

cost of the proceedings as the court thinks reasonable, and, if the offender is under the age of sixteen years, and it appears to the court that the parent or guardian of the offender has conduced to the commission of the offence, the court may under and in accordance with the Youthful Offenders Act, 1901, order payment of such damages and costs by such parent or guardian.

A recognisance under this Act may contain such additional conditions as the court may, having regard to the particular circumstances of the case, order to be inserted therein with respect to all or any of the following matters:

(a) For prohibiting the offender from associating with thieves and other undesirable persons, or from frequenting undesirable places;

(b) As to the abstention of intoxicating liquor, where the offence was drunkenness or an offence committed under the influence of drink;

(c) Generally for securing that the offender should lead an honest and industrious life;

(2) The court by which a probation order is made shall furnish to the offender a notice in writing stating in simple terms the conditions he is required to observe:

(3) Probation officers—(1) There may be appointed as probation officer or officers for a petty sessional division such person or persons of either sex as the authority having power to appoint a clerk to the justices of that division may determine, and a probation officer when acting under a probation order, shall be subject to the control of petty sessional courts for the division for which he is so appointed.

Then there are provisions for release, and provisions in case offenders fail to observe the conditions of release. As a matter of fact, the British Act covers in a great measure the same ground that is covered by the draft Bill now before the House. I have been furnished a copy of the Bill which is now before the Imperial Parliament, and which by this time may have been adopted. The title of it is:

'An Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to children and young persons, reformatory and industrial schools and juvenile offenders, and otherwise to amend the law with respect to children and young persons.'

I find that by this Bill the Imperial Parliament is invited to go still further and to practically adopt a measure similar to those adopted in some twenty different states in the United States of America.

The Bill now before the British parliament provides:

#### Juvenile Offenders.

89. Where a person apparently under the age of sixteen is apprehended with or without warrant, and cannot be brought forthwith before a court of summary jurisdiction, a superintendent or inspector of police, or other

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officer of police of equal or superior rank, or the officer in charge of the police station to which such person is brought, shall inquire into the case and may in any case, and shall—

(a) unless the charge is one of homicide or other grave crime; or

(b) unless it is necessary in the interest of such person to remove him from association with reputed criminals or prostitutes; or

(c) unless the officer has reason to believe that the release of such person would defeat the ends of justice, release such person on a recognisance with or without sureties for such an amount as will, in the opinion of the officer secure the attendance of such person upon the hearing of the charge, being entered into by him or by his parent or guardian.

90. Where a person has apparently under the age of sixteen having been apprehended is not released as aforesaid, the officer of police shall cause him to be detained in a place of detention provided under this Act until he can be brought before a court of summary jurisdiction, unless the officer certifies—

(a) that it is impracticable to do so; or  
(b) that he is of so unruly a character that he cannot be safely so detained; or

(c) that by reason of his state of health or of his mental or bodily condition it is inadvisable to so detain him.

91. A court of summary jurisdiction on remanding or committing for trial a child or young person who is not released on bail, shall, instead of committing him to prison, commit him to custody in a place of detention provided under this part of this Act and named in the commitment to be there detained for the period for which he is remanded or until he is there delivered in due course of law.

93. (1) Where a child or young person is charged before any court with any offence for the commission of which a fine, damages, or costs may be imposed, and the court is of opinion that the case would be best met by the imposition of a fine, damages or costs, whether with or without any other punishment, the court may in any case, and shall, if the offender is a child, order that the fine, damages or costs awarded be paid by the parent or guardian of the child or young person, instead of by the child or young person, unless the court is satisfied that the parent or guardian cannot be found or that he has not conduced to the commission of the offence by neglecting to exercise due care of the child or young person.

(2) Where a child or young person is charged with any offence the court may order his parent or guardian to give security for his good behaviour.

(3) Where a court of summary jurisdiction thinks that a charge against a child or young person is proved the court may make an order on the parent or guardian under this section for the payment of damages or costs or requiring him to give security for good behaviour without proceeding to the conviction of the child or young person.

As I said a moment ago, we cannot get a better example than the British parliament. We know they are always careful especially as far as legislation is concerned,