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study

The Seattle Juvenile
Court Report
for 1924



JANUARY 1, 1925
KING COUNTY JUVENILE COURT BUILDING
200 BROADWAY
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

THE IVY PRESS, SEATTLE



HONORABLE KING DYKEMAN
JUDGE OF THE JUVENILE COURT

King County THE
SEATTLE JUVENILE COURT
REPORT *for the* YEAR
1924

COURT SESSIONS
MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS
AT 1:30 P. M.
KING COUNTY JUVENILE COURT BUILDING
200 BROADWAY
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

PERSONNEL OF STAFF

The Court

HONORABLE KING DYKEMAN, *Judge*

DR. LILBURN MERRILL, *Referee, Deceased May 13, 1924*

LENA E. HEMPHILL, *Acting Chief Probation Officer, Resigned September 18, 1924*

MARION SOUTHARD, *Referee, Appointed September 18, 1924*

MRS. FRANCETTE P. MARING, *Assistant to Judge in Girl Cases and Superintendent of Detention Home*

KATE NYE, *Clerk of the Court*

FLORENCE BALL, *Investigator*

MRS. MARTHA CASTBERG, *Probation Officer*

JANET DONALDSON, *Probation Officer*

P. V. MILLER, *Probation Officer*

EVELYN DOBSON, *Secretary to Referee*

RUTH EISINGER, *Stenographer*

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

DR. ADA COLLISON, *Medical Examiner for Girls*

DR. STEVENSON SMITH, *Consulting Psychologist*

Mothers' Pension Department

JOSEPHINE E. PORTER, *Commissioner*

VIOLET STOUT, *Secretary*

MRS. EMILY CURRY, *Investigator*

MRS. BESSIE MAYNARD, *Visitor*

ANNA KELSO, *Visitor*

Detention Home

MRS. MELVY WOOD, *Assistant to Superintendent*

MRS. JESSIE BOWKER, *School Teacher*

MRS. IRENE WAMSLEY, *Boys' Attendant*

MRS. MINNIE G. McOMBER, *Girls' Attendant*

MRS. LOUISE MCKEE, *Kitchen Attendant*

C. S. WOOD, *Building Attendant*

COMMENTS

MARION SOUTHARD, *Referee*

CONDUCT PROBLEMS

The year 1924 shows a decrease of nearly ten per cent from 1923 in the number of children brought before the court* for deviations from good conduct. 1189 conduct cases were handled in 1923 as compared to 1084 in 1924. This entire decrease was in the boys' group, the girls showing a slightly greater number. This decrease should be noted in face of the current opinion that juvenile delinquency is becoming more widespread.

* * *

Such reduction is noteworthy also when we consider the increased stimulation to misconduct which comes through children's participation in unsupervised phases of community life. Factors which continue to weaken the home as the center of the family's social and work life, increase the part the community plays in a child's development. These factors serve also to undermine the ability of the home to form certain guiding ideals in its youthful members which might counteract in part unwholesome influences from the community.

* * *

The court is all too often called upon to act as a crutch to weakening parental control, many times having to overcome a barrier of fear in the child whose parents have repeatedly used the court as a threat. A child's disrespect of parental authority comes not so much through his wilful waywardness as by the parents failure to earn his respect.

* Number of cases brought to court includes repeated appearances of the same child during the year.

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Adult example plays considerable part in juvenile delinquency. Children become confused in their conceptions of good conduct by adult disregard of certain phases of law enforcement. A child does not see why a particular mode of conduct should be prohibited to him when an older person follows it without interference. Some of the ways in which children pattern after their elders and then find themselves accused of misconduct are in seeking recreation away from home in the whirl of commercialized amusements or via automobile, in cigarette smoking, in demands for personal independence, and in illicit sex experiences. Parents' success in forming healthy habit-trends in their children will be proportional to the emphasis they place on good example versus precept. Children react to attitudes more keenly than they do to words.

* * *

The excellent work done by the attendance department of the Seattle Public Schools, by the county school attendance officer, by the Woman's Protective Division and the Juvenile Division of the Seattle Police Department has contributed largely to the lessened number of children brought to court. These and other social agencies through investigation sift out many matters not needing court action and in many instances guide children's behavior along better channels preventing the necessity of court appearance.

* * *

Problems of Neglect and Dependency

Along with this decrease in children's conduct problems has come a twenty per cent increase in the number of dependent and neglected children appearing in court in 1924. In 1923, 420 such children were given the court's assistance as compared to 510 in 1924. Ex-

planation for this must be sought in the disintegration of families through domestic inharmony and economic hardship. Shortage of regular employment prevents parents making adequate financial provision for their children; and going away from home to seek work sometimes serves as an easy way for abandonment. Girls married at an early age and unprepared to meet the responsibility of rearing a family often find the care of their young children a millstone to social freedom and seek to solve their problem by deserting. Many of these neglect cases show temporary abandonment of children placed in private boarding homes by either or both parents.

