

5 of Each 100 Medford Youngsters Need Aid From Court

Troubles Classed As Delinquency And Dependency

1951 Annual Report Discusses Problems

More than 50 children out of every 1,000 in Medford required the services of the Jackson county juvenile court in 1951. That was the highest rate of service in the county.

These children, 259 of them in all, included 132 delinquents—those who for some reason had become involved in acts ranging from carelessness or mischief to auto theft.

The remaining 127 children were dependents, who were brought to the attention of the court because they lacked adequate support or care, were abandoned or subjected to cruel treatment or for other similar reasons.

Report Gives Data

These figures on local juvenile needs are revealed in a seven-page report of the juvenile court's activities in 1951. It was released recently by the court's advisory committee and was prepared by Frank Sawaki, juvenile officer, and by Miss Alice Grace, deputy.

Just behind Medford was Jacksonville with a rate of service of 43.56 per 1,000; Rogue River, 39.44; Prospect, 27.70; Central Point and Gold Hill, 26.55; Ashland, 23.45; Eagle Point, 20.38; Talent, 18.97; Phoenix, 18.12; Shady Cove-Trail, 14.68, and Butte Falls, 12.33.

Rate of Service Up

The rates of service rendered by the court in the 11 towns averaged 28.98 children per 1,000 of school census, compared with 19.80 in 1950.

The report lists several reasons for the increase: Increasing population, greater awareness of problems and concern for them, and more familiarity with the services of the juvenile court. It adds that "it is apparent that Jackson county is a growing community, that there is increased demand for services of the juvenile court, and that adequate services require more staff."

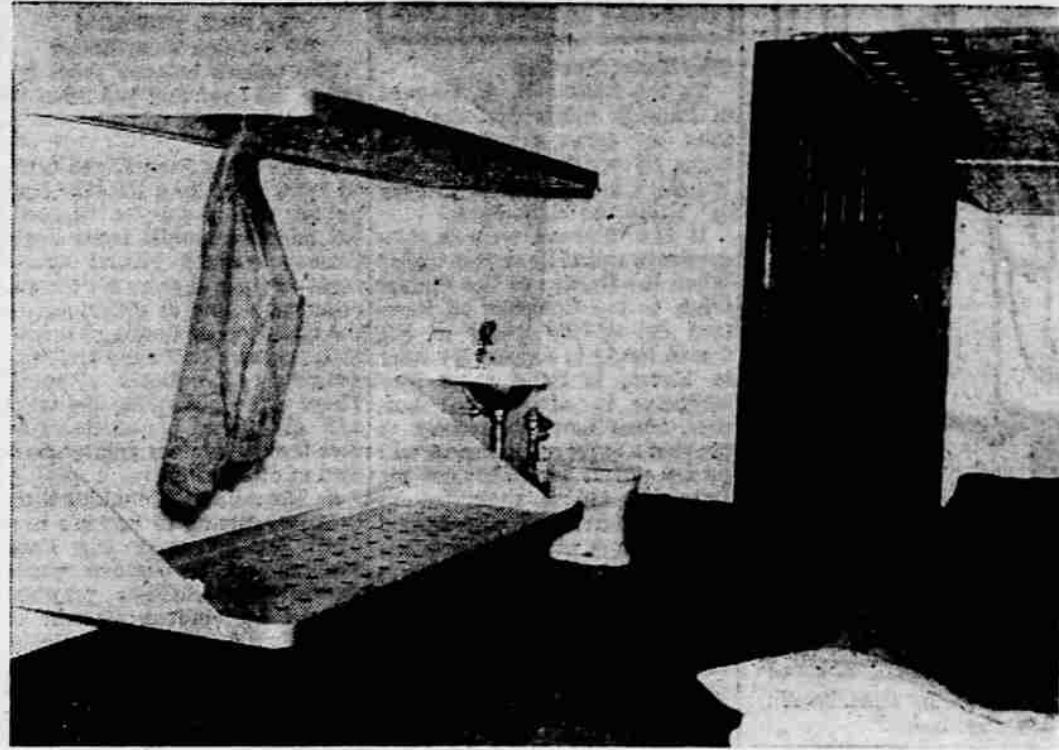
The children who needed the services of the court in increasing numbers last year fell into the two separate classes mentioned—those who were delinquent and those who made dependent by their parents.

