

The Quarterly

*Kindness, Patience, Tolerance,
The wit to understand
Are among the greatest gifts
That come from the Maker's hand.*

**The Pennsylvania Association
on
Probation and Parole**

SPRING, 1954

The Pennsylvania Association On Probation and Parole

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The Quarterly

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President's Letter

This is the season of the year, between the Fall program and the Annual Conference, when Association activities seem to be at low ebb. Probably, members have been attending some of the regional meetings of the Pennsylvania Citizens Association, the Pennsylvania Welfare Conference, or other groups, but except for The Quarterly and such committees as are involved in preparing for the Conference, the Association is somewhat dormant. It would be of interest to me if members could think about and propose activities which might serve to keep us alive as an Association in this quarter of the year. Perhaps informal discussion groups in various areas would develop problems and topics that could become program items for future meetings and also serve for personal stimulation on the job.

Our cooperation has been requested and promised to the Pennsylvania Welfare Conference for its annual meeting in Harrisburg, March 25 and 26, 1954,

which will have crime and delinquency as its topic. We should support this meeting, and we can undoubtedly profit from the program.

Our own Annual Conference in Philadelphia, May 3-4, and 5th, 1954, promises to be of unusual interest, and I hope most of you are making plans to attend. Remember, Philadelphia has established quite a reputation for its hospitality!

Another item I would call to your attention is the need to remain in good standing by paying your dues. The amount is \$3, and you can send it to Secretary-Treasurer, Eliza Leader at 924 Third Avenue, Altoona, Pennsylvania.

Finally, let the editors of The Quarterly hear from you about your reaction to the material that appears in your magazine. Don't hesitate to criticize, but better yet, send news items, articles or suggestions to any member of the Committee. Your support can make The Quarterly even better than it has been.

Peter J. Frascino

Annual Conference

The Annual Conference of the Association will convene at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel in Philadelphia, Monday, May 3, 1954, and continue through Wednesday. Early arrivals may register during the afternoon of May 2nd.

Judge John Connelly of the Juvenile Court of Boston, Massachusetts, will speak on "A Constructive Approach to Juvenile Delinquency" at the afternoon session on Monday, followed by Louis Maglio, Probation Officer from the same court, who will discuss the "Citizenship Training Program in Boston".

The morning session will consist of a panel discussion on "Juvenile Delinquency Today", with Judge Harold Knight, Montgomery County; Judge Leonard Propper, Philadelphia County; and Dr. Winifred B. Stewart, psychiatrist of the Quarter Sessions Court, Philadelphia; as the panel members.

On Monday evening, the Crystal Ballroom of the Benjamin Franklin Hotel will be the scene of a supper and dance for Association members and guests, beginning at 7:30.

The Annual Business Meeting of the Association is scheduled for Tuesday morning. In the afternoon, Arthur Prasse, Pennsylvania Commissioner of Corrections; Dr. G. I. Giardini, Superintendent of Parole

Supervision, Pennsylvania Board of Parole; and "Red" McCarthy, Sports Editor of the Norristown Times-Herald; will comprise a panel to discuss "Rehabilitation of Adult Offenders".

In the evening, Lloyd H. Wood, Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania, will be the speaker at the Annual Banquet, to be held in the hotel ballroom.

The final session of the Conference will be on Wednesday morning, with a panel consisting of Abraham Levy, Deputy Attorney General of Pennsylvania; Charles Cella, Jr., Supervisor, Government Consulting Service of the Institute of Local and State Government of the University of Pennsylvania; and Dr. Catherine De Ette Edgett, from the Laurelton State Village; presenting "Present Institutional Problems". Mr. Cella will discuss a report on the survey conducted by the Institute on Pennsylvania Training Schools, and Dr. Edgett will show motion pictures of the Laurelton State Village.

Announcements of the Conference will be sent to all Association members by the Secretary. The Program Committee, of which Lawrence Campbell, Probation Officer, Carbon County, is chairman, is anticipating a record attendance at the Conference. Members are urged to make hotel reservations early.

Not being artistic, the editors would appreciate having Association members propose designs or submit drawings.

News items, about members of the Association, or about happenings in the correction field that may be of interest to other workers, are always welcomed by the editors. Send them in! Anytime will be all right; just send them,

The Quarterly

For the past three issues, The Quarterly has carried as a cover design an outline map of Pennsylvania. Favorable comment has been received on the appearance of the cover, but the editors now wonder whether for future use a design might not be devised that would be more representative of the Association and the work of its members. Such a design might also be adopted as a seal for the Association.



The Juvenile Delinquency Picture In Pennsylvania

By John Otto Reinemann

Director of Probation
Municipal Court of Philadelphia

In the latter part of the past summer, newspaper headlines screamed about a nation-wide startling increase of juvenile delinquency, especially within the past two years. In order to obtain a reasonably accurate picture of the situation in Pennsylvania, the writer sent out questionnaires to the chief probation officers of the juvenile courts in the twenty largest counties of the Commonwealth, i.e. all those which according to the U. S. Census of 1950 had more than 150,000 population. Seventeen replies were received from counties inhabited by 67.8 percent of the total population of the States. Not included in this study are Luzerne, Schuylkill and Washington counties.

The first item of the questionnaire was the number of children handled by the county juvenile court—officially and unofficially—for reasons of delinquency in 1951 and 1952, broken down as to sex groups. Since only a few counties distinguished between official and unofficial cases, this survey is based on the combined figures of official and unofficial figures. One county supplied figures only for the year 1951. Of the 16 other counties, 9 reported an increase of the total figures. The same nine counties also reported an increase of boys' cases, while only 6 counties of

the entire group reported an increase in girls' cases. In seven counties the delinquency decreased; in one of these no statistical breakdown as to sex groups was available. In six counties a decrease in boys' cases was recorded, while girls' cases declined in eight counties; in one county the number of delinquent girls was exactly the same in 1951 and in 1952.

Before we look at the percentage figures of the reported increases, it is necessary to point out that the absolute figures of juvenile cases show wide range differences, dependent upon the size of population in the various counties. While there were 7,365 cases in Philadelphia County and 4,157 in Allegheny in 1952, the highest figure for that year from any of the other counties was 726 cases; the lowest figure was 99. The greatest increase of total delinquency figures in any county from 1951 to 1952 was 35.1 percent, the lowest was 2.9 percent. On the basis of the combined total figures from the 16 counties that supplied statistical information for both years, we arrive at an increase of 4.9 percent from 1951 to 1952.

In order to get a truly up-to-date picture, the second question asked for a comparison of delinquency figures for the first 8 months of 1953 with those for the first 8 months of 1952. Ten counties reported an in-

crease and 6 counties reported a decrease of total figures; one county supplied only figures for boys and one county simply stated that there was a decrease, but did not supply actual figures. Two counties did not break down their figures according to sex groups. So far as boys were concerned, 9 counties reported an increase, and 6 counties reported a decrease. Regarding girls, 6 counties recorded an increase, 7 counties recorded a decrease, and in one county the number of delinquent girls was exactly the same for both these periods. In one county comparable figures for official cases only were available. Again, a wide range of percentage increases could be observed; the highest of any county was 44.6 percent, the lowest 5 percent. On the basis of the combined total figures from 15 counties that supplied figures for both time periods, an increase of 12.2 percent was observed.

The third item of information asked for in the questionnaire was the total number of children of juvenile court age (7 to 17 years of age) living in the respective county. The purpose of this question was to obtain a ratio figure of delinquency incidence in relation to the total child population. Twelve counties answered, but several indicated that theirs were approximate figures; others used the 1950 U. S. Census, and some supplied figures based on the most recent school census. In view of the variety of sources for this information and the availability of merely estimated figures in some instances, a certain caution regarding the statistical result is called for. The range is from 2.6 per 1000 child population to 24 per 1000 child population. Expressed in percentage figures, 9 counties reported one percent or a fraction of one percent of their child population as referred to the juvenile court in 1952; in 3 counties (including the 2 largest counties) the percentage figure ranged from 1.8

to 2.4.

