

KING COUNTY
DOCUMENT

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ANNUAL
REPORT

KING COUNTY JUVENILE
COURT

SEATTLE - WASHINGTON

1945

J9.1

To the Honorable Judge of the King County Juvenile Court,
Seattle, Washington.

We hereby submit a report covering the activities of the King County Juvenile Court for the year 1945. There were 1566 cases of Delinquency and 1533 cases of Dependency, or 3099 cases referred to the Court in 1945. This was an increase of 417 cases over 1944 - 257 cases of Delinquency and 160 cases of Dependency.

DELINQUENCY

The largest increase was in the number of "Auto Theft" cases as there were 94 more in 1945 than in the previous year. Another offense which showed a decided increase was "Carelessness and Mischief". This category increased 62 cases over 1944. There were 10 "Hold-Up" cases in 1945 and an increase of 18 "Burglaries".

During 1945 the Court Committed 40 boys to the State Training School and 77 boys to Luther Burbank School. During the same period 19 girls went to the State Training School, 21 to the House of the Good Shepherd, 23 to Martha Washington School and 11 to the Ruth School for Girls.

DEPENDENCY

There were 1533 cases of Dependency referred to the Court during 1945, an increase of 160 cases over 1944. Most of this increase was "Injurious Living Conditions" as there were 149 more children brought to the Court for this reason than during 1944.

TRAFFIC

During 1945 535 cases of Traffic Violations were referred to the Juvenile Court. These cases were handled by an officer of the Court as informal matters and were not seen by the Judge, and are in addition to the 25 cases which appear in the Delinquency count.

COLLECTIONS

Collections for the support of children outside their own homes amounted to a total of \$58,034.56, which was over \$4,000.00 more than had ever been collected in any one year.

COURT HEARINGS

The Court heard a total of 1355 cases in a total of 137 Court days, or an average of 9.9 hearings per Court day. Of the total of 1355 cases 504 were new petitions and the balance of 851 were hearings on cases which had previously appeared before the Court.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Adhering to our former policy offenses were counted for statistical purposes and the same child may have been counted more than once. The table on the following page will show the number of New, Old, Recurrent and Reappearance cases.

A new case is one referred to the Court for the first time; an Old case is one known previous to the current year; a Recurrent case is one that has come to the Court's attention previously during the current year and which has been adjusted or closed, and a Reappearance is a new offense while the child is under the supervision of an officer of the Court.

A report in detail follows:

Respectfully submitted
PHILIP GREEN
DIRECTOR OF PROBATION

BY - MABEL A. TAYLOR
STATISTICIAN

NUMBER OF CASES REFERRED TO THE JUVENILE COURT

DURING 1945

	<u>DELINQUENCY</u>		
	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
NEW	765	167	932
OLD	211	69	290
RECURRENT	118	45	163
REAPPEARANCE	<u>130</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>181</u>
TOTAL	1234	332	1566

	<u>DEPENDENCY</u>		
	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
NEW	605	619	1224
OLD	105	85	190
RECURRENT	54	46	100
REAPPEARANCE	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>19</u>
TOTAL	773	760	1533

Official Hearings and Orders by the Judge	1355
New Official cases filed	504

By the tables in this report we are endeavoring to show the situations which brought the children to the Court during 1945. These children are divided into two groups:

1. DELINQUENTS - The child who has violated a law.
2. DEPENDENTS - The child in need of protection.

The first group requires the most careful investigation, study and planning. Dispositions of these cases depend entirely upon what appears to be the best plan for the welfare of the children.

The second group are those who, through no fault of their own, need the protection of the Court. The need is determined only after a thorough investigation of the facts.

Whether or not a case is official or unofficial depends entirely upon what seems to be the best plan for the welfare and protection of the child. Official cases may be either Delinquent or Dependent. Placements may be made by agreement between agencies unofficially, but all commitments to institutions and many placements are made by official order.

Other groups in the Dependency categories include, "Permanent Custody with Permission to Adopt", "Out of Town Inquiries", "Guardianship to Permit Enlistment in the U.S. Service" and "Petitions for Admittance to Custodial Schools.

The 535 cases of Traffic Violations referred to the Court by Law Enforcement Officers during the past year are in addition to the tables on the foregoing page. Most traffic cases are disposed of unofficially by an officer of this Court. It is necessary for the offender to appear with at least one of his parents and whatever is done has their full knowledge and cooperation. Driver's licenses may be withheld, drivers may be deprived of the use of their cars, or they may be reprimanded and released.

