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SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT
of the
TEXAS
STATE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
to the
GOVERNOR

FISCAL YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1955



Walter K. Kerr, Chairman
Lewis Nordyke, Vice Chairman
John H. Winters, Executive Secretary

Harold J. Matthews
Director of Institutions

James A. Turman
Consultant, Juvenile Delinquency

Sixth Annual Report

Texas

State Youth Development Council

to the

Governor

Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 1955

A brief report of the program and activities of the Texas Youth Development Council and the institutions under its supervision: the Gatesville State School for Boys, the Gainesville State School for Girls, and the State School for Negro Girls at Crockett.

Walter K. Kerr, Chairman

Lewis Nordyke, Vice-Chairman

John H. Winters, Executive Secretary

Harold J. Matthews
Director of Institutions

James A. Turman
Consultant, Juvenile Delinquency

Herman Sapier, Superintendent
Gatesville State School for Boys

Maxine Burlingham, Superintendent
Gainesville State School for Girls

Emma G. Harrell, Acting Superintendent
State School for Negro Girls, Crockett

State Youth Development Council
808 Tribune Building, Austin, Texas

Membership

Texas State Youth Development Council

Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 1955

Lay Members (Appointed by Governor)

Reverend Walter K. Kerr, Tyler, Texas

Lewis Nordyke, Amarillo, Texas

W. D. Whalen, McAllen, Texas

Reverend Paul J. Ehlinger, San Antonio, Texas

Louis Henna, Round Rock, Texas

Leslie Jackson, Dallas, Texas

Ex-Officio Members (By Virtue of House Bill 705,
51st Legislature, Regular Session)

John H. Winters, Executive Director
State Department of Public Welfare

Dr. Henry A. Holle, State Health Officer
State Health Department

Colonel Homer Garrison, Jr., Director
Texas Department of Public Safety

C. F. McAuliff, Chairman
State Board of Control

Gordon K. Shearer, Executive Secretary
Texas State Parks Board

Weldon Hart, Chairman
Texas Employment Commission

Dr. James A. Bethea, Executive Director
Board for Texas State Hospitals and Special Schools

Dr. J. W. Edgar, Commissioner of Education
Texas Education Agency

WALTER K. KERR
CHAIRMAN-TYLER

JOHN H. WINTERS
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



HAROLD J. MATTHEWS
DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONS

JAMES A. TURMAN
CONSULTANT
JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

STATE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
808 TRIBUNE BUILDING
AUSTIN 1, TEXAS

December 8, 1955

Honorable Allan Shivers
Governor of Texas
Austin, Texas

Dear Governor Shivers:

Attached is a brief report of the work of the Texas Youth Development Council and the institutions it administers for the fiscal year ended August 31, 1955.

While our resources have been limited and the demands for services great, we have made every effort to meet the problems of delinquency in Texas and help the courts and communities.

We are pleased to submit this sixth annual report of the operations of the Youth Council, and we wish to express our appreciation for the help and interest shown by yourself, the Legislature, the various state departments and agencies, and the people of Texas.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter K. Kerr
Walter K. Kerr
Chairman

John H. Winters
John H. Winters
Executive Secretary

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THE TEXAS STATE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Organization

In 1949, the Texas Legislature enacted the law which created the State Youth Development Council. It is composed of fourteen members, six of whom are citizens appointed by the Governor, and eight of whom are heads of various state departments. One member of the Council is designated Chairman and one is Vice-Chairman. There is an executive committee composed of the Executive Secretary, the Chairman, and Vice-Chairman. The Executive Secretary of the Council, who is also Director of the State Department of Public Welfare, is the administrative head of the Council.

The Fifty-fourth Legislature amended the Act creating the Youth Development Council by eliminating five of the ex-officio members. Beginning on September 6, 1955, the Council will have nine members instead of fourteen. There will be six lay members appointed by the Governor and three ex-officio members. The ex-officio members will be the Executive Director of the State Department of Public Welfare, the Director of the Department of Public Safety, and the Chairman of the Texas Employment Commission. The Executive Director of the Department of Public Welfare remains the administrative head of the Council. The amended Act also provides for the appointment of advisory members over the State.

Program of the Council

The Act creating the Youth Development Council places two broad responsibilities on the Council--one relating to the administration of the State Training Schools and children committed to the State, and the other relating to work with courts, social agencies, and civic organizations in the counties on the prevention of delinquency and improvement of methods and facilities for handling children who get in trouble.

The staff of the Youth Council is too small to meet all the mandates of the law. Emphasis must necessarily be placed on (1) administering the Training Schools and (2) taking care of problems related to the placement and supervision of children released from the Schools.

These duties come first and every effort has been made to keep the Schools operating smoothly and efficiently. The Council staff has maintained a very close and intimate relationship with the Schools in every phase of their work:

1. Selection and training of personnel.
2. Release and discharge of children.
3. Orientation of new children.
4. Education and program activities.
5. Public relations.
6. Inventories and care of property.
7. Processing of all business documents.
8. Decisions on budgetary matters and proper use of funds.
9. Decisions relating to repairs and remodeling, and planning new structures.
10. Maintaining statistics and reports on population, intake, and release.

The improvements in the Training Schools and the greatly improved attitude of the public, especially the courts and probation departments, toward the Schools and the use of them, have fully justified the time and hard work involved.

The Council has no field staff, no branch offices, no one in the various population centers to help discharge its legal responsibilities and conduct its business. This means that the Council must depend upon the generous help and cooperation of other agencies, especially the State Welfare Department and the probation offices.

In the larger population centers, the Council depends upon the probation departments to supply all social history information, to receive and supervise all children released from the Schools, to decide when paroles are broken, send in regular reports, etc. In counties where there are no probation officers, staff members of the State Welfare Department provide this service.

It is important that the Council maintain contact with these offices. A great deal is necessarily done by correspondence and telephone, but visits to the larger counties are absolutely necessary. The Council has tried to meet all requests for help and service, but with such a small staff this is obviously impossible.

Through conferences, correspondence, meetings with committees, distribution of literature and information, the staff has tried to help with local problems, improvement of probation services, establishment of probation services where needed, budgets of probation departments, recruitment of personnel, decisions on unusual cases, and to maintain necessary contact with other state agencies.

The Council cannot do a good job without maintaining contact with the Juvenile Court Judges and others legally and morally responsible for children in trouble. This is very difficult to do with such a limited staff.

OUT-OF-STATE PLACEMENTS

In this modern day of easy transportation, it is not difficult to understand that a state agency like the Youth Development Council would have some of its wards go to other states and the wards of other states come to Texas.

By agreement the states help each other, try not to impose on each other, do not send state wards to other states without first clearing and securing permission. The Youth Council is the state-level agency which handles such matters in Texas.

During this fiscal year the Council gave service on 62 cases of boys and girls placed in Texas from 13 different states. They were investigated, supervision arranged, and permission granted.

At the same time, Texas had 70 children in 16 other states, 57 being placed during the year and 13 carried over from the year before. During the year only two of these broke parole and had to be returned to Texas.

STATEWIDE SURVEY OF DELINQUENCY RATE

Although it covers only some of the more obvious phases of the problem, the Council made a survey of the extent of delinquency in Texas for the calendar year of 1954. The findings of this were published in April, 1955. The Council did this by sending questionnaires to the proper county officials and asking them to supply the data. A good many were good enough to comply with this request.

The findings of this survey were both interesting and significant. It confirms earlier predictions that the delinquency rate is rising in the State. The report is summarized below, but the complete document may be secured by writing the Council office in Austin.

One hundred twenty-seven Texas counties (or exactly one-half of the State's total number) participated in the survey. Those 127 counties contained 69% of the Juvenile Court age children of the State. Approximately 13,680 children were referred to the Juvenile Courts at least one time during the year for various delinquent acts, and represents 18 children out of each 1,000 of Juvenile Court age (which is 10 through 17) in the participating counties. The rate in 1953 was 15 per 1,000.