The fourth question was concerned with certain characteristics of juvenile delinquency cases, such as age and sex distribution, and types of offenses or degree of seriousness of delinquent behavior, especially in their relationship to observed increases. Of the nine counties reporting an increase of their total cases from 1951 to 1952, 5 reported a higher proportional increase for boys than for girls, while in 4 other counties, the girls' cases increased proportionately more than the boys. However, in some instances, the absolute figures were so small, especially for girls, that no general conclusions could be drawn from these findings; the ratio of sex distribution in the majority of counties is approximately 80% boys and 20% girls.

Regarding age distribution, a number of reports stated that the age groups 13 or 14 to 17 continued to furnish the highest delinquency figures, and that no particular age group within that range was more markedly represented in reported increases. One county, however, reported a decided increase among 17 year old boys; on the other hand, there was indication of a more pronounced increase within the somewhat younger adolescent group (14 to 15 years of age), as compared with the 16 and 17 year old juveniles. In Philadelphia, for instance, the ratio figure for 1950 was 32 per 1000 for the 16 and 17 year old ones but decreased to 30 per 1000 in 1952; conversely, the ratio figure for the 14 and 15 year old ones was 30 per 1000 in 1950 and rose to 38 per 1000 in 1952, measured on the basis of these respective age groups in the total child population. According to the Annual Report of the Northampton County Juvenile Court, the median age of delinquent children in 1952 was 14 years and 11.8 months, as compared with 15 years and 0.5 months in 1951.

No appreciable changes were observed, on the whole, in respect to

types of offenses or the complexity of the delinquent behavior. Two counties reported a considerable increase in auto thefts from 1950 to 1952, while another pointed to a decrease in automobile stealing and looting. Still another county recorded an increase of malicious mischief cases. Regarding sex offenses of girls, one county indicated an increasing seriousness of the involvement, another county simply cited figures showing a considerable decrease of sex cases.

The last question asked for an opinion concerning the factors to which the chief probation officer who answered the questionnaire attributed the reported increase in juvenile delinquency, if any, during the past two or three years. Joseph A. Homer, chief probation officer, Allegheny County Juvenile Court, observed that his court had stable figures from 1947 to 1951 inclusive; the year 1952 showed the first major increase, which was probably due to the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950; the previous major increase occurred in 1943 following the start of World War II. John R. Torquato of the Cambria County Court cited the broken home as an important contributing factor. Edward Brubaker, chief probation officer, Dauphin County Court, listed seven points as reasons for the rise in delinquency: (1) The 1941 War Baby increased the number of adolescents in the community; (2) Working parents force children out of the home for recreation; (3) there is a lack of foot patrolmen in neighborhood areas where they are needed to help deter purse-snatching and some burglaries; (4) adult examples fail to stimulate the high ideals needed by youth; (5) there is a lack of a religious program in the home and churches fail to attract the young people; (6) a wrong sense of values is stressed in community life, in that material gains are placed before moral principles; (7)

citizens fail to provide salaries as an incentive to attract competent personnel in youth work. Emil E. Burgess, Juvenile Probation Officer, Fayette County Court, answered in the following manner: "There has been a continued failure on the part of the parents to accept responsibility for the supervision of their children and to accept any responsibility for their costly depredations. The schools are being blamed for failure to properly train children, but too many parents wish the school to be the sole custodians of the children and planners for their social activities. In our particular county, through appearances at PTA meetings and service clubs, we have been in some degree successful in awakening the public to citizen responsibility for all children. This shows in the better behavior of the children in the 10 to 13 year old category." Raven H. Ziegler, Chief Probation Officer, Lehigh County Court, after mentioning as a probable causative factor the "inadequate home which includes neglect, lack of guidance, lack of religious training, and indifference of parents," wrote in an accompanying letter: "I wish it were possible to focus the spotlight on the causes of delinquency in the same manner as it has been focused on the delinquent during the past decade. When that happens, we will be making progress and abnormal delinquency will disappear in society." William H. Kinney, Probation Officer, Juvenile Division, Northampton County Court, commented: "It is difficult to assess the factors which have kept our delinquency level at 400 complaints a year. We feel sure, however, that the social agencies have helped with this problem and that the school administrators, and teachers have also contributed their part toward the understanding of these social problems." In his Annual Report for 1952, he wrote "Fundamentally, juvenile delinquency is the result of society's neglect to put first things first. We have over-empha-

sized material well being and neglected spiritual well-being. Juvenile delinquency is just one of the results of this misplaced emphasis. The contributing causes of juvenile delinquency have frequently been listed as broken homes, indifferent parents, truancy, idleness, alcoholic liquor, corner hangouts, the automobile, improper literature, unsupervised and uncontrolled street gangs, and improper law enforcement. In the last analysis, most of the contributing causes listed would disappear if parents did not betray their sacred trust, and if people generally realized that in modern times even good homes need co-operation from outside sources. . . . There was a time when juvenile delinquency was attributed solely to parental neglect; the community felt no responsibility whatsoever. This is no longer true. It has been estimated that the average young person 18 years of age has spent about 40% of his time outside his home and school. Without relieving the parents of any of their obligations we recognize now that juvenile delinquent is also a community problem and that the juvenile delinquent is a potential public charge and a liability carrying with him a heavy cost." Henry Lenz, Chief Probation Officer, Juvenile Division, York County Court, warned against too hasty general conclusions drawn from changes in the statistical curve of juvenile delinquency: "Our experience leads us to believe that in most instances any very noticeable percentage change warrants very close scrutiny. For example, the investigation of cases by the probation staff might fall off due to illness, change in workers, inability of judges to hold hearings. The same factors may exist among the police officers handling the children. An increase may be due to the introduction of more efficient officers who are alert to their jobs and willing to exercise their protective prerogatives. Here in York we feel that our efforts to

be helpful to the Police Department through various educational media brought about the elimination of much misunderstanding, and the resulting development of a more cooperative attitude on the part of the police toward the court has, in our judgment, been very gratifying".

Summarizing the findings, the following may be stated:

(1) There was an increase in juvenile delinquency cases in the majority of the reporting counties from 1951 to 1952, amounting to 4.9 percent on the basis of the combined figures.

(2) There was a further increase in juvenile delinquency cases in the majority of the reporting counties within the first 8 months of 1953, as compared to the first 8 months of 1952, amounting to 12.2 percent on the basis of the combined figures.

(3) The ratio figure of juvenile delinquency, based on child population figures, remained low; in the large majority of reporting counties it was one percent or less, and the highest was 2.4 percent.

(4) Neither sex group has contributed more to the above-mentioned recent increase than the other; in general, there are 2 girls among every 10 delinquent children.

(5) There is some indication that the recent increase is more pronounced in the somewhat younger group (14 and 15 years of age) than among those 16 and 17 years of age.

(6) There also seems to be some manifestation of a quantitative and qualitative increase of sex cases.

(7) There is no doubt concerning the continuing validity of the traditional explanations for the causation of juvenile delinquency, i.e. parental neglect, broken homes, diminished supervision due to the mother's employment, slum conditions, lack of recreational facilities. In addition to these sociological reasons, there

now come to the fore such ethical and educational aspects as the failure on the part of parents and educators to instil in children a feeling of responsibility, which is an essential and vital part of citizenship in a democratic society. Such responsibility includes the respect for the rights, the well-being and the property of other people and of the community as a whole. Furthermore, there is unfortunately rampant in these times a most deplorable negative and often ridiculing attitude of adult persons toward law enforcement and governmental authority that cannot fail to have its adverse effect upon children, especially in their most impressionable years.

We may ask ourselves whether there is a deeper significance in the fact that war conditions have tended to bring about increased juvenile delinquency, as they did in the years 1942 to 1945, and—after a period of declining figures—again from the latter part of 1950 on. A confused and troubled world, unable to establish harmony and peace based on

Lancaster Guidance Clinic

Like an old friend who is there when you need him, the Lancaster Guidance Clinic has stood by for 16 years rendering service to those in the community who have had need for its help.