* * *

Part of this increase in dependency cases handled may be traced to the financial assistance rendered by the court to a greater number of children in their homes where the mother for various reasons is not eligible for a mother's pension.

* * *

Disposition of Cases

The court continues to adjust as many situations as possible without formal action. In 1911, when the first report was published, only about thirty per cent of the cases were dealt with informally, while in 1924 about fifty-four per cent were so treated. There are several reasons for handling children's cases informally: the complaint itself may be of a trivial nature; a child's self-respect is protected oftentimes; and in many cases it is best for the court not to usurp authority in situations which parents can manage successfully.

* * *

The number of children placed on probation, 167, does not vary materially from the previous year. The

policy of the court is to effect a readjustment of a child in his home through supervision by a probation officer. When this cannot be done, a boarding home, a working home or an institution is resorted to.

* * *

Those placed for training in institutions remain approximately the same. It is unfortunate that the ordinary attitude towards such institutions is one of fear and distrust. Although the court recognizes that the average child can be better prepared for life by actually living in the community, there are certain children, where the individual is handicapped in personality, make-up or environmental defect, who present problems which can be solved better by training in an institution. The schools to which children go from the Court are admirably meeting this need.

* * *

In diagnosis and treatment of children, invaluable aid has come from the Junior Red Cross clinic, the city clinic and hospital, the county hospital, and in psychometric examination at the Child Study Laboratory of the Seattle Public Schools, the Bailey Gatzert Foundation and Dr. Stevenson Smith at the University of Washington.

* * *

The detention home cared for 1337 children in 1924, with an average stay of 5.8 days.

* * *

The clerk of the court collected \$9,795.69 from parents for the support of children placed under the court's guardianship.

STATISTICS

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

Year	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924
Delinq't										
Boys	567	536	443	335	503	841	765	913	957	838
Girls	133	81	108	105	115	145	232	225	232	246
Neglected										
Boys	252	241	149	90	146	221	179	188	193	247
Girls	223	229	122	113	133	224	169	319	227	263
Totals....	1,184	1,087	822	643	897	1,431	1,345	1,645	1,609	1,594
County School										
*Census...	65,063	63,936	67,051	77,660	84,760	86,515	86,269	86,622	89,438	94,698
Ratio.....	1:54	1:58	1:81	1:121	1:94	1:60	1:64	1:53	1:56	1:59

*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 variations of these groups is so slight that the census provides a satisfactory basis for a ratio.

NOTE: Throughout this ten-year period 55 per cent. of the cases requiring no change of guardianship were adjusted by the Referee.

COMPARATIVE POPULATION OF DETENTION HOME DURING TEN YEARS

Year	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924
Boys	610	724	694	935	970	980	755	828	900	818
Girls	426	423	311	440	451	502	509	623	576	519
Totals....	1,036	1,147	1,005	1,375	1,421	1,482	*1,264	1,451	1,476	1,337
Average period of detention (days)	6	7	6	6.5	5.2	6.9	6.2	6.1	5.5	5.8

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

OFFENCES AND CONDITIONS WHICH BROUGHT CHILDREN TO COURT DURING YEAR 1924

The classification in this table indicates the major behavior fault or neglect revealed by the court investigation.

	Boys	Girls	Totals
CONDUCT			
Dishonesty	320	4	324
Disorderliness	165	14	189
Sex delinquency	16	109	115
Vagrancy and runaways	130	36	166
Insubordination	85	56	141
Traffic violation	65	5	70
Truancy	46	22	68
Curfew violation	11	---	11
Total (conduct cases)	838	246	1,084
NEGLECT			
Inadequate moral guardianship	188	223	411
Abandonment	32	25	57
*Feeble-mindedness	10	2	12
Poverty	17	13	30
Total (neglect cases)	247	263	510
Grand total	1,085	509	1,594

*Commitments to the State Custodial School are made through the Juvenile Court.

