

1924.
NEW ZEALAND.

E D U C A T I O N :
**STATE CARE OF CHILDREN, SPECIAL SCHOOLS,
AND INFANT-LIFE PROTECTION.**

[In continuation of E.-4, 1923.]

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

**No. 1.—EXTRACT FROM THE FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION.**

**STATE CARE OF DEPENDENT AND DELINQUENT CHILDREN AND INFANT-LIFE
PROTECTION.**

The Special Schools Branch of the Education Department provides (1) for the maintenance, training, and general upbringing of neglected and homeless and orphan children committed by Courts to the care of the State, for the training of delinquent children and juvenile offenders, for the supervision of all young persons (male and female) placed on temporary probation by the Courts; (2) for the supervision of all infants under the age of six years maintained apart from their parents or adopted with premium, for the general supervision of children for whose upkeep pensions are paid under the widows' pensions scheme, and for the investigation of applications for the adoption of children; and (3) for the education and maintenance of all afflicted children—deaf, blind, feeble-minded, and for children with defective speech.

The total number of children under the supervision of the State in 1923 was 4,925, classed under the following headings :—

Boarded out, industrial schools, receiving-homes, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	3,692
Juvenile probation	..	..	..	..	..	227
Infant-life protection	..	..	..	..	..	684
Deaf children	..	..	..	..	..	106
Feeble-minded children	..	..	..	..	..	216
Total	..	..	..	..	..	4,925

The number of children committed to the care of the State during the year was 313; classified according to reason for committal as follows: Destitution, 134; vagrancy, 10; associating with disreputable persons, 1; not under proper control, 88; uncontrollable (complaint by parents), 6; transferred from gaol, 11; accused or guilty of punishable offences, 46; and, in addition, 17 were admitted by private arrangement.

Classified according to age at the time of admission the numbers are as follows: Under six months, 40; over six months and under one year, 15; from one to five years, 63; from five to ten years, 82; from ten to fourteen years, 63; and over fourteen years, 50.

Numbers under Control.

At the end of the year there were 3,692 children under control (excluding those mentioned under separate headings below), and of these 160 were in residence at Government receiving-homes, probation homes, training-farms, and training institutions, and 100 in private industrial schools; 1,868 children were boarded out in foster-homes, 800 were in situations, and 488 residing under license with relatives and friends. The remainder were in various homes or institutions.

Of the boarded-out children 122 are over the age of fourteen years and are still attending primary schools, 36 are receiving higher education (16 technical and 20 secondary), and a number are apprentices partly maintained by the State.

The children over school age in employment number 622 males and 377 females (included in the total of 3,692). Of the males 465 are farm workers (100 skilled in dairy-work and cheesemaking and 365 competent to milk and carry out general farm-work), 49 are apprentices, and 108 others are employed in various trades. Of the girls there are 325 domestic workers, 25 factory employees, and 27 engaged in various employments such as shop-assistants, nurses, dressmakers, typists, &c.

Juvenile Probation System.

The functions of Juvenile Probation Officers are to assist the Courts in ascertaining the full facts regarding parents, conditions of homes, and environment of all children brought under the notice of the police, to supervise and befriend any juveniles placed on probation by the various Magistrates, and to undertake, on the application of the parents, the supervision of any children who are inclined to become uncontrollable. In addition, all male inmates of industrial schools or training-farms placed in situations, or with relatives or friends, are supervised by the Juvenile Probation Officers. There were 1,044 cases dealt with by the Courts in the principal centres of population throughout the year, and of these only 275 were actually admitted to receiving-homes or training institutions, 223 were placed on probation and supervised in their own homes, and the remainder were dealt with generally in a summary manner not calling for supervision by Probation Officers.

Infant-life Protection and Adoption of Children.

At the end of the year there were 684 children being maintained in 565 licensed foster-homes. Of these, 469 homes each had one child, 152 had two children each, and 51 homes had three each. The payments for the maintenance of each child ranged from 5s. to £1 10s. a week, but the average rate of payment was approximately 14s. 6d. a week.

Adoptions.

During the year 364 children were adopted, and in 30 of these cases premiums were received by the Department's agents and paid out at the rate of 15s. a week for each child concerned. Of the total number of children adopted, 73 were under the age of six months, 38 between the age of six and twelve months, and 165 between the age of one and six years.

CARE AND TRAINING OF AFFLICTED CHILDREN.

School for the Deaf, Summer.

The pupils under instruction during the year numbered 129, and of these 31 were day pupils and 98 boarders.

In 1920 special day classes for partially deaf children and for stammerers were established in Auckland, Wellington, and Dunedin, which have been continued with highly successful results. About 229 children attended the classes last year. Provision has also been made in these centres and in Christchurch for night classes for the instruction of the adult deaf, 102 persons afflicted in this manner attending the classes in 1923.

Special Schools for the Feeble-minded.

There are two such special schools—one at Richmond for girls, and one at Otekaike, near Oamaru, for boys. The number of girls in residence at Richmond at the end of the year was 64, and the number of boys at Otekaike 152.

No. 2. — REPORT OF THE OFFICER IN CHARGE, INDUSTRIAL AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS BRANCH (INCLUDING AFFLICTED CHILDREN AND INFANT-LIFE PROTECTION).

SIR,—

I have the honour to submit the following report on the work of the Industrial and Special Schools Branch for last year :—

The Branch carries out the following phases of social-welfare work :—

- (1.) Maintenance, supervision, and training of all destitute, dependent, and delinquent children committed to the care of the State.
- (2.) Supervision of children and juvenile offenders placed on probation by the Courts.
- (3.) Supervision of all infants under six years of age maintained for payment apart from their parents or guardians.
- (4.) Supervision of children in cases where widows' pensions are paid by the State.
- (5.) Education and training of afflicted children over the age of six years. The definition "afflicted" includes deaf, blind, or improvable feeble-minded children, and children partially deaf or suffering from defective speech, and stammerers.