Since 1937 the Clinic has administered to individuals directly or through referral by agencies. Maintained by the Lancaster County Mental Hygiene Association as a member of the Community Chest, the function of the Clinic is to study and treat mental and emotional problems in adults and children which are causing them difficulty in their everyday living.

The Clinic's staff has specialized training and skills in helping people understand and overcome obstacles

freedom of individuals and of nations, seems to produce confused and troubled adults and children. Adult criminality and juvenile delinquency are but the extreme manifestations of global unrest, uncertainty and lack of faith in the dignity of man.

Is it too far-fetched to connect our task as probation officers of guidance, counselling and rehabilitation of delinquent, maladjusted and rebellious children with the great issues of our delinquent world? Henry Lenz gives an answer to this question in the foreword of the Annual Report of the York County Juvenile Court for 1952:

"It has been said that once upon a time at a campfire, a traveler through an uncharted and rugged bit of country asked his Indian guide how he was able to pick his way over the jagged, treacherous trails without ever losing his way. The Indian answered, 'I have the near look and the far vision. With the one I see what is directly ahead of me; with the other I guide my course by the stars.' Today each one of us is being called upon to travel with the 'near look' and the 'far vision' and to discharge our individual responsibilities as best we know in this ever-changing and troubled time in the world."

and difficulties in their adjustment. The Lancaster Clinic is one of 16 in operation throughout the State.

The Lancaster Clinic staff is composed of the Director and Psychiatric Social Worker, Mrs. Evelyn R. Webb; two Psychiatrists, Dr. Robert P. Kemble and Dr. Herman D. Staples; Psychologist, Dr. Psyche Cattell and Psychiatric Social Worker, Mrs. Bertie Shenk.

"The staff of a guidance clinic works as a team in handling and treating those life experiences of children and adults which may handicap them in getting along with others and themselves," explained Dr. Hilding A. Bengs, State Commissioner of Mental Health.

The psychiatrists are physicians with special training in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders and emotional troubles. They collaborate with the other professional staff members.

The clinical psychologist studies people, how they act and why—to throw light on the patient's problems.

The psychiatric social worker, who like the psychologist has had special graduate training for mental health work, usually is the first person to interview the patient. She helps the patient examine his problems more clearly, and to come to some decision as to the kind of help he would want to use. She also explores the assistance available from other community agencies and helps the patient and his family in working out the best use of these resources.

As described by Mrs. Evelyn Webb, Director of the Lancaster Guidance Clinic, when a person seeks help from the Clinic for an emotional problem in a child, the parent contacts the Clinic for an appointment with the social worker to acquaint the Clinic with the nature of the problem, and to learn of the Clinic's way of helping in separate appointments—the child with the psychiatrist and the parent with the social worker.

These appointments occur weekly, following the decision of the parents and the Clinic to work together toward the solution of the child's troubles. Adults may arrange for help by calling for an appointment.

Interviews are entirely confidential and are usually on a weekly basis over a period of weeks or months, depending on when treatments are completed. A fee is charged those who are able to pay and is graduated according to a person's income and family responsibilities.

The past 15 years has shown considerable change in the kind and amount of service rendered by the

Lancaster Guidance Clinic, according to Mrs. Webb. In the year 1937, 106 of the 128 new referrals to the Clinic came from social agencies. In the majority of these situations, the referring agency wanted a diagnosis from the Clinic as to the child's ability and capacity for adjustment in order that the agency could better plan for the child's care. Eleven of the new referrals were adults. Few people had continued appointments with the psychiatrist for help in making this adjustment.

237 referrals were made to the Clinic in 1952 of which 185 were children and 52 were adults, 168 were new referrals. Sources of these referrals were social agencies, health agencies, schools, courts, physicians, parents, relatives and others.

66 of these persons, adults and children, saw the psychiatrist, 64 for treatment and 2 for diagnosis. 60 persons were evaluated by the psychologist and 42 consulted the social worker about their problems or those of their children, without continuing in treatment.

The 185 children seen in 1952 presented many different kinds of problems, fearfulness, temper tantrums, inability to make friends, shyness, stealing, lying, school failure. In addition, psychological evaluations were made of children for adoption. The use of the Clinic in working through a child's problem is shown by the following illustration:

Bobby was attending kindergarten where he was not getting along well, even though he was older than most of the other pupils. He seemed immature, did not join with the other children in their games, followed the teacher's directions poorly, and in general was unresponsive.

Because of this trouble, the teacher suggested that the parents bring Bobby to the Guidance Clinic for help. As the parents were reluctant to bring their boy to a place they knew

nothing about, they discussed it with their family doctor, who agreed with the teacher, and thought it would be a good idea. Both teacher and doctor raised the question as to whether Bobby was slow mentally.

The father decided to come to the Clinic to discuss the trouble his boy was having, and in the application interview with the social worker he could see that his boy was having trouble in getting along away from home. He was troubled that people outside the family wondered if Bobby were as bright as most children, was sure he was bright enough, though Bobby did not seem as bright when away from home because he was scared, probably because he had poor eyesight. The parents were afraid to let him out alone because of his eyesight. Now that this question of Bobby's ability had been raised by so many people, father thought he would feel better to know the truth, and decided to bring Bobby to the Clinic for psychological testing.

When the father brought Bobby for the testing, the psychologist found him to be a very fearful boy, so fearful that she doubted if she could rely on her test results. She suggested that the parents bring Bobby for treatment for his fears, and then retest him when he was more comfortable.

The social worker talked over this suggestion with the father, who was interested, but thought the mother would not be willing to tackle the problems of fears until she had given Bobby's new glasses more of a trial. Perhaps the glasses would be the answer to the problem. The social worker accepted the father's decision, letting him know that he could return if the parents decided they wanted this kind of help.

The parents found they were not satisfied to let this go, when the teacher finally told them that Bobby would not be ready for promotion to first grade unless he improved con-

siderably. Their decision to reapply to the Clinic for treatment of Bobby's emotional problems, was a big one for the parents to make. In making it, they had to face many of their fears about the boy, his inadequacies, and their own inadequacy in helping Bobby to grow up and gain some independence. They realized they were caught in a relationship that was unsatisfactory to them and to Bobby, that prevented his growth, and they definitely wanted help to bring about a change.

Through the planning interviews with the social worker, in which both parents took part, they began to look at Bobby's problems more objectively. Through the social worker's acceptance and support, they were able to begin to trust the Clinic, to gain some release from their feelings of guilt in their handling of Bobby and to plan responsibly for his coming to the clinic. Through continuing weekly interviews with the social worker, they could clarify and understand their own attitudes toward Bobby and do something about bringing a change in their attitude and handling.

The parents realized that Bobby's separate interviews with the psychologist would be difficult for their boy, as he was afraid to go away from the parents. They took him to school, he did not go outdoors to play unless a member of the family was with him, he was even afraid of the neighbor's dog and the radio in the car. With considerable apprehension on the parent's part, the mother brought him for his first appointment, and Bobby started his weekly appointments with the doctor. He rather quickly established a good relationship with the therapist, became involved in play, used different materials from hour to hour, and gradually gained an increased sense of his own abilities, and an awareness of his feelings arising out of this new experience, with an acceptance of responsibility for these feelings.

The parents noticed changes in Bobby at home. After two weeks, he was playing outdoors alone, he had befriended the neighbor's dog. A little later he was walking home from school alone, and going by himself to the store. Before ending therapy he had learned to ride his two wheel bike, played with the children in his block and had no fear of the car radio. He passed his kindergarten tests and was passed to the first grade. After coming for seven weeks, Bobby was ready to end.

The parents were pleased with the growth they saw taking place in Bobby, and these gains gave them courage to continue their change of handling, and to give up their overprotection. They were increasingly able to allow Bobby to go into new situations and experiences where he might encounter some fear, or be hurt, and work out his own relationships to other people.

After completion of the therapy, Bobby was retested by the psychologist, who found him to be of average intelligence, and a much happier youngster.

The 52 adults went to the Clinic for a variety of reasons,—anxiety, insomnia, depression, physical complaints without an organic basis, worry,—and diagnosis at the request of other agencies.