NUMBER OF APPEARANCES DURING CURRENT AND PRECED- ING YEARS OF CHILDREN BROUGHT TO COURT DURING YEAR 1924

	DELINQUENT		NEGLECTED		Totals
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
First time	579	156	196	204	1,135
Second time	133	46	29	44	252
Third time	68	28	16	11	123
Fourth time	27	7	1	4	39
Fifth time	21	5	---	---	26
Sixth time	4	2	1	---	7
Seventh time	5	1	4	---	10
Eighth time	1	---	---	---	1
Ninth time	---	1	---	---	1
Totals	838	246	247	263	1,594

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DISPOSITION OF CHILDREN BROUGHT TO COURT DURING YEAR 1924

	Boys	Girls	Totals
Parents and children advised	713	141	854
Probationary supervision	63	104	167
Boys' Parental School	84	---	84
Girls' Parental School	---	38	38
Washington Children's Home Society	32	13	45
State Custodial School	12	3	15
State Training School	28	---	28
State School for Girls	---	19	19
Ruth School for Girls	---	17	17
House of Good Shephard	---	31	31
Seattle Children's Home	14	8	22
Y. W. C. A. Everett Smith Cottage	---	5	5
Briscoe School for Orphan Boys	6	---	6
Sacred Heart Orphanage	---	9	9
Florence Crittenden Home	---	6	6
Ryther Home	---	---	---
Firland Sanatorium	1	2	3
Orthopedic Hospital	---	1	1
Committed to individuals	50	52	102
Sent to other jurisdictions	36	31	67
Continued indefinitely	27	19	46
Dismissed	9	7	15
Referred for criminal prosecution	1	1	2
Pacific Coast Home	5	1	6
Seattle Boys' Club	4	---	4
Acheson Home	---	1	1
Totals	1,085	509	1,594

PARENTAL RELATION TABLE FOR THE YEAR 1924

	DELINQUENT		NEGLECTED		Totals
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
Parents living together	454	102	70	83	709
Parents not living together, due to death, divorce, separation, or desertion	384	144	177	180	885
Totals	838	246	247	263	1,594

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TABLE OF AGES OF CHILDREN BROUGHT TO COURT
DURING 1924

	DELINQUENT		NEGLECTED		Totals
	Boys	Girls	Boys..	Girls	
1 year and under.....	----	----	25	22	47
2 years	----	----	17	9	26
3 years	----	----	14	25	49
4 years	----	----	17	18	35
5 years	----	----	18	16	34
6 years	----	----	17	26	43
7 years	----	----	17	17	34
8 years	----	----	17	33	52
9 years	10	5	26	10	51
10 years	20	2	12	11	45
11 years	32	3	15	14	64
12 years	61	18	14	13	106
13 years	95	15	12	14	136
14 years	158	36	14	15	223
15 years	182	51	6	10	249
16 years	160	54	4	10	228
17 years	111	51	1	----	163
18 years*	9	8	----	----	17
19 years*	----	1	----	----	1
20 years*	----	1	----	----	1
Totals	838	246	247	263	1,594

*Children made wards of Court prior to 18th birthday.

SOURCE OF COMPLAINTS LEADING TO COURT HEARINGS
DURING 1924

	Boys	Girls	Totals
Police Department	642	188	830
School Attendance Department	115	73	188
Probation Officers	84	107	191
Parents	109	54	163
Citizens	105	58	163
Children in their own behalf	6	15	21
Washington Children's Home Society	1	1	2
Social Welfare League	12	11	23
Department of Public Welfare	7	1	8
Transcripts from Justice Courts	4	1	5
Totals	1,085	509	1,594

WASHINGTON JUVENILE COURT LAW

SECTION 1. DEFINITION OF DEPENDENT CHILD. This act shall be known as the "Juvenile Court Law" and shall apply to all minor children under the age of eighteen years who are delinquent or dependent; and to any person or persons who are responsible for or contribute to the delinquency or dependency of such children.

For the purpose of this act the words "dependent child" shall mean any child under the age of eighteen years:

(1) Who is found begging, receiving or gathering alms, whether actually begging or under the pretext of selling or offering anything for sale; or

(2) Who is found in any street, road or public place for the purpose of so begging, gathering or receiving alms; or

(3) Who is a vagrant; or

(4) Who is found wandering and not having any home or any settled place of abode, or any proper guardianship, or any visible means of subsistence; or

(5) Who has no parent or guardian; or who has no parent or guardian willing to exercise, or capable of exercising, proper parental control; or

(6) Who is destitute; or

(7) Whose home, by reason of neglect, cruelty, or depravity of its parents or either of them, or on the part of its guardian, or on the part of the person in whose custody or care it may be, or for any other reason, is an unfit place for such child; or

(8) Who frequents the company of reputed criminals, vagrants or prostitutes; or

(9) Who is found living or being in any house of prostitution or assignation; or

(10) Who habitually visits any billiard room or pool room, or any saloon, or place where spirituous, vinous or malt liquors are sold, bartered or given away; or