WHY WERE THE DELINQUENT CHILDREN
REFERRED TO THE JUVENILE COURT?

	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
AUTO STEALING	245		245
BURGLARY	142		142
HOLDUP	10		10
OTHER STEALING	249	23	272
TRUANCY	31	17	48
RUNAWAYS	94	106	200
UNGOVERNABLE	55	61	116
SEX OFFENSES	28	72	100
INJURY TO PERSONS	15	2	17
CARELESSNESS AND MISCHIEF	224	30	254
TRAFFIC	25		25
USE OF LIQUOR	67	5	72
OTHER REASONS * * *	<u>49</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>65</u>
TOTAL	1234	332	1566

*** "Other Reasons" include cases reported for minor delinquencies such as "Curfew", "Riding in Stolen Cars", "Remandations from other Agencies" and other delinquencies which do not fall into the categories mentioned above.

Each child represents a different situation and a different problem which requires evaluation and treatment on an individual basis. Many of these cases have been known to the Court previous to this year but each offense is given the same consideration and the best plan possible under all circumstances is adopted. All available resources are not sufficient to keep children from becoming involved in new delinquencies although it is the aim of this Department to plan so well that fewer children appear at the Court more than one time.

HOW OLD WERE THE DELINQUENT CHILDREN?

	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
8 Years of age	40	6	46
9 " " "	26	2	28
10 " " "	33	3	36
11 " " "	45	3	48
12 " " "	66	9	75
13 " " "	98	28	126
14 " " "	161	61	222
15 " " "	226	73	299
16 " " "	284	75	359
17 " " "	<u>255</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>327</u>
TOTAL	1234	332	1566

A comparison of the figures show that there were 205 more Delinquent Boys and 52 more Delinquent Girls in 1945 than the previous year, most of the increase was in the age group of 14 to 17 years for both boys and girls and more 16 year old children were in difficulty than any other age.

FROM WHAT RACE DID THE DELINQUENT CHILDREN COME?

	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
WHITE	1150	302	1452
NEGRO	45	7	52
ORIENTAL	6	3	9
INDIAN	30	19	49
OTHER	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>
TOTAL	1234	332	1566

FROM WHAT TYPE OF HOME DID THE
DELINQUENT CHILDREN COME?

Parents' Status

	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
MARRIED AND LIVING TOGETHER	625	131	756
MARRIED AND APART	15	6	21
DIVORCED	161	48	209
a Father remarried	24	10	34
b Mother remarried	107	29	136
c Both remarried	32	20	52
SEPARATED	62	15	77
DESERTING	6	3	9
MOTHER DEAD	77	23	100
FATHER DEAD	92	38	130
BOTH DEAD	18	1	19
UNMARRIED	10	7	17
NOT REPORTED * * *	5	1	6
TOTAL	1234	332	1566

As in previous years slightly more than half of the delinquent boys came from homes where the parents were married and living together whereas only 39% of the girls were from homes in which there were both mother and father. The next largest group are the children who come from homes broken by divorce and 32% of the girls and 26% of the boys were from this type of home.

* * * Unreported items concern cases where the contact of the Department was so slight or incidental that complete tabulation or information was not deemed essential.

HOW LONG HAVE THE DELINQUENT CHILDREN
LIVED IN KING COUNTY?

	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
NON RESIDENTS	132	39	171
LESS THAN ONE YEAR	98	21	119
ONE YEAR	72	15	87
TWO YEARS	91	38	129
THREE YEARS	95	25	120
FOUR YEARS	56	10	66
FIVE TO SEVENTEEN YEARS	665	179	844
NOT REPORTED * * *	<u>25</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>30</u>
TOTAL	1234	332	1566

* * * See notation on page 7 regarding unreported items.

There was a decided increase of non-resident Delinquents during 1945 but the years from 1 to 5 showed a very slight increase. The years of residence from 5 to 17 made up approximately 54% of the total count. It was felt that after a child had lived in the county five years they should have become aware of acceptable conduct in their community and therefore should not get into the same difficulties as a new-comer, however the figures do not bear out this theory. Of the total of 245 cases of Auto Theft 14.7% were non-residents or boys who had resided in the county less than one year.

WHO REFERRED THE DELINQUENT CASES TO
THE JUVENILE COURT?

LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICERS

	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1. Police Department Women's Div. and Junior Safety Div.	902	198	1100
2. Sheriff	149	14	163
3. State Patrol	19	1	20
4. Prosecuting Attorney	2	-	2
5. Postal Department	29	5	34
6. U.S. Probation Officers	3	-	3
7. King County Police Depts.	7	-	7
8. Fire Marshall	9	-	9
9. Forestry Department	2	-	2
10. Humane Society	1	-	1
SCHOOLS	40	28	68
PARENTS AND RELATIVES	39	38	77
SOCIAL AGENCIES	4	20	24
INDIVIDUALS	11	6	17
PROBATION OFFICERS	4	6	10
OTHER COURTS	6	13	19
OWN REQUEST	7	3	10
TOTAL	1234	332	1566

Seventy per cent of all cases were referred by the Police Department, Junior Safety and Women's Divisions. Another 10% were referred by the Sheriff's Department and the balance came from other Law Enforcing Departments and Social Agencies. A very few children signed their own petitions and Parents and Relatives brought 77 children to the attention of the Court.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE DELINQUENT CASES?

	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
ASSIGNED TO PROBATION OFFICERS	623	232	855
ADJUSTED AT INTAKE	450	56	506
REFERRED TO OTHER COURTS	20	-	20
PARENTAL SCHOOLS	12	1	13
STATE SCHOOLS	9	4	13
RELEASED TO PARENTS and/or RELATIVES	5	8	13
REFERRED TO OTHER AGENCIES	5	5	10
RUNAWAYS RETURNED	11	3	14
PERMISSION TO ENLIST IN U.S. SERVICE	2	-	2
NEW DELINQUENCY	1	2	3
CUSTODIAL SCHOOL	1	1	2
PENDING CASES	95	20	115
TOTAL	1234	332	1566

Dispositions in the above table are those tabulated at the end of each month and consequently are the dispositions made by the Intake Department. Many cases require more investigation and planning than could be done from an office and such cases are then assigned to an officer in the Probation Department for further study and the dispositions on the 855 cases assigned are not shown in this report. It is only after careful investigation and planning that a program can be formulated for the best interest of the child, the home and the community.

Because statistics are compiled monthly the number of "Pending Cases" is a total of those pending at the end of each month. Most of these cases are absorbed in the following month and at the end of the year there were 23 cases pending disposition.

WHY WERE THE DEPENDENT CHILDREN BROUGHT TO THE
JUVENILE COURT?

	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
DETERMINATION OF CUSTODY	162	155	317
INJURIOUS LIVING CONDITIONS	169	190	359
UNABLE TO ADJUST IN OWN HOME OR SCHOOL	41	60	101
ABUSE AND ABANDONMENT	22	19	41
ECONOMIC NEED ONLY		1	<u>1</u>
CUSTODIAL SCHOOL	32	14	46
PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED	1	1	2
PERMANENT CUSTODY FOR ADOPTION	50	57	107
SHELTER	222	219	441
CHANGE OF COURT ORDER	7	7	14
ENLISTMENTS	34	-	34
OUT OF TOWN INQUIRIES	23	27	50
MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>20</u>
TOTAL	773	760	1533

819

THE DEPENDENT CHILDREN -- those in need of the protection of the Court. There was an increase of 160 cases over 1944 and all but 11 cases was the increase in "Injurious Living Conditions".

The Court continues to offer guardianship to young people who have no parents or guardian and who wish to join some branch of the United States Service. There were 34 boys who petitioned the Court for wardship and permission to join the service.

HOW OLD WERE THE DEPENDENT
CHILDREN?

	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
LESS THAN FIVE YEARS	132	112	244
FIVE TO TEN YEARS	109	106	215
TEN TO FIFTEEN YEARS	111	126	237
FIFTEEN THROUGH SEVENTEEN YEARS	<u>42</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>123</u>
TOTAL	394	425	819

The entire count of Dependency has not been tabulated, but only those cases where the Department had sufficient contact to obtain full information. These cases are represented in the first five "Reasons for Referral".

Complete tabulations for commitments to Firland, Custodial Schools, Orders for Permanent Custody for the Purpose of Adoption, and shelter would be duplication of other Agencies' records, and as the Court's contact with cases of this type may be very slight full information was not deemed essential.

WHAT WAS THE MARITAL STATUS OF THE HOMES
FROM WHICH THE DEPENDENT CHILDREN CAME?

	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
PARENTS MARRIED AND LIVING TOGETHER	120	121	241
MARRIED AND APART	20	19	39
DIVORCED	119	127	246
DESERTED BY PARENTS	4	8	12
ONE OR BOTH PARENTS DEAD	41	60	101
UNMARRIED	18	20	38
NOT REPORTED * *	2	3	5
TOTAL	394	425	819

* * Not reported items concern cases where the contact of the Department was so slight or incidental that complete tabulation was not deemed essential.