Projecting the current delinquency rate of 18 per 1,000 to include the entire State, we can estimate that about 19,340 children were involved in delinquent acts during 1954. When the first statewide report of the Youth Council was made in 1952, it was predicted that 16,610 children would be referred during 1954. However, this prediction was based on a delinquency rate of 15 per 1,000. An anticipated number of 17,200 referrals in 1955 was predicted, and it may be clearly seen that the rate has already climbed much higher and more rapidly than previously expected.

A few other interesting points gleaned from the survey were:

1. 70% of all Juvenile Court cases were delinquency cases.
2. 85% of all Juvenile Court cases were handled "unofficially" by probation officers, conferences with children and parents, etc. No formal petition for judicial hearing was filed.
3. Boys outnumbered girls in number of referrals by 3 to 1.
4. Law enforcement officers referred 73% of the children.
5. Two-fifths of the children in delinquency cases were detained overnight or longer, and one of every five of those detained was held in a jail or police station.
6. Majority of children handled "officially" were placed on probation; majority of children handled "unofficially" were lectured to and dismissed.

In the analysis of the children committed to the Council, it will be noticed that the above percentages and ratios are about the same.

REPORT ON THE STATE TRAINING SCHOOLS

Due to lack of space we cannot make a complete report and description of each of the State Training Schools. We can only touch on the highlights, list some recent changes and developments.

A detailed financial statement will be supplied anyone who will write in and request it.

The Youth Development Council and the personnel of the State Schools are always happy to have anyone visit the institutions and spend as much time as they wish examining the program and plant. They are your institutions and you have a right and responsibility to know something about them. Only by actual observation can you really know and understand what these institutions are doing and what their needs are.

The Council is particularly eager to have judges and other county officials visit the institutions.

The statistical tables in this report are a complete and very interesting picture of the children committed to the State, touching on various aspects of their lives, families, and cause of their troubles. They are also interesting from the standpoint of comparison with delinquency as a whole in the State or in any particular community. The same patterns are observed, the same causes, sources of referrals, status of family and education.

It must not be forgotten that these State Schools cannot control their intake, cannot say what children they will accept, but must take all within certain broad legal limits. Also that these children represent the failures of our communities, the ones for whom all other resources have been exhausted. Your Training Schools have good average programs, but they cannot perform miracles with children who are already "recidivists."

GATESVILLE STATE SCHOOL FOR BOYS

The Gatesville State School was created by the Legislature in 1887, and occupied in 1889. The first boys admitted were transferred from the penitentiary in Huntsville. Several of the original buildings are still being used. White and Negro boys are admitted if they have been adjudged delinquent and committed to the State by a Juvenile Court. The Gatesville State School is one of the largest institutions of its kind in America, an impressive number of buildings on about 800 acres of land.

This year the big increase in population at the Gatesville State School placed a strain on the staff and facilities. If the population can be kept in the neighborhood of 400, a relaxed atmosphere can be maintained with very limited restrictions and regimentation. When the population goes above this, the difference is apparent. The average population in the Gatesville School this year was 602 and for several months it was well above 650.

Such a large number of boys in the Gatesville School is not good. As the population rises, the effectiveness of the School is lessened. Daily routines automatically become more regimented and individual attention is less and less possible.

With the increase in population and in delinquency, the establishment of another school for boys, one for those who are less experienced and can accept an open setting, should receive serious consideration. The plant at Gatesville could be used for medium and close custody. The State would then be in a position to raze some of the ancient buildings there, which are no longer worth repairing and are not adaptable to modern day programs, and otherwise streamline the set-up.

Another problem at the Gatesville School which concerns the Council is the length of time boys remain there. The average was only 8.8 months this year, and it should be at least 12 months. Such a short time is not long enough to complete a program for a boy. The facilities would have to be increased to allow a longer average residence at the School. During this year, if the population had been kept at less than 450, the average length of time would have been very low.

Among several improvements in program activities at the Gatesville School are the rather obvious ones related to the orientation of new boys and the boys on discipline. Educational movies, handwork, wood working shops, reading material, a garden, landscaping, and interviews with staff members, games, have been provided for the boys in the orientation unit.

A similar program is set up for the boys who have been placed in the "security treatment unit." The old discipline company, which used to be the "bull pen of boredom and intrigue," has been remodeled and made into a regular company. Boys are placed there for temporary discipline. They

now leave the building as other boys and have a regular daily program composed mostly of work, but with some recreation or entertainment. They eat in the regular dining room. The admissions and releases are determined by a regular staff committee. All boys receiving special attention because of behavior or being emotionally disturbed are also given extra counselling time by the case workers.

During this year improvements in the plant continued, but there were no dramatic changes. One of the academic school buildings was repaired and remodeled following a fire. A special appropriation had been made for this.

General painting and repairs continued along with some replacement of old broken beds. All mattresses and pillows were renovated. Many of the old cement floors were tiled. The huge and ancient tables and benches, which have been the sole furnishings of the recreation rooms, were replaced with small tables and chairs and other equipment installed.

Progress was made toward surveying the entire plant to determine the condition of the buildings, the plumbing and wiring, and to decide where new structures should be located.

A great deal of improvement has been made in the last two or three years on the campus of the Gatesville School, but it still needs much, especially in the way of tree and shrub planting, to complete the job.

A year-round project of nursery and greenhouse work would not only provide the necessary labor and plants to keep the grounds beautiful, but would provide a very useful and profitable vocational course. Something along this line is being planned, but a greenhouse building and at least one experienced nursery man on the staff would be required to do the job right.

The problem of health and medical service in the Training Schools is no small part of the total program. A child is not in a training school long, so every effort should be made to improve his health while there. It may well be the only time he has ever received any such attention or any education as to the care of his body.

We haven't reported before on this phase of the work, but will give a few highlights this time. At the Gatesville School, for example, the doctors, nurses, and attendants administered 16,844 "treatments" in the hospital, including 845 bed patients. This, of course, meant that each boy averaged going to the infirmary or doctor more than once. Every single new boy admitted (881) was given a physical examination and a complete record kept.

The medical staff administered 4,469 "tests and shots", which included Wassermans, TB patch, tetanus toxoid, tetanus antitoxin, influenza virus vaccinations, typhoid inoculations, and small pox vaccinations. Chest X-rays were made of 41 boys.

Broken bones were set, cases of asthma treated, surgery and skin grafts to straighten fingers, warts cauterized, appendectomies performed, tonsils treated and removed, cataracts removed.

The small amount of contagious diseases in the Training Schools has always seemed unusual with such large groups of children and such a high turnover. Most of them have passed the measles and whooping cough stage, however. In the Gatesville School 45 cases of trench mouth were treated, 130 bad colds, and 88 cases of influenza. The latter was much greater than usual. There were, for example, only one whooping cough, two pneumonia, one measles, and one Meningitis.

The dentist examined or treated 1,344 patients. There were 48 fillings, 454 extractions, 71 X rays, 44 prophylaxis, 116 treatments, besides the examinations.

The staff and facilities of the School are not sufficient to take care of all medical needs. Other resources in the State must be used from time to time. For example, 11 boys were hospitalized in a local hospital in Gatesville and 10 in Waco. Other treatments and examinations taken care of outside of the School included:

General Surgery.....	8
General Treatment.....	3
Eye Examinations.....	42
Eye Surgery.....	3
Eye Treatment.....	2
Glasses Fitted.....	26
Glasses Repaired.....	27
Plastic Eye Fitted....	1
Orthopedic Surgery....	7
Orthopedic Treatment..	2
Bone Fractures.....	15
Plastic Fillings.....	2
X rays.....	123
Fluoroscope.....	1
Electrocardiogram.....	3

GAINESVILLE STATE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

The Gainesville State School for Girls is located on a 160-acre tract of land just east of Gainesville. Funds for the first buildings was a combination of public and private money. The land was donated by local businessmen. The School was opened September 6, 1916, with an enrollment of 18 girls.

White girls are admitted to this School only through commitment by a Juvenile Court. The capacity of the School is 180, which is now too small.

The completion of the new gymnasium-auditorium at the Gainesville School did more toward providing proper space and facilities for wholesome and educational activities for the girls there than anything that has happened in a long time. Athletics, entertainment, parties, music, singing, movies, and religious services have all been made possible or much easier by having this new facility. It is a center of many activities which no training school should be without.

