KENTON COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY.

REPORT FOR SIX MONTHS, ENDING JUNE 1st, 1896.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT.

Number of complaints investigated .............. 350
Number of Children Involved .................. 560
Improper Homes ................................ 13
Neglect ........................................... 1
Cruelty and Abuse ................................ 24
Disorderly Conduct ............................... 1

Custody of Children .............................. 8
Homeless .......................................... 9
Incorrigibility .................................... 9
Desertion and Desertion ......................... 15
Abandoned ........................................ 2
Street Begging .................................... 10
Abduction ........................................ 1

DISPOSED OF AS FOLLOWS.

Not Sustained ................................... 18
No Jurisdiction .................................... 3
Parents Warned .................................... 43
Children returned to Parents..................... 3
Referred to Police ................................ 18
Referred to Children's Home ..................... 3
Referred to Associated Charities ................. 25
Referred to St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum ......... 1
Referred to Convict of Good Shepherd .......... 14
Referred to Children's Home Society .......... 9
Referred to Foundlings Home .................... 2
Sent to Relatives ................................ 1

Number of Investigations in 150 Cases ............ 457

TRUANT FATHERS DEPARTMENT.

Number of Cases Investigated ................. 36
Number of Children Involved .................. 168
Number of Fathers Paying for Support .......... 5
Number of Children Supported thereby ......... 12
Cash Received from Fathers .................... 82 00
Paid to Mothers ................................ 8 00

ANIMAL DEPARTMENT.

Number of Complaints Investigated ............. 83
Number of Animals Involved .................... 218
Stocks of Poultry Examined ..................... 90

NATURE OF COMPLAINTS.

Unfit for Work ................................... 6
Lame ................................................ 8
Sore Shoulders and Backs ....................... 11
Cruelty and Neglect .............................. 17
Overbred .......................................... 4
Cruelty and Neglect of Cattle ................... 11
Cruelty and Neglect of Dogs .................... 12
Cruelty and Neglect of Poultry ................. 14

DISPOSED OF AS FOLLOWS

Complaints not Sustained ...................... 14
Owners and Drivers Warned .................... 41
Sent to Stables .................................. 18
Prosecutions ...................................... 1
Surrendered to Society to be Destroyed ........ 83

Appealances in Court ............................ 76
OBJECT.

The immediate object of this Society is the prevention of cruelty to children and animals, to disseminate information on the above and kindred subjects, and to promote a humane public sentiment and educate the people as to proper methods of treatment of children and animals.

This Society was organized October 12, 1885. It was incorporated December 10, 1885. It has no capital stock, nor is it run for the pecuniary profit of its members, neither does it dispense charity.

Children and animals are the subjects of its oversight. It is the aim of the Society to care for them in the sense of seeing that they are properly supported and treated by those whom law, public sentiment and the feelings of humanity bind to do so.

METHODS OF WORK.

The Society is not authorized to receive or take children to maintain, support and educate; it discovers those cases in which children are the subject of mistreatment or are in want of care, food, protection, clothing and other things which go to make up a home, or are in improper homes or places, and either by advice or warning causes the cure of the evil complained of, or if still persist in invokes the law to protect the child, punish the offender or remove the child to proper surroundings.

Every child has a legal and a moral right to demand and receive at the hands of those who brought it into existence, support and education and moral training, and this right is certainly as strong as the right of the parent to the child.

The child is too young and helpless to itself to enforce these rights—this Society is organized to assist in enforcing them for it, and in this the Society shows no fear or favor, and neither politics or religion, wealth or social position are allowed to interfere.

HUMANE LAWS.

The Act of the Kentucky Legislature of February 11th, 1894, protects any child actually or apparently under 14 years of age:

1. If found publicly begging, receiving or soliciting alms, or under false pretense;

2. Not having any home or other place of abode, or abandoned, or habitually treated with cruelty or neglect by its parents or other persons having it in charge, or in a state of want or suffering caused by being willfully deprived of the necessaries of life;

3. Destitute of means of support, being an orphan or living with, or in custody of parent or guardian who is habitually idle and dissolute in habit and without visible means of support, or who has been convicted of a crime against the person of such child;

4. Who is employed, exhibited or used in begging or receiving alms, or in any mendicant occupation;

5. Who being a female is employed or used in peddling or any wandering occupation;

6. Who is employed, exhibited or used in any indecent or immoral occupation or practice.

7. Who is exhibited when insane or idiotic;

8. Who is employed, exhibited or used in any practice or exhibition of unusual danger to its life, limb, health or morals;

9. If willfully or unmercifully exposed to inclemency of the weather, or otherwise injured in health or limb;

10. If deserted in a manner showing reckless disregard of life or health and with intention wholly to abandon it;

11. Whose parent willfully and unnecessarily neglects to provide for its support, if under 14 years of age.

Paragraphs 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 11 are punishable by fine, jail or workhouse sentences.

Paragraphs 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 may be, and 10 is always punishable by penalititary imprisonment.

Under paragraphs 1 to 8 inclusive, the child may be taken from the parent or other person in charge by the County Court, and committed to proper institution or other suitable person. When this is done the wishes of the parents are to be consulted as to the religious denomination of such institution selected.

Female children are further protected when under 14 years against abduction (1156), and any child, if under 10 years, against abduction and kidnapping (1157). Girls against seduction under promise of marriage (1277), procures (1215), abortion (1220). Children under 18 years against cigarettes (1277), and minors against the sale of liquors (1306). In addition to which there is a very stringent City Ordinance prohibiting cruelty to children, and under which parents may be required to give bond to provide for, maintain and give home comforts to their children.

The laws punishing Cruelty to Animals are very strict. Overloading, Overdriving, Beating, Mutilating, Overworking failure to properly feed or protect from exposure to weather are all punishable by fine or imprisonment. (Ky. Stat. Sec. 1246, and City Ordinance.)

ANIMALS are further protected by stringent laws against Dog and Chicken Fighting (§1244); Poisoning Cattle (§1240, 1249); of Bees (§1247); of Fish (§1258); Maiming, Killing and Injuring of Cattle (§1249); of Deer and Elk (§1250, 1251); of Live Stock by Railroad Engineers (§1258); Putting Trash and Obstructions in Public Highways (§1241.)

In addition to these, Prizefighting (§1264 to 1290), and Publishing and Circulating of Obscene Literature (§1251 to 1355 and City Ordinance), are prohibited.

(NOTE—The figures above refer to the Section Numbers of the Kentucky Statutes.)

WE WANT 1000 MEMBERS.

Will you be one of them—Ask your Husband, Wife, Neighbor and Friends to join. Educate your Children on the subject by giving them each a membership. It is cheap and is money well spent.

Donations in addition to memberships will be appreciated and carefully used.