, New Jersey, and was investigator for the State of New Jersey.

The report of the Mothers' Pension Department, which is included in the following pages, shows a growing work which is closely supervised and which is giving life, education and happiness to many mothers and children.

Mrs. Francette P. Maring is Assistant to the Judge in girls' cases. Seattle is one of the few Courts giving this special attention to the girl problem and its adjudication. The results are most excellent. Mrs. Maring, who is also Superintendent of the Detention Home, reports that the number of boys and girls detained temporarily has increased gradually from a yearly total of 838 in 1912 to 1482 in 1920. The figures for 1921 are slightly lower, but this was

due to the fact that the detention home was under quarantine for six weeks, no children being admitted during that time.

The court clerk's report reveals that during 1920 \$11,774 was paid into the registry of the Court by parents toward the maintenance of wards in homes and institutions, and in 1921, \$8,822 was received for the same purpose.

All correlating agencies have been unusually co-operative. This is especially true of the schools, the Attendance Department, Vocational Department, Child's Study Laboratory, Juvenile and Woman's Protective Division of the Seattle Police, sheriff's office, prosecuting attorney's office, Washington Children's Home Society, Public Welfare and Social Welfare League. All institutions manifest their desire to care for in every way possible those whom the Court sees fit to thus place and the year has been remarkably free from criticism against the homes and institutions utilized by the Court. Throughout the city and county there is a growing spirit of mutual helpfulness in social service work. Dr. Stevenson Smith, of the University of Washington, has been uniformly kind in his readiness to always assist with mental cases, giving to the work a great deal of time and careful consideration.

While the year just closed revealed needs of various kinds, it is manifestly important that a Moron Colony be established in Western Washington or new cottages be erected at Medical Lake and set aside for this special group. There is a large and growing group in this state for whom no suitable provision has been made, and yet no group needs closer attention. In King County these unfortunate ones with intelligence quotients of from sixty to seventy cannot be placed in the parental schools, as those schools are not large enough to give proper training, and they cannot be sent to the State Custodial School as they are not definitely feeble-minded. Unless decidedly delinquent, they cannot be committed to the State Training School; and, even when they are so committed, that school is not intended for that particular class and it is really only a postponement of definite care, as too often they do not succeed on parole and

cannot adjust themselves to our complex civilization. These who are merely children in mental capacity and adults with physical appetites, too often deviate to public streets and down-town temptations; misfits today, they become multiplication tables, increasing tomorrow's social problems with possibilities of greater and continuous tragedies. In justice to the group and in justice to the public in general, a Moron Colony should be established immediately.

The real value of a report of this character lies in its interpreting the needs of the community and the functions of the Juvenile Court as a vital factor in adjudicating these needs. The Court stands for child-preservation, youthful training and home rehabilitation. It is the Court's purpose, primarily, to always safeguard the child's highest welfare and to so assist in its development that true character may be formed and the highest ideals implanted, so that the child may be an asset rather than a deficit to itself and the community. In the final analysis, this is not solely a Juvenile Court problem, but also a home and community problem. It is a distinct gain to the child and to the community when the lesson of social well-being has been learned by the child without his passing through the chagrin and shock of social displeasure. In the thousands of cases which pass through the Court, mistakes may be made in spite of mental and physical examinations, in spite of the most careful thought and investigation, in spite of the child's efforts and outside co-operation; and yet, most of these are mistakes of the heart and quite often the so-called mistakes are found in later years to be the judgment of supreme wisdom. The Court is always desirous of the co-operation of all social agencies and it is always the endeavor to try and solve the problems of youth as though each case were the only case. For the Court's decision, no matter what it may be, always necessarily affects the child's ultimate destiny.

It is not sufficient for a judge to be well-versed in legal procedure to be judge of the Juvenile Court. The position demands a man of close discernment and keen sympathy, one with a large heart and a hard head, one who knows the problems of fatherhood

and can see things from a child's point of view. Seattle has been extremely fortunate in having a man like Judge A. W. Frater to inaugurate the Juvenile Court work and a man like Judge King Dykeman to take it up and carry it on to the present-day success. Judge Dykeman has been always mindful of the child's highest interests and has always stood for those things which benefit the growing boy and girl. Under his leadership the Court has become a laboratory where each child's individual problem is carefully and privately analyzed and trained workers co-operate in doing for the child and its home everything possible to correct, stabilize and properly construct child-life.

