

ly every farmer had a barrel of cider on his porch. One old farmer used to take particular delight in entertaining the old fellow. He would let him drink as long as he wanted to, and on one occasion he drank until he toppled over and the old farmer chuckled and said, "I always knew them steps of mine did need fixing." The old fellow thought of course they were what had caused his fall. Stories of that kind told by people who are not telling them for any purpose, simply talking about old times and memories, certainly give a good picture of the mentality of these individuals, taken in conjunction with what we know of their descendants. Four of his children, Old Moll, Old Sow, Old Kate and Jane bear a description in the neighborhood that makes their classification certain with their children who are living today.

Dr. Fernald: We are glad that Miss Kite is not on our trail.

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## REVIEWS AND NOTICES

The Delinquent Child and the Home. SOPHONSBA P. BRECKINRIDGE, Ph. D., and EDITH ABBOTT, Ph. D., *Directors of the Department of Social Investigation, Chicago School of Civics and Philanthropy, with an Introduction by Julia Lathrop, Chief of the Federal Children's Bureau, New York. Charities Publication Committee, 1912.*

This book gives the results of an exhaustive study of juvenile delinquency in Cook County, Illinois. The juvenile court records furnished part of the data. This was supplemented by a more careful study of the homes and families of 584 boys admitted to the court during 1903, and of 361 girls of the State Training School. In these family studies the homes were visited, and all the information gathered that was possible by interviewing and observation. The analysis of these data is given in ten chapters, arranged and dis-

cussed from the standpoint of the conditions that lead to delinquency. The delinquent child is defined as the one who violates the law, is incorrigible, associates with vicious persons, grows up in idleness and crime or frequents disorderly gaming houses. Separate studies of the dependent or neglected child, and of truants, not attending school in accordance with the school attendance laws, are planned. The last 163 pages of the book are given over to six appendices on the following topics: "1. Legal problems involved in the establishment of the juvenile court. 2. Testimony of Judge Meritt W. Pinckney. 3. Abstract of juvenile court laws. 4. Family paragraphs relating to the delinquency of 100 boys. 5. Family paragraphs relating to the delinquency of 50 girls. 6. Copies of schedules used in the inquiry." The book is replete with statistical tables and concrete illustrations of the points and problems discussed. The two appendices on "family paragraphs," describing the conditions surrounding the delinquent child in the case of 100 boys and 50 girls are particularly instructive by way of giving concrete facts.

For 11,413 boys and 2,770 girls the ages at the time of their appearance in court shows that two-thirds of the delinquent boys are 12-15 years old, and 38 per cent of the girls are 16-17 years. The percentage belonging to the different ages are as follows:

Age	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Boys	.4	.9	3.2	6.3	13.0	14.6	18.6	22.0	9.6	0.2	0	
Girls	.2	.5	.9	1.8	2.5	4.4	7.3	15.5	26.3	23.8	14.2	.5

The difference between boys and girls is explained as being in part due to the fact that in the case of the girls the offense so frequently takes the form of immorality—sex offense. Going to work makes the boy tend to "settle down" while for the girl it often means the beginning of temptation. Classifying the cases according to the nature of the offense gives the following per-

	Boys	Girls
Stealing	50.8	15.0
Incorrigibility	21.7	42.8
Disorderly Conduct	16.2	6.7
Malicious Mischief	6.5	0.2
Vagrancy	2.3	0.1
Immorality	1.6	31.4
Dependent Charges	0.8	3.3
Truancy	0.7	0.0
Miscellaneous Offenses	1.4	0.1
Not Given	0.0	0.4

Here it is seen that stealing far outranks the other offenses in frequency with the boys, while incorrigibility and immorality out-rank the others with girls.

The children of foreign parents are more frequently delinquent than are those of American parents. Chicago has over thirty-six different nationali-

ties, with a foreign born population of over 500,000, and over 700,000 born of foreign born. Of the married population,

18 per cent	are born of native white parents,
23 per cent	are native born of foreign parents,
57 per cent	are foreign born,
2 per cent	are colored.

The court records and also the more accurate data of the family studies show that the parents of delinquent children are more frequently foreign than the percentage of foreign parents in general alone would indicate. Of 392 fathers and 389 mothers of delinquent children in the family studies the following percentages indicate the facts:

	Fathers	Mothers
Native white	13.9	12.3
Native born of foreign born	7.7	11.8
Foreign born	67.1	66.6
Negro	4.3	4.0
Unknown	7.0	5.3

Ninety per cent of the immigrants are fifteen years or over at the time they come to America. Sixty-four per cent of the foreign fathers of delinquents and sixty-nine per cent of the foreign mothers in the family studies are rural people, living in the country or small towns of Europe before emigrating. The authors, however, warn against the conclusion that the children of foreign parents are worse than the children of native born parents. American and European customs, standards of living, ideals of family life, and ideas of right and wrong often conflict. The Americanization of the foreign parent is often a slow process, especially in the case of the foreign born emigrating after he has grown up. The children are in a sense held to a double standard. They learn the American manners and customs in school, on the street, and in the factory, while European standards of life are strictly maintained by the parents in the home. The foreign parent also does not appreciate the dangers surrounding his child, or does not know how to protect him when he does know.