The following figures show the number of children dealt with under the foregoing headings Nos. (1), (2), (3), and (5) :—

Industrial schools, receiving-homes, and probation homes	..	..	£	3,692
Juvenile probation	..	..	..	227
Infant-life protection	..	..	..	684
Afflicted children—				
Deaf	..	..	..	106
Feeble-minded	..	..	..	217
				4,926

BOARDING-OUT SYSTEM.

The majority of the children committed to the care of the State are not detained in institutions, but are boarded out in foster-homes situated mainly in suburban areas and in districts in close proximity to the smaller centres of population. At the end of the year there were 1,868 children boarded out—1,811 from Government receiving-homes and 57 from private industrial schools (Roman Catholic). Arranged according to the ages of the children the numbers at 31st December, 1923, are as follows: Under five years, 341; from five to ten years, 705; from ten to twelve years, 342; from twelve to thirteen years, 184; from thirteen to fourteen years, 174; and over fourteen years, 122. These numbers include nearly 400 epidemic orphans of all ages, who are placed mainly with relatives. It is pleasing to note that the authorities of private industrial schools (especially St. Mary's, Auckland) have adopted the boarding-out system to a limited extent for the purpose of providing for the children belonging to these schools.

The rate paid to the foster-parents for the maintenance of each child is 15s. a week, but for infants under twelve months 17s. 6d. a week is paid. Each child is provided with a very complete initial outfit, the foster-parents being required to maintain the clothing at this standard. Medical attendance, medicines, and dentistry are provided by the Department, as also are school-books and school stationery. Upon Boarding-out Officers and Managers of Receiving-homes rests the responsibility of selecting proper homes and of supervising the inmates in these homes. No hard-and-fast rules can be laid down as to the type of home to be selected, or the number of times a home should be visited, or the methods of supervision. Much depends upon the personality, ability, and intuition of the officer concerned. Frequent visiting is advocated in the interests of the children, and as a general rule this is carried out; but the Department arranges a further safeguard by obtaining confidential reports every quarter from the headmasters or class-teachers of the schools which the children attend. Wherever possible, arrangements are also made for local honorary Lady Visitors to visit the foster-homes monthly, or more frequently if necessary, and generally keep a friendly eye on the children concerned.

For certain types of dependent children there is no question that the boarding-out system is superior to all other systems of dealing with them. The fact that under the boarding-out system children have the opportunity of growing up as ordinary members of the community under decent conditions is in itself sufficient to commend the system apart from any other consideration in its favour.

Associated with boarding out, it is essential that there should be cottage homes where a preliminary training in correct habits and discipline may be carried out. This is provided for in the receiving-homes for children and older girls, and in probation homes for boys. As these homes are of limited capacity, the period for which any one child is kept in residence is necessarily limited, but further provision is made at the Boys' Training-farm, Weraroa, and at the Caversham Industrial School for the accommodation for periods up to twelve months (or longer if necessary) of boys and girls respectively who after a trial at board fail to do well.

JUVENILE PROBATION SYSTEM.

The results obtained during the past seven years have proved beyond doubt the efficacy of probation under proper supervision as a means of reforming the large number of boys and youths who, on account of the lack of proper home conditions, would, but for the intervention of the Department, drift into a career of crime and general lawlessness. To be successful as a Probation Officer a man must have exceptional qualifications: he must possess initiative, be sympathetic though firm, and must at all times be prepared to devote the whole of his time to his work. For the man who carries out his duty properly there can be no fixed hours—he must be prepared to respond at all times to any call for assistance or advice. Probably the most important part of a Probation Officer's work lies in home-visiting, and in many cases he is called upon to insist on reforms on the part of the parents and in the home conditions as a necessary aid in the reformation of the boy.

The numbers dealt with by the Juvenile Probation Officers in the main centres during last year totalled 1,044, and were dealt with as shown in the following table:—

District.	Committed.	Committed and on Probation.	Temporary Probation.	Temporary Probation, and sent to a Probation Home for a Term.	Admonished and discharged.	Dismissed.	Withdrawn.	Adjourned.	Remanded.	Convicted and discharged.	Convicted and Probation.	Convicted and fined.	Convicted and birched.	Convicted and ordered to come up for Sentence.
North Auckland ..	3	..	2	..	25	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	..
Auckland ..	47	..	43	1	124	12	..	2	..	..	2	..	4	1
South Auckland ..	15	2	7	..	12	2	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	1
Wanganui ..	5	1	6	..	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	4
Hawke's Bay ..	37	..	..	..	5	2	..	14	..	5	4	..	..	2
Palmerston North..	22	2	13	..	3	1	..	3	..	..	1	1	..	3
Wellington ..	31	..	37	3	23	3	1	1	..	1	2	2	..	5
Nelson ..	10	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	5
West Coast ..	6	..	7	..	10	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	26	..	11	..	9	3	..	13	..	..	1	2	1	1
South Canterbury..	16	1	24	..	15	1	2	7	..	..	3	..	3	2
Otago ..	28	..	46	..	16	9	4	2	..	1	3	1	..	1
Southland ..	19	..	26	..	8	..	..	39	..	..	2	..	..	..
Totals ..	265	6	223	4	257	25	5	83	1	11	20	10	9	25