The fact that all but one of the dormitory buildings are so very vulnerable to fire has continued to be a matter of grave concern to the Council. It has recommended the erection of new, one-story cottages to take the place of the old ones. The Council feels deeply that new, fire-proof cottages should be erected, planned to meet modern-day requirements. The old buildings have served their day and purpose.

Until such buildings could be realized, every effort has been made to anticipate the possibility of fire: new doors on bedrooms, keyed alike; reorganized fire drills and education of staff in the use of equipment and drills; re-wiring of part of the buildings; checked and repaired all fire escapes and fire-fighting equipment; improvement of water system to make sure plenty of water would be available for any sort of fire. Night attendants have been added in order to keep close watch on the dormitory buildings, in case of fire or other disturbance.

The situation has and is being improved to the fullest extent of the School's resources; but the fact remains that the old buildings are not in good condition, are largely made of wood except the main outside walls, and are two and three stories high.

During this year the Gainesville School had a very limited budget for maintenance and improvement of its plant. There was only enough money for ordinary repairs and replacements. While this School has an attractive campus, rolling land and lots of trees, it is badly in need of landscaping, soil replenishing, walks, driveways, curbs and gutters. It is hoped that during the next fiscal year something may be done to improve this situation.

The worn out and shabby furniture used by the students is something that has needed attention a good many years. The living quarters of the staff is, for the most part, inadequate and shabby.

A survey of vocational opportunities and needs was made at the Gainesville School by the Texas Education Agency and is serving as a guide for future plans and evaluation of present facilities. New activities are being added as staff and funds are available. The newest additions to the vocational courses are photography, switchboard operation and reception work, and upholstering.

The home making and cosmetology courses, the oldest and most popular at the School, are badly in need of additional space to take care of their growing needs.

Among other needs, the Gainesville School should have a cottage for girls who must be separated from the group for a period. Such a School gets a great many very highly disturbed girls and many of them have trouble living with a group, at least for short periods. For their own good and certainly for the good of the group, some of them may need to be in special detention for a while. This should be separated from the other cottages and should be planned so as to allow for some program activities. Gainesville now has no such facility, which is the cause of trouble and a great deal of inconvenience to staff and students. Experience of other schools indicates that such provision should be made for about 10% of the population.

The Gainesville School has been selected by the Social Service Department of the Texas State College for Women for field experience training. A limited number of students majoring in this field spend some time on a regular schedule at the institution under supervision.

The great amount of progress and improvement made in the Gainesville School's medical and health program in the past few years makes the program of former years seem very insignificant. In addition to physical examinations, care and treatments while ill, and correction of physical defects, the School does a great deal in the education of the girls regarding personal health and hygiene, in groups and by individual conferences.

The Gainesville School has a good little hospital, examination and treatment facilities, dental office, and staff. This takes care of most of the needs, but serious cases of illness and surgery must be sent to regular hospitals. A great deal of medical work is done outside of the School, much of it without cost to the State.

The School needs to feel free to provide whatever medical service is indicated, especially corrective measures such as skin grafts, orthodontures, and removal of tatoos, which may improve a girl's emotional attitude and opportunities for employment.

The health reports show that 3,113 cases went through the institutional hospital for various types of treatments, including 456 bed patients. The doctor saw 697 individual children, and 161 new girls were given physical examinations.

At Gainesville 1141 "tests and shots" were administered, which included small pox vaccinations, typhoid inoculations, tetanus antitoxin serum, blood tests, smears, etc. There were 155 chest X rays, one appendectomy, several cases of prenatal care, and one confinement.

The eye, ear, nose, and throat doctor saw 184 girls at his office and 214 at the institution, a total of 398. Total treatments administered by the nurse and staff were 1,177. There were four tonsillectomies, 53 refractions, 41 pairs of glasses fitted.

The dental report shows that 414 patients were seen by the dentist. There were 59 fillings, 87 extractions, 32 prophylaxis, and 183 treatments. Partial dentures were provided for three girls.

CROCKETT STATE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

The School for Negro girls was started at Brady in 1947, in the buildings of a prisoner of war camp. In 1950, the Legislature appropriated funds for the erection of a new institution in East Texas. Crockett was chosen for the site and the new plant was erected and occupied before the end of the year. The 120 acres of land was donated by the business men of Crockett.

This institution is for the care and training of Negro girls committed by the Courts. No girl can be admitted except on a valid court commitment. Releases are only on order of the Youth Development Council.

During this fiscal year, the School for Negro girls at Crockett operated on a budget which did not permit the use of one dormitory building, or one-fourth of its capacity. The School had a budget and available beds for 75 girls. The population averaged 84. Because of the lack of facilities for Negro children in the State, this institution has problems not found so much in the other Schools.

Before the end of the year, the School was assured of sufficient funds to operate the fourth cottage and plans were under way to do so. This will make it possible to give care to 100 girls without doubling up on sleeping space or cutting down on the unit cost of food.

The Crockett School had only sufficient "capital outlay" money to take care of the minor daily needs. It was, however, before the end of the year, able to sign a contract for remodeling and enlarging the detention cottage. This was made possible by various economies and savings during the year. The improvement of this facility will help the total program and meet the requirements of providing detention space for 10% of the population.

As with the other Schools, Crockett has developed programs for the girls on detention and the ones in the orientation unit. Probably not as good as would be desirable, but a lot better than a few years ago. No girl on detention or orientation sits alone in a room long periods of time with nothing to do but brood over her troubles.

The academic school of the Crockett institution has done a good job of planning its program and activities to fit into the daily needs of the girls and providing very practical training and experiences for them.

While the possibilities for work experiences at the Crockett School are limited, the students do what they can in landscaping, gardening, hand and commercial laundry, cooking, housekeeping, sewing, serving meals, etc. Efforts are sincerely made to make these jobs be a training experience, not merely to get the work done.

The staff has also done a good job in teaching the students how to get along in a democratic society, how to live with people, and keep out of trouble. Regular classes and discussion groups are held, which the girls enthusiastically participate in.

The health program of the Crockett School is fulfilling a serious need among girls who, for the most part, have had very little attention in this respect. Among delinquent or emotionally disturbed girls, their ailments may have a psychological as well as a physiological basis. A deformity or facial defect may well be a factor in delinquent behavior. Malnutrition and fatigue are frequently serious factors in the picture. One student, who had to sleep with six other children, ran away from home to work and buy herself a bed. When she came to the Training School, she asked to be able to sleep a long time. This was an important part of her attitude and behavior.

During the year, 71 girls were given physical examinations, dental examinations, and Wasserman tests. This included all new girls accepted and all returnees.

Small pox vaccinations and typhoid inoculations were administered to 81 girls. There were 50 chest X rays, 25 cold treatments, 98 minor treatments, and one serious burn. The School had one diabetic requiring treatment, two prenatal care cases, one goiter removed, and one tonsillectomy. Other treatments included injuries, sprains, rash and ringworms, and a few treatments for venereal diseases.

Glasses were fitted on four girls; three girls were given special eye treatments through the State Commission for the Blind.

The dental work, besides the examinations and cleaning, included bridgework for one girl, five gum treatments, 45 extractions, and 47 fillings.

Other health services included lectures and movies (on care of the body, narcotic addiction, alcoholism, etc.), and individual conferences on physical and mental health.

The Crockett School is still without funds to provide case work services. Psychological testing or psychiatric diagnosis is not routinely possible. When the obvious behavior of a girl requires it, special arrangements may be made for a test or diagnosis by a psychiatrist. During the year, for example, a psychiatrist was brought from Dallas (at no cost to the School) to examine four girls. Aptitude tests are given by the principal as a guide in training and placement later.

The Crockett School has been accepted and is used for student field experience and training by the Social Work Department of the Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College.

