

The Pennsylvania Probation and Parole Quarterly

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
ASSOCIATION ON PROBATION AND PAROLE

•
APRIL, 1941
•

Volume 1

Number 5

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION ON PROBATION AND PAROLE

Officers and Committees for the Year 1941

President: Mrs. Helen K. Spencer, Girls' Probation Officer,
Erie County, Erie, Pennsylvania

First Vice-President: Mr. Harvey E. Huff, Senior Field Agent, Pennsylvania
Department of Justice, Board of Pardons, Parole
Supervision, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Second Vice-President: Mr. Robert C. Tabor, Chief Probation Officer,
Municipal Court, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Mary H. Rinsland, Probation Officer, Luzerne
County, Scranton, Pennsylvania

Executive Committee

Miss Helen Easterwood, Juvenile Probation Officer, Crawford County, Meadville,
Pa.; Mr. Peter Klassen, Division of Sociology, The Pennsylvania State College,
State College, Pa.; Mr. Gomer W. Jones, Parole Officer, Schuylkill County,
Pottsville, Pa.

Legislative Committee

Mr. Walter I. Greth, Chief Probation Officer, Berks County, Reading, Pa.;
Mr. Merle Foust, Harrisburg Police Department, Division of Child Delinquency,
Harrisburg, Pa.; Mr. Berton A. Weills, Jr., Chief Probation Officer, Dauphin
County, Harrisburg, Pa.; Miss Elizabeth Martin, Probation Officer, Stroudsburg,
Pa.; Mr. Harold Dandon, Chief Probation Officer, Erie County, Erie, Pa.;
Mr. Paul H. Baldwin, Probation Officer, Beaver County, Rochester, Pa.; Miss
Lucy D. Davis, Juvenile Probation Officer, Lackawanna County, Scranton, Pa.

Quarterly Staff

"The Pennsylvania Probation and Parole Quarterly" is published and distributed
in cooperation with The Pennsylvania State Association On Probation and Parole
by The Institute of Local Government of The Pennsylvania State College, State
College, Pennsylvania.

H. F. Alderfer, Executive Secretary of The Institute of Local Government is
acting as Editor of the Quarterly. Mr. Joseph R. Miller is acting as Assistant
Editor. Also acting as members of the editorial board are Professor Peter
Klassen, member of the executive committee of the association and a member of
the division of Sociology of The Pennsylvania State College, Reverend J. W.
Zang, Probation Officer of The Glen Mills School, and Professor Duane Ramsey,
member of the division of Sociology of The Pennsylvania State College in charge
of public welfare work.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Officers and Committees of the Association 1

Mrs. Spencer's Letter 3

Join the Association 4

Minutes of the Business Meetings Held at the Twenty-First
Annual Conference of the Association 5

The New Parole Bill: House Bill #11 7 ✓

The Advantage of the Foster Home in the Treatment of the
Young Delinquent 9

One Hundredth Anniversary of the Probation Movement 12 ✓

News from the Correctional Field 13

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT MRS. SPENCER

Greetings to all members of The Pennsylvania State Association On Probation and Parole:

Congratulations and thanks to the editorial staff who have fostered the Pennsylvania State Association On Probation and Parole through its first year, and have willingly accepted the task of publishing it for the coming year. The staff is putting sincere effort in making the Bulletin of real value to the association, but without the assistance and interest of individual members, the Bulletin will fall short of its original purpose that is, "a publication for the exchange of ideas and practices in probation and parole." What are you doing to help make the Bulletin a success?

The Pennsylvania State Association On Probation and Parole is now twenty-one years old. We can boast that we have reached maturity. Should we not then be able to look at ourselves objectively and evaluate ourselves as individuals and as an association? When I have heard members say The Pennsylvania State Association On Probation and Parole means nothing to me, nor to the development of probation and parole in Pennsylvania, I have wished we might have a measuring rod that would show the contribution that member has made toward the growth of the association. Lacking such an indicator, I have wanted to ask that member a few direct questions. Now I am going to ask these questions, hoping that some members will reply in the next Bulletin. What have you done to further professional and educational growth of yourself and of the association? What have you done in arousing your community in seeing the need for more than a theoretical acceptance of setting and maintaining standards of work? What have you done to foster scientific study of the delinquent child and his problems in relationship to himself and to his environment? What have you done to foster scientific study of the delinquent adult and his problems in relationship to himself and to his community? How concerned have you been about such questions as large case loads; inadequate salaries, uncertainty of tenure; the place of the merit system in the appointment of probation and parole officers, and state participation in probation and parole? How active have you been in working for progressive social legislation?