District.	Returned to Institution.	Sent to Reformatory.	Sent to Salvation Army Home.	Imprisoned.	Committed to Supreme Court.	By-law Cases.				Breaches of the Defence Act.				Totals.	
						Convicted and fined.	Convicted and discharged.	Admonished and discharged.	Dismissed.	Dismissed.	Withdrawn.	Admonished and discharged.	Convicted and discharged.		
North Auckland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	37
Auckland ..	1	3	..	3	..	5	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	253
South Auckland ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	44
Wanganui ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Hawke's Bay ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	71
Palmerston North..	1	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	59
Wellington ..	7	..	2	..	..	..	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	123
Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
West Coast ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Canterbury ..	9	..	..	..	..	17	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	99
South Canterbury..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75
Otago ..	2	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	8	2	2	1	..	118
Southland ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	99
Totals ..	27	7	2	4	3	23	4	16	1	8	2	2	1	1,044	

In another part of this report the particulars showing the revenue and expenditure in connection with the Costley Training Institution Trust are published. Under the will of the late Edward Costley a sum of money was set aside for the purpose of assisting State children during their periods of apprenticeship or for purposes enabling such children to receive secondary education. At a later period the purposes of the Trust were varied to include any deserving child (not a State ward) who is recommended for assistance by the Department's local welfare officer.

By an arrangement with the Auckland Branch of the Y.M.C.A. a Home providing accommodation for not less than ten was established in Auckland, and to this Home the Department after careful selection admitted ten State wards, who are now receiving secondary education. For each boy so maintained a contribution is made from the Costley Trustees. On the one hand, the Y.M.C.A. is responsible for the general management of the Home and the supervision generally of the boys, while, on the other hand, the Department's welfare officer watches the progress of the boys at the secondary school.

The system is working exceedingly well, and, thanks to the personal and generous interest taken in the scheme by the Trustees of the fund and the officials of the Y.M.C.A., every opportunity is given the boys to become decent and useful citizens.

ASSISTED SERVICE, HIGHER SERVICE, AND EMPLOYMENT OF STATE CHILDREN OVER SCHOOL AGE.

An important part of the work carried out by Managers of Institutions, Boarding-out Officers, and Juvenile Probation Officers is the placing of State children in suitable avenues of employment. On the care and discrimination exercised by these officers in this work depends the future of the children, and also the question whether, when they reach the adult stage, these young charges will become assets or liabilities to the State. The Department is fully alive to the importance of this particular phase of the work, and, as a matter of fact, reviews the action taken in each individual case. As a general rule these young people are encouraged to take up rural occupations, as experience has shown that for the majority of lads who are taken from the crowded city areas life in the country offers the best chance of permanent reformation. There is a considerable number, of course, who are eminently suitable for trades and similar occupations, and for these the Department finds suitable openings. In the case of the latter considerable difficulty is experienced in boarding them in suitable homes; probably this difficulty could be got over to a certain extent by utilizing part of the accommodation at each receiving-home and probation home for the purpose of housing these young people in the early stages of apprenticeship at least.

At the end of 1923 there were 55 inmates at service receiving assistance (assisted service in most cases refers to apprenticeship). There were 36 children receiving post-primary education—30 secondary and 16 technical. In addition, there were 84 children over the age of fourteen years still attending the public schools and being maintained by the Department.

Nature of Employment at 31st December, 1923, of Boys having left School.

At the end of the year there were 465 farm workers—100 skilled in dairy and farm work, and 365 others competent to carry out general farm-work. There were 49 boys apprenticed, as follows: 12 cabinetmakers, 6 bootmakers, 5 carpenters, 4 tinsmiths, 3 plasterers, 3 blacksmiths, 2 motor engineers, 2 electrical engineers, 2 coachbuilders, 1 jockey, 1 wireworker, 1 ironmoulder, 1 printer, 1 basketmaker, 1 boilermaker, 1 plumber, 1 draper, 1 brassfounder, and 1 engine-driver. Boys otherwise employed (not apprenticed) totalled 108, as follows: 30 factory hands, 11 labourers, 9 shop-assistants, 8 clerks, 8 message-boys, 6 telegraph messengers, 6 bakers, 4 painters, 4 motor mechanics, 2 drivers, 2 warehouse hands, 2 gardeners, 2 railway employees, 1 domestic duties, 1 saddler, 1 bootmaker, 1 plumber, 1 basketmaker, 1 coachbuilder, 1 cycle-worker, 1 optician, 1 butcher, 1 grocer, 1 seaman, 1 seagrass-worker, 1 coach-painter, and 1 blacksmith.

Nature of Employment at the 31st December, 1923, of Girls having left School.

There were 325 domestics; 25 factory employees; and 27 in other employment, as follows: 11 tailoresses, 3 dressmakers, 3 shop-assistants, 2 waitresses, 2 clerks, 2 bookbinders, 1 dentist's assistant, 1 furrier hand, 1 photographer's assistant, and 1 telephone-exchange employee. This gives a total of 377 girls employed.

ADMISSIONS DURING 1923.

During the year 313 children were committed to the care of the Department, as compared with 410 for the previous year. The following table shows the new admissions classified according to age:—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Under six months	24	16	40
Over six months and under one year	9	6	15
One year to five years	35	28	63
Five years to ten years	45	37	82
Ten years to fourteen years	48	15	63
Over fourteen years	37	13	50
Totals	198	115	313

Table 14 attached to this report shows the new admissions classified according to the causes of admission. Of the total number (313), 134 were destitute, 88 not under proper control, and 46 had been charged with punishable offences. Of the children admitted under these headings, all except 46 were placed out in foster-homes before the end of the year.

Table 17 gives particulars of the character or state of the parents at the time of the admission of the children. From this table I have selected the following figures showing (1) the number of children of drunken parents, and (2) the number of children of feeble-minded parents.

Admission of Children during 1923 on account of the Drinking Habits of one or both Parents.

Drunken mother	7
Drunken father	25
Both parents drunkards	2
	34

Admission of Children during 1923 on account of Mental Deficiency of one or both Parents.