Stealing Most Frequent

Of the delinquents, the most frequent cause of trouble among boys was stealing, usually petty thefts. There were 49 cases of that type, followed by carelessness or mischief, truancy, unlawful entry, running away, sex misconduct, auto theft, being ungovernable and injury to other persons, in that order.

Among girl delinquents, the most frequent cause of trouble was truancy, followed by being ungovernable, carelessness or mischief, running away, stealing, sex misconduct and unlawful entry, in that order. They avoided auto thefts and injuries to other persons.

Dependent children were, in most instances, referred to the court because they lacked adequate care or support. There were 130 cases of that type. Others were referred because they were placed in conditions injurious to their morals, because they



JUVENILE CELL—Pictured above is the juvenile detention cell in the Jackson county jail. The juvenile court must make use of the cell because of the lack of detention home facilities here. John Schapps, director of the Western Probation and Parole association, will return to Medford in the near future to continue a survey of detention home needs in Jackson county.

received abusive and cruel treatment or were abandoned or deserted.

Disposals Told

To dispose of the cases, the court placed 201 delinquents under continued supervision of the two trained workers in the court; 53 were investigated and "adjusted"; 15 were committed to public institutions; 4 were referred to other public departments, and 5 were committed to private institutions. Of the dependents, 74 received continued supervision and 47 were investigated and "adjusted". Forty-nine dependents were referred to other public departments.

The Jackson county jail was used as a place of detention for 68 boys and 8 girls during the year, pending a decision of the juvenile court on a solution for their problems. Thirteen were detained in the county shelter home.

The foremost source of referrals of juveniles to the department last year was various police agencies. Police referred 168 delinquents and 29 cases of dependency to the department. Close behind were parents or relatives, who referred 99 dependency cases and 29 delinquencies to county officials.

Other Sources

Other sources were schools, which reported 51 delinquencies and 10 dependencies; social agencies, 3 delinquencies and 19 dependencies; other jurisdictions, 15 and 7, and other sources, 27 and 71.

The objective of the juvenile court and its staff, according to the report, is to help delinquent youngsters to stand on their own feet, as responsible, constructive citizens. To achieve these ends, the juvenile officers strive for "social investigation," or study, and "treatment," or rehabilitation of the youths.

On the basis of social investigation, a plan of treatment is decided on. In some cases, institutionalization is recommended, but in most cases probationary supervision is suggested to the judge by the juvenile department. Youngsters are encouraged to help draw up probationary rules which will help to prevent repetition of misbehavior. These rules, or conditions, relate to such things as hours, com-

panions, activities, making restitution for damages where practicable and other similar items.

Supervision Stressed

The report states that supervision of the youngsters, which starts at this point, is the "biggest part of the job." The more intensive service can be given, the more effective results will be, Sawaki points out. In addition to the child, his parents, teachers, doctor or pastor and other interested persons are contacted in order to bring about better adjustment for the child and allow him to find acceptable behavior more natural.

The success of probationary services depends on such things as early referral, adequate resources and juvenile department staff, and cooperative interest and understanding from persons directly concerned with a child in trouble, the report states. It adds that individualized help is a prime necessity for best results.

Lack Adequate Program

Regarding dependent children, the report states that due to volume of referrals and limitations of the court, preventive services are not as extensive as they should be if an adequate program is to be maintained. It is essential to concentrate on meeting the needs of neglected and dependent children through a well organized preventive service before they reach the court as delinquents.

The report emphasizes the importance of sound family life for children. "Although many factors influence the formation of the personalities of children, the family is the most important single force," it states. The report points out, however, that some families need help to meet a crisis in family life.