1,801 interviews were given in 1952 by the Clinic staff. Of these 643 were psychiatric interviews with patients and 58 psychiatric interviews with parents and other relatives; 416 interviews with psychologist; 684 interviews with the psychiatric social worker.

Lancaster County agencies are high in their praise of the Clinic and its work. In describing his agency's use of the Clinic, Mr. Howard W. Sayles, Executive Director, Family and Children's Service of Lancaster County, said, "The Guidance Clinic is a very

important member of the network of social agencies serving Lancaster County. Family and children's Service counsellors use the Clinic a great deal for problems requiring treatment and psychometric examination.

Frankly, we do not know what we would do without the Guidance Clinic—we are glad that Lancaster had the foresight to establish, and continue to maintain, such a necessary service."

Mr. Isaac L. Frederick, Superintendent of the Mennonite Children's Home, Millersville, Pa., considers his institution very fortunate to have the services of the Guidance Clinic in giving psychological tests to children admitted to his institution to determine whether they lack ability or whether they lacked opportunity in order to know where to start in helping them. "Occasionally, we also have emotionally disturbed children, who find psychiatric treatment available through the Clinic, which proves to be extremely helpful in understanding a child and how to deal with his problems. It is relatively easy to make a child conform to rules, but to get him to have a desire to conform is quite another matter," Mr. Frederick stated.

Another agency which finds the Lancaster Guidance Clinic useful in its work is the Lancaster County Board of Assistance. Miss Myrtle Brands, its Executive Director believes the Clinic is rendering very much needed mental health service in the community and is doing it very effectively.

"Several Assistance recipients who have used its facilities for psychological testing, psychiatric treatment and social work, think relationships have materially aided in their efforts to regain self dependency," Miss Brands declared. "The Clinic has been helpful, too, in aiding some children known to our agency, who are experiencing emotional disturbances

and also in bringing about better parent-child relations. The Clinic staff also has rendered professional advice toward helping persons develop personal resources to enable them to become independent of Pub-

lic Assistance."

Also, the Clinic has given invaluable aid to the Parole Board in conducting psychiatric consultations from time to time on parolees and inmates of the County Prison.

Camps For Juvenile Delinquents

The Pennsylvania Council of Juvenile Court Judges at its meeting in Philadelphia on January 21, 1954, recommended the acquisition of the Federal Military Reservation at Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, which has recently been abandoned by the United States Army. President Judge Henry G. Sweney of the Delaware County Court, and Judge Leonard M. Propper of the Municipal Court of Philadelphia, drew up the recommendations for a possible program in such a camp facility. They stated, in particular, that "Indiantown Gap is a modern camp containing many good housing facilities and in all probability contains more than adequate hospital and recreational facilities, all of which, with long-range planning, could be laid out in colonies without too great an expense. It is conceivable that this Reservation could be used for many things, such as the housing of mild mental patients (for which we have no facilities); the housing of feeble-minded and epileptic patients who have outgrown state institutions; the housing, for treatment and care, of alcoholics and, possibly, the housing, for treatment and care, of dope addicts. More importantly, however, this camp could

probably be diverted into a State "Forestry" Camp for older juveniles (14-18), where boys who have persistently committed delinquencies of a minor nature could be sent, along with incorrigibles, listless boys and products of broken homes. In our opinion, this type of camp could be the beginning of a so-called middle institution for the delinquent who is neither good nor bad and would have a tremendous impetus toward the rehabilitation of this boy. This is not a new idea because, for example, California has for years successfully operated various forestry camps for the rehabilitation of delinquents. (See article of Dr. John Otto Reine-mann, Director of Probation, Municipal Court of Philadelphia, in "The Prison Journal" of April, 1948). This can be an initial step by Pennsylvania to make optimum use of its own facilities for the aid and rehabilitation of the delinquent."

As a result of their action, the Pennsylvania Council of Juvenile Court Judges approved a resolution to appoint a committee of its members who will discuss the possible acquisition of the site for the described purposes with Governor John S. Fine and members of his Cabinet.

Senator Hendrickson Speaks

At the Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Citizens Association on Health and Welfare in Philadelphia on January 20, 1954, U. S. Senator Robert C. Hendrickson reported on the investigation into the juvenile delinquency problem by the special Sub-Committee of the U. S. Senate

Committee of the Judiciary. Senator Hendrickson of New Jersey is chairman of this Sub-Committee, which has been in operation for one year and has just been granted further appropriations for another year's work. So far, this Committee has held hearings in Washington, D. C., Den-

ver and Boston, but expects to visit a number of other local communities in the coming months. The Sub-Committee heard testimony from public and private agencies interested in the problem on the federal, state and local levels. Senator Hendrickson mentioned the following outstanding factors, that in his opinion are at the root of the present national increase in juvenile delinquency which amounted to 30% from 1948 to 1953:

(1) the easy mobility of our times;

- (2) the industrialization of our nation, with many mothers working and giving little supervision to their "latch-key" children;
- (3) the impersonality of urban life, with its many attractions and distractions;
- (4) the international situation, which seems to preclude any security for young people, who, due to the uncertainty of our era, cannot look forward to an undisturbed time of higher education, family life, etc.

Uniform Reciprocal Support Legislation

The idea of Uniform Reciprocal Legislation to compel the support of dependents by husbands, fathers and other liable relatives, who live in other states than the dependents, has been successful beyond all expectations. Within less than four years since the movement for such legislation began, all states of the Union (except Mississippi and Nevada) and four territories and possessions, namely, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, have placed

such legislation on their statute books. Pennsylvania enacted its law on May 10, 1951. A number of amendments to this act were adopted by the Legislature in 1953. There also was passed by the last Legislature the Pennsylvania Civil Procedural Support Law, which, among other items, provides for the enforcement of support obligations on a reciprocal basis between all counties of the Commonwealth.

Pennsylvania Welfare Conference

York Meeting

The responsibility of parents and the community as the two chief factors in preventing delinquency were the conclusions reached at the meeting of Region Eight, Pennsylvania Welfare Conference, held at the Y. M. C. A. in York, February 19, 1954.

"Must Kids Go Wrong?" was the theme of the session, attended by over 150 persons from ten counties. Featured were four workshop discussions on "Why Kids Go Wrong", "Whose Kids Go Wrong?", "What Do They Do?", "How Can We Help Them?"

The general session, at which Dr. Robert P. Wray, Deputy Secretary,

State Department of Public Assistance presided, featured a keynote address by Dr. H. C. Eaton, Clinical Director, Harrisburg State Hospital. Delinquencies were likened by Dr. Eaton to Newton's Fourth Law, which states that where there is no action, there is a reaction. "If children have knowledge that for what they do they will be held responsible, this may be a deterrent to misbehavior," Dr. Eaton declared. He stressed that since each child is different, each child's reaction is different and we must try first to understand the individual if we are going to help him.

Dr. Eaton outlined the factors contributing to delinquency, including those stemming from hereditary prob-

lems, and went on to define the types of delinquents. He stated that mental deficiency is the largest factor causing delinquency.

One of the best methods of detection of delinquency is provided by the school system because the teacher is able to know what is going on. Greater cooperation of the parents and more care than is usually given in the minor first offense are other important deterrents to delinquency, Dr. Eaton concluded.

Each of the four workshop panels was headed by a moderator and consisted of representatives from probation services, schools, and churches as well as legal, social, and psychiatric fields.

Reports of the workshop discussions were presented by each moderator at the dinner meeting. The conclusions drawn from the discussion on "Why Kids Go Wrong" were: Delinquents have a need for more love and affection from their parents, and a similar need for more discipline; there should be more recreation of a wholesome type; church and parents must provide spiritual guidance to youth; communities must be aware of their need to prevent delinquency.

Some findings reached in the panel discussion on "Whose Kids Go Wrong" were: In delinquency situations there is a lack of a proper parent-child relationship and recognition by the parents of the child as an individual; delinquency occurs with over-privileged as well as under-privileged children; there is a need for revision of the Juvenile Court law; the community should coordinate efforts and get at the whole picture before doing anything.

