

Extracts of Report of T. Mayne Daly, Juvenile Court Judge.

WORKING OF THE JUVENILE COURT ACT.

The outstanding features of the Act are : First: The Detention Home ; Second : The Probation Officer; and Thirdly : The Juvenile Court itself.

Instead of children being taken to the Police Station and locked up in cells, they are taken to the Detention Home, where everything is so homelike and unprison-like, that the child is not terrorized and frightened half to death. Instead of being locked up in cells or wardrooms they are put into comfortable bedrooms, first being scrubbed and cleansed. And, judging from appearances, some of those who have been brought to our Detention Home have had the first bath they have ever taken since they were born. Fancy the difference in the feeling of a child who has had a bath and been put into clean clothes and had wholesome food given to it, and then been put into a clean bed, as compared with the old regime when the child was locked up in a prison cell, unwashed and with only a rough bed to lie on, and fed on prison fare, and in these strange and, to its childish mind, awful surroundings left to sob itself to sleep! The influence for the betterment of the child must surely be with our present mode of treatment.

The fact that I have only been called upon to send eight boys to the Industrial Home during the year is a strong argument in favor of the new procedure. It indicates that the rest of the boy delinquents have been so impressed and influenced by the treatment meted out to them that they have not repeated their offence, and run the risk of the Reformatory.

The selection of Staff-Captain McAmmond of the Salvation Army, and his capable, gentle, and child-loving wife, to take charge of the Detention Home, was a very happy one. No people could fill the trying and responsible position better than they do. The Christian-like, sympathetic, influence that surrounds the children in the Home cannot fail to be beneficial. Several children of both sexes have been held in the Home from