Mentally deficient mother	11
Mentally deficient father	3
Both parents defective mentally	4
	18

The following figures show the number of committals to industrial schools for the past twelve years: 1912, 405; 1913, 328; 1914, 405: average for four years before the war, 382. 1915, 453; 1916, 436; 1917, 358; 1918, 381; 1919, 864; 1920, 535; 1921, 528; 1922, 410; 1923, 313: average for nine years after the commencement of the war, 475 (excluding epidemic orphans, the average is 431).

It is significant that although the number of juveniles appearing before the Court last year is comparable with the numbers for the previous year, yet the number of children committed to the care of the State under the provisions of the Industrial Schools Act shows a reduction of 97 on the previous year's figures. In hard cash this represents a saving of at least £3,000 to the taxpayers, and from the social point of view is a clear indication of the value of the preventive or social adjustment work that is being carried on all over the Dominion by the Juvenile Probation Officers, District Agents under the infant-life-protection system, and Boarding-out Officers.

An analysis of the new admissions for last year, grouped according to the characters or state of the parents at the time of admission, is interesting, for the results seem to indicate that, generally speaking, the child who is admitted on account of destitution or orphanhood, or whose parents have deserted him, comes either from an undesirable home or from morally unwholesome surroundings; while, on the other hand, the child who commits an offence against the law and is regarded as a delinquent comes almost invariably from a good home. On more than one occasion the Department has been criticized for permitting orphans and destitute children to remain even as a temporary measure in the various probation or adjustment homes where juvenile delinquents are also detained, but in view of the facts disclosed in the following tables it is evident that in some instances at least there is need rather to protect the young offender from the pernicious influence of the orphan or destitute child who may have been rescued from drunken or immoral home conditions.

For purposes of comparison three tables have been prepared showing—(1) Children admitted on account of destitution; (2) children found to be not under proper control, or reported as uncontrollable by the parents; and (3) children charged with offences against the law. In each case the parents have been divided into the following groups: (1) Dead, deserter, or unknown; (2) good character; (3) bad or questionable character, including drunkards, feeble-minded, or physically unfit.

Particulars of Parentage: 1923 Admissions.

134 destitute children, representing 93 families. Character of parents described as,—

	Dead, Deserter, or unknown.	Good.	Bad, questionable, Drunkards, feeble-minded, and physically unfit.
Father	28	12	18
Mother	8	27	23
Both parents	8	7	20

Particulars of Parentage: 1923 Admissions.

122 uncontrollable children, representing 85 families. Character of parents described as,—

	Dead, Deserter, or unknown.	Good.	Bad, questionable, Drunkards, feeble-minded, and physically unfit.
Father	16	14	15
Mother	19	12	14
Both parents	6	17	17

Particulars of Parentage : 1923 Admissions.

57 children accused or guilty of offences, representing 56 families. Character of parents described as,—

	Dead, Deserter, or unknown.	Good.	Bad, questionable, Drunkards, feeble-minded, and physically unfit.
Father	5	8	11
Mother	9	15	..
Both parents	3	21	8

PROBATION WORK : BIG BROTHER MOVEMENT.

Over two years ago an organization known as the Big Brother Movement was inaugurated in Auckland by the Y.M.C.A. for the purpose of arranging for the supervision of juvenile offenders by young men selected for this purpose. Each case is investigated in the first place by the Juvenile Probation Officer, who reports the facts fully for the guidance of the Big Brother, who supervises the boy and reports monthly through the secretary of the Y.M.C.A. to the Juvenile Probation Officer. The results have been most gratifying. So far there have been few failures, as the following report from the Juvenile Probation Officer in Auckland indicates :—

“The Big Brother Movement was inaugurated by the Y.M.C.A. in conjunction with the Auckland Office of the Department about the beginning of 1922. Young men of reputable character are chosen by the Y.M.C.A. to act as Big Brothers. Each Big Brother visits regularly the home of the boy allotted to him, and thus sees the boy's home conditions. He seeks the aid and co-operation of the parents, takes a keen interest in the boy's doings during his spare time, and generally tries to give the boy a healthier interest in life by linking him up with some sports team and encouraging him, when his education requires it, to attend night classes.

“The movement was at first tried out with four boys and four Big Brothers. All through 1922 the movement was gradually expanded until by the beginning of 1923 all the non-Catholic boys placed on probation by the Court were placed under the Big Brother Movement. During 1923 the following figures will perhaps explain the extent of the work done :—

Number of children before the Court	260
Number placed on probation	62
Number placed on probation who proved not amenable to Big Brother treatment and had to be committed	4
Number of calls made by Big Brother to boy, or boy to Big Brother	690

“Sixty-two boys were supervised, and of this number only four were so difficult to control that it was found necessary to commit them to an institution.

“The figures for this year (1924) to 1st June are as follows :—

Number of boys before the Court	105
Number placed on probation	27
Number placed on probation who have proved not amenable to Big Brother treatment	1
Number of calls made by Big Brother to boy, or boy to Big Brother	832

“Since the inception of the Big Brother Movement the individual services of seventy-five Big Brothers have been utilized. The number of boys from the Court dealt with by the Big Brother Movement between 1st January, 1923, and 1st June, 1924, is eighty-nine. Preventive cases dealt with bring this number up to 102. The number of failures in the same period—that is, boys who were being supervised by the Big Brothers and were committed to a State institution—number 5.”

Last year the Big Brother Movement was taken up by the Roman Catholic authorities in Auckland, and now a carefully arranged system under the Rev. Father Bradley is functioning successfully.

It is also gratifying to be able to record that the Big Brother Movement has been extended to the other chief centres of population—Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin—and to the smaller centres, such as Wanganui and Palmerston North. This movement may, I think, be regarded as the most important contribution on progressive lines that has been made of recent times by private effort to the community welfare work of the Dominion, and marks the beginning of a system providing for sympathetic and practical co-operation between the Department's welfare officers and members of social organizations, a beginning that it is hoped will develop and extend in the direction of providing in the incipient stages for the friendly supervision, guidance, and assistance by private effort of the whole of the small army of young people who through the indifference of the parents, improper home conditions, or lack of proper environment are likely to develop along antisocial lines or become liabilities instead of assets to the State.

