

Department of Probation



WHAT the Probation Department for adults of Oakland County has resulted in good, is gleaned from the reports of Probation Officer, Remember Kent, for the years 1925 and 1926.

We quote the following from the law governing the placing of people arrested for crime, to give the reader a better understanding of the department.

"In all prosecutions for crimes or misdemeanors, except murder and treason, where the defendant has been found guilty, upon verdict or plea, and where the Court has power to sentence such defendant to fine or imprisonment, and where it appears to the satisfaction of the court that the defendant is not likely again to engage in an offensive or criminal course of conduct, and that the public good does not require that the defendant shall suffer the penalty imposed by law, said Court shall have the power to place the defendant on probation under the charge and supervision of a probation officer."

In 1925, the total number placed on probation was 37. The earnings for this number of probationers for the period was \$31,765.79.

In 1926 the total number placed on probation was 50 and the total earnings was \$53,270.18, an increase in earnings of more than \$20,000.

From January 1, 1926 to August 1, 37 persons have been placed on probation. There is a grand total of 78 now on probation, reporting to the Probation Officer monthly.

The following report will be of interest: For year ending June 30, 1926:

Total number placed on probation.....	50	Number probation period extended.....	0
Total number cases investigated.....	50	Average length of probation period	
For felonies	50	(years)	2
Total number discharged.....	15	For felons (years)	2
Number discharged with improvement	15	Number required to contribute toward support of dependents.....	0
Rearrested and committed for violating probationary conditions.....	4	Number required to make restitution	4
Rearrested and committed for new offenses while on probation.....	3	Total amount contributed.....	\$935.00
Number of probationers absconded.....	2	Number required to pay fines.....	1
Number retaken	0	Total amount paid	\$50.00
Number of probationers died while on probation	0	Number required to pay costs.....	6
		Total amount paid	\$500.00
		Total earnings of probationers of the period	\$52,270.18

The Probation Department is of great benefit to the first offender. Without this system all persons arrested for felony would be sentenced to prison and families of the convicted person would suffer, many times unnecessarily. The direct economic loss to the community would be large in the loss of wages earned and an additional burden would be placed on both public and welfare agencies to care for an augmented number of dependents. In contrast to this, probation permits gainful employment in an accustomed environment under supervision. This is likewise of constructive aid in building character and in preventing anti-social conduct.

REMEMBER KENT, Probation Officer.