

It will be noted earlier in this report that 5 inmates were transferred to mental hospitals. In addition, the services of the mental specialists were called on to examine inmates on other occasions. In this connection I would quote the remarks of the Reverend Sir Herbert Dunnico, Chairman of the Stratford Magistrates' Court, England, in his report to the Justices of the Beacontree Division, which were as follows:—

The ever-increasing tendency to look on all forms of anti-social behaviour, whether it be delinquency, laziness, or selfishness, as symptoms of mental illness or unbalance is, in my opinion, both dangerous and pernicious.

Psychology is not a substitute for character, nor is psychological treatment a substitute for basic training. The parent who rears the child and the teacher who trains it are a more vital factor in its life than any psychologist can or should be.

We cannot allow the moral and ethical standards evolved through the centuries by education, sacrifice, and suffering to be undermined by psychological theorists to whom, in many cases, right and wrong are meaningless terms. This is determinism gone mad.

In only a relatively small number of cases are offenders incapable of choosing right from wrong, and in 95 per cent. of the cases that come before the Courts, they should be held responsible for the larger part of their offences. Even the remaining part cannot be solved by the psychologist.

The most prevalent type of delinquency to-day is theft and malicious damage, and the cure for this is sound social training, firm discipline, and respect for the law. Inborn factors such as temperament and defective intelligence, are, in a majority of cases, responsible, and special treatment for this class is essential, but the great majority of delinquents are made and not born. The greatest cause is the disruption of family life by parents who, by precept and practice, encourage dishonesty, and the low-moral standards of the community in which the child grows up.

School classes are taken on three nights per week during the normal school year, and this work was again in the hands of Mr. F. Vazey. He has divided his school on these lines (a) primer section, (b) standard 1-4 group, (c) standard 5-6 group, and (d) advanced group. Generally, a sound teaching is given, and there is evidence that the time spent at school has been put to good purpose. The library continues to be a popular section, and the service given by the National Library Service is much appreciated. I feel sure that the quality of the books received through this service has raised the level of the reading within the institution considerably.

Sports activities throughout the year were on a normal scale. Seasonal sports, Rugby, and association football in the winter, and cricket, tennis, and swimming in the summer all have been played with zest. Coupled with the approximate monthly showing of motion pictures it would seem that this side of the institution activities are adequately attended to.

Considerable importance is given to the economical running of the farming activities of the institution which makes the greatest utilization of labour, and, in addition, gives inmates a thorough grounding in all phases of farming. Special care is taken to assist inmates should they show any inclination to become more proficient in any particular branch of the activities as carried out here.

We were again fortunate in experiencing a good year from a weather point of view. A mild autumn was followed by a mild winter, and conditions were excellent for stock. Due possibly to the very mild winter and to the abundance of feed, calving and lambing troubles were experienced which accounted for a considerable number of deaths in cows and ewes. The position appeared to be general throughout the Waikato and was not merely a local occurrence. When lambing was completed it was found that we had again had a percentage of 100 lambs for ewes. The dairy season started well, but the dry spell towards the end of the year steadied production somewhat. Run cattle also did well during the winter.

The smaller sections of the farming activities such as the orchard, garden, apiary, and tobacco-growing areas all contributed to the buoyant revenue position.

With the number of stock to be carried through the winter it is necessary that the growing of supplementary crops should have an important place in the farm activities. Crops grown consisted of 90 acres of chou mollier, 40 acres of swedes, 30 acres of oats. In addition, 17 acres of potatoes were grown, and these are of considerable assistance to the Department to enable suitable rations to be supplied at other North Island institutions.