INFANT MORTALITY AND SUPERVISION OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

The return of deaths among illegitimate children under one year published in this report is a clear indication that further steps should be taken to preserve the lives of illegitimate infants. Last year the number of illegitimate births in the Dominion was 1,260, while the number of deaths during the year was ninety-one, equal to 72.2 per 1,000. Compared with the death-rate among infants

born in wedlock (23·5 per thousand) the difference is startling and calls for some definite measures to prevent this human wastage.

Out of 1,260 illegitimate births during the year only 185 were placed in licensed foster-homes under the supervision of the Department's officers, as provided for under Part V of the Infants Act, and of this number 2 died. The death-rate among illegitimate infants supervised by the State during last year was, therefore, 10·81 per 1,000. Taking the total number of infants (both legitimate and illegitimate) under twelve months (396) supervised by the State during last year, and the number of deaths (2) during the same period, the rate per 1,000 is 5·05.

SCHOOLS FOR THE FEEBLE-MINDED.

Numbers at 31st December, 1923.

	Richmond. (Girls.)	Otekaike. (Boys.)	Total.
In residence	57	132	189
On vacation	7	12	19
At service	1	2	3
In hospital .. .. .	..	1	1
In probation homes .. .. .	..	5	5
Totals	65	152	217

PARTICULARS OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR, 1923-24.

Item.	Otekaike.	Richmond.	Total.
	£	£	£
Salaries	4,349	1,718	6,067
Advertising	15	1	16
Maintenance of buildings	346	38	384
Maintenance of institutions	2,881	1,304	4,185
Additional buildings	15	45	60
	7,606	3,106	10,712
Travelling-expenses .. .. .	..	..	513
			11,245
Less recoveries .. .. .	..	..	2,222
Net cost to Department .. .. .	..	..	£9,023

The net expenditure for the year 1922-23 was £8,262. The recoveries for the year compared with the previous year show a decrease of £766, so that the gross cost is much the same as for 1922.

I have, &c.,

J. BECK,

The Director of Education.

Officer in Charge, Special Schools Branch.

No. 3.—SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF, SUMNER.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR.

SIR,—

I have the honour to lay before you my report for the year 1923. The number of pupils under instruction during the year is shown in tabulated form hereunder:—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Pupils of 1922 that returned to the school	47	49	96
Admitted during 1923	14	11	25
Left during the school year	5	3	8
On the roll at the end of the school year	56	57	113
Received instruction during the year	66	63	129

Of the 113 pupils on the roll it is expected that 52 boys and 51 girls will return in 1924. There were 90 pupils in residence, and there were 23 day pupils at the close of the school year.

The numbers attending the special classes were as follows:—

	Auckland.	Wellington.	Dunedin.
Received instruction	40	43	42
Left during the year	17	20	19
On the roll	23	23	23

Most of the children attending these classes are part-time pupils.

At the School for the Deaf and at the special classes 254 pupils received instruction during the year.

On the 28th February, Mr. J. E. Stevens, Director of the School, retired on superannuation. Mr. Stevens laboured in this school for thirty-six years, during sixteen of which he was its Director. In all his work he displayed marked ability, fine enthusiasm, and an ever-ready sympathy for those afflicted with deafness. He carried into retirement the earnest good wishes of those left to carry on the work, as well as the gratitude and good will of the many pupils who benefited by his instruction and advice.

During the year, apart from a mild epidemic of influenza and a few cases of whooping-cough, the health of the pupils was good.

Of the pupils who left at the end of the year it may safely be claimed that they received an education that will enable them to take their places with reasonable success alongside their hearing fellows in whatever walks of life they may enter on.

At the Home Economics Exhibition held recently in Christchurch the pupils of this school exhibited specimens of needlework, art needlework, and woodwork. The exhibit was highly spoken of by visitors and by the members of the Home Economics Association.

The attendance at the special classes at Auckland, Wellington, and Dunedin indicates that these classes have fully justified their establishment. They are attended by children that are hard of hearing, children who have lost their hearing but not their speech, children with defective articulation, children who stammer, and those adult deaf who desire instruction in the art of lip-reading. The staffing of these classes is a drain on the staff at Sumner, and it is hoped that some arrangement may be come to by which students from training colleges may be trained at Sumner for work in the special classes. The work might later be extended for the sake of children outside the four centres who are afflicted with serious speech-defects.

The classes in the four centres for instructing the adult deaf in the art of lip-reading have been attended by a number of very persevering and enthusiastic people. In some cases quite elderly people have developed into reasonably expert lip-readers. These classes can do an important work. Deaf people by reason of their affliction live in a restricted environment. They tend to become self-centred, to become depressed, and to lose touch with their fellows. The substitution of lip-reading for hearing gives them a great uplift in life. In addition, deaf people tend in many cases to unduly lower their voices, and to clip off word-endings. If training is not given and care not exercised indistinct speech becomes an added handicap to their social intercourse.

I take this opportunity of testifying to the good work done by members of the staff, and to the alacrity and cheerfulness that have marked the performances of their duties.

I have, &c.,

J. M. B. CRAWFORD,

Director, School for the Deaf.

The Director of Education, Wellington.

EXPENDITURE ON THE SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF, 1923-24.

	£	£
Salaries	5,210	
Advertising, &c.	37	
Maintenance of pupils and sundry expenses	2,013	
Travelling-expenses	170	
Maintenance of buildings, furnishing, &c.	240	
		7,670
Less parental contributions and amount received from Hospital and Charitable Aid Boards	2,477	
Income from investments	55	
Sales of farm-produce	10	
		2,542
Net expenditure		<u>£5,128</u>

The net expenditure for the year 1922-23 was £6,423.