In the panel discussion on "What Do They Do", it was agreed that the only difference between juvenile and adult delinquency is the age factor; rural and urban delinquency are similar, with different emphasis on geographic factors; some crimes were

acts of omission rather than commission; character defects and uncontrolled hate motivate many instances of delinquency.

No specific decisions were reached in the panel on "How Can We Help Them". It was felt that the answer lies in the realization that the first move must come from ourselves as adults and we must ask ourselves how prepared we are to set the standards for performance of children; there is need for more spirituality; as parents we must have a conviction that the teen-age child is moving in a state of confusion from the I AM to the WE WERE stage; as parents we must hold the balance; there is a lack of education and parental guidance between the ages of three to five and eight to ten years when patterns begin.

The dinner meeting featured an address by Mr. Sylvan Furman, Director of Community Relations, New York City Board. Mr. Furman described the work of his agency and reiterated many of the conclusions reached at the workshop discussion in the afternoon. He explained that the function of the New York City Youth Board was to prevent and control delinquency in the community.

Mr. Furman went on to define the various types of delinquents and traced the history of the Youth Board from its inception in 1948. Funds for the work are provided on a fifty-fifty basis from state and communities involved.

Eleven large areas of high delinquency in the City of New York constitute the area in which the Board operates. Each of these areas contains a referral unit which consists of four or five caseworkers and the supervisor—a detection center to which anyone can refer a child or a family. In addition, the Board employs persons who are peculiarly qualified to work with gangs in an effort to direct their activities toward constructive ends.

The Youth Board contracts with recognized social agencies on a per capita or per interview basis to expand the work of these agencies in the delinquency areas.

An interesting departure from the established work pattern is the prac-

tice of having social workers take the initiative by going directly to families where delinquency exists and offering the services of the Youth Board. Mr. Furman believes that this method has produced positive results.

Piercing The Shadow of Crime

President Peter Frascino will represent the Association at a panel discussion on "The Enforcement of Law as a Factor in Crime Prevention and Control." The entire Annual Meeting program of the Pennsylvania Welfare Conference will be devoted to the theme "Piercing the Shadow of Crime." The meeting will be held in Harrisburg on Thursday and Friday, March 25 and 26, at the Penn Harris Hotel. Attendance is open to the general public and members of the Association are particularly urged to attend.

Appearing on the panel with President Frascino on Thursday afternoon, March 25, will be Judge Gustav L. Schramm, President of the Juvenile Court of Allegheny County, who will preside. Other members will be—Major Charles C. Keller, Pennsylvania State Police; Doctor M. Louise Rutherford, Deputy Attorney General; William J. Higgins, Jr., Special Agent Federal Bureau of Investigation; Father Lawrence F. Schott, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church; and Oscar L. Lingle, State Chairman of the Spiritual Education Committee, Pennsylvania Congress of Parents and Teachers.

On Friday morning, March 26, there will be a second panel with another lineup of outstanding per-

sons with experience in the field of crime and delinquency. Judge Leonard Michael Propper of the Municipal Court of Philadelphia will preside. Other members will be: Theodore H. Reiber, Member, Pennsylvania Board of Parole; Dr. Philip Q. Roche, Philadelphia; William Blake McClenachan, Jr., Attorney-at-Law, Chester; Walter J. Kress, Member, State Tax Equalization Board; and Roy Gardner, District Attorney of Wyoming County.

The members of the panels will focus their attention on the prevention of crime and delinquency, as well as on detection and correction. Emphasis will be placed on the positive aspects implied by the Conference theme "Piercing the Shadow of Crime."

In addition to the panel on Law Enforcement, there will be seven other panels directed particularly to the following seven interest groups: Radio, Newspapers and Television; Health and Welfare; Education; Recreation; The Family; Religion; and Labor and Industry.

Members of the Parole Association who are serving on the Program Committee are: Doctor G. I. Gardini, Superintendent of Parole Supervision, and John R. Bierstein, District Supervisor.

Bureau of Correction

Following the rioting at the Western State Penitentiary in Pittsburgh and its branch Institution at Rockview in January 1953 the Governor

appointed a Committee to investigate the Peno-Correctional System of the Commonwealth, charging it with the responsibility of discovering the

causes of the trouble, the need for changes, and to suggest possible reforms. This Committee came to be known as the Devers Committee, after its Chairman, General Jacob L. Devers. Among the recommendations made in their report, after a careful analysis of the situation, were the centralization of authority for the seven major penal institutions under a Commissioner of Correction, the transfer of prison activities from the Bureau of Penal Affairs in the Department of Welfare to a proposed Bureau of Correction in the Department of Justice, the activation of two Correctional Diagnostic and Classification Centers, the establishing of each institution as an autonomous unit, and the building of a new Institution for Defective Delinquents, thus freeing Huntingdon for the housing of penitentiary cases.

The legislation to effect these changes became an actuality on July 29, 1953 and by the end of the following month Mr. Arthur T. Prasse, then Superintendent of the Pennsylvania Industrial School, a career penologist, was appointed as the first Commissioner of Correction. In addition to the legislation for the initiation of the aforesaid reforms, there were also a number of Acts passed to function as a deterrent for those who might wish to start future riots.

On January 1, 1954, the two Diagnostic and Classification Centers began operation. Felons sentenced in the Eastern District of the Commonwealth are now being transferred for study at the Eastern Center, under the Direction of Mr. John Shearer, and those from the Western District to the Center in Pittsburgh, where

Films For In-Service Training

The Public Service Institute of the Department of Public Instruction, Harrisburg, which is conducting in-service training courses in the correctional and other fields throughout

Mr. Ernest Patton is in charge. Both of the Directors have had years of experience in classification procedures at the Eastern and Western Penitentiaries respectively. By the middle of January, Rockview and Graterford began operating as autonomous penitentiaries, thereby giving this Commonwealth seven separate institutions for adult offenders.

In the meantime Mr. Prasse made a number of changes in the institutions, including the hearing and punishment of disciplinary cases, the strengthening of the Classification Clinics by provision of a Director of Treatment and more professional help, the establishment of a forty-hour work week, the initiation of more prison industries, and needed changes in the physical plants.

In addition to Mr. Prasse, the Central Staff now consists of Dr. Kenneth E. Taylor as Deputy Commissioner for Treatment, Mr. William M. Knuth, Director of Prison Farms and Industry, Mr. Angelo C. Cavell, Director of Parole, Mr. John Yeager, Director of Research and Statistics and Mr. Russell Bower, Comptroller. Whenever possible key positions have been filled by persons experienced in penal work in this State.

Plans for the future include the establishment of a school for Custodial Officers in conjunction with the Pennsylvania State Police School at Hershey, a number of major physical improvements in some of the institutions, a continuation of the improved work program so that more inmates can be employed, and a consolidation of the changes that have been established thus far.

the state, has a film library that includes a number of motion pictures dealing with problems in the correctional and related fields.

Some of these films are:

Alcohol and the Human Body ..
 15 minutes
 Angry Boy (telling the story of
 emotional disturbances in a
 pre-adolescent boy) 33 minutes
 Basic Court Procedures 13 minutes
 Emotional Health 20 minutes
 Feeling of Rejection ... 23 minutes
 Nobody's Children (dealing with
 adoption matters) .. 17 minutes
 Problem Drinkers 19 minutes
 The American Cop 18 minutes
 The Supreme Court 10 minutes
 The Quiet One 67 minutes
 The last mentioned picture, "The

Judge Hazel H. Brown

On January 4, 1954, Judge Hazel H. Brown was elected President Judge of the Municipal Court of Philadelphia. Judge Brown is a graduate of Friends Central School, Swarthmore College and the University of Pennsylvania Law School. She served as Assistant District Attorney from 1932 to 1952, primarily assigned to the Domestic Relations Division of the Municipal Court. In April 1952, she was appointed Judge of the Muni-

Elizabeth Stern

On January 9, 1954, Mrs. Elizabeth Gertrude Stern, widely known author, who used the pen name of Eleanor Morton, died after a long illness. She was the wife of our good friend and active member of the Association, Leon Thomas Stern, executive director of the Philadelphia Advisory Commission on the Commitment, Detention and Discharge of Prisoners. Mrs. Stern, who had been active also in social and civic work, wrote essays, short stories and novels which were published in this country and abroad. In the 20's, Mrs. Stern

Quiet One," shows the story of a ten year old emotionally disturbed boy from a broken home in Harlem, New York, who is sent to the Wiltwyck School for Delinquent Boys and through the intensive case work of a counselor is led toward rehabilitation. It is one of the best film documents of the causes and possible cure of juvenile delinquency.