(11) Who persistently refuses to obey the reasonable and proper orders or directions of its parents or guardian; or

(12) Who is incorrigible; that is, who is beyond the control and power of its parents, guardian or custodian by reason of the vicious conduct or nature of said child; or

(13) Whose father, mother, guardian or custodian is an habitual drunkard, or do not properly provide for such child, and it appears that such child is destitute of a suitable home or of adequate means of obtaining an honest living, or who is in danger of being brought up to lead an idle, dissolute, or immoral life; or where such child is without proper means of support; or

(14) Who is an habitual truant, as defined in the School Laws of the State of Washington; or

(15) Who uses intoxicating liquor as a beverage, or who uses tobacco in any form, or who uses opium, cocaine, morphine or other similar drug, without the direction of a competent physician; or

(16) Who from any cause is in danger of growing up to lead an idle, dissolute or immoral life; or

(17) Who wanders about in the night time without being on any lawful business or occupation; or

(18) Any child under the age of twelve years found peddling or selling any article, or singing or playing on any musical instrument for gain upon the public street, or giving any public entertainment, or who accompanies, or is used in aid of, any person so doing: Provided, That this act shall not prohibit the giving of entertainments by regularly organized schools or societies where twelve or more musical instruments are used.

DEFINITION OF DELINQUENT CHILD. The words "delinquent child" shall include any child under the age of eighteen years who violates any law of this state, or any ordinance of any town, city, county, or city and county of this state defining crime; or who habitually uses vile, obscene, vulgar, profane or indecent language, or is guilty of immoral conduct; or who is found in or about railroad yards or tracks; or who jumps on or off trains or cars; or who enters a car or engine without lawful authority.

For the purpose of this act only, all delinquent and dependent children within the state shall be considered wards of this state, and their persons shall be subject to the custody, care, guardianship and control of the court as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 2. JUVENILE DEPARTMENT OF SUPERIOR COURT. The superior courts in the several counties of this state shall have original jurisdiction in all cases coming within the terms of this act. In all trials under this act, any person interested therein may demand a jury trial, or the judge of his own motion may order a jury to try the case. In counties containing thirty thousand or more inhabitants the judges of the superior court shall, at such times as they may determine, designate one or more of their number whose duty it shall be to hear all cases arising under this act. A special session to be designated as the "Juvenile Court Session" shall be provided for the hearing of such cases and the findings of the court shall be entered in a book or books kept for the purpose and known as the "Juvenile Record," and the court may, for convenience, be called the "Juvenile Court."

SEC. 3. APPOINTMENT AND DUTIES OF PROBATION OFFICERS. The court or judge designated as provided in section two of this act, shall appoint or designate one or more discreet persons of good character to serve as probation officers during the pleasure of the court, said probation officers to receive no compensation from the public treasury. In case a probation officer shall be appointed by any court, it shall be the duty of the clerk of the court, if practicable, to notify the said probation officer in advance when the child is to be brought before said court; it shall be the duty of said probation officers to make such investigation as may be required by the court. The probation officer or officers shall inquire into the antecedents, character, family history, environments and cause of dependency or delinquency of every alleged dependent or delinquent child brought before the juvenile court, and shall make his report in writing to the judge thereof; shall be present in order to represent the interests of the child when the case is heard; shall furnish the court such information and assistance as the judge may require, and shall take such charge of the child before and after the trial as may be directed by the court. In counties containing thirty

thousand or more inhabitants, when it shall appear that there is a necessity for such county officer, the court may appoint one or more persons to act as probation officers, and one or more persons who shall have charge of detention rooms or house of detention, all of whom shall be paid as compensation for their services, such sums as may be fixed by the board of county commissioners, and who shall be paid as other county officers are paid; all probation officers shall possess all the powers conferred upon sheriffs and police officers to serve process and make arrests for the violation of any state law or city ordinances relative to the care, custody and control of delinquent and dependent children.

SEC. 4. EXPENSES OF PROBATION OFFICERS. The probation officers, and assistant probation officers, and deputy probation officers in all counties of the state shall be allowed such necessary incidental expenses as may be authorized by the judge of the juvenile court, and the same shall be a charge upon the county in which the court appointing them has jurisdiction, and the expenses shall be paid out of the county treasury upon a written order of the judge of the juvenile court of said county directing the county auditor to draw his warrant upon the county treasurer for the specified amount of such expenses.