Then the question occurred to me, are these the ideas and practices which The Pennsylvania State Association On Probation and Parole as a whole should seriously study and show active interest? Are these the areas in which the association can be of most value to the probation and parole officer and to the public whom they serve?

The executives of the association want to plan according to the wishes of the members. Will you give an expression of your interests and wishes?

Helen K. Spencer,
President

JOIN THE ASSOCIATION!

Every probation and parole officer in the Commonwealth should join the State Association. It is the legal and the only professional association for such public officials.

The Association On Probation and Parole aims to obtain better probation and parole legislation, to inform its members of up-to-date developments in the field, and to improve the calibre of the work done.

The Quarterly is the official publication of the association. It is a part of the return that you get for your membership. The executive committee in the near future may decide to limit the distribution of the Quarterly to paid-up members only.

Membership costs you only \$2.00 a year. If you are a county probation officer, your dues will be paid by the county upon presentation of a receipt to the county commissioners. Likewise, your expenses to the annual meeting will be paid according to the legislation passed in 1923.

So join the association now. Send your \$2.00 dues to Miss Mary H. Rinsland, Secretary-Treasurer, 313 Monroe Avenue, Scranton, Pennsylvania.

MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS MEETINGS HELD AT THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL
CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION,

February 17 to 19, 1941

Miss Mary H. Rinsland, Secretary-Treasurer,
The Pennsylvania State Association On Probation and Parole

The Twenty-First Annual Meeting of The State Association On Probation and Parole opened on February 17th, 1941 at 8 p.m. at the Berkshire Hotel in Reading. Mr. Edgar R. Barnes, president of the association presided.

Meetings of the association were attended by about eighty members.

The secretary-treasurer read the minutes of the 1940 meetings, which were accepted as read. A report of the financial condition of the association was also accepted, and stood approved as read.

It was suggested that the resolutions committee prepare a resolution on the death of David Swavely, who was chief probation officer at Harrisburg, and also an active member of the association.

Mr. I. W. Swinehart reported for the executive committee.

It was moved, seconded and passed that an additional \$10.00 contribution be paid to the Social Workers Conference, making a total of \$20.00 for the year.

The final business meeting was held February 19th at 4 p.m., at which time the nominating committee submitted the following names of persons for the officers to be filled for the ensuing conference year in the State of Pennsylvania Association On Probation and Parole.

President, Mrs. Helen K. Spencer, Probation Officer, Erie County, Erie, Pa.
First Vice-President, Mr. Harvey E. Huff, Senior Field Agent, Pennsylvania Department of Justice, Bellefonte, Pa.
Second Vice-President, Mr. Robert C. Tabor, Chief Probation Officer, Municipal Court, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Secretary-Treasurer, Mary H. Rinsland, Probation Officer, Luzerne County, Scranton, Pennsylvania

Executive Committee: Miss Helen C. Easterwood, Juvenile Probation Officer, Crawford County, Meadville, Pa.; Mr. Peter Klassen, Division of Sociology, The Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa.; Mr. Gomer W. Jones, Parole Officer, Schuylkill County, Pottsville, Pa.

Legislative Committee: Mr. Walter I. Groth, Chief Probation Officer, Berks County, Reading, Pa.; Mr. Morde Foust, Harrisburg Police Department, Harrisburg, Pa.; Mr. Berton A. Weills, Jr., Chief Probation Officer, Dauphin County, Harrisburg, Pa.; Miss Elizabeth Martin, Probation Officer, Stroudsburg, Pa.; Mr. Harold Dundon, Chief Probation Officer, Erie County, Erie, Pa.; Mr. Paul Baldwin, Probation Officer, Beaver County, Rochester, Pa.; Miss Lucy D. Davis, Juvenile Probation Officer, Lackawanna County, Scranton, Pa.

