

**Breckinridge, Sophonisba P., and Abbott, Edith.** *The Delinquent Child and the Home.* Pp. x, 355. Price \$2.00. New York: Charities Publication Committee, 1912.

This volume is a symposium on the Juvenile Court of Chicago. An able introduction by Miss Lathrop is followed by the work of the two authors. The appendices contain articles by Judge Mack and by Miss Grace Abbott, and the testimony of Judge Pickney defending the court.

"The study deals only with . . . the court in its relation to the families and homes from which the delinquent wards come" (p. 13). The court records from 1899-1909 form the basis of the study but intensive investigation of the boys before the court in 1903-4 and the inmates of the State Training School for Girls was also made. Over half of the boys had come before the court for stealing; eighty per cent of the girls because of danger to morals. Seventy per cent of the parents of these children were foreign born, and "nine-tenths of the delinquent girls and delinquent boys come from the homes of the poor" (p. 74). In more than one-third of the cases, the family was not normal. Viciousness or drunkenness of parents, overcrowded homes, the mixing of the children of various marriages, the lack of facilities for play, all these have their place as causes of delinquency. The conclusion of the authors is ". . . that the most important lesson to be learned from any study of the juvenile court in its relation to the delinquent child is that the only way of curing delinquency is to prevent it" (p. 177).

The appendices contain valuable reference material on the legal points and on the present status of the juvenile court movement.

This clear and scientific volume is a valuable contribution to the study of juvenile delinquency and is in itself a powerful defense of the juvenile court. It shows the promise of even greater usefulness in the institution, until, in the end, the court shall have destroyed the need of its own existence.

ALEXANDER FLEISHER.

*Philadelphia, Pa.*

---

**Cecil, William G.** *Changing China.* Pp. 342. Price \$2.00. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1912.

It has frequently been recognized that the recent development of China through Western influence has resulted largely from a conjunction of seemingly incompatible agencies—the missionaries of the Gospel of Peace, who have led many Chinese to a knowledge of Western civilization, and the occidental plunderers organized in armies, who have compelled the adoption of Western methods in mere self-preservation. Thus there is, if not an alliance, at least, in some matters, a *modus vivendi*, between God and Satan.

Lord Gascoyne-Cecil describes this curious process, for the purpose of a warning as to its future course. He fears that the diabolical influence may soon prevail over the celestial. The fact that two civilizations blend, by whatever methods, is in itself, we are told, charged with grave peril. "The pleasing dream that you can arbitrarily select the good points of West and East and weave them into one is the very reverse of the truth. What naturally happens is the very