SEC. 5. HOW PETITIONS MAY BE FILED. Any person may file with the clerk of the superior court a petition showing that here is within the county, or residing within the county, a dependent or delinquent child, and praying that the superior court deal with such child as provided in this act: Provided, That in counties having paid probation officers, such officers shall, as far as possible, first determine if such petition is reasonably justifiable. Such petition shall be verified and shall contain a statement of facts constituting such dependency or delinquency, as defined in section one of this act, and the names and residence, if known to the petitioner, of the parents, guardian or custodian of such dependent or delinquent child. There shall be no fee for filing such petitions.

SEC. 6. SUMMONS TO PARENT OR GUARDIAN. Upon the filing of information, or the petition, the clerk of the court shall issue a summons requiring the person having custody or control of the child, or with whom the child may be, to appear with the child at a place and time stated in the summons, which time shall not be less than twenty-four hours after service. The parents of the child, if living, and their residence is known, or its legal guardian, if there be one, or if there is neither parent nor guardian, or if his or her residence is not known, then some relative, if there be one, and his residence is known, shall be notified of the proceedings; and in any case the judge shall appoint some suitable person or association to act in behalf of the child. If the person summoned as herein provided, shall fail without reasonable cause to appear and abide the order of the court, or bring the child, he shall be proceeded against as for contempt of court. In case the summons cannot be served or the parties served fail to obey the same, and in any case when it shall be made to appear to the court that said summons will be ineffectual, a warrant may issue on the order of the court, either against the parent or guardian or the person having custody of the child, or with whom the child may be, or against the child itself. On return of the summons or other process, or as soon thereafter as may be, the court shall proceed to hear and dispose of the case in a summary manner. Pending the final disposition of the case, the child may

be retained in the possession of the person having charge of same, or may be kept in some suitable place provided by the city or county authorities, or by any association having for one of its objects the care of delinquent and dependent children.

SEC. 7. PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS. In any case where it shall appear by the petition or verified statement, that the person standing in the position of natural or legal guardian of the person of any child, is a non-resident of this state, or that the name or place of residence or whereabouts of such person is unknown, as well as in all cases where, after due diligence, the officer has been unable to make service of the summons or notice provided for in section six of this act, the court may, by order, direct the clerk of the court to publish a notice four consecutive weeks in some newspaper printed in the county and having a general circulation therein. Such notice shall be directed to the parent, parents or other person claiming the right to the custody of the child, if their names are known, and if unknown, the phrase "To Whom It May Concern" shall be used to apply to, and be binding upon, any such persons whose names are unknown. The name of the court, the name of the child (or children if of one family), the date of the filing of the petition and the date of hearing, which shall not be less than twenty days from the date of the last publication, and the object of the proceeding in general terms, shall be set forth and the whole shall be subscribed by the clerk. There shall be filed with the clerk an affidavit showing the publication of the notice and the cost of publication shall be paid by the county at not to exceed the rate paid by the county for other legal notices. The publication of notice shall be deemed equivalent to personal service upon all persons, known or unknown, who have been designated as provided in this section.

SEC. 8. AUTHORITY OF COURT TO CHANGE CUSTODY AND PROVIDE SUPPORT. When any child under the age of eighteen years shall be found to be delinquent or dependent, within the meaning of this act, the court may, at any time, make an order committing the child to some suitable institution, or to the care of some reputable citizen of good moral character, or to the care of some training school or industrial school as provided by law, or to the care of some association willing to receive it, embracing in its objects the purpose of caring for or obtaining homes for dependent, neglected or delinquent children: Provided, Such order may be temporary or permanent in the discretion of the court, and may be revoked or modified as the circumstances of the case may hereafter require. In any case in which the court shall find the child dependent or delinquent, it may in the same or subsequent proceeding upon the parent or parents, guardian or other person having custody of said child, being duly summoned or voluntarily appearing, proceed to inquire into the ability of such persons or person to support the child or contribute to its support, and if the court shall find such person or persons able to support the child or contribute thereto, the court may enter such order or decree as shall be according to equity in the premises, and may enforce the same by execution, or in any way in which a court of equity may enforce its decrees. If it be found, however, that the parent or parents or guardian of a dependent or delinquent child is unable to pay the whole expense of maintaining such child, and in cases where the child is committed to one of the institutions or associations above mentioned, the court may, in the order providing for the custody of such child, direct such

additional amount as may be necessary to support such child to be paid from the county treasury of the county for the support of such person, the amount so ordered to be paid from the treasury of said county shall not exceed in the case of any one person, the sum of twelve dollars per month: Provided, further, That no order for the payment of all or part of the expense of support and maintenance of a dependent or delinquent child from the county treasury shall be effective for more than six months, unless a new order is secured at the expiration of that period.