Previous reports have modestly refrained from calling attention to the fact that few, if any, of the Courts with the population of King County accomplish so much work with so little expense. To anyone interested in costs and results, the Seattle system will bear investigation and will be found to stand out equal to or above any city in the West. The spirit of harmony and self-sacrificing service in all the departments connected with the Court tends toward efficiency and is of tremendous assistance to the Court in reshaping broken lives, in restoring lost faith and in replacing youthful feet in the pathways of promise.

Respectfully submitted,

HAROLD K. VANN.

JUVENILE COURT STATISTICS

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS OF CHILDREN BROUGHT TO COURT DURING NINE YEARS AND COUNTY SCHOOL POPULATION RATIO

Year	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921
Delinquent Boys.	684	639	567	536	443	335	503	841	765
Delinquent Girls.	190	158	133	81	108	105	115	145	232
Dependent Boys..	185	230	252	241	149	90	146	221	179
Dependent Girls..	127	220	223	229	122	113	133	224	169
Totals.....	1,186	1,247	1,184	1,087	822	643	897	1,431	1,345
County School Census*.....	53,398	61,755	65,063	63,936	67,051	77,660	84,760	86,515	86,279
Ratio.....	1:49	1:50	1:54	1:58	1:81	1:12	1:94	1:65	1:43

*The school census, which includes all children between the ages of four and twenty-one years, nearly parallels the juvenile court jurisdiction, which includes all children under eighteen years. The numerical variation of these groups is so slight that the census provides a satisfactory basis for a ratio.

NUMBER OF REAPPEARANCES DURING CURRENT AND PRE- CEDING YEARS OF CHILDREN BROUGHT TO TO COURT DURING 1921

	DELINQUENT		DEPENDENT		Totals	Percent 1921	Percent 1920	Percent 1919
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls				
First time.....	501	159	156	145	961	71.4	76.	72.12
Second time...	144	49	19	19	231	17.1	15.	17.2
Third time.....	54	16	3	5	78	5.7	5.3	5.2
Fourth time...	34	6	.....	.....	40	2.9	1.4	2.8
Fifth time.....	14	2	.....	.....	16	1.4	1.3	1.47
Sixth time.....	7	.....	1	.....	8	.6	.8	.78
Seventh time..	10	.....	.....	.....	10	.83	.2	.22
Eighth time...	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.07	.2	.11
Totals.....	765	232	179	169	1345	100.00	100.00	100.00

OFFENSES AND CONDITIONS WHICH BROUGHT CHILDREN TO COURT DURING 1920 AND 1921

	FOR 1920			FOR 1921		
	Boys	Girls	Totals	Boys	Girls	Totals
CONDUCT						
Dishonesty	363	8	371	344	14	358
Vagrancy and runaways	145	8	153	100	15	115
Sex delinquency	31	79	110	31	105	136
Insubordination	109	39	148	77	64	141
Disorderliness	146	4	150	148	3	151
Truancy	47	7	54	41	30	71
Curfew violation				19	1	20
Traffic violation				5		5
Total (conduct cases)	841	145	986	765	232	997
NEGLECT						
Inadequate moral guardianship....	174	179	353	120	140	260
Abandonment	27	30	57	46	26	72
Poverty	20	15	35	13	3	16
Total (neglect cases)	221	224	445	179	169	348
Grand Total	1,062	369	1,431	944	401	1,345

PARENTAL RELATION TABLE FOR THE YEAR 1921

	DELINQUENT		NEGLECTED		Total	Per Cent 1921	Cent Per 1920
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls			
Parents living together.....	402	58	41	24	524	39.00	47.5
Parents not living together, due to death, divorce, separation or desertion...	363	174	138	145	820	61.00	52.5
Total	765	232	179	169	1,345	100.00	100.00

