

Private Hearings for All Juvenile Delinquents

Promise of Robert Fulton, Candidate for Judge of Court, Former Pastor.

Declarer that he will, if elected, appoint a woman referee to hear all girls' cases involving immorality and that he will hold private trials for children. Robert Fulton, candidate for the Republican nomination for judge of the Juvenile Court, today issued a statement outlining his platform. Mr. Fulton believes a nineteen-year-old statute should be invoked whereby all curiosity seekers may be excluded from the room and that every effort should be made to win the confidence and friendship of the children who come before the judge.

Mr. Fulton is a member of the Fourth Presbyterian Church and has devoted much time to juvenile work, both in Marion County and in other States. He left the ministry several years ago to take up the practice of law.

MUCH MONEY SPENT FOR THE PAID WORKERS.

"The Juvenile Court is in many ways, one of the most important in the country. More money is spent upon this than any other, and no other court has such a large number of paid workers. About 1,000 cases a year are tried in the Juvenile Court, by far the largest number tried in any court in the county. Almost \$50,000 a year is collected and spent on the Juvenile Court. The Juvenile Court is held in a large room in the basement of the court house and is reached through a long, gloomy corridor most disagreeable and unattractive to the courtroom itself. The quarters occupied by this court are as such no other judge in the county would tolerate, and there is a general sentiment that the court should be moved. Surroundings that are unfit for adults, surely are not fit for children."

"There are striking differences between the old fashioned Juvenile Court and the fators and manners of our citizens have entirely given up the old forms and procedure and are operating upon altogether modern lines, greatly to the pleasure and satisfaction of all concerned. The modern Juvenile Courts seek to avoid even the appearance of a prosecution, and a legal trial, and its chief purpose is to bring the child before and convince him that the court is his friend and seeks only his welfare. The idea of punishment is entirely secondary and its great purpose is to learn why the child commits the offense and to prevent his repeating it in the future. The very appearance of the old style courtroom has passed in the cities and has been given to modern reform. Our statutes make specific provisions which enable us to have a modern court room: All trials of such children as are affected by this act of the Juvenile Court in the Juvenile courtroom. A judge who cares to take advantage of this provision will at once be enabled to leave the small courtroom and move into some smaller and more suitable quarters. The noted Juvenile Court in Washington, D. C., presided over by a woman judge, held in a building entirely removed from the courthouse.

PUBLIC TRIALS NO LONGER COURT RULE.

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"Our statutes contain another wise provision, which has not been taken advantage of in the nineteen years since this became a law. The judge of such court is hereby empowered to exclude from the courtroom at such trials any attorney who is not of the opinion that it is necessary to the trial of the case. In the light of this authority no judge is satisfied in exposing a boy or girl to the public, even in the case of a simple or of a public trial. Those who, in this law deserve a debt of gratitude for arming the court with this far-reaching power. If I am elected I shall hold the trial in chambers and shall exclude from the room all those not necessary to the trial of the case. I shall, however, welcome any information or assistance which an interested party can give and shall kindly cooperate with all agencies for child welfare."

"Another and equally wise and humane provision of the modern Juvenile Court is exercised in cases where girls have been charged with immoral conduct. Not only is it impossible that such a girl should be exposed to the curiosity of the common courtroom, but in the better organized courts of our country these cases are heard by a woman referee, who, particularly and kindly gathers all the facts and circumstances surrounding the girl and the girl's offense and then submits the results to the court for a decision. This is a most sensible thing, but it is evident that the right kind of woman will be able to do this work better than any man. My proposal to the members of the Marion County Juvenile Court is that if I am elected, this reform will be instituted in our Juvenile Court and girls, too, involving morality, will be heard by a woman referee."

"One of the reasons that has operated to decrease respect for our Juvenile

court is the method that has been used in the trials of adult defendants. It is felt, by many lawyers and by myself, that the best method of trial in this court, that the burden has been placed upon the defendant to prove his innocence, that the gossip and scandal of the courtroom has been avoided, and that not only the attorney has been denied the right of cross-examination. Our statutes provide that when a defendant is tried in this court for contributing to delinquency, such trial shall be conducted by the prosecuting attorney in accordance with the rules and practice of the court, and when a trial is conducted by the Juvenile Court. And, provided, that any person charged with this act shall be entitled to trial by jury of twelve persons if he shall so elect.

"Under our law the Juvenile court gives underprivileged children into the custody of the Board of Children's Guardians. This board may then place the child with its mother and pay the fees for its support and maintenance. In case of a breakdown of this law to prevent the family breakdown which would otherwise occur if the children should be taken from the home, the law does not apply to delinquent children or those whose parents are unfit to care for them, but is made for the benefit of dependent children who are fit parents and are in whole or in part, but not on account of poverty, must be given to public care. The object of this law is to keep together in some home, the members of the same family that poverty alone is about to destroy. This law should include every parent. Mothers' pension law and child welfare laws are correct in principle.

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taken advantage of by Marion County, although it has been used with fine success in from twenty to thirty other counties. The new group of social workers, including the mothers, have been given advantage of this. This is generally known as the mothers' pension law, or more properly known as the child welfare law. It has come to have a Nation-wide interest since the passage of the first of these laws ten years ago, and forms of these laws have now passed in all of our States, excepting those which have not yet done so, for the benefit of their needy children. The object of this law is to provide support for dependent children without putting them into institutions. These laws are made to exclude the children of widows, deserted mothers, wives whose husbands have become incapacitated mentally or physically, or whose husbands have been confined to mental institutions. In the Middle West and West, this law is administered through the Juvenile court, in some of the Eastern States by State boards and in other States by county town or city boards.

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The lettering and cover designs were contributed by the students of the Art Appreciation Club under the direction of their censor, Mrs. Bowles; a picture book made by Session Room 25 students; a book of "Shorthridge" by the students of the Art Department; a book of Edgar Guest songs, which the students of the Art Department have written and illustrated with their own drawings; a book of contemporary illustrations by Griffie Stephen, a post-graduate student in the art department; a garden and outdoor book by Lois Axline, a freshman; a book of old-fashioned picture books with illustrations from the magazines of our grandmothers' times, by Jeanette Jackson of the sophomore class; and "Opego's

Travels," two books of original verse by Anna Louise Hall, a sophomore; a book of poems by Al Capp, a junior; a book of poems by Helen Lowry and Jean Mander of the Junior class; a picture book by Miss Irma Brayton, a Shorthridge teacher; four books by Edith Cory, a junior, including travel, science, and history; a book of colored pictures by Miss Cora by Mrs. Dicks, wife of Louis H. Dicks, assistant principal at Shorthridge.

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