SEC. 9. AUTHORITY TO ADOPT. In any case where the court shall award a child to the care of any association or individual, the child shall, unless otherwise ordered, become a ward and be subject to the guardianship of the association or individual to whose care it is committed; such association shall have authority, with the assent of the court, to place such child in a family home, either temporarily or for adoption. With the written consent of the parents, or other person having the right, under the laws of the state, to dispose of a dependent or delinquent child, the court may make an order or decree of adoption transferring to any suitable person or persons, willing to receive such child, all the rights of the parent or other guardian. The order of the court made upon such consent will be binding upon the child and its parents or guardian, or other person, the same as if such person were in court and consented thereto, whether made a party to the proceedings or not. The estate or property rights of any child shall not be affected nor subject to guardianship by the provisions of this act. The jurisdiction of the court shall continue over every child brought before the court, or committed pursuant to this act, and the court shall have power to order a change in the care or custody of such child, if at any time it is made to appear to the court that it would be for the best interests of the child to make such change.

SEC. 10. PROVISION FOR PRIVATE HEARING; SOCIAL RECORDS TO BE WITHHELD FROM PUBLIC; JURISDICTION OVER WARDS UNTIL TWENTY-ONE YEARS. The hearings may be concluded in any room provided for the purpose in the court house, or building where sessions of the court are held, and, as far as practicable, such cases shall not be heard in conjunction with other business of the court. At the hearing of any case involving a child, the court shall have power to exclude the general public from the room where the hearing is had, admitting thereto only such persons as may have a direct interest in the case. Any child may have a private hearing upon the question of its dependency or delinquency, and upon the request of said child, or either of its parents, or guardians, or custodian, such hearing may be had privately. An order of court adjudging a child dependent or delinquent under the provisions of this act shall in no case be deemed a conviction of crime. The probation officer's investigation record and report in each case shall be withheld from public instruction, but such records shall be kept open to the inspection of such child, its parents, or guardian, or its attorney, and to such other persons as may secure a special order of the court therefor. Such records shall be kept as unofficial records of the court and shall be destroyed at any time in the discretion of any judge presiding in said court on or before the child shall arrive at the age of twenty-one years. After acquiring jurisdiction over any child, the court shall have power to make an order with respect to the custody, care or control of such child, or any order which, in the judgment of the court, would pro-

mote the child's health and welfare. In any case of a delinquent or dependent child, the court may continue the hearing from time to time, and may commit the child to the care or guardianship of a probation officer, duly appointed by the court, and may allow such child to remain at its home subject to the visitation of the probation officer, such child to report to the probation officer as often as may be required and subject to being returned to the court for further proceedings whenever such action may appear to be necessary, or the court may commit the child to the care and guardianship of the probation officer, to be placed in a suitable family home, in case provision is made by voluntary contribution or otherwise for the payment of the board of the child until a suitable provision may be made for the child in a home without such payment, or the court may commit the child to a suitable institution for the care of delinquent or dependent children. In no case shall a child be committed beyond the age of twenty-one years. A child committed to such institution shall be subject to the control thereof, and the said institution shall have the power to parole such child, on such conditions as may be prescribed, and the court shall have the power to discharge such child from custody whenever, in the judgment of the court, his or her reformation shall be complete; or the court may commit the child to the care and custody of some association that will receive such child, embracing in its objects the care of neglected, delinquent and dependent children.

SEC. 11. CHILDREN UNDER SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE MAY NOT BE CONFINED IN JAIL. No court or magistrate shall commit a child under sixteen years of age to a jail, common lock-up or police station; but if such child is unable to give bail, it may be committed to the care of the sheriff, police officer or probation officer, who shall keep such child in some suitable place or house or school of detention provided by the city or county, outside the enclosure of any jail or police station, or in the care of any association willing to receive it and having as one of its objects the care of delinquent, dependent or neglected children. When any child shall be sentenced to confinement in any institution to which adult convicts are sentenced, it shall be unlawful to confine such child in the same building with such adult convicts, or to bring such child into any yard or building in which such adult convicts may be present.

SEC. 12. TRANSFER OF JUVENILES BETWEEN JUSTICE COURT, AND JUVENILE AND CRIMINAL DEPARTMENTS OF SUPERIOR COURT. When, in any county where a court is held as provided in section two of this act, a child under the age of eighteen years is arrested with or without warrant, such child may, instead of being taken before a justice of the peace or police magistrate, be taken directly before such court; or if the child is taken before a justice of the peace or police magistrate, it shall be the duty of such justice of the peace or police magistrate to transfer the case to such court, and the officer having the child in charge shall take the child before that court, and in any such case, the court may proceed to hear and dispose of the case in the same manner as if the child had been brought before the court upon petition as hereinbefore provided. In any such case the court shall require notice to be given and investigation to be made as in other cases under this act, and may adjourn the hearing from time to time for such purpose. If, upon investigation, it shall appear that a child has been arrested upon the charge of having committed a crime, the court, in its

discretion, may order such child to be turned over to the proper officers for trial under the provisions of the criminal code.