Alfred S. Holt is principal of the Public Service Institute. Fred H. Meller is responsible for the film library.

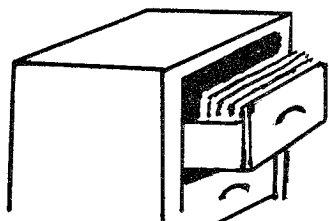
cipal Court and was elected for a ten year term in November 1953. She is the daughter of the first President Judge of the Municipal Court, the late Charles L. Brown.

In her first statement to the press, President Judge Brown stated "We hope to continue progress in the Court so that it can keep its place in the community as a social agency as well as a court of law."

headed two New York City settlement houses. With her husband, she wrote many articles about social problems, such as care for the aged, capital punishment and prison reform. They were joint authors of a book, "A Friend in Court," based on the work of the Municipal Court of Philadelphia. She was an active member of the Religious Society of Friends.

The sincere sympathy of the members of our Association goes out to Leon T. Stern and his family.





From the Files

Jim

(Editor's note — This case material comes to us from the Pennsylvania Industrial School.)

It is probable that Jim will be released from the Pennsylvania Industrial School in the near future. He needs only employment to complete his parole plan, a home and parole adviser having been approved. It is the belief of the training and releasing authorities that Jim has learned enough and has stabilized his thinking sufficiently to have a reasonable chance of adjusting satisfactorily in free society.

The above statements could be applied routinely to the many cases being released constantly from penal and correctional institutions. But there has been nothing routine about Jim's life: that is nothing normally routine as society knows a well-balanced life. To court officers, institution personnel, and workers in social agencies the pattern is familiar.

Jim is twenty-four years of age. From the time he was six he has been practically homeless, living with relatives and in foster homes — a ward of the Juvenile Court. While in these homes, his behavior was maladaptive throughout. He was unruly, destructive, untruthful and displayed bad temper consistently. He accepted no responsibility for any of his offenses. When he was twelve, Jim was placed in a juvenile institution. He stayed five years with an interim of two and one half months between two commitments.

During the forepart of his stay in the institution, Jim's adjustment was not good. During his last commitment, he seemed to show better

cooperation and applied himself more diligently to his school studies. He progressed to the eighth grade. He was a member of the glee club, the band, the choir, and participated in gymnasium activities.

Upon release from the institution, he continued to be unstable. Nothing satisfied him, none of his jobs or foster placements were good enough. He lacked definite goals. Underlying all his actions there seemed to be a desire for the security which he would not admit he needed. He tried to find this security in marriage at nineteen with a girl much younger who claimed pregnancy by him. Apparently, the claim was false because there was no child. The marriage lasted about a year.

Among the jobs Jim had was one as a magazine salesman. He was a member of a sales corps which travelled from town to town selling subscriptions. While on this job, he was arrested for the larceny of a wristwatch and served nine months in a county jail. A year later he was placed on a three year probation for burglary. Probation was continued when he was guilty of a violation some months later.

Finally, in January, 1951 Jim was sent to the Pennsylvania Industrial School for another burglary. He was twenty-one years of age at the time. He expressed his intention of behaving himself, but stated plainly that he didn't think he got a break. He attached little or no blame to himself for his predicament.

Jim has been as good as his word. With one doubtful exception, his adjustment at the school has been

satisfactory. He did not elect to attend academic school, but preferred to learn the baking trade. He also wanted to continue his music training. He was enrolled a half day in the Bakery and a half day in the Band. His progress reports in both have never been less than satisfactory. The officers in charge of his living quarters are in agreement that he is one of the better boys, and associates with other citizens of the same type.

When the band, of which he is a member, leaves the institution to play at civic functions, Jim goes with them. When he first began to play before the public, his attitude was either one of bored indifference or evinced a feeling of superiority. The public in general deserved only an amused contempt if any notice at all.

The one doubtful exception to his good conduct record was his apparent involvement, with several other boys, in a plot to escape. It developed, however, that he had no intention of escaping himself. His offense lay in the fact that he had knowledge of the plot and failed to report it to the institution authorities.

Jim continued his fine record at the school and, after a year and a half was recommended for release. For what they deemed good and sufficient reasons, the Board of Parole voted to refuse parole with a review in six months. The reasons were related to Jim's attitude and his failure to change.

Jim did not often openly express his disappointment at the refusal but his advisers knew that the currents of his resentment were deep and strong. On the few occasions when he said anything at all, it was evident that there was little in his thinking to indicate that there was any justification for not releasing him. Apparently, the nature of the offense for which he was committed, his previous record, including probation violation, and the relatively short time he had been at the institution, meant little to him.

Jim became sullen and more or less non-communicative. However, he did not neglect his trade or his music. He continued to do well at both and gave no trouble to his quarters officers. For several months he continued in this manner, and then his advisers began to notice a change in his attitude. Where he had once performed his duties well, but apparently without much feeling, he now became much more cheerful. He smiled often and seemed to enjoy the company and conversation of the other citizens and the school staff. He showed an interest in other people. On two different occasions he gave blood to the Red Cross Blood 4 Defense Program.

When Jim was interviewed six months after his first parole refusal, the Parole Board voted to continue action pending assurance of an adequate parole plan. No assurance of favorable action was given. However, Jim seemed to understand, this time. He was overheard to remark in effect, that he guessed his past behavior had finally caught up with him. At the time of the last interview, the examining agent felt sure that he detected the beginnings of a genuine awareness of social responsibility, and a maturity of thinking which had not been present before. Jim expressed it when he said he had stopped being so bullheaded and contemptuous.

Perhaps Jim's new tendency to think less of himself, and to hold a more sympathetic attitude toward other people is well illustrated by an incident in which he was concerned. As a member of a stringed ensemble, he helped to entertain the elderly folks at a county home over the holidays. On one occasion, during the course of the evening, the officer in charge of the group noticed a suspicious moisture in Jim's eye and an unnatural huskiness in his voice. He later confided to the officer and to one of his advisers that the seeming helplessness of the old people, and their pathetic enjoyment of the

entertainment was almost more than he could bear. It seemed that Jim had finally developed a heart for others.

Little has been written here of the work of the institution staff in bringing about the change in Jim's attitude, but it must be apparent to the reader that no efforts in his behalf have been spared. The releasing authorities have said that Jim may re-enter free society when adequate means for his support have been arranged.

Undoubtedly, there are questions. Is Jim's attitude really changed for the better? Is the comparatively short

In Reply

(Editor's Note — The following comments were made by a Muncy inmate after reading "The Case of John Doe" in the Summer Quarterly, 1953.)
Supervision might have been improved upon —

Agent could have tried to find employment more suitable to parolees capabilities and interests. John Doe could have been given an aptitude test to determine the extent of his abilities. Such a test may also have revealed a dormant talent or inclination toward a particular type of occupation that would not only stimulate his interest, but also instill in him the initiative to want to make a success of the job he undertakes.

A lack of social activities is also evident in the summary of his case. A failure to fraternize and indulge in pleasurable liveliness could be due to the fact that subject hasn't the self assurance and necessary aggressiveness to go about making himself an accepted member of a young, active social group.