DISPOSITION OF CHILDREN BROUGHT TO COURT DURING 1920 AND 1921

	Boys	Girls	1920 Totals	Boys	Girls	1921 Totals
Parents and children advised.....	670	67	737	608	79	687
Probationary supervision	110	114	224	122	119	241
Committed to individuals.....	32	22	54	35	28	63
Parental Schools	93	28	121	71	43	114
State Schools	28	8	36	13	6	19
State Custodial School	9	8	17	17	11	28
House of Good Shepherd		16	16		21	21
King County Hospital	1	5	6		7	7
Missionary Sisters		2	2		2	2
Washington Children's Home Society..	22	26	48	28	16	44
Seattle Children's Home	8	12	20	5	3	8
Florence Crittenden Home		4	4		6	6
Ruth School for Girls					27	27
Everett Smith Cottage					5	5
Demand for Criminal Prosecution...	1		1	7	2	9
Sent to other jurisdictions.....	57	17	74	11	5	16
Absconded	3		3	1		1
Continued subject to call	12	8	20	7	4	11
Briscoe Home	1		1	1		1
Seattle Pacific College	1		1	1	1	2
Theodora Home	1	4	5	1	2	3
Ryther Home	3	1	4	3	1	4
Detention Home		1	1		1	1
Women's Industrial Clinic					1	1
Motor vehicle confiscated				1		1
Cause dismissed	6	5	11	12	11	23
State School for the Deaf	1	1	2			
Parkland Children's Home	2	2	4			
Dominion Sisters		1	1			
City Hospital		2	2			
Children's Orthopedic	1		1			
Totals	1062	396	1431	944	401	1345

COMPARATIVE POPULATION OF DETENTION HOME DURING NINE YEARS

YEAR	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921
Boys	638	575	610	724	694	935	970	980	755
Girls	435	455	426	423	311	440	451	502	509
Totals	1,073	1,030	1,036	1,147	1,005	1,375	1,421	1,482	1,264
Average period of detention (days)	7	7	6	7	6	6.5	5.2	6.9	6.2

*No children received for six weeks in 1921 on account of smallpox quarantine.

TABLE OF AGES OF CHILDREN BROUGHT TO COURT
DURING 1920 AND 1921

	1920					1921				
	DELINQUENT		NEGLECTED		Totals	DELINQUENT		NEGLECTED		Totals
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
1 yr. & under	.....	.....	26	26	52	.....	.....	24	17	41
2 years	.....	.....	13	10	23	.....	.....	17	10	27
3 years	.....	.....	7	11	18	.....	.....	8	6	14
4 years	.....	.....	8	10	18	.....	.....	11	3	14
5 years	.....	.....	18	15	33	.....	.....	11	8	19
6 years	4	.....	10	15	29	.....	.....	4	10	14
7 years	6	1	16	18	41	.....	.....	10	9	19
8 years	17	.....	24	12	53	5	.....	20	6	31
9 years	19	3	9	14	45	9	1	6	8	24
10 years	34	1	10	15	60	31	3	9	16	59
11 years	50	2	18	12	82	37	6	14	9	56
12 years	89	5	16	11	121	53	14	9	9	85
13 years	93	6	12	14	125	76	21	10	7	114
14 years	122	18	15	8	163	138	31	10	15	194
15 years	144	33	8	8	193	174	37	11	17	229
16 years	146	37	7	9	199	140	54	2	9	225
17 years	117	39	4	16	176	102	58	3	10	173
18 years	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	.....	.....	7
Totals.....	841	145	221	224	1431	765	232	179	169	1345

SOURCE OF COMPLAINTS LEADING TO COURT HEARINGS
DURING 1920 AND 1921

	1920	1921
Police Officers	751	718
School Attendance Officers.....	114	95
Probation Officers	113	68
Parents	180	143
Citizens	261	184
Children in own behalf.....	12	13
Washington Children's Home Society.....	.....	13
Social Welfare .....	.....	27
	1,431	1,345

"A father may turn his back on a child; brothers and sisters may become inveterate enemies, husbands may desert their wives and wives their husbands, but a mother's love endures through it all; in good repute, in bad repute, in the face of the world's condemnation, a mother still loves on and still hopes that her child may turn from his evil ways and repent; still she remembers the infant smile that once filled her bosom with rapture, the merry laugh, the joyful shout of his childhood, the opening promise of his youth; and she can never be brought to think him unworthy."

—*Washington Irving.*

REPORT OF MOTHERS' PENSION DEPARTMENT, KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON, FOR YEARS 1920-1921

Nine years of administration of the law providing assistance for destitute mothers has proven its economic value to society. We are now entering upon our tenth year. It is apparent to all students of social conditions that the work of helping and encouraging mothers to maintain normal homes is a permanent function of the state.

In 1913, a Mothers' Pension Act was passed by the Legislature of Washington, which provided aid for mothers, widowed, deserted, divorced or whose husbands were incapacitated or confined in penal institutions. This act was repealed in 1915 and a new law framed, lengthening the time of residence in the state and excluding deserted and divorced mothers. In 1919 an amendment was passed granting aid to all destitute mothers. A full text of the Washington law is given below:

MOTHERS' PENSION LAW STATE OF WASHINGTON

SECTION 1. In every county it shall be the duty of the county commissioners to provide out of the moneys of the county treasury an amount sufficient to meet the purposes of this law for the support of mothers who, by reason of destitution, insufficient property or income, or lack of earning capacity, are unable to support their children under the age of fifteen years.

