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GONZALES GARDENS PROJECT NEARING COMPLETION

With construction work on Gonzales Gardens progressing rapidly, the Columbia Housing Authority hopes to be able to open approximately 60 of the 236 units on the project during the month of June. It is also expected that the administrative building will be finished during June and offices set up. Allen-Benedict Court, the new Negro project of 244 units, is also coming along nicely and is now 35 per cent. complete.

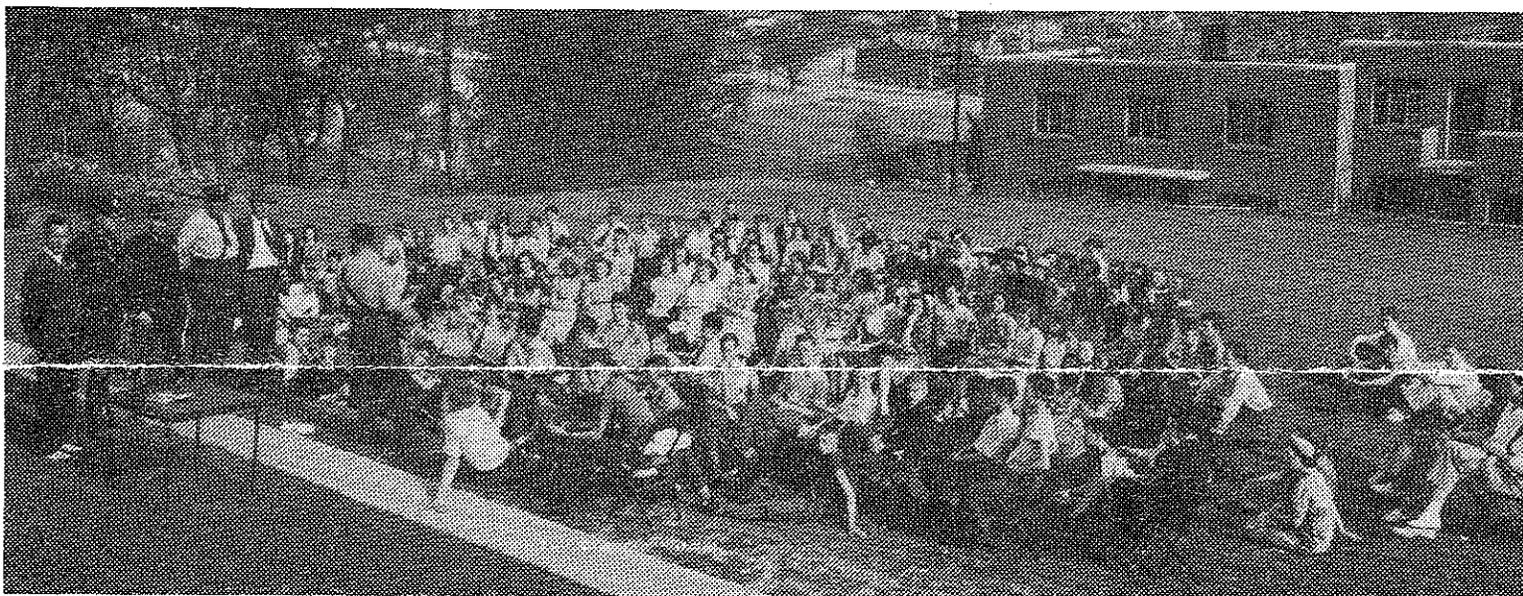
A total of \$113,700.00 has been paid in wages for work done on the site of these two projects. This sum represents payment for 195,880 man hours of work. At the present time 650 men are employed at the projects.

These figures do not include payrolls of contractors supplying material. It is estimated that the man hours and amount paid in wages, off the site, will exceed by approximately one-third those figures on the site.

In the development of these two projects the Authority has spent a total of \$660,790.61 to date, and the vast majority of this money has gone either directly or indirectly to Columbians.

Interest in Columbia's housing program remains great on the part of the public with numerous applications being received and various civic organizations desiring to know more about the subject of housing.