In connection with the foregoing table it should be borne in mind that there are really only two residential institutions in our industrial-schools system—the Boys' Training-farm, Weraroa, for boys, and a section of the Caversham Industrial School for girls.

The receiving-homes and probation homes are regarded as clearing-houses, where children are admitted for short periods for observation and treatment, if necessary, prior to being placed in ordinary homes in the community or in situations. These homes are also utilized—

- (1.) For housing children who for various reasons are changing from one home or situation to another, or who are sent in from country districts for medical or dental treatment, &c. ;
- (2.) For children and young persons passing through from other centres or districts; and
- (3.) For girls and young women in situations who spend their weekly half-holiday and occasional week-end days with the Matron of the home.

The average number of children in residence at these homes is comparatively small, but an approximation of the work of the homes is given in the following return :—

Name of School.	Average Number in Residence.	Number of Children actually passing through.
Auckland Receiving-home	16.29	182
Auckland Probation Home	14.44	119
Hamilton Receiving-home	8.25	254
Wanganui Receiving-home	10.17	53
Napier Receiving-home	6.45	72
Wellington Receiving-home	14.46	213
Wellington Probation Home	11.24	95
*Nelson Receiving-home	5.50	56
Christchurch Receiving-home	19.81	312
Christchurch Probation Home	12.93	133
Dunedin Probation Home	10.76	61
	..	1,550

* This home was closed in October, 1923.

Average Cost of maintaining Industrial-school Inmates for Year ending 31st March, 1924.

Gross cost of maintaining industrial-school inmates	£	s.	d.
Plus excess of liabilities, 31st March, 1924, over those of 31st March, 1923	117,117	7	8
	2,080	8	11
	<hr/>		
	119,197	16	7
<i>Less—</i>	£	s.	d.
Direct expenditure on service inmates	1,284	3	7
Issues from institutions and stores	4,440	5	1
Salaries of Probation Officers, Infant-life Protection Agents, Caversham Factory, and proportion of Managers and office staffs of institutions	9,344	14	10
Travelling-expenses of Probation Officers, Infant-life Protection Agents, &c. (estimated at two-thirds of expenditure, £6,046 11s.)	4,031	0	8
Refund of inmates' earnings	132	5	6
Rents, office requisites, &c. (two-thirds of expenditure £1,222 14s. 2d.)	815	2	9
Law-costs	64	16	8
Grant to residential nursery	200	0	0
	<hr/>		
	20,312	9	1
Gross cost of inmates a charge on the State	£98,885	7	6
	<hr/>		
Number of inmates maintained (including inmates in residence at Government Schools, boarded out, hospitals, convalescent homes, &c.)	2,169		
Average cost per week per inmate—	£	s.	d.
Gross	0	17	6
Recoveries	0	4	11
	<hr/>		
Net	£0	12	7

The net cost to the State of maintaining children under the industrial-schools system is therefore 12s. 7d. per head per week.

TABLE I I.—AVERAGE COST OF VICTUALS SUPPLIED TO GOVERNMENT RECEIVING AND PROBATION HOMES, 1ST APRIL, 1923, TO 31ST MARCH, 1924.

Month.	Auckland Receiving-home.	Auckland Probation Home.	Hamilton Receiving-home.	Wanganui Receiving-home.	Napier Receiving-home.	Boys' Training-farm, Weraoia.	Wellington Receiving-home.	Wellington Probation Home.	Nelson Receiving-home.	Christchurch Receiving-home.	Christchurch Probation Home.	Christchurch Industrial School.	Dunedin Probation Home.	Monthly Average of all Institutions.
April	10-58	13-83	6-78	8-35	7-83	12-83	13-42	11-29	7-14	5-42	8-66	8-93	7-54	9-43
May	9-73	9-91	20-47	9-11	10-06	12-91	12-43	12-64	6-58	8-00	10-00	10-19	8-82	10-83
June	9-36	9-94	18-90	8-76	11-90	12-95	12-08	12-18	8-61	9-49	9-84	8-29	9-30	10-89
July	10-70	9-17	12-92	6-11	11-61	11-72	12-34	10-63	8-65	8-14	11-09	9-86	8-17	10-08
August	12-31	9-45	5-39	6-00	10-83	13-46	10-47	10-09	10-07	8-32	10-65	8-68	8-18	9-53
September	9-89	9-80	15-75	7-99	13-73	11-55	13-55	12-27	9-80	6-03	10-49	11-52	8-10	10-80
October	8-78	12-34	15-75	10-55	12-73	11-90	17-60	10-40	11-16	8-34	10-07	6-32	8-53	11-11
November	8-36	11-17	9-82	9-65	11-78	15-12	12-19	14-89	*	9-23	11-21	8-85	9-13	10-95
December	9-24	11-42	8-14	7-52	15-66	12-01	28-04	27-68	..	10-70	10-72	13-03	9-74	13-66
January	8-20	12-60	7-74	9-29	11-61	10-97	24-80	15-70	..	9-13	9-42	7-78	10-07	11-76
February	11-09	12-32	9-14	9-47	13-60	14-92	9-71	14-08	..	11-43	11-01	9-32	10-63	11-20
March ..	10-83	14-71	8-13	8-85	14-16	10-88	11-02	12-85	..	11-55	9-47	8-56	9-55	10-41
Daily average ..	9-92	11-39	11-58	8-47	12-13	12-60	14-80	13-73	8-86	8-81	10-22	9-27	8-98	..

* This house was closed in October, 1923.

Daily average cost of all institutions, 10-83d.

TABLE I 1A.—GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON PRIVATE (ROMAN CATHOLIC) SCHOOLS, 1923-24.