SECTION 2. The allowance to such mother shall not exceed fifteen (\$15) dollars per month when she has but one child under the age of fifteen years, and if she has more than one child under the age of fifteen years, it shall not exceed the sum of fifteen dollars per month for the first child, and five dollars per month for each of the other children under the age of fifteen years.

SECTION 3. Such allowance shall be made by the juvenile court in the counties where such court is held and elsewhere by the superior court, and only upon the following conditions: (1) The child or children for whose

benefit the allowance is made must be living with the mother of such child or children; (2) When by means of such allowance the mother will be able to maintain a home for her child or children; (3) The mother must in the judgment of the court, be a proper person, morally, physically and mentally, for the bringing up of her children; (4) No person shall receive the benefit of this act who shall not have been a resident of the state for three (3) years and of the county in which such application is made for at least one year next before the making of such application for such allowance.

SECTION 4. Whenever any child shall reach the age of fifteen years any allowance made to the mother of such child for the benefit of such child shall cease. The court may in its discretion at any time before such child reaches the age of fifteen years, discontinue or modify the allowance to any mother and for any child.

SECTION 5. Any person procuring fraudulently any allowance for a person, not entitled thereto, shall be deemed guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

SECTION 6. In each case where an allowance is made to any woman under the provisions of this act, an order to that effect shall be entered upon the records of the court, making such allowance. Proceedings to obtain the benefit of this act shall be instituted and maintained in the same manner as proceedings are instituted and maintained in the juvenile court, and the prosecuting attorney shall render all necessary assistance to applicants under this act and shall appear in every such proceeding and through the probation officer, the charity commissioner or any person having knowledge of the facts, shall carefully investigate the merits of every application to the end that this act may be fairly administered and no person granted relief hereunder except those justly entitled thereto, and no officer of the court or county officer shall receive any fees for any service rendered in carrying out the provisions of this Act. A certified copy of said order shall be filed with the county auditor of the county in which such child's mother is resident, and thereupon and thereafter and so long as such order remains in force and unmodified it shall be the duty of the county auditor each month to draw his warrant on the current expense fund of the county in favor of the mother for the amount specified in such order, which warrant shall be by the auditor delivered to the mother upon her executing duplicate receipts therefor, one to be retained by the auditor and the other to be filed by the clerk with the other records in the proceedings relating to such child or children. It shall be the duty of the county treasurer to pay such warrant out of funds in the current expense fund of the county.

SECTION 7. That section 8385-1, 8385-2, 8385-3, 8385-4, 8385-5 and 8385-6 of Remington & Ballinger's Annotated Codes and Statutes of Washington be, and the same are hereby repealed.

The underlying purpose of this law is to prevent the breaking up of homes, upon the death or desertion of the father. Every child is by nature entitled to a good father and mother, home surroundings of ordinary comfort and opportunities for reasonable education and, when the natural parents fail for any reason to provide

these things, the state must step in and exercise its parental function, because of a truth the child is the asset of the state.

Any mother who has resided in the State of Washington continuously for three years and in King County for one year and who has children under fifteen years of age and does not have sufficient income to provide a comfortable living, may be considered an applicant for pension. The mother must submit to a brief questionnaire by the commissioner in order that facts may be recorded. She is advised that an investigation and visit to the home and school will be made within a reasonable time. Miss Josephine E. Porter, our investigator, visits each family, becomes acquainted and interested in every detail of the home, school, business and community life, and ascertains the standing of the mother and children, making suitable recommendations.

There is an unwritten law that the mother must keep herself, her children and her home clean; the children are to be regular in attendance at day and Sunday school, and kept out of the Juvenile Court. For the most part, the mothers realize their responsibility and co-operate to further these plans.

The matter of the location of the home is important. For the best interest of the child, the home should be established where there is fresh air; where there are playgrounds and greater opportunity for gardens; and where the community interests are wholesome and uplifting. Such an environment will assist the mother in bringing up her children to be useful citizens.

After the investigation, if it proves satisfactory, the applicant is requested to come to the office, where she signs a petition under oath. A detailed history is submitted in a private hearing before Judge King Dykeman, of the Juvenile Court. One day a month is devoted to these hearings, which are arranged in private to protect the mother from a public disclosure of her private and personal affairs.

