

Infants Act and the Industrial Schools Act (both boys and girls). The age at which girls may be sent to the Industrial School has been raised to eighteen. This does not mean that all delinquent girls up to this age should be sent there, but if in the opinion of the magistrate there is any likelihood of reform the erring girl, though over sixteen, may be committed there rather than to the Provincial Jail. (Chap. 29, 1917.)

Until recently child offenders, where there was no Juvenile Court and Detention Home, had to be taken in the police court, but among the new sections of the Juvenile Court Act are those providing that upon written request of the Attorney-General any person may act in any specified case as a Judge of the Juvenile Court, and any house or home be declared by him to be a detention home. The Judge may ask some person to act as a voluntary probation officer. Thus in a day may be created the whole machinery of a Juvenile Court, giving the child the full benefit of being dealt with, under the Juvenile Delinquents Act, not as a criminal, but as an "erring and misguided child, needing encouragement," as the Act states. After the case is decided the machinery may vanish as quickly as it came into existence. So today no child need be tried in a police court of British Columbia if its older fellow-citizens will but interest themselves sufficiently to communicate with the Attorney-General's Department. The Act provides also for the appointment of women as Judges. (Chap. 20, 1918.)

Under the amendments to the Industrial Schools Act the charge of "incurability," so often thrown as a cloak of charity over the childish delinquent, may now be laid by probation officers, forcing weak or immoral parents to come under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court in order that the erring or misguided child may be protected as a "ward of the Court."

Investigation has shown that over 50 per cent. of the boys in the Industrial School are mentally deficient, and it has been decided to establish an institution for these feeble-minded children at Essondale, where they will be given vocational