A motion was made that the report of the nominating committee be accepted as read; it was passed. Second motion was made that the secretary cast a ballot at which time all nominated officers and committee members were elected unanimously.

Mr. Lester McClelland, New Castle, Pa., was asked for a discussion on Mr. Dunlap's proposed act of legislature. The feeling was that the proper step would be to refer it to the legislative committee. Motion made, seconded and passed to that effect.

Report of the Resolution Committee

Resolved, that a vote of thanks be extended to the local Reading committee for their arrangement of suitable quarters for the various meetings and their hospitality throughout the conference. Also that a vote of thanks be extended to the Reading Press.

Resolved, that we extend to our retiring president, Edgar R. Barnes, our grateful appreciation of his untiring interest in promoting the welfare of our organization during his tenure of office.

Resolved, that in the passing of David D. Swavely, this organization has sustained a distinct loss, because of the many years he served in various capacities in our organization and gave us his counsel and advice, in the promotion of progressive legislation; and that our secretary be instructed to convey to his family our deep sense of loss in his demise.

Resolved, that in the passing of Miss Susan Dummore, Probation Officer in Montgomery County, this organization has sustained a distinct loss because of the many years she served in various capacities in our organization, and who yearly attended our conferences and did much by friendly and constructive thinking to which this organization aspires.

Therefore, be it resolved that the secretary of The Pennsylvania State Association On Probation and Parole be directed to extend to any relatives, friends and co-workers our sincere sympathy.

Motion was made by Mr. Paul Tibbetts that an amendment be put in the By-Laws to include membership committee, which was seconded by Mr. Russell Roberts. Second motion made that the president be given the authority to appoint a membership committee, which was seconded and passed.

Mr. George G. Jefferies moved that the president be given the authority to appoint an associate editor to work and cooperate with The Institute of Local Government in editing the Quarterly bulletin; it was seconded and passed.

It was moved by Mr. Robert Tabor that a publicity committee be appointed, which was seconded and approved.

Acts of Legislature were discussed by a number of the members in the association.

Mr. Morlo Foust asked for instructions on House Bill #18 - whether or not the association was in favor of its passage.

Mr. Tibbetts moved that this organization go on record as opposing House Bill #18, which was seconded and passed.

Meeting adjourned.

THE NEW PAROLE BILL: HOUSE BILL #11

Peter P. Klasson,
Member of the Executive Committee

This new bill was introduced January 13, 1941 by Mr. Rosenfeld. It was re-reported from the Committee on Judiciary General, as amended, March 4, 1941. Since this bill might be of general interest to the members of The Pennsylvania State Association On Probation and Parole, the more important provisions of the bill are given here in summary form.

Independent Board

The bill provides for an independent administrative board to be known as the "Pennsylvania Board of Parole," with offices in Harrisburg. The board is to consist of five members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The chairman of the board, as designated by the Governor, is to receive \$10,500 annually and each of the other members of the board \$10,000. During their term in office, the members of the board are forbidden to engage in any other business or political enterprise.

The Board of Parole is to appoint a General Director of Parole, with a salary of \$7,500, or not exceeding that amount, who is to have general supervisory authority in the State over all parolees and parole officers. His office is to be in Harrisburg.

Parole Districts

Pennsylvania is to be divided into not more than ten parole districts with a district office in each. Each district parole office is to be in charge of a district supervisor who is to receive an annual salary not exceeding \$5,000. The district supervisor is appointed by the board and is under the direction and supervision of the Director General of Parole.

Competitive Examinations

The number of officers, agents, clerks and stenographers and other employees necessary to carry out the purposes of the Act are to be determined by the board and selected on the basis of competitive examinations. These examinations are to be given from time to time as the need may require and "no applicant for appointment shall be excluded from the examinations conducted by the board for political, racial, or religious reasons or because of a lack of previous scholastic education or special training or experience." The secretary of the Board of Parole and the General Director of Parole are exempt and need not take these examinations. Qualifications as to fitness and relative capacity of applicants for appointment to the various positions on the parole staff is to be determined by the board. All those appointed from the eligible list must first serve a probationary period of not more than six months.