UNIVERSITY TERRACE COOPERATES WITH PUBLIC



University Terrace has received favorable public mention by cooperating with other agencies for the benefit of the public as a whole. Pictured above is a meeting of the Safety Driving Class conducted by the Works Progress Administration, the Columbia City Police force and the State Highway Department at University Terrace. This school was given to instruct automobile drivers in the principles of safe and courteous driving as well as the mechanics of driving. The lectures were held at University Terrace, the afternoon class meetings on the lawn and the night class in the social room. The classes were two hours in length and were attended by the public in general as well as a number of University Terrace residents. Students were given actual driving instructions on a nearby highway.

This cooperation works out to the advantage of all concerned and creates favorable public opinion for the housing program. In addition the Works Progress Administration cooperates with University Terrace by furnishing a playground supervisor and the Columbia Police Department has sponsored two Junior Safety Patrols for the project and the highway department has also cooperated in showing safety films.

During the month of April, the American Red Cross also held a two weeks' course in First Aid for the Girl Scouts of Columbia.

The Housing Authority of the City of Columbia, S. C.

W. S. Hendley, Chairman; S. L. Latimer, Jr., Vice Chairman; E. C. Coker, G. H. Crawford, L. C. Smith.

J. A. Chase, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer.

A. R. Wellwood, Executive Director.

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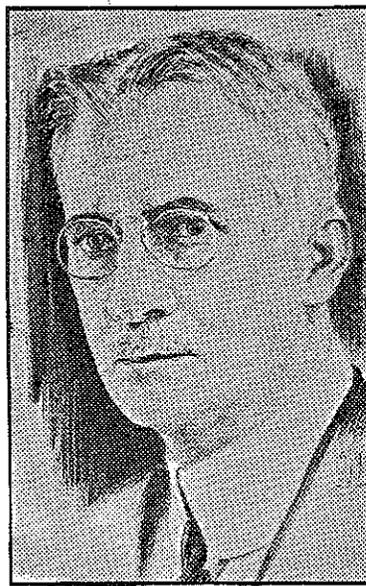
The Columbia Housing Authority celebrated its sixth anniversary last April 10.

One of the first housing authorities organized in the United States, the Columbia Housing Authority has kept up with advancements in the housing field and can look back upon a notable record of achievement. When on April 10, 1934, Mayor L. B. Owens named the five commissioners to serve as the local housing authority, he said; "I feel that because of your interest in public matters I can call on you for this important voluntary work for the city."

The group has endeavored to carry out to the fullest the intent of this statement, devoting much time and thought to the subject of public housing. University Terrace has been operated for three years and is one of the first housing projects in the United States. This project was built by the Public Works Administration and under the sponsorship of the Columbia Housing Authority, which now leases the project. The Columbia Housing Authority under loan contract with the United States Housing Authority is now completing two new projects in Columbia.

By reason of its early experience in housing, the local Authority has been privileged to encourage neighboring cities to obtain similar projects.

CRUSADER



WILLIAM E. GONZALES
(1866—1937)

In Appreciation

Six years ago, the Columbia Housing Authority was appointed by the Mayor to encourage better housing and slum clearance in Columbia. From the first the late Captain William Elliott Gonzales, then editor of *The State*, gave his capable support and influence to the cause of housing. Mr. Gonzales wrote a number of editorials which were invaluable in the support of housing. Below we quote one of his editorials written August 30, 1935.

"A Fine Work Well Done"

"It is a great pleasure and satisfaction to *The State* to be able this morning to extend its congratulations to the City of Columbia, to the private citizens composing the Columbia Housing Authority, to their attorney and their architect, and to Mayor Owens for appointing that authority as authorized by the legislature and then for "playing the game" in admirable manner by leaving the authority absolutely free and unhampered to act for the best interest of the community.

"Quietly, efficiently and without the semblance of political pull or official intervention, those private citizens have worked for Columbia for nearly a year and a half, and the first definite achievement was announced from Washington yesterday. Under the federal authority for slum clearance and low cost housing, houses and hovels on a four-acre block in Columbia are to be removed and houses or apartments built in their place, at a cost of \$450,000.

"The State happens to know that the work by this Columbia "authority" has

Housing Officials Visit Columbia

John P. Broome, Regional Director of the United States Housing Authority and Hubbard L. Sullivan, Construction Advisor, visited the Columbia Housing Authority during the month of April and both officials expressed themselves as "pleased with the progress being made in Columbia's housing program."