STATISTICAL SECTION

A STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF THE JUVENILES COMMITTED TO
THE STATE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
AND ADMITTED TO THE THREE STATE
SCHOOLS FOR DELINQUENT
CHILDREN

FISCAL YEAR
SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

TABLE I

WARDS OF THE STATE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Case Movement	Number of Children			
	Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
State Wards, September 1, 1954	1876	1303	405	168
Outside of state schools under supervision,* September 1, 1954	960	684	188	88
Attached to schools, September 1, 1954	916	619	217	80
On absences (furlough, transfer or escape)	76	41	29	6
Present in schools, September 1, 1954	840	578	188	74
Total Admissions During Year	1113 ^a	881	161	71
First Admissions	832	640	129	63
Returns from Release	281	241	32	8
Total Releases During Year	1123 ^b	884	178	61
Releases under Supervision	1070	849	162	59
Discharges from Absences	53	35	16	2
Attached to schools, August 31, 1955	906	616	200	90
On absences (furlough, transfer or escape)	87	51	28	8
Present in schools, August 31, 1955	819	565	172	82
Outside of state schools under supervision, August 31, 1955	1132	827	211	94
State Wards, August 31, 1955	2038	1443	411	184

* 617 children who were outside of the state schools under supervision on September 1, 1954, were discharged from Youth Council custody during the year.

^a Includes 1113 admissions of 1095 children. 18 boys were admitted to the Gatesville State School for Boys twice during the year.

^b Includes 1123 releases of 1106 children. 17 boys were released from the Gatesville State School twice during the year.

(NOTE: A release under supervision is a conditional separation from the school and in itself is not permanent. A discharge is a permanent termination of responsibility and jurisdiction from the Council and from the school with respect to a given commitment.)

TABLE II

TYPE OF ADMISSION OF CHILDREN ADMITTED TO STATE SCHOOLS
SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Type of Admission	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total	100.0%	1113	881	161	71
First admission under first commitment	74.7	832	640	129	63
Re-admission	24.0	267	236	28	3
Return from active supervision	23.3	259	230	26	3
Return from inactive supervision	.3	3	2	1	0
Return from supervision-- unknown if active or not	.4	5	4	1	0
Recommitment following discharge	1.3	14	5	4	5

TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT OF CHILDREN ARE RE-ADMISSIONS

Seventy-five per cent of the children received at the training schools during the year were admitted for the first time. Twenty-five per cent were children who had been released from the schools under supervision or who were re-committed following discharge from Youth Council custody.

The fiscal year of 1954-55 also showed an increase in new commitments to the Youth Council. There were 832 children admitted to the schools for the first time as compared to 784 admitted for the first time during the fiscal year 1953-54. An increase of 6% in new commitments is indicated, with an over-all increase in all admissions of 8% shown over the preceding fiscal year.

Crockett had an increase of 16% in admissions, while Gatesville showed a 14% increase. Gainesville had a decrease of 17% in admissions.

TABLE III

ADMISSIONS BY SIZE OF COUNTY CHILD POPULATION
SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Size of Child Population	Number of Counties	Child Population 1954-55*	Children Committed to YDC During Year				
			Total Number of Commit- ments	Rate per 10,000 Popula- tion	Recidivists		
					Number of Recid- ivists	Per Cent of Total Commitments	Rate per 10,000 Population
State Total	254	1,074,453	1113	10.4	281	25%	2.6
50,000 and more	4	317,394	499	15.7	111	22%	3.5
40,000 - 49,999	0	-0-					
30,000 - 39,999	0	-0-					
20,000 - 29,999	5	132,373	146	11.0	45	31%	3.4
10,000 - 19,999	7	99,493	143	14.4	40	28%	4.0
1,000 - 9,999	162	483,008	298	6.2	82	28%	1.7
Less than 1,000	76	42,185	27	6.4	3	11%	.7

* Child population figures used here are for Juvenile Court ages (10-17 inclusive) and are based on scholastic population data for 1954-55 obtained from the Texas Education Agency.

NINE COUNTIES COMMIT OVER ONE-HALF OF CHILDREN

During the fiscal year 1954-55 children were received at the state training schools from 123 of the state's 254 counties. Nine of those counties, having a total child population of 449,767 (or 42% of the state total), committed fifty-eight per cent of the children. The same nine counties returned fifty-six per cent of the children termed "recidivists" or those on release under supervision who got into further trouble and were returned to the training schools.

The next seven largest counties committed 13% of the children, and returned 14% of the "recidivists." In other words, the sixteen largest counties in Texas, which comprise 51% of the state's Juvenile Court age children, committed 71% of the children received during the year. Also, seventy per cent of the "recidivists" were returned from those sixteen counties.

TAELE IV

REASON FOR REFERRAL OF CHILDREN ADMITTED TO STATE SCHOOLS
 SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Offense	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total	100.0%	1113	881	161	71
Stealing	66.0	735	702	20	13
Auto theft	16.9	188	186	1	1
Burglary	30.9	344	336	5	3
Robbery	2.5	28	27	1	0
Forgery	1.8	20	15	5	0
Other theft	13.9	155	138	8	9
Disobedience	12.7	142	55	53	34
School truancy	2.2	25	9	7	9
Running away	4.8	54	15	31	8
Being ungovernable	5.7	63	31	15	17
Immoral conduct	8.7	97	27	59	11
Vagrancy	1.2	13	1	10	2
Sex offense	7.5	84	26	49	9
Violence	4.1	45	42	1	2
Homicide or attempt	1.3	14	12	1	1
Injury to person	2.8	31	30	0	1
Other	7.2	79	52	18	9
Carelessness or mischief	1.9	21	17	0	4
Liquor or drugs	3.1	34	22	11	1
Other delinquent behavior	1.8	20	12	7	1
Dependency or neglect	.4	4	1	0	3
Not Reported	1.3	15	3	10	2

MAJORITY OF CHILDREN COMMITTED FOR BURGLARY

Some form of stealing is usually the main reason for referral of children committed to Youth Council facilities. This year 735 children, or 66% of the total admissions, were referred for various forms of stealing, with 344, or 31%, committed for burglary. During the last three-year period auto thefts have shown increases from year to year, while burglaries

comprised about 25% of the commitments each year. This year, however, a 2% decrease in auto thefts was noted, accompanied by an increase of 6% in burglary commitments.

As is usually the case, also, the majority of children committed for stealing are boys. Girls are more frequently committed because of school truancy, running away from home, or for being sexual delinquents. This year 80% of the boys were committed for stealing as compared to 14% of the girls. However, 68% of the girls were committed for disobedience and immoral conduct as compared to only 9% of the boys.

Over-all changes in the major reasons for referrals this year over last year are as follows: Stealing--4% increase; Disobedience--1% decrease; Immoral conduct--3% decrease; Violence--1% decrease; Other--1% increase. Commitments listed as "Other Delinquent Behavior" include 6 boys committed for arson and two girls involved in traffic offenses.

It must be remembered that the above figures are based on statements made in the records by the committing counties and may not represent the entire picture. Why a child commits an offense is of more importance than what he does.

TABLE V

SOURCE OF REFERRAL OF CHILDREN ADMITTED TO STATE SCHOOLS
SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Source	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total	100.0%	1113	881	161	71
Probation Officer	13.1	146	6	69	71
Other court	.1	1	1		
Law enforcement officer	81.6	908	842	66	
Parents or relatives	2.9	32	18	14	
Local public welfare agency	.3	3	1	2	
Individual	.1	1	1		
State Department of Public Welfare	.3	3	1	2	
School	.7	8	8		
Private social agency	.2	2	1	1	
Other	.4	4	2	2	
Unknown	.4	5		5	

POLICE OFFICERS ARE MAJOR SOURCE OF REFERRAL

The largest source of referral to Juvenile Courts is the law enforcement officer. Probation officers are rarely the real source of referral since in most cases the children must be brought to the attention of the probation department by someone knowing the situation of the children. Also, probation officers do not patrol the streets in search of juvenile offenders.

In this study of children admitted to Youth Council facilities during the 1954-55 fiscal year we see that 82% of the children were referred by police officers while 13% were referrals made by probation officers. Parents and relatives referred 3% while the remaining 2% were reported by interested agencies and individuals. It seems doubtful, however, that probation officers were the only source of referral of all the negro girls.

Police referrals were made in 96% of the boys' cases but in only 28% of the girls'. However, parents or relatives referred 6% of the girls and only 2% of the boys. It is interesting to note, also, that during the last three years referrals from girls' families have dropped from 20% to 6%, yet referrals by boys' families have remained constant.

