

Philosophy of Juvenile Court Reviewed; Code Changes Noted

Editor's note: This is another in a series of articles written by Mrs. Kay Crowell, Jackson county juvenile officer, concerning the new juvenile code which becomes effective Jan. 1.)

By MRS. KAY CROWELL, County Juvenile Officer
To understand the new Juvenile Code of Oregon, it is necessary to go back to the beginning of the juvenile court and to the philosophy which has always set it apart from other courts.

Juvenile courts made their formal appearance in the United States in 1899. Fundamentally they were designed to provide a "wise and understanding parent" for those children whose parents had failed, for whatever cause, to assume the responsibilities of parenthood. The juvenile court also recognized from the first that children cannot be expected to use mature judgment in making decisions until they reach the age of maturity.

Consequently, in the role of the understanding parent, the juvenile court does not consider the offenses of a minor as crimes, and the assumption of wardship by the juvenile court is not a conviction of a crime.

The juvenile court undertakes to correct and redirect immature youth toward the acceptance of responsibility for his acts, and the acceptance of duly constituted authority, toward a goal of good citizenship, rather than meting out punishment to suit the offense. The juvenile

court also assumes that society is responsible for the delinquency of its youth, rather than the concept that a minor must "pay his debt to society" which is applied to offenders of mature years.

Likewise in the role of the understanding parent, the juvenile court seeks to provide privacy for the correction of a youthful offender, as his own family would do, in order that his future life may not be handicapped by results of youthful misdeeds. Juvenile offenders appearing before the juvenile court are considered as individuals, and the court's social work staff provides the court with background material about the child, his family, community and offense in order that the court may decide which plan is best suited to the needs of normal development and training for each particular child.

Any parent will tell you that each of his children differs from his brothers and sisters and that discipline effective for one has little or no value with another one. After the juvenile court hearing, the court counselor augments the court's work and plan by counseling with the child and his parents to help the child's adjustment toward stable, responsible and tax-paying adult citizenship.

The primary function of the juvenile court is the correction of children brought before it. Although the general public sometimes believes that delinquency prevention should be the court's responsibility, it remains the responsibility of the community to initiate and put into effect those social changes which would prevent juvenile delinquency, while juvenile courts and their staff participate and provide guidance in delinquency prevention programs as a secondary function of the juvenile court.

With this general statement of philosophy of the juvenile courts, why do the juvenile courts of Oregon and the personnel in related fields consider the new Juvenile Code an improvement over the old?

In the first place contradictions arising from piecemeal legislation for the past 52 years have been eliminated. A greater degree of uniformity of juvenile justice should prevail throughout the state. All juveniles involved in difficulty and who are under the age of 18 years henceforth must receive the attention of a court which makes the problems of minors its primary concern, a court which the new code designates as "a court of record, exercising jurisdiction as court of general and equitable jurisdiction and not as a court of limited and inferior jurisdiction" and a court to which is given "exclusive original jurisdiction" in any case involving a person who is under 18 years of age, and (1) who has committed any violation of law; (2) who is beyond the control of his parents; (3) whose behavior or condition is such as to endanger his own welfare or the welfare of others; (4) who has run away from his home; (5) or whose parents have abandoned him, failed to provide him with the support or education required by law, subjected him to cruelty, or failed to provide him with the care, guidance and protection necessary for his physical, mental or emotional well-being.

It is interesting to contrast these five all-encompassing reasons for which the juvenile court may take jurisdiction of a minor with the 19 provisions for court jurisdiction under the old code which attempted to outline specific conditions and situations—for example, "a minor found in any disorderly house, bawdy house, or house of ill-fame," or "a minor found gathering or begging alms."

JACKSONVILLE Garden Club Meets

By BETTE HOSKINS
Jacksonville - The Jacksonville Garden club met in the Community hall Nov. 17, with the guest speaker, Mrs. Montella Freeland, giving a talk on soil testing.

Guests at the meeting were Mrs. Ona Paul and Mrs. John Keaveny. Mrs. R. T. Nichol and Mrs. Paul Godward served.