Agent could have familiarized himself with the types of entertainment parolee preferred. There are innumerable Athletic Clubs, Y.M.C.A.'s, etc. that could afford John Doe many hours of pleasure derived from an indulgence in the sports he likes or from merely watching a sports con-

period of his apparent rehabilitation weighty enough to balance the long years of his delinquency in a poor environment? Is he strong enough and mature enough to form new social ties and be bound by them? Or is he just another case typifying the individual whose reaction to the restraining influence of an institution program is good, but who cannot or will not assume the responsibility of a free citizen in free society? We have the feeling that Jim will do all right because he has finally realized that there are other people in the world who are, at least, as important as Jim.

test. If parole agent didn't have the time to personally supervise parolees attempt to broaden his scope of activities, the possibility of enlisting the aid of an athletic director might solve that problem.

Spiritual guidance may also help John Doe in his struggle to obtain a stable way of life. Co-operation from his sponsor along this line might help.

His obvious feeling of inferiority and insecurity might be alleviated when he realizes that his Agent, Sponsor, etc. are interested in his welfare.

Parolee's attempt to regain an honorable status in life might have been more readily accomplished and he may have extended his willful co-operation had he been given an encouraging word and helpful suggestions in place of the reprimand or warning he usually received.

His obnoxious manner toward employers and co-workers may have been an attempt to conceal his emotional immaturity.

Family gatherings and activities and home interests were conspicuous by their absence. If any reluctance to have him home was shown by any member of his family, perhaps a more pleasant and inspiring home could be procured for him.

Competent psychiatric advice might guide him in thinking along channels directed toward further development of his character and social status.

The above opinions are based on the information given in the printed

article pertaining to the case of John Doe.

A closer and more personal observation of parolee might possibly alter these opinions to a certain degree.



Editorial

Our Problem: Juvenile or Adult?

In the nature of things, society may expect to have juveniles among its membership for some generations to come, even to infinity. Further, juveniles being what they are, society may anticipate a constant incidence of rebellious and harmful behavior from this group. At present we label this phenomenon "juvenile delinquency".

Much, perhaps too much, time and effort have been devoted to the causes of juvenile misbehavior. The basic reasoning behind these studies has been that if causes were found, they could be removed or counteracted, with resultant disappearance of the trouble. But the studies, while enlightening, have not reduced the problem, let alone eliminate it. They do, however, point to one certainty, namely, that **juveniles do cause trouble.**

Just as we expect deviations from the desired pattern of growth in plants and animals, with size differences from "runts" to "giants", and just as we prepare for handling of a wide variance in intelligence and abilities in school children, perhaps we should expect deviant behavior and put our present emphasis on preparing to handle it.

For the past fifty years, we have put our faith in this effort on the

Juvenile Court, or rather, we have put our faith on the Juvenile Court **idea**, the while we excused or overlooked Juvenile Court practices. Do we really know what our Juvenile Courts are like? Are we satisfied with what they are doing? Is it possible that the problem of juvenile delinquency is aggravated by adult handling or mishandling of it?

The Juvenile Court was established to prevent damage to children as the result of exposing them to contaminating influences of jail detention, the harmful publicity of open court trials, and the lasting handicap of a criminal record. The intent appears to have been to set up a special way of **handling juveniles, within the framework of the same rules of conduct that apply to adults.** It does not appear to have been intended that a **new set of standards** be created for juveniles, but gradually that is what has happened. Some workers in the juvenile area, instead of seeking to interpret the community standards to the delinquent in terms that he can understand and try to follow, have become professional protectors of juveniles, standing between them and the frustrated community. Recently, at a meeting of this Association, a result of this was noted when it was reported that a youth told an arresting officer, "You can't touch

me; I'm a juvenile!"

Is our throbbing assertion that we are thinking **about** the children perhaps an admission that we are trying to think **for** the children? Do we know what youth is thinking about itself and its problems? In another meeting of the Association, youth spoke out for **responsibility**, not **protection** or **recreation**. Should society perhaps re-examine its Child Labor Laws, its compulsory school attendance until age 17, its watered-down education program which considers "trade training" and "education" to be synonymous terms? Perhaps, bilogically and psychologically, many youth are beyond the classroom and shoproom at 15 or 16 rather than 17, and should be fed into an apprentice program developed by labor and industry. Almost certainly, bilogically, emotionally and socially, all youth should be considered to be mature and ready for responsibility before age 21. If marriage is permitted before this, ownership and operation of cars encouraged, military service required, and voting perhaps authorized, how can we sustain a philosophy that says criminal behavior is different and that responsibility for it sets in at a later age?

If our Juvenile Court practice is sound, why do police officials resist it? Why do serious thinkers in this

Classification

Pennsylvania embarked on a new venture in its prison program when Governor Fine by proclamation gave effect to recent legislation separating the penitentiaries at Graterford and Rockview from their parent institutions and establishing Diagnostic and Classification Centers at the penitentiaries in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Correctional workers will follow the progress of the new system with great interest.

Actually, classification is not new to Pennsylvania, as all but one of the major institutions have operated

area question the practice of a delegating authority to dispose of cases to a probation officer? Why do we continue to excuse this practice on the grounds that the judge is too busy to hear all the cases, and then go on to excuse the probation officer because he is too busy to do his job of supervising probationers?

Special handling for juveniles is a sound idea; special standards are not. Juvenile Court should be a major part of our judicial system, not a tag-end, distasteful duty for Saturday mornings or whatever time is left over from a busy week. If there is too much juvenile work for a judge to handle, the obvious need for another judge should be met. The point is that juvenile behavior is serious for the juvenile and society and it deserves serious and **formal** attention of the Juvenile Court.

Our problem, then, is not the presence of juvenile delinquency, which may be compared to the presence of stormy weather, but rather what we as adults are doing about it. We don't have to understand every delinquent, and actually we never can. We do have to understand what society demands of **all** its members and then plan our juvenile program accordingly. If we do so, we will have changes in our present system.

Classification Clinics since 1934. What is new is the effort to unify the prison system of the State, and achieve some uniformity in philosophy and operation. In the past, there has been wide variance among the state institutions as to the emphasis placed on the Clinics and the effectiveness of their operation.

As originally conceived, classification was an administrative device to get the best possible professional opinion about a prisoner's abilities and needs and the best placement for him in the institution to utilize

and train him and at the same time treat his problem. This was never an easy task, and many compromises had to be made when institution needs and limitations clashed with the ideal program for a particular inmate. Thus, a city-bred prisoner with high mechanical ability might be assigned to the farm rather than to a mechanical service or training shop because he was a good custodial risk and because the farm had to be operated for food purposes. These compromises will no doubt continue to be necessary. Within these limitations, classification has served the prison program effectively.

A question may be raised at this time as to whether classification is just a tool for prison administration or is a significant part of the total process of treatment. In the past, the Classification Clinics have collected a great deal of information about each prisoner, and then have usually guarded this carefully to keep him from finding out what was known. As a consequence, prisoners exercised their ingenuity to get copies of classification summaries and read about themselves. Possession of a summary by a prisoner was a serious offense in some institutions.

Why should this have been so, apart from the need to protect confidential sources of information? Who could have more interest and stake in what was discovered about him than the prisoner himself? Why seek to keep the information from him rather than to utilize the data-gathering process as the treatment opportunity it may be? Perhaps the prisoner's curiosity about this matter is the one outward-reaching impulse that some men would allow in themselves and as such it may well be the **only** handle for successful work with them.

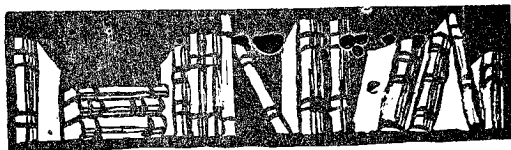
If most of us went to a medical clinic for study and diagnosis, or

to a vocational counselor for aptitude tests, we would expect a complete report, within our comprehension, of the findings. Our prison classification may be looked at in the same way. The prisoner, the subject of all the study, is entitled to a report about himself, with adequate explanation and interpretation, within his comprehension, and opportunity for discussion. Some of the findings may be new discoveries for him, such as learning of particular aptitudes he has. Other facts may be negative, but part of the reformation process for him is seeing himself as he is to the world, not as he has existed in his own limited concept. A review of his life, as he unfolds it to an experienced interviewer, can be the beginning of far-reaching personal change. A frank analysis of his criminal pattern may awake him for the first time to the enormity of his threat to social order. It is only after he is so awakened to himself that significant inner change may be expected.