Staff and Employees

In regard to those employed under the present parole system the bill further provides that the board may "provisionally appoint and employ its officers, clerks and employees from among the officers, clerks and employees of the various departments operating in this Commonwealth at the effective date of this act without requiring such persons initially to submit themselves to and pass com-

petitive examinations as herein provided for, but no such employment shall continue after the preparation and establishment of an appropriate, eligible list for the position occupied by such appointee and in no event for a longer period than two years."

The bill also provides for the dismissal from office or employment of any officer, clerk, or employee active in politics.

Power to Parole

The power to parole prisoners sentenced to a penal institution for a period of less than one year is retained by the courts. Such parole is to be without supervision by the Parole Board. In all cases, except murder in the first degree, the sentencing court at its discretion may substitute probation for imprisonment. The term of probation is not to exceed the maximum period of imprisonment allowed by law.

The power to parole and reparole, commit and recommit for violations of parole, to supervise and to discharge from parole all persons under sentence of more than a year from any state or county penitentiary, prison, or penal institution rests exclusively in the hands of the board.

The bill also provides that the board be furnished with a full and complete copy of the record upon which sentence was imposed, also any other records which might be in possession of the court, prison, or any public official. On the basis of these records, an extensive and thorough pre-parole study of the prisoner is to be made. This pre-parole investigation, in addition to any recommendations made by the trial judge, is to serve as the basis for the granting of parole. Parole shall not be granted except by majority vote of the entire board.

The bill also contains a provision whereby the board may petition the sentencing judge or court for a modification of the minimum term imposed, if such modification would aid the rehabilitation of the prisoner and not be against the best interests of the State.

Paroles - How Granted

Paroles by the board may be granted on motion by the board, or upon application by a prisoner, his attorney, relatives, friends, and persons interested. If action is on motion by the board, the district attorney of the county in which the prisoner was sentenced is to be informed by the board of its intended action ten days before the paroling of such prisoner. If parole is on application, the court and the district attorney of the county in which the prisoner was sentenced are to receive a ten days written notice prior to a hearing for parole.

Disposition of all applications for parole is to be within six months after filing. The time of hearing is to be determined by the board and any board records pertaining to persons paroled are to be open for public inspection.

Authority of Parole Officers

Appointed parole officers are granted the authority of police and have power to arrest without warrant any parolee or probationer under the supervision of the board for failure to maintain the conditions imposed upon him. Assignment of male probationers is to be made to men officers only, women probationers to women officers.

Institutions Not Covered in the Act

Institutions to which this act is not to apply to are the following: The Pennsylvania Industrial School at Huntingdon, The Pennsylvania Training School, houses of refuge for boys or girls, institutions for the discipline or correction of juveniles. However, all persons sentenced to imprisonment in The Pennsylvania School at Huntingdon when paroled or reparaoled are to be under the supervision of the Board of Parole.

If the bill in its present form passes the legislature and is signed by the Governor, the "Pennsylvania Board of Parole" is to be appointed October 1, 1941, and the act will go into full effect on June 1, 1942.

THE ADVANTAGE OF THE FOSTER HOME IN THE TREATMENT OF THE YOUNG DELINQUENT

Grace Collins,
County Secretary, Child Welfare Services
Sunbury, Pennsylvania

A brief of a paper read at the Twenty-First Annual Conference of The Pennsylvania State Association On Probation and Parole held at Reading, Pennsylvania on February 17, 18, and 19, 1941.

When I first came to the county, in which I am now working, it was necessary "to find the children" for whom the county commissioners had responsibility. This meant going through court testimony on neglect, dependency, and delinquency. The testimony in relation to this group of children was surprisingly the same. The question came to my mind, "what makes children delinquent and what makes children neglected?" I found that the asocial behavior of these two groups of children was similar, yet some had been termed delinquent and others dependent and neglected. The institution to which the child was committed depended on the term of the commitment.

In reviewing a children's worker's caseload it contains a number of potential delinquents. Illness of one or both parents, lack of supervision in the home, disinterested parents, or parents of very low intelligence are all contributing factors to a child coming into care. The majority of children come into care from a poor environment or a broken home.

In our county the agency is set up to provide care for dependant and neglected children, and children in danger of becoming delinquent. We find ourselves doing more and more work with children who are already known to the court or police as delinquent. Through the district attorney and the judges, we are asked to make investigations, which may determine whether or not we can help a particular child. The child usually does not have any formal arrest charge against him, but is already community concern because of begging, truancy, stealing, or some such problem.