Mr. Broome and Mr. Sullivan held a conference with local housing officials at the Columbia Hotel, after inspecting Columbia's two new projects, Gonzales Gardens and Allen-Benedict Court.

gone forward without a single hitch so far as any possible planning or preparation by these Columbians is concerned.

"Washington wanted no publicity—and there has been none. The mayor never asked nor was he told prior to selection where it was proposed to make the development. During the year 40 visits have been made to Columbia by government men, the first visit having been made in July, 1934, by Mr. A. R. Clas, then holding a position in the slum clearance authority—and now the head of that activity in Washington. Private citizens who are straightforward business men have found satisfaction in working with Mr. Clas.

"University Terrace," the name of this development, will be directly between the university athletic field and the Negro high school.

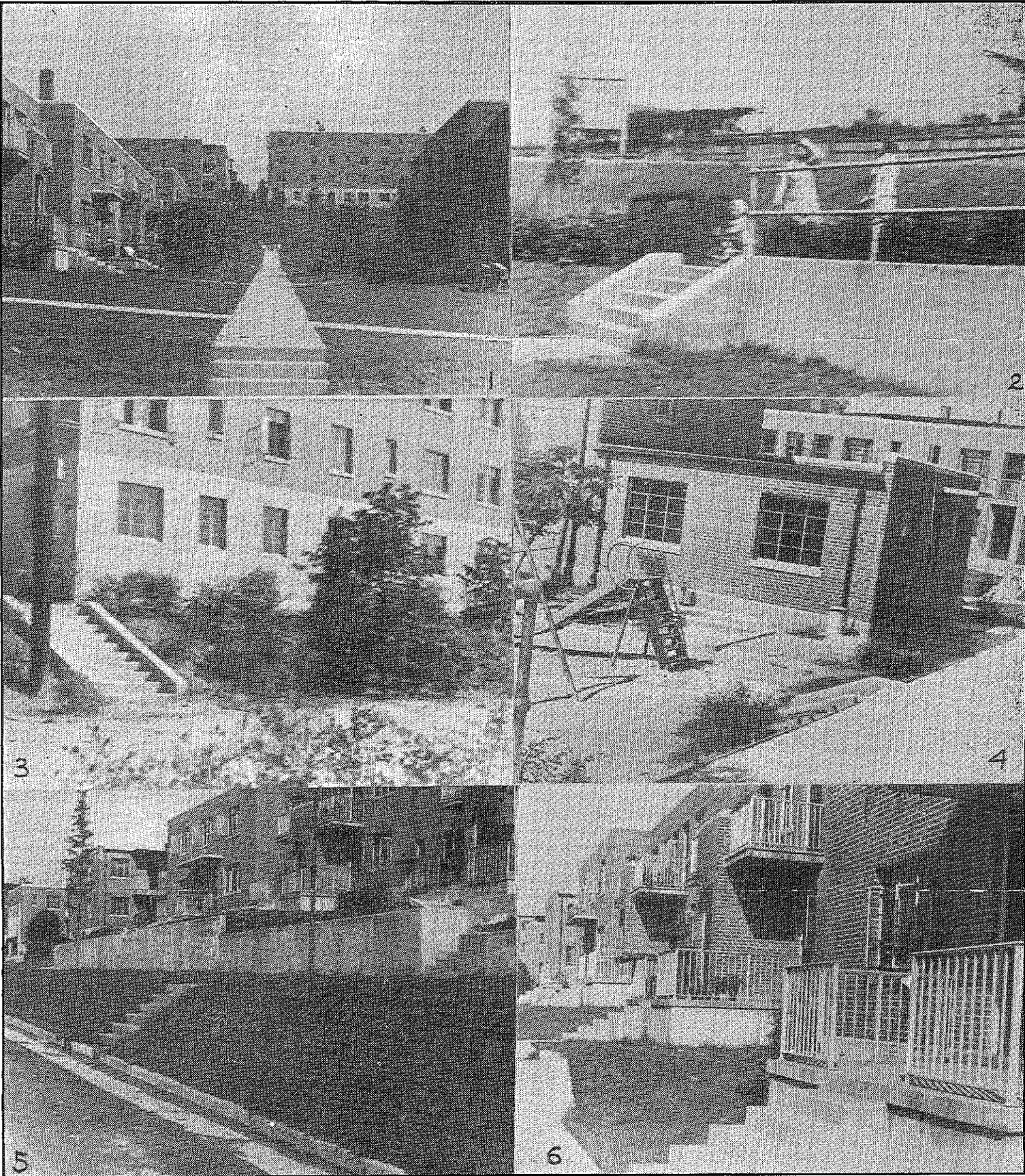
"To our mind this building means much more to Columbia than the building of a two million dollar federal office building. We shall have here illustrations, object lessons in homes for whites and for Negroes. Practically all the money will be spent right here, first for the land, then for labor and materials.