SEC. 13. AUTHORITY TO MAINTAIN DETENTION HOMES. Counties containing more than fifty thousand inhabitants shall, and counties containing a lesser number of inhabitants may, provide and maintain at public expense, a detention room or house of detention, separated or removed from any jail, or police station, to be in charge of a matron, or other person of good character, wherein all children within the provisions of this act shall, when necessary, be sheltered.

SEC. 14. LAW TO BE LIBERALLY CONSTRUED. This act shall be liberally construed to the end that its purpose may be carried out, to-wit: that the care, custody and discipline of a dependent or delinquent child as defined in this act shall approximate as nearly as may be that which should be given by its parents, and in all cases where it can be properly done, the dependent or delinquent child as defined in this act shall be placed in an approved family and may become a member of the family, by adoption or otherwise. No dependent or delinquent child as defined in this act shall be taken from the custody of its parent, parents or legal guardian, without the consent of such parent, parents or guardian, unless the court shall find such parent, parents or guardian is incapable or has failed or neglected to provide proper maintenance, training and education for said child; or unless said child has been tried on probation in said custody, and has failed to reform; or unless the court shall find that the welfare of said child requires that his custody shall be taken from said parent or guardian. In this act, the words used in any gender shall include all other genders, and the words "county" shall include "city and county," the plural shall include the singular and singular shall include the plural.

SEC. 15. AUTHORITY OF COURT TO MODIFY ORDER. Any order made by the court in the case of a dependent or delinquent child may at any time be changed, modified or set aside, as to the judge may seem meet and proper.

SEC. 16. NO FEES FOR JUVENILE PROCEEDINGS. No fees shall be charged or collected by any officer or other person for filing petition, serving summons, or other process under this act.

SEC. 17. LIABILITY FOR CONTRIBUTING TO DEPENDENCY OR DELINQUENCY OF CHILD. In all cases where any child shall be dependent or delinquent under the terms of this act, the parent or parents, legal guardian or person having custody of such child, or any other person who shall by any act or omission, encourage, cause or contribute to the dependency or delinquency of such child shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, or imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment, and the juvenile court shall have jurisdiction of all such misdemeanors: Provided, however, That the court may suspend sentence for a violation of the provisions of this section and impose conditions as to conduct in the premises of any person so convicted, and make such suspension depend upon the fulfillment by such person of such conditions, and, in case of the breach of such conditions, or any thereof, the court may impose sentence as though there had been no such suspension. The court may also, as a condition of such suspension, require a bond in such sum as the court

may designate, to be approved by the judge requiring same, to secure the performance by such persons on the the conditions imposed by the court on such suspension. Such bond shall, by its terms, be made payable to the State of Washington, and any moneys received for a breach thereof shall be paid into the county treasury.

SEC. 18. AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF BOARD OF VISITORS. In each county the judge presiding over the juvenile court sessions, as defined in this act, may appoint a board of four reputable citizens, who shall serve without compensation, to constitute a board of visitation, whose duty it shall be to visit as often as twice a year all institutions, societies and associations within the county receiving children under this act, as well as all homes for children or other places where individuals are holding themselves out as caretakers of children; also to visit other institutions, societies and associations within the state receiving and caring for children, whenever requested to do so by the judge of the juvenile court: Provided, The actual expenses of such board may be paid by the county commissioners when members thereof are requested to visit institutions outside of the county seat, and no member of the board shall be required to visit any institutions outside the county unless his actual traveling expenses shall be paid as aforesaid. Such visits shall be made by not less than two members of the board, who shall go together or make a joint report. The board of visitors shall report to the court from time to time the condition of children received by or in charge of such institutions, societies, associations or individuals. It shall be the duty of every institution, society or association, or individual receiving and caring for children, to permit any member or members of the board of visitation to visit and inspect such institution, society, association or home where such child is kept, in all its departments, so that a full report may be made to the court. (Cnap. 160, Laws 1913.)