A close relation seems to exist between poverty in the home and delinquency of children. The families were divided into four classes on the basis of the amount of work done by the father, the standards of living, and the question as to whether the mother was a wage earner, as follows: 1. Very poor. 2. Poor. 3. Fairly comfortable circumstances. 4. Quite comfortable circumstances. The percentage of children whose parents came under these classes were distributed as follows:

	Boys	Girls
Group 1	38.2	68.8
Group 2	37.9	21.0
Group 3	21.2	7.6
Group 4	1.7	1.3
No home	1.0	1.3

These are results of 584 boys and 157 girls in the family studies. It appears that the girls are from poorer families than the boys, but it must be remembered that the girls were inmates of the Training School, and also that eighty per cent of the girls' offenses was immorality. Early employment of the children to earn money is the main result of poverty ending in delinquency, especially in the case of girls and immorality. The causes of early employment are real need, ignorance of parents, degradation or avarice of parents. About one-fourth of the mothers of the boys were wage earners.

Orphanage and homelessness are the next factors in delinquency considered. The child may not be in the care of its parents through death of one or both parents, divorce, desertion, insanity, imprisonment, or failure to immigrate. Of 11,413 cases in the court records, thirty-one per cent of the boys and forty-seven per cent of the girls had lost one or both parents in one of these several ways. In the family study data these percentages were forty-three per cent and seventy-seven for boys and girls respectively. The child may receive inadequate care because of an overcrowded home, step-parents, or early marriages. The family may be too large for each child to receive adequate attention, or the younger may be left in custody of the oldest. Remarriages of one or both parents may cause a mixed family of children as well as a large one. The youthful inexperience of young parents may lead to inadequate training of the child. In the family study data, fourteen per cent of the boys and twenty-three per cent of the girls had step-parents. Of 404 fathers and 430 mothers the following percentages show their age at the time of marriage.

	Fathers	Mothers
Under 16 . . . . .	.0	5.6
16-17. . . . .	.17	14.4
18-19. . . . .	.17	20.2
20-24. . . . .	41.8	46.1
25-29. . . . .	33.9	10.2
30 and over . . . . .	14.9	3.5

There is a considerable connection between school grade and attendance and delinquency. Seventy-two per cent of the boys in the family studies were behind grade in their school work, calling the first grade normal for seven-year-old children. Seventy-three per cent left school at the age of fourteen or earlier; the law requires attendance to fourteen years. One-fourth of the delinquent boys under fourteen were staying away from school. They leave school because the parents require their wages. Half the delinquent boys were so at the age of 14-16 years. Ninety per cent of 705 delinquent girls were behind in their school grade. The homes of the delinquent boys were located on the city map. This shows that delinquency comes chiefly from the densely populated sections, the most conspicuous centers of delinquency being in a tenement and lodging house district between two branches of a river and between "wide and unsightly stretches of railroad tracks, and enclosed by a dense, semi-circular belt-line of manufacturing and commercial plants." Other

centers of delinquency are in the Italian quarters, and in the district of segregated vice. Only fifty-four per cent of 832 boys were within half a mile of a park or playground.

The data so far given might lead one to suppose that children of the poor are more seriously delinquent than those of the well-to-do. But the authors conclude to the contrary that, "Bad children in good homes are for the most part disciplined at home or 'sent to school,' while bad children in poor homes get into the juvenile court." The bad boy is not always the product of poverty or misfortune. "It should be pointed out here, perhaps, in conclusion that in the preceding chapters no attempt has been made to charge up against the home or the community all of the offenses of the delinquent children of the court. It is only too obvious that when all the explaining is done, there remain a considerable number of bad boys who cannot be explained away."

This part of the book closes with a chapter on "Some aspects of the problem of treatment." The delinquent child is the neglected child, but the child is not the unit with which the court deals. It is the family. From the standpoint of treatment, families may be divided into several classes. 1. Families in which the conditions in the home are favorable and the parents understand the child's delinquency and are willing to co-operate with the court. 2. Families in which the conditions in the home or neighborhood make co-operation impossible, as in the case of the widowed or deserted mother going out to work. The ideals of the home may be good, but misfortune requires a sacrifice of the children. 3. Families in which the child is being sacrificed or exploited because his needs are not understood or are disregarded. 4. Families in comfortable homes and not outwardly degraded, but often with marital difficulties or "some diseased spot in the family life, affecting all the children." 5. Families in which there is drunkenness, immorality, crime, filth, and opposition to court aid. The authors conclude that "The most important lesson to be learned from any study of the juvenile court in its relation to the delinquent child is that the only way of curing delinquency is to prevent it. As the community comes to understand the obligation which rests upon it to abolish the causes of delinquency one may hope that new methods of conservation will be advised to take the place of the old waste of child life."

Faribault, Minnesota.

F. KUHLMANN.

## NEWS AND NOTES

Professor E. G. Titus of the Utah Agricultural College and Agricultural Experiment Station, Logan, Utah, is conducting a course in eugenics at the Utah Agricultural College. Thirty-eight students were enrolled during the year. This is in addition to the class in Principles of Heredity and Evolution in which there are seventy-five enrolled. The permanent residence for