Worry and uncertainty of meeting basic needs because of such things as high cost of living are contributing factors which bring about a need for help. Others include separation of families by death, divorce or illness. The report states that it is the purpose of the juvenile court, and

other community services, to help such families to do better jobs for themselves and their children in a practical way.

38 Per Cent Fail on Drivers License Exam

Salem—(U.P.)—So you think the examination for a driver's license in Oregon is a cinch? So did state officials until they took a look at the record.

The State Traffic Safety division made a check and said Saturday it found that 38 per cent of all applicants taking the test in 1951 failed on their first try.

Most of those who flunked, muffed the law test in the written portion of the examination that checks knowledge of Oregon's rules of the road. This prompted the division to suggest that those wanting to get a driver's license get the Oregon "Driver's Manual" first and read it carefully before taking the test.

Distemper Epidemic Kills Alaskan Dogs

Anchorage, Alaska—(U.P.)—Nearly 200 Husky and Malamute sled dogs in the Point Barrow area have died in a swift epidemic of respiratory distemper, the Army disclosed Saturday.

About 300 of the dogs survived the wave of disease which began February 8. Latest reports from Alaska's farthest north settlement said only two animals have died since March 14.

The epidemic was stopped by flying vital drugs to the stricken area. The disease drastically affected the economy of the far-northern Eskimo villages. Overland travel in winter in the Point Barrow area is almost entirely dependent on dog teams and sleds.

Medford Churches Will Contribute For World Relief

Medford churches today will participate in the annual "One Great Hour of Sharing" with congregations contributing funds for Church World service. During 1951 the 36 denominations cooperating with CWS to provide relief for less fortunate persons sent overseas gifts totaling \$5,635,603, according to a statement from "The Christian Century" and it is hoped that contributions will be even greater this year.

The Century reported 9,612,594 pounds of clothing, food and miscellaneous supplies, including medicines, sent overseas, as well as \$966,737 in cash. The help went to Korea, Japan, Okinawa, India, Palestine and central European countries.

In addition, \$562,192 was sent to the World Council of Churches for use in helping churches and refugees in distress, Century reports, and another \$203,949 was allocated to missionaries abroad.

The article in Christian Century points out that although church people can well be proud of this giving, it was done without any real sacrifice. "We acknowledge that the needs of other millions were unmet, even though most Americans ate more than was good for them, had closets full of clothes they seldom wore and complained of hardships while they lived as only the very rich live in other countries," the article declared. "The return of the One Great Hour of Sharing offers a welcome opportunity to improve the record of 1951."

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Defense Shelter Teams for Civil Defense Planned

Formation of teams to provide food and shelter for victims of disaster—particularly that resulting from enemy action—was discussed at a meeting held in the courthouse Friday evening.

The Jackson County Civil Defense organization has been asked to train several such teams to be able to go wherever and whenever they are needed in the state.

New Street Signs Going Up in City

Vernon Thorpe, city public works superintendent, reported Saturday that crews installing the 550 new metal street signs in Medford should have the work completed in about 10 days. Installation work began last Monday.

Thorpe said a number of the posts are being moved into positions where stop signs also can be attached to them. Three crews are working. One is moving the posts, another is welding on an adapter or joint for the new sign, and the third is putting the signs on the posts.

For the most part work at each sign location is being completed on the same day on which the first crew does its work. There is no cause for alarm, Thorpe said, when the first crew leaves the old signs at what appears to be an odd angle, for the other crews will be along shortly. There have been several calls to the city hall because of misunderstanding, he reported.

The first record of an earthquake in California deals with one in the San Diego area in 1769.

The county Red Cross chapter is cooperating in the project by furnishing trained workers for many posts, and in training others.

Two of the "mass shelter" units are to come from Medford, one from Ashland, and a half team to be comprised of Jacksonville and Central Point people.

Chiefs Told
Mrs. Blanche D. Lyman is director of the department of aid and welfare, and serving under her as section chiefs are Mrs. Ethel Tennant, registration and information; Robert A. Elliott, mass care; Lou Cranston, evacuation and Harold B. Cook, emergency welfare.

