

CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

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Councillor JAMES M. AITKEN



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GLASGOW
CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

FIRST
ANNUAL REPORT

Issued on the instructions of the Children's
Committee and covering the period
1st June 1949 to 31st May 1950.

R. BROUGH
Children's Officer

11 JOHN STREET
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20386

2009.30.1

ACTIONS MADE TO THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT.

period, 1st June, 1949,
31st May, 1950.

	In respect of		
	Boys.	Girls.	
Residential Homes ...	556	435	
... ..	135	145	
Reports for various	10	6	
	<u>701</u>	<u>586</u>	<u>1,287</u>

with relatives in the city area.

OUT WITH FOSTER PARENTS OR RELATIVES AT 31ST MAY, 1950.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
... ..	101	92	193
... ..	188	126	314
... ..	799	766	1,565
	<u>1,088</u>	<u>984</u>	<u>2,072</u>
... ..	559	507	1,066
... ..	529	477	1,006
	<u>1,088</u>	<u>984</u>	<u>2,072</u>
1948	872	797	1,669
Children Act, 1948	—	2	2
Persons (Scotland) Act, 1948	216	185	401
	<u>1,088</u>	<u>984</u>	<u>2,072</u>

BOARDING OUT.

For various reasons legal adoption is not possible for the great majority of children in the care of the Local Authority and the nearest substitute is placing with a suitable foster-parent. However good it may be, a Residential Home cannot provide the family atmosphere with a "father" and "mother" to listen to the little tales of woe, the achievements, the exploits, etc., of a child. The fact that the child feels he is a normal child, receiving personal and individual care, gives that feeling of security and confidence so necessary for his successful upbringing. As will be seen from the statistics, there are over 2,000 children boarded out by the Children's Department. They are in over 1,000 foster homes which are regularly visited by officials of the Department and once per annum by members of the Children's Committee.

The allowance paid for maintenance of boarded out children is 17s. 6d., per week and, in addition, pocket money on the following scale is allowed—children 2-4 years, 6d; children 5-9 years, 9d; children 10-12 years, 1s.; children 13-school leaving age, 1s. 6d. Clothing is provided from the Corporation's Central Store or, if desired by the foster parent, a cash allowance is paid as follows:—children up to 7 years, £10 per annum; children 8-12 years, £12 10s. per annum; children 13 years and over, £15 per annum.

For many years Glasgow children were mainly boarded in highland or country areas. A campaign has been instituted for the finding of new foster homes and advertising is being carried out in cities, towns and large villages where there are facilities for a child to receive the benefit of full education, to be absorbed into industry, and in fact to make his home with his foster-parent. The homes in the highlands are excellent, the guardians have a grand record of past successes and there is no intention to close down any of the highland districts but experience has shown that many of the children have had to be removed from their boarding-out area because they could not be absorbed in industry in the locality.

It is pleasing to record the many successes of the boarding-out system. Several of the children have graduated in medicine, arts, and divinity, others have been successful in business, and many have entered the ordinary spheres of life and become good and effective members of the community.

AREAS IN WHICH CHILDREN ARE BOARDED

Inverness County	...	...	...	550
Aberdeen	"	...	...	319
Banff	"	...	...	317
Argyll	"	...	...	130
Ross & Cromarty County	...	...	...	114
Lanark	"	...	...	84
Ayr	"	...	...	28
Moray & Nairn	"	...	...	24
Kirkcudbright	"	...	...	21
Sutherland	"	...	...	21
Dunbarton	"	...	...	20
				<hr/>
				1,628
Sundry other Counties and Burghs	...	...	...	131
In City of Glasgow Area (mainly with relatives)	...	...	...	313
				<hr/>
				2,072

CHILDREN IN VOLUNTARY HOMES

Smyllum Orphanage, Lanark	...	...	...	122
Nazereth House, Aberdeen	...	...	...	44
St. Catherine's Convent, Colinton	...	...	...	22
Salvation Army Home, Ardenshaw, Pollokshields	...	...	...	21
Convent of the Good Shephred, Colinton	...	...	...	19
Nazareth House, Lasswade	...	...	...	19
Convalescent Home, Mugdock	...	...	...	17
Convent of the Good Shepherd, Bishopton	...	...	...	15
Lochburn Home	...	...	...	11
St. Mary's Hostel, Wilton Street	...	...	...	9
St. Mary's R.C. Home, Barrhead	...	...	...	3
Crippled Children's League	...	...	...	2
Church of Scotland Home, Queen Mary Avenue	...	...	...	2
Convent of the Good Shepherd, Dalbeath	...	...	...	1
Salvation Army Maternity Home	...	...	...	1
Queen Mary's Girls' Hostel, Edinburgh	...	...	...	1
Eastpark Home for Infirm Children	...	...	...	1
Orphan Homes of Scotland	...	...	...	1
Maghull Colony for Epileptics	...	...	...	1
				<hr/>
				312

Many of the children are placed in Voluntary Homes on account of physical handicap, emotional difficulties which require special disciplinary treatment and, in the case of Smyllum and Nazareth, on account of the difficulty of obtaining suitable foster-parents of the child's own religion. The cost of maintenance in these Homes is paid by the Department.

BOYS IN WORKING

Home for Working Lads, Ponton
 St. John Bosco R.C. Hostel, Part
 Greenock Working Boys' Home
 St. Andrew's R.C. Hostel, Edinbu
 Church of Scotland Boys' Home,
 Church of Scotland Boys' Home,
 Church of Scotland Boys' Home,
 Home for Working Lads, Dundee

Occupations

Having apprenticeships— Engineer
 Woodwo
 Building
 Distribur
 Painters
 Catering

Of the remaining 31 boys (some of whom cannot commence apprenticeship) unskilled such as van boys, message b

Boys who cannot be placed in the area are usually brought to Glasgow with and every effort made to gratify the feelings but the great majority are Boys' Homes, all of which are Voluntary. It is very seldom called upon to act on behalf because most of the officers in charge in their search for suitable employment that over 70% of the boys are apprentices. The fact that many of the remainder proportion is very high and very serious.

The Children's Committee, as recommended approved of the opening of a hostel under the Department, but this has not yet been that suitable premises have still to be