My experience in the past two years in the county in which I work is too limited to form any definite opinions about the use of foster home care for delinquents, so I shall try to present to you the way in which foster home agency helped one child, who might be termed a delinquent, although he has no court record on file.

Tommy Smith, ten years of age, was referred by the school truant officer. His mother claimed it was impossible for her to keep Tommy in school. He stayed out late nights and ran away from home every time he was punished. He was well known to the police authorities, being frequently picked up by them for begging and being on the streets late at night. He was never detained, but always returned home.

Until the school attendance officer began to use his authority in forcing the attendance laws, Tommy continued to resort to this behavior. When Tommy's truancy was affecting the discipline of the entire school, the truant officer went to the judge and stated the facts in the case. The officer was of the opinion that Tommy was "a bad egg" and that a commitment to a reformatory should be made. The judge asked about the home from which the child came, and suggested that the truant officer talk with me before making any further plans for Tommy. I asked to see Tommy before making any decision, and an appointment was arranged.

Tommy came to the office with a broad, mischievous smile on his face. Tommy's face showed no fear when I explained to him who I was and mentioned that the judge had asked me to talk with him. I differentiated myself from the court and the school and then said sometimes we could help boys. I wondered why he didn't go to school more regularly. Would he tell me something about himself and his family?

Tommy was ready to talk and went into a long dissertation about his Dad, who was not living in town, but who came to see him. His Mom and the rest of them lived with Uncle Nick, her paramour. Later we drove along the river and parked near the baseball field and watched the college boys practising. Tommy chatted on, and finally questioned me about these big boys going to school.

I talked with his mother and learned that there were three children by her marriage, Tommy and two girls, and that there were four children from her present union. Tommy is in third grade in school. She tries to get Tommy to go to school, but he hitches rides on coal trucks and stays out late. He is a bad boy, and will probably have to be put away. I told her about the Child Welfare Services and said that I thought Tommy might be placed in a foster home under our supervision. Mrs. Smith supposed that we could not keep in a home; he would run away. I said I thought that he would, but that in time, he might learn to find a place in this home for himself. She gave me permission to make whatever plans I thought advisable for Tommy.

Mr. Smith denied that Tommy was his child, but specified that he was born after his marriage to Mrs. Smith. He does not earn enough to support all his children, since he takes care of his sister and Tommy's one sister. He thought the home in which Tommy lived was unsuitable for him, and was inclined to place all blame for Tommy's behavior on the mother's lack of interest in the child. I made it clear that I thought he ought to share some responsibility in this blame since Tommy had to vacillate between his two parents. I thought Tommy was called upon "to take sides" and I could appreciate how hard this was for him since he was visited and brought gifts occasionally by one parent and living with another. He told me to do what I could for Tommy.

In my subsequent interviews with Tommy, I talked to him about a foster home, and he did not verbalize his feeling to any great extent, but went along in my planning and seemed to like the idea of living in another home. I cautioned him that it would mean minding the people with whom he lived in the country; there wouldn't be the places to go that there were in town, and that he would be expected to attend school regularly. He would have regular supervision from both a man and a woman, who were interested in having a boy around his age.

Tommy went to school for the four days following our last interview. On the fifth day he was absent again, and was seen last riding a bicycle toward a neighboring town. I completed foster home arrangements immediately, and later in the day, I received a frightened and uneasy Tommy at City Hall.

Going to the foster home, Tommy was quite eager, but when we arrived, he was shy and backward, but soon volunteered to get all of his possessions out of the car a few minutes after meeting his new family. Tommy has been living in the same foster home for nineteen months. He is well thought of in the community, and has passed all grades since placement. Although his former teacher said he could not do third grade work, he received the highest average in mathematics in the county.

Four months after his placement he ran away - on Saturday morning. He ran to visit his mother, and insisted that he did not want to go back. His only explanation was that the idea had been on his mind for months. After I questioned him about his unhappiness, Tommy broke down and was truly penitent when he realized how worried his foster family had been about him. From that time on, Tommy has been getting along well. A few months ago, I placed a thirteen year old boy with Tommy. Except for one excursion they both took to a neighboring town to see Jack, the other boy's father, they have got along nicely together. Tommy had worried about his second run away, and showed fear that he might lose his home. Both boys exhibited at a fair this fall and are planning a very busy summer. Right now they are trying to earn enough money to buy a bicycle in partnership.

