

*E. Speeders Court.*—This is a Traffic Court dealing with all cases of highway travel.

There was formerly a Night Court, but it ran into certain abuses and was dropped.

One Judge sits in each Court daily except Sunday, as may be assigned and directed by the Chief Justice.

Sittings are all public by law.

The outstanding feature of the criminal side of the Municipal Court is its Psychopathic Department and Laboratory. This has been developed by Dr. Hickson under Chief Justice Olson, and the object is to ascertain the mental status of any accused person about whose responsibility there is a question. It is claimed that, under what is known as the Binet tests, it can be determined within an hour whether or not a person is of unsound or unbalanced mind. Chief Justice Olson believes as a result of the investigations that crime and disease are much confused, and nearly all persons who commit burglaries and crimes of violence are unsound and also 75 per cent. of all criminals. The depressing statement is made that there is no hope of recovery, and the only thing to do is to place persons so found in a home where they may be useful and not dangerous. A full statement on this subject is contained in the Municipal Court report herewith.

One of the intelligent officials at Bridewell prison, who has been in daily contact with several hundred prisoners there for fourteen years, told me that he did not consider many or really any of the prisoners mentally unsound but morally bad, and he persisted in this expression after I reminded him of the work of the Psychopathic Laboratory under Dr. Hickson and Chief Justice Olson. See, however, further on, the opinion of the Deputy Superintendent of the House of Conviction in Detroit that 75 per cent. of the prisoners are not normal, being psychopathic, drug addicts, feeble-minded or insane. I cannot say over what period his observations have extended.

2. *The Juvenile Court of Cook County.*—Established 1st June, 1899.

A branch of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

Dealing with boys ten to seventeen and girls ten to eighteen, about 6,000 cases yearly.

The Judge is assigned from Circuit Court Judges.

The present Judge is Victor P. Arnold. He is assisted by Miss Barteleme, an Attorney who has power to investigate but not adjudicate.

As in the Domestic Relations Court a large proportion of the cases are settled by Miss Barteleme and staff without legal process.

Boys and girls are never sent to gaol, but first if arrested, to a Detention Home, and if not given probation are sent to private or Public Homes, but always, if possible, in preference to private homes.

The Public Homes are the St. Charles for boys and the Geneva for girls. They are referred to as Training Schools.

Plans are out now for a new Juvenile Court Building, which will contain the Courts, staff, Probation officers and Detention Homes.

There is a Juvenile Psychopathic Institute of Cook County under the Court. Also a Child Placing Division of the Probation Department.

The Rotary Club of Chicago acts in conjunction with the Juvenile Court in procuring employment for boys who have been brought into Court, in fact a Rotary Club officer attends at each sitting. This has proved highly successful,