TABLE VI

SEX OF CHILDREN ADMITTED TO STATE SCHOOLS
 SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

-Sex	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total	100.0%	1113	881	161	71
Boys	79.1	881	881		
Girls	20.9	232		161	71

INCREASE IN ADMISSION OF BOYS

An approximate ratio of 4 boys to 1 girl is noted in admissions this year. The ratio has remained rather constant in previous years as 3 to 1. There was an increase of 4% in the admission of boys this year and a 3% decrease in girls' admissions over last year.

There may be some significance in this trend when we see from the previous chart that law enforcement officers had referred a greater number of children during the year (mostly boys) but were referring a lesser number of girls. Also, parents and relatives were bringing a fewer percentage of the girls to the attention of the proper authorities. Therefore, it is logical to assume that there are more commitments of boys because there are more referrals of boys who become involved in difficulties with the law.

TABLE VII

RACE OF CHILDREN ADMITTED TO STATE SCHOOLS
 SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Race	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total	100.0%	1113	881	161	71
White	72.0	802	641	161	
English-speaking	44.9	500	382	118	
Spanish-speaking	27.1	302	259	43	
Negro	28.0	311	240		71

NEGRO POPULATION INCREASING

Twenty-eight per cent of the children received during the fiscal year were Negro, while seventy-two per cent were white. Last year twenty-three per cent were Negro, seventy-seven per cent white.

The Texas School Census for the school year 1954-55 shows that white children of Juvenile Court age (10-17) comprise 86.8% of the total scholastic population, while negro children of the same age group have 13.2%. The rate of admission per 10,000 white children for the 10-17 age group is 8.6 (it was 8.8 last year). The rate of admission per 10,000 negro children of this age group is 21.9. Last year the rate was 16.8 and indicates a 5% increase over the previous fiscal year's rate.

There was an approximate 2% decrease in the number of Spanish-speaking children admitted during the year.

TABLE VIII

AGE OF CHILDREN ADMITTED TO STATE SCHOOLS
 SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Age in Years	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total	100.0%	1113	881	161	71
10	.7	8	8		
11	1.4	16	14	1	1
12	4.3	48	40	2	6
13	11.1	124	93	20	11
14	18.7	208	163	26	19
15	27.0	301	244	46	11
16	30.5	340	290	36	14
17	5.6	62	25	28	9
18	.4	4	2	2	
19	.1	1	1		
20	.1	1	1		

MOST CHILDREN RECEIVED ARE THIRTEEN TO SIXTEEN

According to law, boys between the ages of 10 and 17 and girls between 10 and 18 may be committed to the state training schools. Some children who are released under supervision (but not discharged from Youth Council custody) may be returned to the schools for further training and rehabilitation even though they are over the ages just specified. The majority of children in the 17-20 age group were returnees, although several of the 17-year-old girls were first offenders.

Approximately 88% of the children received during the year were between the ages of thirteen and sixteen. The median age was 15½. These figures have not changed appreciably from the previous year's findings. The only interesting observation is the decrease of about 2% in the number of 16-year-olds committed this year over last year, with corresponding increases of 1% in each of the 14-year and 15-year groups.

The large difference between the sixteen and seventeen year groups is accounted for by the fact that children becoming involved in further difficulties after their seventeenth birthday for boys (eighteenth for girls) are likely to be tried in adult courts and are seldom returned to the training schools after such court hearings.

TABLE IX

MARITAL STATUS OF PARENTS OF CHILDREN ADMITTED TO STATE SCHOOLS
 SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Marital Status	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total	100.0%	1113	881	161	71
Unmarried	5.2	58	47	5	6
Married, living together	32.2	358	304	43	11
Marriage intact, not living together	1.1	12	6	0	6
Divorced, separated or deserted	39.3	438	329	76	33
Father dead	13.2	147	123	18	6
Mother dead	5.1	57	37	13	7
Both parents dead	2.5	28	23	5	0
Unknown	1.3	15	12	1	2

ONE-THIRD OF PARENTS ARE MARRIED AND LIVING TOGETHER

Approximately one-third of the parents of children admitted to the facilities of the Youth Council during the fiscal year were married, living together and maintaining some evidence of a home and family for their children. Another 1% maintained an intact marriage but for reasons of employment, military service, or other reasons were not living continuously in the same home. The other two-thirds of these parents were either divorced or one or both were dead.

The home situation of children admitted to the state schools plays a very important role in the lives of these children. Separation, divorce or death of parents may greatly affect the behavior patterns of children. It may be significant to note that with an increase of admissions to the schools during the fiscal year, there was a decrease of 3% in the number of parents who were married and sharing the same home.

TABLE X

RELATIONSHIP OF PERSONS WITH WHOM CHILDREN WERE LIVING
PRIOR TO ADMISSION TO STATE SCHOOLS
SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Child Living With	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total	100.0%	1113	881	161	71
Two parents	51.9	578	488	70	20
Both natural parents	30.0	334	290	36	8
Mother and stepfather	15.8	176	143	25	8
Father and stepmother	4.8	53	42	7	4
Adoptive parents	1.3	15	13	2	0
One parent	30.5	339	261	45	33
Mother only	25.8	287	218	37	32
Father only	4.7	52	43	8	1
Grandparents or other relatives	10.0	111	83	14	14
Grandparents	3.8	42	37	4	1
Relatives	6.2	69	46	10	13
Non-relatives	7.3	82	46	32	4
Independent arrangement	1.7	19	4	15	0
Foster family	2.5	28	18	7	3
Child care institution	1.4	16	13	3	0
Elsewhere	1.7	19	11	7	1
Unknown	.3	3	3	0	0

NATURAL PARENTS IN THIRTY PER CENT OF HOMES

Thirty per cent of the children admitted to state schools during the 1954-55 fiscal year came from homes in which both natural parents were residing. In 22% of the homes there was a mother and stepfather, father and stepmother, or adoptive parents. About 52% of the children were residing in homes in which two parents were living, which is 3% less than the number so residing last year.

Approximately 31% of the children lived with one parent only. This is an increase of nearly 5% over the preceding year. Ten per cent were living with grandparents or other relatives, and seven per cent were living independently of family relationships.

TABLE XI

RECORD OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OF CHILDREN
 PRIOR TO ADMISSION TO STATE SCHOOLS
 SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

School Attendance	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total	100.0%	1113	881	161	71
Regular Attendance	41.2	459	372	63	24
Irregular Attendance	56.8	632	494	91	47
Occasionally	54.2	603	475	82	46
Never	2.6	29	19	9	1
Unknown	2.0	22	15	7	0

TWO-FIFTHS ATTEND SCHOOL REGULARLY

There was an increase of approximately two per cent in the number of children who attended school regularly before their commitment to the state training schools this year. This number is increasing gradually from year to year. In 1950-51 it was 25%; in 1951-52 it was 28%; last year it was 39%. During this fiscal year 41% attended school regularly, while 54% attended only occasionally and 3% did not attend at all.

Boys continue to show better attendance records than do girls. 372 boys, or 42%, were attending regularly prior to their admission to the schools. Girls were attending more regularly before their admissions than had done so in previous years, however, with 87 (or 38%) showing good attendance records this year. Last year there were 31% of the girls attending regularly.

The irregularity of school attendance presents some effect on the grade placement of these children. The following table will be of interest in indicating these effects.

TABLE XII

GRADE IN SCHOOL OF CHILDREN PRIOR TO ADMISSION TO STATE SCHOOLS
 SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Grade	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total	100.0%	1113	881	161	71
0	.4	4	3	1	0
1st	.7	8	7	0	1
2nd	1.9	21	18	2	1
3rd	3.3	37	35	1	1
4th	8.1	90	77	8	5
5th	11.1	124	104	13	7
6th	19.8	220	176	26	18
7th	19.6	218	172	30	16
8th	18.6	207	168	29	10
9th	10.2	113	80	26	7
10th	3.4	38	21	15	2
11th	.7	8	5	2	1
12th	.3	3	1	1	1
Unknown	2.0	22	14	7	1

CHILDREN ARE THREE SCHOOL GRADES RETARDED

The range of school grades completed by children prior to being admitted to Youth Council schools during the year was from no grade completed to the twelfth grade. The median grade level for all children was the seventh (7), the same as last year. Comparing the median grade with the median age (15.5), we note that children received at the schools are approximately three school grades retarded. The average 15 year-old child would be in the tenth grade. Also, the youngest children received were ten years of age. Normally, a youngster of this age would be in the fourth grade, however, about 6% of the children in the training schools ranked below the fourth grade.