	£	s.	d.
St. Mary's, Auckland	523	0	3
St. Joseph's, Upper Hutt	572	16	2
St. Mary's, Nelson	371	15	2
St. Vincent de Paul's, Dunedin	248	11	1
Total	£1,716	2	8

TABLE I 1B.—GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON THE MAINTENANCE OF INMATES SENT TO OTHER INSTITUTIONS, 1923-24.

	£	s.	d.
Salvation Army Home, Grey Lynn	26	0	0
Redroofs Maternity Home, Dunedin	26	10	0
Total	£52	10	0

TABLE I 2.—GROSS RECOVERIES FROM PARENTS AND OTHERS.

	1922-23.			1923-24.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Industrial schools	24,226	3	2	21,871	3	5
Special schools	2,852	19	11	5,760	18	7
Charitable Aid Boards (special schools)	1,779	10	0	2,886	19	4
	£28,858	13	1	£30,519	1	4

TABLE I 2A.—CASH SALES OF FARM-PRODUCE, 1923-24.

Item.	Boys' Training-farm, Weraoa.			Special School, Otekaikē.			Totals.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cheese	962	3	4	..	..	..	962	3	4
Butter and butterfat	105	11	11	186	11	2	292	3	1
Milk	323	9	10	26	11	4	350	1	2
Cream .. .. .	..	..	..	2	8	9	2	8	9
Eggs	224	6	0	46	11	6	270	17	6
Poultry	28	16	9	1	14	0	30	10	9
Vegetables	25	18	9	102	9	10	128	8	7
Orchard	87	13	2	0	6	0	87	19	2
Sheep	136	19	0	129	8	4	266	7	4
Wool	102	14	6	44	12	7	147	7	1
Cattle	81	3	9	10	0	0	91	3	9
Horses	19	0	3	..	..	..	19	0	3
Hides	5	14	10	50	4	6	55	19	4
Pigs	91	5	11	78	4	0	169	9	11
Cereals, hay, straw, &c.	225	5	4	..	..	..	225	5	4
Mats and baskets .. .. .	..	..	..	150	15	0	150	15	0
Chaffcutting and threshing	256	11	4	..	..	..	256	11	4
Sundries	91	10	7	9	17	0	101	7	7
Totals	2,768	5	3	839	14	0	3,607	19	3

TABLE I 4.—ADMISSIONS IN 1923, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO CAUSES OF ADMISSION.

Admitted as	Receiving-home, Auckland.		Boys' Probation Home, Auckland.		Receiving-home, Hamilton.		Receiving-home, Napier.		Receiving-home, Wanganui.		Boys' Training-farm, Weraoa.		Receiving-home, Wellington.		Boys' Probation Home, Wellington.		Receiving-home, Nelson.		Receiving-home, Christchurch.		Boys' Probation Home, Christchurch.		Caversham Industrial School.		Boys' Probation Home, Dunedin.		Totals.		
	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	Both Sexes.
Destitute ..	9	9	1	4	2	7	6	5	14	..	18	8	..	1	..	14	7	..	14	15	..	73	61	14	15	..	73	61	134
Vagrant ..	..	..	..	..	..	6	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	3	10
In disreputable associations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Not under proper control (complaint by police)	6	11	14	4	..	5	1	1	4	1	2	1	1	1	4	6	5	2	11	8	..	54	34	..	..	..	54	34	88
Uncontrollable (complaint by parents)	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	4	6	
Accused and guilty of punishable offences	..	1	6	4	..	2	1	7	..	12	..	..	2	..	..	6	..	2	3	..	..	44	2	..	..	..	44	2	46
Transferred from gaol	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	10	1	11	
By private arrangement	..	1	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	2	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	8	9	17		
Totals	15	22	21	13	4	22	12	14	19	23	20	11	4	2	51	28	17	5	28	25	3	198	115	3	198	115	313		

TABLE I 5.—ADMISSIONS IN 1923, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO STATUS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1923.

Status at 31st December, 1923.	Destitute.		Vagrant.		Disreputable Associations.	Not under Proper Control. (Complaint by Police.)		Uncontrollable. (Complaint by Parents.)		Accused or convicted of Punishable Offences.		Admitted by Private Arrangement.		Transferred from Gaol.		Totals.			
	B.	G.	B.	G.		B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	Both Sexes.	
In residence	2	4	..	..	7	4	..	1	22	..	2	..	3	1	36	10	46
Boarded out	64	50	7	3	32	23	1	3	6	..	..	2	..	..	110	82	192
At service	1	..	..	8	2	..	..	11	1	..	2	..	..	21	6	27
With friends	4	..	..	3	4	..	..	3	..	..	3	..	..	9	8	17
In orphanages and cottage homes, &c.	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
In refuges or cognate institutions	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
In hospitals, convalescent homes, &c.	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	4
At Special School, Otekaikē	3	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	5	..	5
Missing	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	2
In prison	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	1
Discharged by warrant	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Adopted	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Written off the books	5	5	..	..	..	5	5	10
Died	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	3
Totals	73	61	7	3	54	34	2	4	44	2	8	9	10	1	198	115	313

TABLE I 6.—ADMISSIONS IN 1923, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO NUMBER IN RESIDENCE AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1923.

Admitted as	Government Schools.														Private Schools.	All Schools.		
	Auckland Receiving-home.	Auckland Probation Home.	Hamilton Receiving-home.	Napier Receiving-home.	Wanganui Receiving-home.	Boys' Training-farm, Weraoa.	Wellington Receiving-home.	Christchurch Receiving-home.	Christchurch Probation Home.	Industrial School, Caversham.	Dunedin Probation Home.	St. Mary's, Auckland.	Totals.	B.	G.	Both Sexes.		
Destitute	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	4	6
Not under control (complaint by police)	1	2	..	1	2	..	..	1	..	1	2	..	..	1	..	7	4	11
Uncontrollable (complaint by parents)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Accused or guilty of punishable offences	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	13	..	..	4	..	2	..	..	22	..	22
Admitted by private arrangement	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
Transferred from gaol	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	1	4
Totals	1	4	1	1	2	3	17	1	1	6	3	4	1	36	10	46		

TABLE I 7.—ADMISSIONS IN 1923, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO PARENTS' CIRCUMSTANCES AND CHARACTER.