In analyzing this placement I want to point out that the other child in the home is a dependent child. There was no segregation of Tommy, but planning in placement according to what each child needed in a foster home and in companionship. There was a careful choice in Tommy's companion as too many similar ideas might lead to more trouble like the trip together. Jack was essentially a boy who always capitalized on his goodness, but he wasn't too good to be a threat to Tommy.

Tommy's problems began shortly after his mother and father separated. Each year or so, Tommy, who was the oldest in the family, was finding himself less and less important, and found his satisfactions outside the home. Given a chance in a family where he was an individual in his own right, he showed capabilities that had been hidden. Under severe emotional strain many children appear to be in the low intelligence group, which was definitely shown in Tommy's case.

Every child will not respond as Tommy did, but a child who has no place in his own home, who wants to have normal relationships with people, will respond to the affection and interest he will find in a foster home, providing he has the intelligence to use what is offered to him. Foster home care is not for every child, some children have lost too much in losing their own homes to be free to give again in relationships with new people. A foster home agency in a community can help determine what children may benefit by care and offer service to those children who will be able to use it.

I want to stress the importance of not having the agency worker do the job of probation officer. The children's worker in a community has a real place in her own right. In working with the court and the probation officer in the county, a child may be helped. I feel that foster home care for children has its own place and ought to be an integral part of any care for children whether dependent, neglected, or delinquent.

ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROBATION MOVEMENT

Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes is honorary chairman of a national committee to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the probation movement which began with the work of John Augustus, a Boston shoemaker, it has been announced by Charles L. Chute, executive director, National Probation Association.

Recalling authentic sources concerning this little known social pioneer, Mr. Chute, pointed out that it was John Augustus, a spectator in the Boston police court in August, 1841, who "bailed out" and took under his supervision the first probationer. The socially-minded shoemaker so successfully rehabilitated the offender, that in his own words, "not even the scrutinizing officers would have believed he was the same person," when he was returned for the court for discharge.

Over a period of eighteen years John Augustus took 2,000 defendants under his care, without imprisonment; men, women, boys and girls who, he believed, showed promise of reformation. Of that entire number only ten are said to have absconded. Despite stubborn opposition which seems chiefly to have been based upon the ground that his probation activities deprived certain court officers of fees they would have collected had the defendants been imprisoned, John Augustus faithfully stuck to his self-imposed task. Although his efforts long antedated the coming of the trained social worker, he developed for himself many of the principles of probation which are recognized today.

Serving with Chief Justice Hughes on the John Augustus Centennial Committee are almost one hundred nationally prominent men and women including: Attorney General Robert H. Jackson, Warden Lewis E. Lawes, Governor Herbert H. Lehman, Judge Julian W. Mack, Herbert C. Parsons, Dean Roscoe Pound, Henry D. Sharpe, Bishop Henry St. George Tucker, Walter S. Gifford, Homer Folks, Dorothy Canfield Fisher, Dr. Sheldon Glueck, Judge Charles L. Brown, Justice Felix Frankfurter, Charles P. Taft, G. Howland Shaw, and Walter Lippmann.

Focal point of the centennial program, planned by the board of trustees and professional council, will be the National Probation Association's annual conference in Boston's Hotel Statler, May 29 through 31. To this conference will come judges, probation and parole officers, social workers and delegates from related fields of activity. Many who attend the Boston meeting will go on to Atlantic City on June 1, for the National Conference of Social Work, where the National Probation Association will also conduct sessions. San Francisco will be the scene of another gathering in conjunction with the National Prison Congress next August.

The Boston conference program will develop the historical aspects of the probation movement, weigh its present status, and define future requirements for growth and improvement.

Principal objectives of the centennial observance are the strengthening of interest and understanding between the public and the courts, and emphasis of probation, parole and well-conducted juvenile courts as common sense approaches to crime prevention and control. Plans include widespread utilization of press, radio, and motion pictures in bringing to the nation the story of John Augustus and the far-reaching consequences of his pioneer work.