Information noted in the above chart and the preceding one points up the fact that lack of interest in school has caused considerable retardation in grade placement. Hence, the curriculum of the schools must be specialized to meet the needs of these children. Considerable remedial work must be given, as well as vocational courses to interest and educate those children who will not or cannot take an interest in academic school work.

TABLE XIII

COURT HISTORY OF CHILDREN ADMITTED TO STATE SCHOOLS
SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Court History	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total	100.0%	1113	881	161	71
Previous court history	81.7	910	735	117	58
No previous court history	16.2	180	136	33	11
Unknown	2.1	23	10	11	2

MAJORITY OF CHILDREN REFERRED TO AUTHORITIES MORE THAN ONE TIME

Nearly 82% of the children committed to the training schools during the fiscal year had previously been in contact with juvenile authorities prior to the referral which resulted in their commitment. This is the highest percentage of previous court referrals ever noted in Youth Council commitments and indicates several significant points. First, the majority of children are being referred to local probation departments and interested welfare agencies in their home communities for help before being adjudged delinquent and sent to the state schools. Secondly, those children who are released from the training schools under supervision are receiving more adequate supervisory services and attention.

Even though these children are "recidivists" in the local probation departments, the plan of working intensively with them in their own home community aids in a quicker and more normal rehabilitation as well as proving more economical to the tax-payer. A good probation officer may be employed for \$3,600 to \$4,200 per year and can handle a case-load of forty to fifty children per month. The average cost of keeping one child in the state training schools last year was \$1,200.

TABLE XIV

REASON FOR SEPARATION OF CHILDREN RELEASED FROM STATE SCHOOLS
 SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Reason Separated	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total	100.0%	1070	849	162	59
Satisfactory Adjustment	92.0	984	808	138	38
Request of court	.7	8	7	1	0
Feebleminded	.7	8	6	0	2
Placed in other institution in State	.7	7	6	0	1
Out-of-state ward returned to court of jurisdiction	1.1	12	10	2	0
Released to U.S.I.S.	.4	4	4	0	0
Released for delivery of child	.2	2	0	0	2
Done all possible with present staff and facilities	4.2	45	8	21	16

SATISFACTORY ADJUSTMENT MADE BY LARGE MAJORITY

Ninety-two per cent, or 984 children, were released from the institutions after a normal length of stay and after satisfactorily completing the requirements of the different schools.

For various special reasons the remaining 8% were released after a much shorter stay in the schools. Twelve children, or 1.1%, were out-of-state wards and were returned to the courts holding jurisdiction over them, usually after just a few days stay in the schools. Eight children were feebleminded, seven were placed in other institutions in the state, four were aliens released to the Immigration Service. Four per cent, or 45 children, were released after more or less normal lengths of stays, but due to limitations of staff and facilities, it was impossible for them to achieve further rehabilitation.

Please refer to Table XVIII for further discussion of the average time under care for the different institutions.

TABLE XV

SUPERVISOR TO WHOM CHILDREN RELEASED FROM STATE SCHOOLS
SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Supervisor	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total	100.0%	1070	849	162	59
Probation Officer	74.6	798	632	123	43
Child Welfare Worker	1.2	13	10	3	0
Public Assistance Worker	15.1	162	133	23	6
YDC Staff	.4	5	2	3	0
Out-of-state Agency	4.9	52	38	6	8
Other	1.7	18	15	2	1
Private Agency	.2	2	2	0	0
None	1.9	20	17	2	1

PROBATION OFFICERS SUPERVISE MOST CHILDREN

Most children released from the schools are placed under the supervision of probation officers. Approximately 75% of the children are supervised by the various county probation departments, which is a two per cent increase over the number supervised by them last year.

The State Welfare Department has provided supervision for nearly twenty per cent of the children on release from the schools for the preceding four years. This year the Assistance Workers supervised 162 (or 15%) of those released, while the Child Welfare Workers supervised 13 (or a little over 1%). As a rule, the children supervised by these workers live in counties where no probation services are provided.

Nearly 5% of the children were being supervised by out-of-state agencies. Judges, pastors, private agencies and other interested parties supervised approximately 2%. The Youth Council staff provided supervision for five children, but due to severe limitations could provide no further services in this area. Children listed as "None" were among those released prior to a normal length of stay in the schools and were referred to the committing courts for further planning.

TABLE XVI

PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN RELEASED FROM STATE SCHOOLS
 SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Placement	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total	100.0%	1070	849	162	59
Two Parents	51.7	553	458	75	20
Both natural parents	29.2	313	277	30	6
Mother and stepfather	16.6	178	133	35	10
Father and stepmother	4.3	46	35	7	4
Adoptive parents	1.5	16	13	3	0
One Parent	22.6	242	185	36	21
Mother only	19.6	210	161	30	19
Father only	3.0	32	24	6	2
Grandparents or other relatives	17.9	192	152	26	14
Grandparents	4.9	53	39	12	2
Relatives	13.0	139	113	14	12
Non-relatives	7.2	77	50	24	3
Foster family	2.2	24	13	9	2
Child care institution	1.0	11	10	0	1
Elsewhere	3.9	42	27	15	0
No Plan	.6	6	4	1	1

TWENTY-NINE PER CENT PLACED WITH NATURAL PARENTS

Twenty-nine per cent of the children released during the year were placed in homes with their natural parents. Table X revealed that approximately 30% of the children were living with natural parents at the time of their commitment to the schools; hence, most children were returned to their original home setting.

Over fifty per cent of the children were placed in homes where two parents were present, while 23% were placed in homes with one parent. Another 18% were placed with grandparents or other relatives, and the remaining 7% were released to foster families, child care institutions, etc.

TABLE XVII

FAMILY OF PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN RELEASED FROM STATE SCHOOLS
SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Family of Placement	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total	100.0%	1070	849	162	59
Same family and county	60.4	646	537	78	31
Same family, different county	7.1	76	68	5	3
Different family, same county	14.6	156	104	43	9
Different family and county	12.6	135	105	23	7
Same family, different situa- tion, in same county	3.7	40	22	10	8
Same family, different situa- tion, in different county	1.0	11	9	2	0
Not applicable	.6	6	4	1	1

SIXTY PER CENT RETURNED TO SAME HOME SITUATION

Six hundred forty-six children, nearly sixty-one per cent, of those released under supervision, returned to the same family and county from which they came at admission to the schools. However, 15% were released to different families within the same county from which they were received. Seven per cent were placed with the same family groups but those groups had moved to different counties since the children had been at the schools.

Approximately four per cent of those released returned to the same family and county but different home situations prevailed at the time of release than when the child was committed. Parents who had separated were living together again, or some had divorced while the child was in the state school. Many times one of the parents had died while the child was away, or remarriages had occurred and a new parent-figure was present in the home. One per cent of the children released were placed with the same family group but a different situation existed and they had moved to a different county.

TABLE XVIII

LENGTH OF TIME UNDER CARE OF CHILDREN RELEASED FROM STATE SCHOOLS
 SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Months in School	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total *	100.0%	1042	825	160	57
1 - 3 months	2.0	21	18	1	2
4 - 6 "	18.8	196	194	2	0
7 - 9 "	33.3	347	329	17	1
10 - 12 "	24.6	256	171	77	8
13 - 15 "	12.7	132	75	37	20
16 - 18 "	4.8	50	21	13	16
19 - 21 "	1.9	20	7	7	6
22 - 24 "	.8	8	3	3	2
25 - 27 "	.4	4	2	2	0
28 - 30 "	.5	5	3	1	1
Over 30 months	.3	3	2	0	1

* 28 children released prior to normal time of release not included

AVERAGE STAY IN SCHOOLS IS NINE TO TWELVE MONTHS

Even though the populations at the schools increased significantly during this fiscal year, it is important to note that children were still being kept as long as possible before being released. Gatesville's average monthly population rose from 567 to 602 during the year, but the school managed to maintain its average time of 8.8 months. Gainesville had an average monthly population of seven less than last year but maintained the 12.3 months under care that were given in the preceding year. Crockett had three more students per month average over last year and gave 15.6 months care rather than 17.3 as in the year before.