Dr. D. Kirkland West, of the First Presbyterian church, is acting as the shelter manager in the initial organization. There are 46 in each team, including shelter manager, two assistants, one head cook, nine cooks, and ten food handlers; two nurse's aides and two first-aiders; six

staff aids for registration; two recreationists, two case workers, six social welfare aides, and three maintenance men to arrange for emergency plumbing, lighting, and other facilities.

Workers Needed
The important need now is for trained personnel in these fields to head the initial organization, and help train others, workers said. Anyone having had training or experience in the activities listed and who would be available to go with the team on call is asked to get in touch with Dr. West or Mrs. Lyman. It was pointed out that each team will be organized and trained to care for 1,000 people in case of emergency.

WAIT FOR ALDON!



Hear Rev. E. J. Aschenbrenner
Pastor St. Paul's Church, Spokane, Wash.

SUNDAY at 11:00 A.M. and 7:30 P.M.
Each Evening Next Week at 7:45

SUNDAY: 11:00—"God Made Us"
7:30—"God Redeems Us"
9:45 A.M.—Sunday School
6:30 P.M.—Youth Meetings

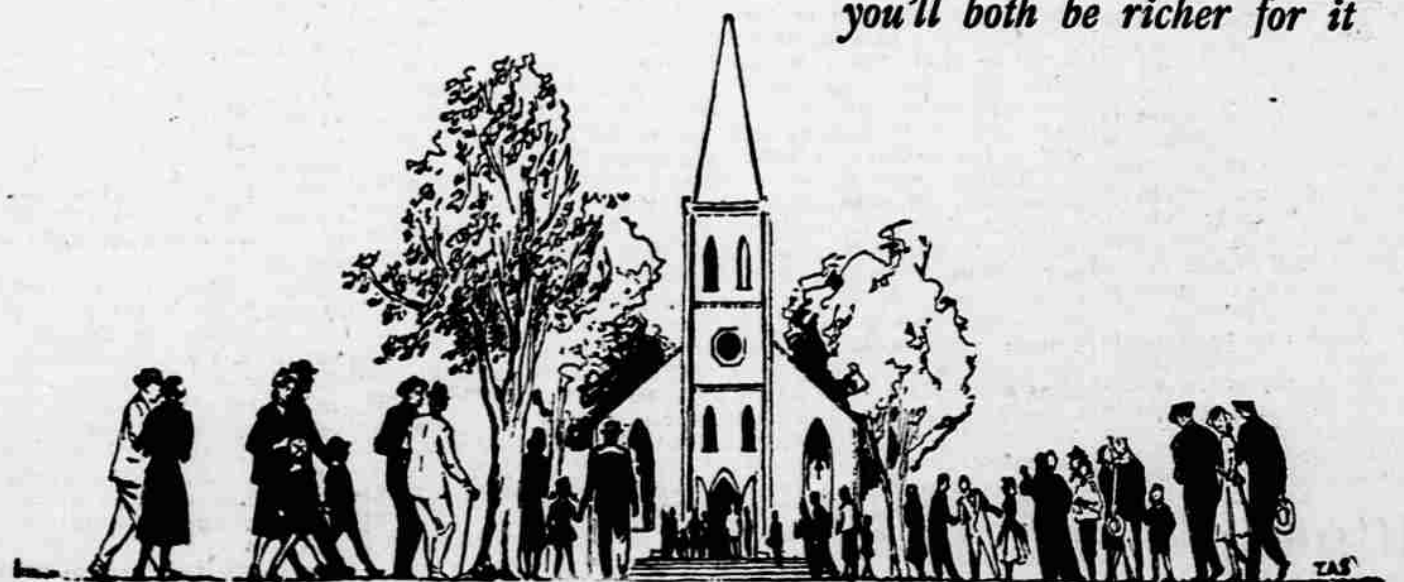
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