The above tabulation shows that 70% of the Dependent children came from homes broken by divorce, desertion or death. Additional information shows that of the 246 divorced parents 56 fathers and 89 mothers had remarried and were maintaining complete family units.

FROM WHAT RACE DID THE DEPENDENT CHILDREN COME?

	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
WHITE	372	393	765
NEGRO	8	5	13
ORIENTAL	4	1	5
INDIAN	7	21	28
OTHER	3	5	8
TOTAL	394	425	819

HOW LONG HAVE THE DEPENDENT CHILDREN
LIVED IN KING COUNTY?

	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
NON RESIDENTS	15	8	23
LESS THAN ONE YEAR	44	54	98
ONE YEAR	35	29	64
TWO YEARS	52	63	115
THREE YEARS	33	36	69
FOUR YEARS	14	11	25
FIVE TO SEVENTEEN YEARS	196	215	411
NOT REPORTED * *	<u>5</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>14</u>
TOTAL	394	425	819

* * See notation on page 12 regarding unreported items.

WHO BROUGHT THE DEPENDENT CASES TO THE
JUVENILE COURT?

	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
OWN REQUEST	13	39	52
PARENTS AND RELATIVES	130	140	270
PROBATION OFFICERS	1	1	2
POLICE	97	98	195
OTHER COURTS	32	21	53
SCHOOLS	26	37	63
SOCIAL AGENCIES	40	38	78
INDIVIDUALS	15	11	26
SHERIFF	40	37	77
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY		1	1
HEALTH DEPARTMENT		<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
TOTAL	394	425	819

Parents and/or relatives referred 33% of the Dependent cases during 1945 and this figure corresponds very closely with "Determination of Custody" cases. The Police Department referred another 23.8% of the total number of cases and the balance was quite evenly distributed between the other sources listed.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE DEPENDENT CHILDREN?

	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
ASSIGNED TO PROBATION OFFICERS	272	300	572
ADJUSTED AT INTAKE	23	23	46
REFERRED TO OTHER SOCIAL AGENCIES	37	37	74
REFERRED TO PARENTS and/or RELATIVES	5	-	5
DISMISSED BY COURT ORDER	2	2	4
PENDING * *	55	63	118
TOTAL	394	425	819

* * As explained on a previous page statistics are tabulated at the end of each month and Pending cases are absorbed in the following month's disposition.

All dispositions except those assigned to Probation Officers are made by the Intake Officers. The final dispositions cannot be tabulated in this report as the cases assigned to Probation Officers may be supervised for weeks, months and sometimes years, depending entirely upon the individual problems which brought the children into the Court.

Other Social Agencies use the resources of the Court in working out plans for children in which they are interested. Other Courts also request investigations on the behalf of children whose parents come before them. These reports are made in writing by the officers making the investigations, directly to the Courts making such requests, and are of great value to the Court and to Counsel

COLLECTIONS

The Court may direct that support money be paid into the registry of the Court for children when it is deemed necessary to remove them from their own homes and place them in Parental Schools, Institutions, or foster-homes. The Clerk of the Court is then directed to pay out such monies and a permanent record of these transactions are kept. During 1945 payments into the Court registry amounted to \$58,034.56.

TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS

In addition to the cases shown in the foregoing tables there were 535 traffic cases referred to the Juvenile Court by the law enforcement officers of Seattle and King County.

These cases were handled informally by an officer of the Court except a very few serious violations or accidents which were brought before the Judge as delinquency cases and which were counted in the delinquency case count.

DETENTION HOME AND BOYS' AND GIRLS' ANNEX

The Detention Home is housed in the same building as the Juvenile Court and is connected with the lobby and the Court room. The capacity is 17 girls and 19 boys but on occasion it has been necessary to house as many as twenty to twenty-seven on each side. During 1945 a staff of eleven supervisors cared for 1140 children.

The Boy's Annex is located at 605 County-City Building and has a normal capacity of 26 boys with a maximum capacity of 30. This annex was designed as a temporary detention facility to care for boys who are too large or too experienced to be housed in the Detention Home. A staff of 11 men supervisors maintain a 24-hour schedule by working eight hour shifts. From the date of opening in February, 1945, until December 31, 1945, there were 474 boys cared for in this facility.

The Girls' Annex is located at 1002 County-City Building and was ready for occupancy on November 13, 1945. This annex was designed for older girls and is supervised 24 hours a day by a staff of women who work 8 - hour shifts. The normal capacity is 24 but if absolutely necessary 30 girls could be housed. From date of opening until December 31, 1945, entrance was requested for 43 girls.