NEWS FROM THE CORRECTIONAL FIELD

Classes for Correctional Workers

Dr. Fred W. Hosler, Principal of the Public Service Institute in The Department of Public Instruction reports that there are twelve classes being given for correctional workers during the 1940-41 term. Three of these classes are held in Philadelphia, three at Collegeville, two at Harrisburg, one at Huntingdon, one at Rockview Farm Prison, one at Pittsburgh, and two at the Pennsylvania Training School at Morgantown.

There are close to four hundred students enrolled in the classes and thirty thirty-six different agencies represented. Those attending the classes are prison guards, probation and parole officers, and social workers who deal with behavior problems.

Miss Pigeon with National Association

Miss Helen D. Pigeon, formerly with the Department of Welfare and the Department of Public Instruction in Pennsylvania, is at present with the National Probation Association where she is doing research work in the correctional field.

Judge Ellenbogen Urges Parole Bill Changes

Common Pleas Judge Henry Ellenbogen asked the Appropriations Committee of the State House of Representatives to make eight amendments to the Rosenfeld Bill creating a State Parole Board. This bill is explained in another article in this issue.

He opposed a present provision of the bill which permits the Parole Board to grant paroles before the prisoner has served his minimum sentence. This provision also is opposed by Judge Ralph H. Smith and the Penal Affairs Committee.

Judge Ellenbogen asked amendment of the bill to give the proposed board jurisdiction over offenders sentenced to the three reformatories in the state, to supervise parolees from other states, to reduce the proposed number of parole districts from 10 to 5, to require at least one member of the Parole Board to interview prisoners personally before granting paroles, to give the prosecutor and the courts 15 days' notice before the paroles are granted, to require the Parole Board to investigate and make recommendations to the Pardon Board, and to give the courts power to assign cases to the Parole Board.

The bill has been approved by the House Judiciary-General Committee, but is before the Appropriations Committee because it carries a grant of funds.

Chief Probation Officer Robert C. Tabor Reports on Juvenile Delinquency

In a report to the Board of Judges of the Municipal Court on juvenile delinquency in Philadelphia, Mr. Tabor gave two reasons as the cause of delinquency - inadequacy of State institutions' facilities for mentally defective youths and lack of recreational provisions in the city.

The report showed a drop in the rate of offenses by youths under 16 to the lowest point since 1916. New charges against youths under 16 numbered 4357 in 1940, a decrease of 9% below 1939.

The report added that the lack of room in State institutions kept out 60% of the children committed for mental defects from 1929 to 1939. Many committed as long as seven years ago still await admission.

Greene County Juvenile Court

The Greene County Juvenile Court in September 1940, on an order from Judge Waychoff furnished 218 pairs of glasses for underprivileged and dependent children of the county. The selection of these children was made through the schools, and 253 applications were received, and the 218 who qualified for the need were fitted. Optometrists cooperated by giving very reduced, flat rate and the county commissioners joined in the program by paying the bill. The entire cost of this project was less than \$1,300.

This step is regarded as a decisive one toward preventing the delinquency which so often results from pupils being retarded in their school work. Very satisfactory results have been reported.

Greene County's new Detention Home, under the supervision of Mrs. Oscie Clark, who was also appointed juvenile court officer, was highly commended by both the Grand Jury and the State supervisor as to the low cost of operation, the arrangement for preparation, serving of food, and the recreation room which is for the use of children detained in the home.

The Greene County's probation and parole staff has been increased to include Miss Mary Cubic, secretary to the chief probation officer, Miss Mary Gusic and Mr. Russell Roberts.

White Hill

Competitive examinations were given for custodial officers and school teachers seeking appointments at the Pennsylvania Industrial School at White Hill on April 19, 1941. Character investigations and medical examinations are now being made in connection with the successful candidates, and appointments will be made from the eligibility list on June 2, 1941.

Major Hill said, in regard to the military training now installed at White Hill, that it has been adopted as a compulsory feature because of its physical and mental benefits and its consequent salutary effect on individual and group morale. Major Hill, positive in his conviction that there are certain elements of life which should be compulsory, namely, practical education, trade training, and at this particular time of world crisis, military training, because no program of character building and self discipline, which is the school's aim, can be developed without them.