After the Court has passed on each case, there are notifications

sent, informing the petitioner of the result of the hearing, and she is instructed to receive her warrant at the office of the county auditor on the first of each month. The out-of-town warrants are mailed by the auditor.

The allowance granted rests with the Court and depends upon the needs of the family. The law provides a maximum allowance of \$15.00 per month for one child under the age of fifteen years and \$5.00 per month for each additional child under fifteen years of age. This allowance is intended to assist the family, supplementing the mother's earnings, and is believed sufficient to supply food, clothing, fuel and shelter. In many instances the maximum pension, plus the income, is not sufficient to maintain the family and aid is solicited from other organizations, societies or individuals.

It usually follows that after a mother joins "our family" she becomes one of us and a friendly interest is taken in all her doings. Mrs. Bessie Maynard and Mrs. Emily Curry spend their entire time keeping in touch with the families and aim to visit each home once a month. Some families require much supervision and much encouragement, others none. In some cases it has been necessary for mothers to come to the office and confer with the Court, but usually most difficulties can be corrected through the efforts of the visitors and the commissioner.

The school records of our children are carefully followed; they are usually creditable and show good parental care. The splendid co-operation of the School Department has been a great help to the mothers who are employed and who necessarily have to be away from their homes. Many of our children are provided with hot lunches at the school and are allowed to render some little service in return. Some schools provide milk daily for our needy homes. It has been noted by principals of schools that the standing of children improves after the mother receives pension aid.

Mothers are encouraged to own their own homes and furniture. The reason being that they take a greater interest in that which they

own. A mothers' pension cannot be granted where there are savings, insurance or income greater than the needs of the family. Mothers who apply for pension aid, who are without homes, but who have received insurance from their husband's death, are advised by this department to invest it in a home.

When it is practical we encourage our families to have gardens and raise chickens. Seeds are provided by the government and free literature on poultry-raising is distributed to them. Several families sell flowers and vegetables during the summer, from seeds that have been provided.

"The future destiny of the child is always the work of the mother." We recognize the fact that a mother is not able to maintain her home if she is not physically fit and the children cannot keep up a good school record when they are not well; every effort, therefore, is made to relieve such conditions. Through the kind assistance of many local physicians and hospitals, our families have been greatly benefited.

One of the greatest problems to the entire Mothers' Pension Staff is that of the mentally incompetent mother. No small percentage of the mothers who apply for pension aid are mentally sub-normal. Many of these mothers, under proper environment and close supervision, are able to maintain suitable homes, but this department is not properly equipped to provide such supervision. The mother with a child's intellect may love her children and care for them to the best of her ability, but she is incapable of taking care of her home and family with any degree of efficiency. Sometimes mental tests are given to ascertain the mother's ability to conduct her own affairs. The hope of this department will be realized when we are permitted to have a temporary home for defective mothers and their apparently normal children, where the mothers can be trained in the fundamentals of correct living and the children can be kept in a wholesome atmosphere.

Another problem that confronts this department is the defective

child in the home. Until the state makes adequate provision for the feeble-minded, such a child must be kept in the home, and its care is a problem to the mother, and a hindrance to the normal children.

The past Christmas season was one of our happiest times. Each mother received personal greetings by card; and through the efforts of various individuals, schools and organizations, almost every one of our 316 mothers and 843 children received a generous Christmas gift in the form of food, money, clothing or toys. Approximately 150 mothers received gifts directly from this office, which were delivered by our visitors. The families who were not provided for were known to be remembered by relatives or friends.

It has been the policy of Judge Dykeman to make no revocations or decreases during the month of December, in the hope that the extra amount will serve to provide a happier Christmas for the family. However, revocations and decreases are made any other time of the year, being determined by remarriage, failure to comply with the Court's rulings, or when the income of the family is sufficient. Decreases are made when children become fifteen years of age, or when the earnings of the family are augmented so as to deem it unnecessary in the opinion of the Court to continue so liberal an allowance.

Through the hearty co-operation of individuals and organizations, our work has been more pleasant and more efficiently transacted. On behalf of the entire staff we wish to extend our thanks to those who have assisted us.