"The Columbia Housing Authority, responsible for this achievement, is composed of W. S. Hendley, insurance, chairman; L. Cooper Smith, manager Columbia Mills; Samuel L. Latimer, Jr., city editor, *The State*; E. C. Coker, University professor; Geddings H. Crawford, bond broker. Associated with them from the outset in volunteer capacity were D. W. Robinson, Jr., attorney; J. B. Urquhart, architect, and John A. Chase, Jr., secretary.

"Again, Congratulations, gentlemen!"

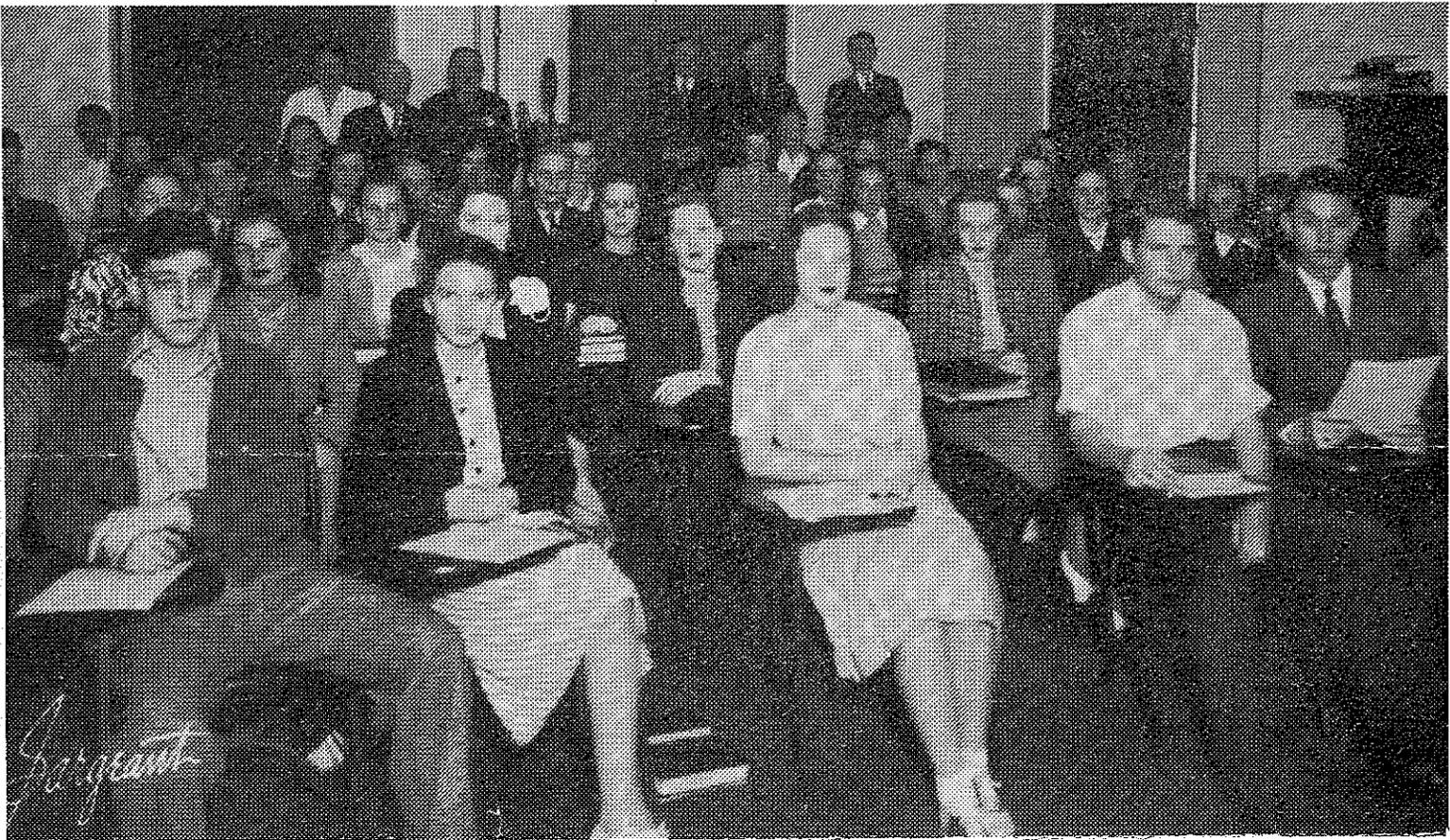
In appreciation, the Columbia Housing Authority named one of its new projects Gonzales Gardens after Mr. Gonzales and his late brothers, N. G. and A. E. Gonzales, founders of *The State*.

"LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS"



Scenes at University Terrace, Columbia's existing project, where tenants enjoy decent living conditions and are glad that they are Americans. The slogan of University Terrace is "An American Community."

COLLEGE STUDENTS HEAR OF HOUSING



In the photograph above, the University of South Carolina Sociology class, taught by Dr. G. Croft Williams is shown watching a sound film "Housing In Our Time." This film portrays the program of the United States Housing Authority and local Authorities to provide low-rent homes to families of low income.

Our Erring Youngsters—And Where And How They Are Housed

Cases of juvenile delinquency in Columbia to the number of 1,860 during the six years 1933-38 inclusive have been "spotted" on a map of the city, as part of a continuing study by the children's committee of the Council of Social Agencies.

Three blocks have 30 or more delinquents; 11 blocks 20 to 30; 30 blocks 10 to 20; 41 blocks 6 to 10; 85 blocks at least one delinquent each year. (A delinquent, as the word is used in this study, is a juvenile who has been brought before the juvenile court. There were of course some "repeaters.") This preliminary report draws no implications, only presents the statistical facts.

Boys' cases accounted for 87 per cent. of the total dealt with, or 13 boys to two girls. Fifty-six per cent. of all the children brought to court were Negroes. While there were one-fourth again as many Negro boys as white boys, the number of white girls exceeded that of Negro girls by seven. Sex and race distribution was practically the same through each of the six years. Sixty-

three per cent. of the children were in the 12-13-14-15 years age group. "Very little variation is seen from year to year in the charges made against children . . . Thirty-nine per cent. were charged with petit larceny; . . . 21 per cent. with disorderly conduct; . . . less than 0.5 per cent. with sexual offenses."

Just what the correlation is between the per-block rate of juvenile delinquency and the type of housing a given block affords nobody precisely knows. But commonsense suggests and studies in many cities confirm, that such correlation exists. Nobody would say that bad housing of itself is the sole cause of high juvenile delinquency. "The destruction of the poor is their poverty," as we are reminded in Proverbs; and many phases of poverty other than bad housing contribute to juvenile delinquency. Yet no citizen who knows his Columbia can look at the map showing where juvenile delinquency here is most rife without being reminded that the housing conditions existing in those localities, to say the least, are not conducive to "the good life." Some of

them are in startling proximity to "centers of light and leading." Much of the housing which more or less shelters many families today could not be constructed under any decent municipal code. A minimum hope is that no new construction of this sort shall be allowed.

This survey has been made with the idea that it would "reveal many definite needs" toward which the committee "could direct its energies." The possibility was contemplated "of discovering additional resources and facilities needed to make living in Columbia more successful for her boys and girls." Mrs. John Swearingen is chairman of the committee, which has for technical adviser Miss Leila Johnson of the University of South Carolina. Recorder Heyward Brockinton, as judge of the juvenile court, has shown himself understanding and sagacious in his handling of young delinquents and has given the committee cordial cooperation.

—"The State," April 27, 1940.