The meals are supplied from the jail kitchen and are brought to the Detention Facility in steam tables. The Detention Facilities have their own dishes and the children assist in the dish-washing and general cleaning under supervision.

A staff physician calls at the Detention Home three days each week and physical examinations are made in the clinic there. The same procedure is followed in the Girls' Annex. The boys are examined by request of the supervisors by a doctor from the Health Department. Medical reports and recommendations are furnished by the doctors and laboratory tests are made by the City Health Clinic, and reports in writing are available.

There is a staff of 11 persons in the Detention Home including a dietitian, recreational supervisor and maintenance man. There is also a teacher from the Seattle School Department who holds classes for boys in the forenoons and girls in the afternoons.

CHILDREN UNDER SUPERVISION

On January 1, 1945, there were 869 children under supervision of an officer of the Court and on December 31, 1945, there were 963. During the year 1655 cases were assigned and 1561 were completed and closed. These cases remain under supervision for various lengths of time; some children need only plans for temporary care, some need placement under the supervision of other agencies and others need contact with the Court Officers over long periods. The length of supervision depends entirely upon the child and the family.

Each officer keeps a chronological record of all cases. This information is available to the Court, other agencies interested in the family or attorneys whose services have been secured in behalf of the children.

WHAT DID THE JUVENILE COURT
COST THE COMMUNITY?

1 9 4 5

TOTAL BUDGET		\$ 122,687.00
TOTAL EMERGENCY BUDGETS		<u>59,360.48</u>
		\$ 182,047.48
Total Salaries - Probation Department	62,122.01	
Total Salaries - Detention Home	<u>14,358.46</u>	
Total Salaries & Wages	76,480.47	
Operation & Maintenance	45,380.00	
Payments to Persons & Institutions	17,181.62	
Capital Outlay	<u>676.76</u>	
Total Budget	139,718.85	
Emergency Budgets (General Operation; Girls' Annex; Boys' Annex)	38,618.02	
	<u> </u>	
TOTAL COST	178,336.87	<u>178,336.87</u>
SAVING - Unexpended Emergency Appropriation		\$ 3,710.61

\$ 17,181.62 was paid to Persons and Institutions for the care of children.

\$ 1,746.65 was paid for medical and psychiatric attention.

\$ 6,218.14 was paid for food and clothing.

\$112,135.93 was paid in salaries for all departments including the Adoption Department operating in the Probate Court; Boys' Annex; Girls' Annex.

\$ 2,513.86 was paid for transportation.

\$ 1,102.05 was paid for operation and maintenance of motor vehicles.

\$ 311.95 was paid for the maintenance of a Fire Alarm System.

KING COUNTY JUVENILE COURT STAFF
1945

William G. Long	Judge
Philip Green	Director of Probation
Florence Ball	Intake Supervisor
Charles Shireman	Casework Supervisor
Carl B. Erickson	Superintendent of Temporary Detention Facilities
Mabel A. Taylor	Chief Clerk - Statistician

Intake Officers

Muriel Barrett	Katharine Woolston
Meta Helmer	

Probation Officers

A. R. McCurdy	P. V. Miller
Beryl S. Gridley	Mildred O. Anderson
Hazel Miner	Alice Myer
Malina Sirianni	June Weeth
Anna Trudeson	Elizabeth Edwards
Bernard Saibel	Nell Paro

Clerical Department

Mildred Samsel	Elizabeth N. Holmes
Marguerite Alice Parker	Dorothy Baines
Harriet Smith	Maxine Bye
Cecile Foss	Vivian Marts
Marjorie Reed	Fay Brock

Detention Home Staff

Helen Eckstrom	Superintendent
Eva Wagner	Annabelle Lee
Elizabeth Titus	Winifred Mitchell
Vena Perkins	Irene Glaspy
Elinor Lynch	Read Houghton
Margie Simonson	May Souter

Boys' Annex

R. C. Anthony	Robert Battig
Macons Clayborn	James Haydon
C. F. Ludwick	Marion Matheny
J. H. Pritchard	Robert Simon
Robert Patterson	Walter Seldal
Tony Bezer	

Girls' Annex

Harriet Short	Ruth Jones
Francesse Smith	Lorena Kern
Mildred Stephens	Edith Jenkins
Clara Smith	Sarah Wilson

Adoption Service

Georgette B. Logan	Katherine Dakin
Catherine Daniels	