The average time under care for the three schools combined was nine months and eighteen days. Percentage-wise, nearly eighty per cent of the children remained in the schools for one year, while over one-half remained at least nine months. The average lengths of time under care as compared to average monthly populations for the three schools are as follows:

	<u>Ave. Monthly Pop.</u>	<u>Ave. Time Under Care</u>
Gatesville State School for Boys	602	8.8 months
Gainesville State School for Girls	179	12.3 "
Crockett State School for Negro Girls	84	15.6 "

TABLE XIX

TIME LAPSE BETWEEN RELEASE AND RETURN OF RECIDIVISTS TO STATE SCHOOLS
 SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Months Out of School	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total	100.0%	281	241	32	8
0 - 4 Months	45.2	127	107	16	4
5 - 8 "	23.8	67	56	8	3
9 - 12 "	14.6	41	36	4	1
13 - 16 "	8.2	23	22	1	0
17 - 20 "	3.9	11	8	3	0
21 - 24 "	2.8	8	8	0	0
25 - 28 "	.4	1	1	0	0
Over 28 Months	1.1	3	3	0	0

RECIDIVISTS RETURNED WITHIN ONE YEAR OF RELEASE

Approximately 84% of the children who are readmitted to the state schools on broken paroles are received back within the first year after their release. Of this number forty-five per cent are received back within the first four months. This would seem to indicate that more intensive supervision is being given these children than previously, since nearly 6% more than last year were returned during the first four months period of release.

Recidivism rates for this fiscal year for the various schools are: Gatesville, 28%; Gainesville, 20%; and Crockett, 14%. This means that one boy in each 28 released is received back (usually within a year); one white girl in 20 and one negro girl in 14 are returned to the schools, usually within four months after release. These rates are primarily the same as those for last year with the exception of Crockett, whose rate increased about 10%.

TABLE XX

DISCHARGES OF CHILDREN FROM CUSTODY OF YOUTH COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Reason for Discharge	Per Cent of Total	Number of Children			
		Total	Gatesville State School for Boys	Gainesville State School for Girls	Crockett State School for Negro Girls
Total	100.0%	670	500	123	47
Satisfactory Adjustment	53.8	360	269	67	24
Satisfactory Adjustment	48.1	322	231	67	24
Enlisted in military service	5.7	38	38	0	0
Unsatisfactory Adjustment	21.4	144	117	18	9
Committed to State Penitentiary	4.6	31	30	1	0
Unsatisfactory Adjustment	7.5	50	34	13	3
Released to Federal Authorities	.7	5	5	0	0
Conviction by Criminal Court	7.0	47	45	1	1
Recommitted by court of another county	.6	4	3	1	0
Recommitted by same court	1.0	7	0	2	5
Adjustment Unknown	14.8	99	57	33	9
Whereabouts unknown	10.9	73	37	28	8
Dismissed by supervising agency	3.9	26	20	5	1
Handicapped	3.4	23	17	2	4
Feebleminded	2.7	18	14	1	3
Mental Illness	.7	5	3	1	1
Miscellaneous	6.6	44	40	3	1
Ward of another state	4.2	28	25	3	0
Illegal Alien	.7	5	5	0	0
Request of court	1.0	7	7	0	0
Death	.6	4	3	0	1

SATISFACTORY ADJUSTMENTS MADE BY OVER ONE-HALF

Discharges from Youth Council custody were given to 670 children during the fiscal year. Six hundred seventeen of these children were outside the state schools under supervision, while 53 were on absences from the schools and had either gotten into further trouble and were convicted in adult courts, or they had passed Juvenile Court age and their whereabouts had been unknown for several years.

Five per cent more of the children made satisfactory adjustments this year than last. Also, the number of children whose adjustments were unknown decreased about six per cent during the year. These two changes seem to point up the fact that much closer supervision is being maintained of the children on release, and more adequate counselling services are extended which make possible better adjustments.

Twenty-one per cent of those discharged made unsatisfactory adjustments. The same per cent as last year were committed to the state penitentiary. The over-all number of children who passed Juvenile Court age and had simply made an adjustment which was not deemed satisfactory by the supervisor dropped about 2% from last year, however.

Approximately 15% of the children had either been dismissed by the supervising agency or their whereabouts could not be determined. It is logical to assume, however, that some of this number made a fair adjustment or the Youth Council (or courts) would have renewed contact with them.

Eighteen of the children discharged were feeble-minded, five had mental illnesses. Twenty-eight were wards of other states and were returned to the court of jurisdiction; five were aliens and were released to Federal Immigration authorities. Seven were returned to the committing courts, and four died during the year.

CHILDREN ADMITTED TO STATE SCHOOLS BY COUNTY AND TYPE ADMISSION
SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

County	Scholastic Population (School Census) 1954-1955	Number of Children								
		Grand Total	Total		Gatesville State School for Boys		Gainesville State School for Girls		Crockett State School for Negro Girls	
			New	Returns	New	Returns	New	Returns	New	Returns
Total	1,074,453	1113	832	281	640	241	129	32	63	8
Per Cent		100.0%	74.8%	25.2%	57.5%	21.6%	11.6%	2.9%	5.7%	.7%
Anderson	3,980	1	1						1	
Andrews	1,121	2	2		2					
Angelina	4,818	2	2		2					
Aransas	693	2	2		1		1			
Archer	930									
Armstrong	230									
Atascosa	3,209									
Austin	1,668									
Bailey	1,233									
Bandera	435									
Bastrop	2,425									
Baylor	810									
Bee	2,986	3	3		3					
Bell	8,152	10	8	2	7	2			1	
Bexar	69,368	91	73	18	58	13	12	5	3	
Blanco	534									
Borden	107									
Bosque	1,427	1	1		1					
Bowie	8,826	3	3		3					
Brazoria	9,052	3	3		3					
Brazos	4,556	2	1	1	1			1		
Brewster	885	2	1	1	1	1				
Briscoe	482									
Brooks	1,410									
Brown	3,068	3	2	1	1	1	1			
Burleson	1,724	2	1	1	1	1				
Burnet	1,096									
Caldwell	2,675	1		1		1				
Calhoun	1,871									
Callahan	1,030									
Cameron	21,143	9	7	2	5	2	2			
Camp	1,188									
Carson	965									
Cass	3,858									
Castro	884	1	1		1					

NOTE: All figures for scholastic population include only those children of Juvenile Court age, i.e. 10 thru 17 years of age.

TABLE XXI (continued)

County	Scholastic Population (School Census) 1954-1955	Number of Children								
		Grand Total	Total		Gatesville State School for Boys		Gainesville State School for Girls		Crockett State School for Negro Girls	
			New	Returns	New	Returns	New	Returns	New	Returns
Chambers	1,259									
Cherokee	4,131									
Childress	1,119	1		1				1		
Clay	1,131									
Cochran	935									
Coke	499									
Coleman	1,728	2	2		2					
Collin	5,400	1	1		1					
Collingsworth	1,123									
Colorado	2,396									
Comal	2,413	2		2		2				
Comanche	1,440									
Concho	564									
Cooke	2,993	2		2		2				
Goryell	2,243	7	5	2		2	5			
Cottle	570									
Crane	636									
Crockett	534	3	3						3	
Grosby	1,442	8	6	2	3	2	2		1	
Culberson	362									
Dallam	997	3	3		3					
Dallas	83,548	199	148	51	123	44	13	6	12	1
Dawson	2,326	3	2	1	1	1	1			
Deaf Smith	1,484	1	1		1					
Delta	967									
Denton	4,694									
DeWitt	3,421									
Dickens	866									
Dimmitt	2,114									
Donley	696									
Duval	2,697									
Eastland	2,501	2	2		2					
Ector	8,086	17	10	7	9	7	1			
Edwards	325									
Ellis	5,695	2	1	1	1	1				
El Paso	28,023	48	33	15	28	14	5	1		
Erath	1,771									
Falls	3,138	3	2	1	2	1				
Fannin	3,349									
Fayette	2,692									
Fisher	1,130									
Floyd	1,481	1		1		1				
Foard	498									
Fort Bend	4,893	2	1	1	1	1				
Franklin	548									