Classification, as a tool, is no more effective in a prison than are education, recreation, religion, and trade training when they too are unrelated to the personal feelings and attitudes of each prisoner. But once seen for its treatment potentials beyond its convenient service to the institution, the classification process can be the stimulator of all subsequent growth and development.

Although it is hard to see why Pennsylvania needs two Diagnostic Centers, when uniformity of philosophy and practice could be obtained more readily at one Center, it is to be hoped that classification under the new system will be an inspired service and will be aimed somewhat less at catering to institution needs and rather more pointedly to the needs of the persons most deeply concerned, the prisoners.

Reviews



In For Life

By: Tom Runyon
W. W. Norton, New York

The author, Tom Runyon, No. 17602, Iowa State Penitentiary, Fort Madison, Iowa, is past editor and present consultant of *The Presidio*, an example of the penal press at its best. His book packs a wallop and is full of hard-won wisdom.

Double-lifer Runyon has already served 17 years. He owes life to Iowa and life to the Federal Government for armed robbery and second-degree murder. He has lived all the dreadful emotions of Dante's *Inferno*, but has pretty nearly mastered self-pity. His faithful sister, "D. V.", more than any person, challenged him in such a way that, at last, he made time serve him. After years of distressing visits to an unhappy brother, she broke down and wept: "Tommy, you must get a different perspective." Runyon took up leather work—"That's when I started growing up." He took to his typewriter. That is when other lifers, long friendless and forgotten, found a champion. They, too, began to live in his crisp moving prose. Tom Runyon found purpose in life . . . "The deeper I went into our effort to make outsiders see how it was inside, the less I thought about escape."

In *for Life* tells the story of Tom Runyon's "career" with obvious honesty and frankness. Without blinkers or illusions, he examines his childhood and family upbringing. The easy generalizations of crime causation are found wanting—at least when applied to his life. Putting the blame for his career on his hard-drinking, hot-tempered father did not stick: "Don't think for a moment I haven't tried . . . It would be comforting to

be able to blame someone besides me for my troubles." It is a measure of his maturity and self-honesty that he finally takes all of the responsibility on himself.

This is the story of prison reform as seen from the lifer's cell. An old complaint that the mind of the inmate is hidden from those on the outside simply does not hold here. Tom Runyon's artistry takes the outsider inside. As much as it is possible for the outsider, we share the physical and emotional hungers of the inside.

Nothing soft or sentimental about Tom Runyon. He gives every indication of holding himself accountable for his own misdeeds:

"I believe convicts who write of their experiences are expected to say 'crime doesn't pay'. Well, being a cautious kind of cuss, I refuse to say that. All I'm sure of is, it **did not pay me**. Since I picked up a pistol and stuck it under a banker's nose, I can't recall a completely happy, entirely comfortable minute. Crime was a distasteful way to make a living, and the price I paid for it is high."

If Tom Runyon's self-perception is matched by self-mastery, what more after 17 years should be required from him to earn his freedom?

Edmund G. Burbank
Executive Secretary
Pennsylvania Prison Society

The Juvenile Offender — Perspective And Readings, Doubleday & Company, Inc., Garden City, N. Y., 510 pp., Clyde B. Vedder, Ed.

This is a book of readings on all aspects of juvenile delinquency. The editor has arranged 71 topical articles by approximately 50 different authors

under 13 chapter headings, namely, The Juvenile Delinquent, The Extent of Juvenile Delinquency, Economic Conditions and Familial Factors, Community Institutions, Special Personality and Behavior Problems, Juvenile Gangs, Apprehension and Detention, The Juvenile Court as an Institution, Trends in the Juvenile Court Idea, Probation, The Correctional Institution, Parole Supervision and Sponsorship, and Community Responsibility. In addition, Professor Vedder has written a textual discussion for each chapter, which precedes the chapter selection and serves as a guide to the readings. There are also appended to each chapter selected references to other textbooks and articles in the field. Professor Negley K. Teeters in his Foreword stated that "No social problem has wrought deeper concern in the United States and, in fact, throughout the world, than juvenile delinquency. . . . The anxiety felt for problem children is shared not only by law-enforcing officials, from the police to juvenile court judges, but by social agencies, recreation officials, civic and women's clubs, school officials, and informed parents as well." The book should therefore prove most helpful to probation officers in the juvenile courts. This is indicated by the fact that such timely topics, as the following, are included: Postwar Problems of Youth, Foster Homes for Juvenile Delinquents, The Truant Before the Court, Church Attendance and Juvenile Misconduct, Intelligence and Delinquency, A Court Psychiatrist's View of Juvenile Delinquents, An Approach to Antisocial Street Gangs, The Child in Detention, The Court and the Child, The Juvenile Court and Delinquent Parents, State Juvenile Court: A New Standard, Probation and the Juvenile Delinquent, Family Casework in Probation, The Reception Process in a State Training School, Parole Supervision: A Case Analysis, Sponsoring a Delinquent, Organized Efforts in Crime Prevention.

Frustration In Adolescent Youth, (Bulletin 1951 No. 1) Federal Security Agency, Office of Education, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, 1951, 65 pp. By David Segal

This pamphlet is an attempt to produce a framework out of our knowledge of the growth and development of children and youth for use in determining the school program. It has done this through setting down a set of principles showing how frustration is caused by interference with orderly growth and development and in outlining some of the educational implications. The booklet is divided into eight sections which deal with the characteristics and principles of psychosocial development and with frustration. Some of the sub-headings of these sections indicate the scope of this Study: The adolescent and the family, The adolescent and his peers, Influence of the school, Relief from frustrated behavior, Direct guidance into motivated channels. A very complete reference of 84 books and papers is appended. The booklet is abundant in statistical tables, charts and graphs. Although this publication is primarily directed to people in the educational field, it should also prove of interest and value to the probation and parole officers who deal with adolescent individuals and their manifold problems.

John Otto Reinemann

Murder And The Penalty Of Death, Volume 284 of The Annals of The American Academy of Political and Social Science. Pp. 238, Philadelphia, November 1952. Thorsten Sellin, Ed.

This volume of "The Annals" contains 19 articles, four of which deal with murders and murderers, while the remainder is concerned with the various aspects of capital punishment. These are some of the discernible trends: In some 30 countries the death penalty has been abolished completely by law or tradition. In this country, six states do at present not permit it (Maine, Michigan,

Minnesota, North Dakota, Rhode Island, Wisconsin), while others had for some time abolished it but later restored it again. There has been a reduction in the number of capital offenses, starting with the Great Law of Pennsylvania in 1682. The imposition of the death sentence has increasingly become permissive rather than mandatory. Executions became less numerous (the average annual number of offenders executed under civil authority in USA from 1921 to 1950 was 135), non-public and relatively painless and swift. Perhaps the most incisive essay in this collection is Herbert B. Ehrmann's "The Death Penalty and the Administration of Justice". These are some of his observations: Many prospective jurors are excused from serving in capital cases because of opposition to the death penalty, and this weeding-out process tends to produce an unbalanced jury; emotion, prejudice and public hostility are at play in capital cases and are likely to result

in an erratic infliction of the death penalty at different times in different places; sensationalism surrounding court trials is bound to be much stronger in murder cases where death may be the penalty rather than life imprisonment; the various degrees of murder (based upon the presence or absence of "premeditation" and "deliberation") are confusing and "produce a most haphazard application of the criminal law in capital cases." Other articles deal with experiences in states which for a number of years had removed the death penalty from their statute books but later reintroduced it. In addition to American experiences, some contributions deal with experiences abroad, especially in England and Canada. A state-by-state survey of "The Paroling of Capital Offenders" and some illuminating statistics on this subject matter were contributed by G. I. Giardini and R. G. Farrow of the Pennsylvania Board of Parole.

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