MOTHERS' PENSION DEPARTMENT

STATISTICS PREPARED BY JOSEPHINE E. PORTER, COMMISSIONER

MAJOR REASONS FOR GRANTING RELIEF

	1924
Widows	249
Divorced	74
Deserted	84
Husbands incapacitated at home	36
Husbands incapacitated at hospitals	17
Husbands in penal institutions	6
Total	466

ALLOWANCES

	1924
\$ 7.50	1
10.00	14
15.00	128
20.00	184
25.00	83
30.00	36
35.00	14
40.00	6
Total	466

REASONS FOR REVOCATIONS

	1924
Children reached the age of 15 years	13
Children living away from home	4
Disregarded requirements of the Court	7
Fathers contributing to support	2
Fathers regaining health	1
Fathers returned home	4
Left jurisdiction of the Court	16
Married	31
Misrepresented finances	2
Mothers received insurance by death of husband	5
Self-supporting	33
World War Pension granted	1
Total	119

NATIONALITY OF MOTHERS

American	1924
American Negress	285
Canadian	1
Canadian Negress	15
Austrian	1
Bohemian	6
Danish	1
English	1
Finnish	16
French	5
German	1
Holland Dutch	11
Irish	1
Italian	7
Jewish	6
Norwegian	10
Polish	50
Roumanian	1
Russian	1
Scotch	2
Swedish	7
Sephardic Jew	29
Serbian	4
Syrian	1
Welsh	2
Total	466

RELIGION OF MOTHERS

Adventist	1924
Baptist	4
Catholic	28
Christian	65
Christian Science	12
Congregational	52
Church of Nazarene	14
Church of God	1
Episcopal	1
Friends' Church	23
Free Methodist	3
Full Gospel	1
Jewish	1
Latter Day Saints	15
Lutheran	6
Methodist	57
Miscellaneous	66
	9

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New Thought	2
No Faith	4
Pentacostal Faith	2
Presbyterian	58
Protestant	35
Salvation Army	3
Theosophy	1
Truth	1
Unitarian	1
Quaker	1
Total	466

SOURCES OF MOTHERS' VOCATIONAL INCOME

	1924
Agents	4
Bath attendants	2
Boarders (children)	15
Bookbinders	2
Beauty parlor	3
Car cleaner	1
Chambermaid	8
Cannery	8
Clerks	28
Cook	3
Day work	81
Demonstrator	1
Elevator operator	7
Factory	31
Farm	17
Furrier	1
Housework	12
Information clerk	1
Janitress	23
Kitchen help	3
Laundry	37
Millinery	2
Mothers at home	80
Music teacher	1
Nursing	7
Office work	9
Printer	3
Restaurant work	26
Roomers	9
Stenographer	3
Store	3
Sewing and needle work	27
Telephone operator	8
Total	466

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HOMES OF MOTHERS

Buying on contract or mortgaged	1924
Boarding	76
Free rent	8
Homes owned, free of debt	10
Renting	106
With relatives	211
	55
Total	466

RENTALS BEING PAID BY 211 MOTHERS

\$ 5.00	1924
6.00	9
7.00	1
7.50	1
8.00	5
8.50	1
9.00	1
10.00	1
12.00	22
12.50	14
13.00	2
15.00	5
16.00	46
17.00	5
18.00	15
20.00	6
22.00	29
22.50	1
24.00	1
25.00	1
26.50	18
27.00	1
30.00	8
35.00	5
40.00	6
50.00	2
	5
Total	211

SEATTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

AUDITOR'S REPORT COVERING BUDGET EXPENDITURES AND LIABILITIES FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1924

	BUDGET		
	Obligations	Appropriation	Unexpended
Appointive	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$.....
Employees	6,300.00	6,300.00
Postage	50.00	50.00
Records and Supplies	174.42	197.78	23.36
Relief Fund	112,035.00	100,000.00	12,035.00*
Repairs and Replacement of Equipment	53.03	53.03
Transportation	699.19	699.19
Typewriter	58.03	100.00	41.97
	\$121,769.67	\$109,800.00	\$ 11,969.67*

*Amount expended in excess of budget appropriation.

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Lilburn Merrill's death on May 13, 1924, brought a loss to this court and to the whole field of child welfare. His long service as diagnostician and chief probation officer devoted to the upbuilding of the Seattle Juvenile Court lasted from 1910 until December, 1920, when he became Superintendent of the State Custodial School, returning to this Court in June, 1923.

With a physician's training added to experience in medical-social work in the famine areas of the Orient, he became a pioneer in juvenile court work. Analytical of human traits and tolerant of an individual's frailties, he was rarely equipped by personality for his position. He had a passionate sympathy for the child unwisely and sometimes unfairly handled by an adult world. His ideals are still ours to approach in the achievement of children's well-being.

The court, the community and the nation have lost a leader of vision and children an understanding friend.



DR. LILBURN MERRILL