TABLE XXI (continued)

County	Scholastic Population (School Census) 1954 - 1955	Number of Children								
		Grand Total	Total		Gatesville State School for Boys		Gainesville State School for Girls		Crockett State School for Negro Girls	
			New	Returns	New	Returns	New	Returns	New	Returns
Freestone	2,068	1								
Frio	1,690	1	1		1					
Gaines	1,688									
Galveston	15,995	22	11	11	9	9	2	2		
Garza	867									
Gillespie	1,286									
Glasscock	158									
Goliad	874									
Gonzales	2,603	1	1		1					
Gray	3,544	4	2	2	2	2				
Grayson	8,205	10	7	3	7	3				
Gregg	8,792	5	4	1	4	1				
Grimes	2,070	1	1		1					
Guadalupe	3,649	2	1	1	1	1				
Hale	4,813	4	3	1	2	1	1			
Hall	1,190									
Hamilton	1,054									
Hansford	598									
Hardeman	1,167									
Hardin	3,034	1		1		1				
Harris	114,003	132	110	22	80	18	19	2	11	2
Harrison	6,696	3	3		3					
Hartley	141	1		1		1				
Haskell	1,820	3	3		1		2			
Hays	2,744	4	4		4					
Hemphill	468									
Henderson	2,972									
Hidalgo	27,118	3	2	1	1		1	1		
Hill	3,658	1	1		1					
Hockley	3,401	4	4		4					
Hood	645									
Hopkins	2,554									
Houston	2,782	1	1		1					
Howard	4,043	6	4	2	4	2				
Hudspeth	525	1	1		1					
Hunt	4,604	2	1	1	1	1				
Hutchinson	4,593	2	2		1		1			
Irion	214									
Jack	937									
Jackson	2,190	1	1				1			
Jasper	3,238	1	1		1					
Jeff Davis	250									
Jefferson	27,486	34	24	10	14	7	1		9	3
Jim Hogg	793									
Jim Wells	4,680	8	5	3	3	3	2			

TABLE XXI (continued)

County	Scholastic Population (School Census) 1954-1955	Number of Children								
		Grand Total	Total		Gatesville State School for Boys		Gainesville State School for Girls		Crockett State School for Negro Girls	
			New	Returns	New	Returns	New	Returns	New	Returns
Johnson	4,164	8	8		7		1			
Jones	2,688									
Karnes	2,333	1	1		1					
Kaufman	3,920	3	2	1	2	1				
Kendall	764	2	2		1		1			
Kenedy	86									
Kent	142									
Kerr	1,619	8	5	3	5	3				
Kimble	521									
King	110									
Kinney	316									
Kleberg	3,391	3	3		2		1			
Knox	1,338									
Lamar	4,992	2	1	1		1			1	
Lamb	3,142									
Lampasas	1,130									
LaSalle	1,682									
Lavaca	2,439									
Lee	1,421									
Leon	1,705	4	4		2		2			
Liberty	4,181	1	1				1			
Limestone	2,699									
Lipscomb	438									
Live Oak	1,404	6	4	2	4	2				
Llano	542	1	1		1					
Loving	16									
Lubbock	14,479	23	15	8	13	8	1		1	
Lynn	1,407									
Madison	955	1	1		1					
Marion	1,325	3	3		3					
Martin	734	2	2		1		1			
Mason	546									
Matagorda	3,426									
Maverick	2,059									
McCulloch	1,364	1	1		1					
McLennan	16,313	31	25	6	15	5	8	1	2	
McMullin	121									
Medina	2,863	7	6	1	5	1	1			
Menard	420									
Midland	6,001	1	1		1					
Milam	3,272									
Mills	617									
Mitchell	1,657	2	1	1	1	1				
Montague	2,106									
Montgomery	3,703	12	11	1	5	1	5		1	

TABLE XXI (continued)

County	Scholastic Population (School Census) 1954-1955	Number of Children								
		Grand Total	Total		Gatesville State School for Boys		Gainesville State School for Girls		Crockett State School for Negro Girls	
			New	Returns	New	Returns	New	Returns	New	Returns
Moore	2,143									
Morris	1,701									
Motley	422									
Nacogdoches	3,935	1		1		1				
Navarro	5,121	5	2	3	2	2		1		
Newton	1,557									
Nolan	2,552	1	1		1					
Nueces	28,603	52	35	17	27	15	7	2	1	
Ochiltree	665									
Oldham	391									
Orange	6,834	4	1	3	1	2		1		
Palo Pinto	2,279	1	1		1					
Panola	2,599									
Parker	2,906	1	1		1					
Parmer	1,144									
Pecos	1,633	2	1	1	1	1				
Polk	2,213	1		1		1				
Potter	12,300	12	12		7		5			
Presidio	929	2	2		2					
Rains	510									
Randall	787	1		1		1				
Reagan	488	1	1		1					
Real	287									
Red River	2,600	1		1		1				
Reeves	2,391	1	1				1			
Refugio	1,678	3	2	1	2	1				
Roberts	119									
Robertson	2,746									
Rockwall	891									
Runnels	2,130									
Rusk	5,151	3	3		3					
Sabine	1,098									
San Augustine	1,242									
San Jacinto	986	2	2		2					
San Patricio	7,439	4	3	1	3	1				
San Saba	970	1	1				1			
Schleicher	411									
Scurry	2,600									
Shackelford	513									
Shelby	3,129	3	3		2		1			
Sherman	342									
Smith	10,117	11	8	3	6	3	2			
Sommervell	298									
Starr	3,017									
Stephens	1,026									

TABLE XXI (continued)

County	Scholastic Population (School Census) 1954-1955	Number of Children								
		Grand Total	Total		Gatesville State School for Boys		Gainesville State School for Girls		Crockett State School for Negro Girls	
			New	Returns	New	Returns	New	Returns	New	Returns
Sterling	187									
Stonewall	433									
Sutton	543									
Swisher	1,415	1	1		1					
Tarrant	50,475	77	57	20	39	16	6	4	12	
Taylor	8,304	3	2	1	1	1	1			
Terrell	397									
Terry	1,895	1	1		1					
Throckmorton	382	1	1		1					
Titus	2,369									
Tom Green	7,264	15	9	6	6	6	3			
Travis	19,208	35	25	10	18	7	3	1	4	
Trinity	1,312									
Tyler	1,702									
Upshur	2,713									
Upton	991									
Uvalde	2,619									
Val Verde	2,719									
Van Zandt	2,737									
Victoria	5,571	1	1		1					
Walker	2,206	1		1		1				
Waller	1,528									
Ward	1,745	1		1		1				
Washington	2,471									
Webb	9,552	7	5	2	4	1	1	1		
Wharton	5,780	11	9	2	9	2				
Wheeler	1,289									
Wichita	11,081	9	7	2	6	2	1			
Wilbarger	2,329	5	3	2	3	1		1		
Willacy	3,316	3	1	2	1	1		1		
Williamson	4,900	3	3		2		1			
Wilson	2,245									
Winkler	1,474	1	1				1			
Wise	1,891									
Wood	2,814									
Yoakum	881									
Young	2,058									
Zapata	612									
Zavala	2,004									

PLEASE NOTE: Some children who were returned to the schools on broken paroles were received from counties other than those from which they were committed. However, the county holding the original commitment is charged with the return.

SUMMARY OF OPERATING EXPENSE

SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 - AUGUST 31, 1955

Facility	Average Number of Children	Net Operating Expense	
		Total	Per Child
TOTAL	865	\$1,042,954.22	\$
Youth Development Council		48,247.28	
Crockett State School for Girls	84	102,675.12	1,230.38
Gainesville State School for Girls	179	245,757.41	1,380.66
Gatesville State School for Boys	602	694,521.69	1,153.17