More than a year ago the "Spirit Fund" was established in the Juvenile Court for the benefit of those who need a little pleasure. It has been kept up by philanthropic friends and at no time has the fund been exhausted. No one can realize the great joy and satisfaction it is to extend to a tired and wornout mother that little extra "something" to encourage and cheer her. For instance, to provide a pair of shoes to keep a child in school, or a potted plant for a sick one; a railway ticket to relieve a sick mother of a troublesome boy

for a few weeks; a pair of glasses for a child whose mother is not able to provide that need; or to send half a ton of coal where the family have been subsisting by gathering a few sticks of wood at a time in the neighborhood. These are only a few instances where the "Spirit Fund" has proven itself to be a splendid assistance in our work. One mother beautifully expressed her appreciation of our interest when she said her life corresponded to an hour-glass and that she was sifting the last grain of sand, but after a little taste of our sympathy and interest the glass had turned and she felt like beginning life over again.

As the future of society rests upon the home, it is our aim to strengthen the hands of the mother who is compelled by force of circumstances to maintain a home without the assistance of the father. This is done with the hope that the child may be as little handicapped as possible by conditions for which he is in no wise responsible.

Respectfully submitted,

LENA E. HEMPHILL.

STATISTICS FOR MOTHERS' PENSION DEPARTMENT

REASONS FOR ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

	1920	1921
Husbands dead	59	104
Mothers divorced	84	119
Mothers deserted	60	55
Husbands incapacitated at home.....	10	15
Husbands incapacitated at hospitals.....	8	12
Husbands in penal institutions.....	6	11
TOTALS.....	227	316

ALLOWANCES

	1920	1921
\$ 5.00	1	1
7.50	3	4
10.00	25	39
12.50	7	6
15.00	75	78
20.00	59	81
25.00	21	53
30.00	19	34
35.00	10	12
40.00	5	5
45.00	2	3
	227	316

INCOME

	1920	1921
Boarders	6	8
Chambermaid	7	5
Cooks	3	5
Clerks	10	17
Day work	21	30
Demonstration	2	2
Delicatessen work	4	5
Bakery (at home).....	3	5
Factory	28	33
Farm	10	12
Grocery	8	10
Housekeeping rooms	10	15
Janitress	19	28

Laundry work	13	18
Librarians	1	
Matrons	3	4
Meter Readers	1	
Music Teachers	2	2
Nurses	2	3
Needle work	13	11
Photography	3	2
Printing shop	2	2
Restaurant	11	17
Roomers	9	20
Seamstress	8	15
Telephone Operator	3	4
Waitress	8	11
Dye Works	1	1
Beauty Parlor work	2	2
Cleaning cars	3	4
Shoe Repair shop	1	1
Miscellaneous	10	24
TOTALS	227	316

NATIONALITY OF MOTHERS

	1920	1921
American	70	116
American Negress	3	2
Austrian	8	9
Belgian	2	2
Canadian	12	11
Danish	4	4
English	3	5
Finnish	12	19
French	2	3
German	7	6
Irish	4	6
Italian	15	24
Jewish	9	11
Japanese	1	1
Lithuanian	2	1
Norwegian	25	30
Polish	5	5
Russian	4	5
Scotch	3	3
Swedish	21	30
Serbian	3	1
Sephardic Jews	5	7
Syrian	1	1
Welsh	4	4
(Uncertain)	2	10
TOTALS	227	316

RELIGION

	1920	1921
Adventist	7	5
Apostolic Mission	5	8
Baptist	12	17
Catholic	40	53
Christian	5	6
Christian Science	31	49
Congregational	16	24
Church of the Nazarene		11
Church of Christ	4	3
Church of God	2	2
Episcopal	8	16
Friends Church	2	4
Hebrew (Jewish)	11	15
Latter Day Saints	2	1
Lutheran	29	34
Methodist	11	19
Pentecostal Faith	6	14
Presbyterian	15	19
Salvation Army	7	7
Unitarian	3	4
United Brethren	2	3
Unity	2	2
Miscellaneous	6	10
TOTALS	227	316

HOMES

	1920	1921
Rented	98	120
Owned free of debt	31	45
Free rent	10	12
With relatives	26	50
Mortgaged	22	28
Buying on Contract	40	61
TOTALS	227	316

REASONS FOR REVOCATIONS

	1920	1921
Marriage	18	22
Self supporting	12	16
Left jurisdiction of Court	5	8
Whereabouts unknown	2	
Disregarded requirements		1
Deaths	1	1
Husbands returned to home.....	1	5
Husbands released from penal institutions.....	2	2
Children placed in Parental school.....		1
Mothers received insurance by death of husbands....	1	2
Children reached the age of 15 years.....	3	2
TOTALS	45	60

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