An article "Weeds Are Friends" was read by Mrs. Arthur Roberts. It was announced that on Dec. 2 members are to meet at Mrs. Ray Coleman's to help make Christmas decorations. Plans were made to send three members to Camp White Dec. 15 to assist in making wreaths. The next meeting will be held at 10 a.m. Dec. 17 at the Community hall. Members will be instructed in corsage making. Members are requested to take a snack lunch. The annual Christmas party and gift exchange will be held that afternoon.

Mrs. Lewis Applebaker and Mrs. Arthur Roberts attended the reception held recently to welcome the newly appointed Jackson county librarian, Omar Bacon.

Recent guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Noble were Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Ebbert of Auburn, Calif. Mrs. Ebbert is inspecting officer for the Department Association Ladies Auxiliary to the Patriotic Militant of California. She and Mrs. Noble were girlhood friends.

Mrs. Lois Fretwell and daughter Joan spent the Thanksgiving holiday here at the homes of relatives. Mrs. Fretwell is teaching in Blue River, and Miss Fretwell is attending the University of

Oregon at Eugene. Their home here on South Oregon st. was recently rented to the H. A. Hogan family of Sterling Creek.

Mrs. Jean Hewlett and daughter Hollie spent the Thanksgiving holiday in Yreka at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Art Henig.

Thanksgiving Day guests at the home of Mrs. Fay Peters and son Leland were Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Lakey and Mrs. Edna Kenney of Drain, Ore.

Grant Todd of San Diego, a former resident in this area, was a recent valley visitor. While here he attended Friendship night of Adarell Chapter of Eastern Star in Jacksonville. In 1941 Todd served as worthy patron of the order with Mrs. Fay Peters as worthy matron.

Thanksgiving Day dinner guests at the Milton James home were Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Noble and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hoskins.

The new American Legion post, to be known as Jacksonville Centennial Post No. 100, will hold its charter opening Friday, Dec. 4 at the Community hall at 8:30 p.m. with a smorgasbord. Veterans who are eligible to become legionnaires are invited to attend and bring their wives. Lester Watts of Jacksonville has been appointed temporary commander by State Commander Fred Bennett. The post at present has 45 members.

EDUCATOR DIES
New York—UPI—Mrs. Clara S. Ling, 65, an educator and wife of a former Chinese Nationalist minister plenipotentiary in Cuba, died Tuesday.

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A supreme value! Single needle tailored imports. Handsome long sleeved shirts in wash 'n' wear Everglaze Minicare® combed cotton dobby, sateen prints; brushed rayon plaids, solids, too. S-M-L-XL.



Colorful leather-look VINYL coats
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Water-shedding, stain, fade resistant vinyl cleans with soapy cloth. Blue, gold, white, blue, beige and black. 8-18.



Girls' nylon dresses with petticoats
5.98

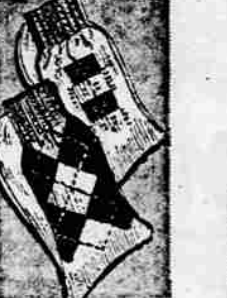
Elegant sheers for her gay holiday parties. Pick exciting pastels, flocked polka dots, lace, posy trims. 3 to 6x. 3.98



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SALE! Men's cotton argyles
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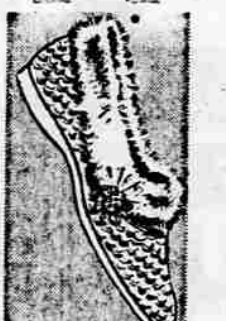
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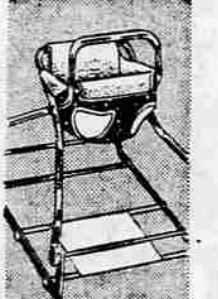
Why pay \$250? AIRLINE 21" console TV
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Fine local and suburban viewing. 90-day service. Mahogany finish.



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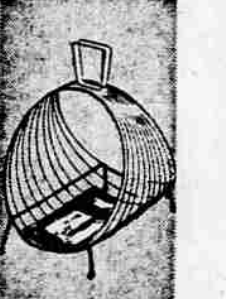
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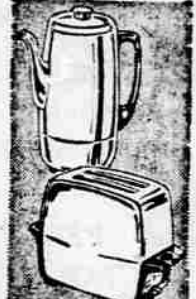
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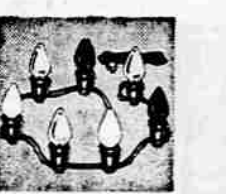
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