Fathers described as	Mothers described as	Reasons for Committal of Children.								Total.
		Destitute.	Vagrant.	In Disreputable Associations.	Not under Control. (Complaint by Police.)	Uncontrollable. (Complaint by Parent.)	Accused or Guilty of Punishable Offences.	Admitted by Private Arrangement.	Transferred from Gsol.	
Dead	Dead	4	..	..	2	..	1	2	2	11
"	Good	5	..	..	5	..	5	1	..	16
"	Bad	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
"	Questionable .. .. .	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	6
"	Addicted to drink .. .. .	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	3
"	Mentally unfit .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	5
Good	Dead	3	..	..	8	..	6	1	2	20
"	Good	11	2	..	9	4	17	3	4	50
"	Bad .. .. .	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
"	Questionable	6	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	10
"	Addicted to drink .. .. .	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	3
"	Mentally unfit	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
"	Physically unfit	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	4
"	Deserter .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Bad	Dead	1	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	5
"	Good	7	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	9
"	Bad	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	3
"	Questionable	1	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	4
"	Mentally unfit	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Questionable	Dead	5	..	..	6	..	1	1	..	13
"	Good	10	..	..	1	..	2	1	1	15
"	Bad .. .. .	..	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	4
"	Questionable	13	1	..	7	..	3	..	1	25
"	Addicted to drink .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
"	Deserter	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Addicted to drink	Dead	1	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	4
"	Good	2	..	..	..	..	4	..	1	7
"	Questionable	2	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	5
"	Addicted to drink .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2
"	Mentally unfit	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
"	Deserter .. .. .	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	6
"	Unknown .. .. .	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Mentally unfit	Dead .. .. .	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
"	Good	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
"	Mentally unfit .. .. .	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	4
Physically unfit	Good .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
"	Questionable	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Deserter	Dead .. .. .	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
"	Good	15	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	18
"	Mentally unfit	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
"	Physically unfit	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
"	Deserter	5	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	7
Unknown	Dead	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
"	Good	6	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
"	Bad	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	4
"	Questionable	7	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
"	Mentally unfit	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
"	Deserter	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
"	Unknown	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Totals .. .. .	.. .. .	134	10	1	88	6	46	17	11	313

The numbers of children admitted were—From Auckland, 51; Wellington, 31; Christchurch, 31; Dunedin, 28; Napier, 26; Invercargill, 19; Palmerston North, 18; Timaru, 13; Nelson, 10; Wanganui, 9; Hastings, 6; New Plymouth, 5; Westport, 4; Te Awamutu, 4; Hamilton, 4; Wairoa, 4; Whakatane, 3; Thames, 3; Gisborne, 3; Greymouth, 3; Waikouaiti, 3; Whangarei, 2; Waihi, 2; Putaruru, 2; Ohakune, 2; Rawene, 2; Pahiatua, 2; Ashburton, 2; Lower Hutt, 2; Lyttelton, 2; Kaiapoi, 2; Russell, 1; Hokianga, 1; Helensville, 1; Rotorua, 1; Paeroa, 1; Eltham, 1; Petone, 1; Hunterville, 1; Picton, 1; Feilding, 1; Waipiro Bay, 1; Upper Hutt, 1; Oamaru, 1; Balclutha, 1; Opotiki, 1.

The records show that of the total number of children admitted 29.39 per cent. were known to be illegitimate.

Under the provisions of the Industrial Schools Act, 1909, power is given for the detention beyond the age of twenty-one years of any inmate who, upon application being made to a Magistrate by the Manager of the school at the direction of the Minister of Education, is found to be morally degenerate or otherwise not (in the public interest) a fit person to be free from control. In the fourteen years since this Act came into operation there have been ninety-two orders issued extending the period of control, sixty-seven of the inmates concerned being girls. The Act provides for extension for four years, and gives power to the Court on similar procedure to renew the order from time to time for a period of four years. It is expected that the number of those over whom authority beyond twenty-one years will be needed will always be small in proportion to the whole number of inmates; but the value of such an enactment in respect of the remainder who have to be detained is obvious, both in their own interests and in that of the community at large.

No. 5.—INFANT-LIFE-PROTECTION STATISTICS.

PARTICULARS OF CHILDREN ADMITTED TO AND REMOVED FROM LICENSED FOSTER-HOMES DURING 1923.

	Under 6 Months of Age.	Between 6 Months and 1 Year of Age.	Between 1 and 2 Years of Age.	Between 2 and 3 Years of Age.	Between 3 and 4 Years of Age.	Between 4 and 5 Years of Age.	Between 5 and 6 Years of Age.	Over 6 Years of Age.	Totals.
On the books at 31st December, 1922	77	79	141	127	79	91	74	74	742
Placed in licensed homes or transferred from other districts during 1923	160	80	106	63	37	26	29	..	501
Totals	237	159	247	190	116	117	103	74	1,243
Withdrawn from homes during 1923—									
Removed by parents or guardians	28	38	79	75	42	26	36	13	337
Deaths	1	1	3	1	..	2	..	..	8
Adoptions without premiums	4	2	12	11	8	2	3	2	44
In homes to which exemption was granted	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	3
Brought under the operation of the Industrial Schools Act	2	4	2	3	3	2	5	..	21
Written off the books for various causes	1	5	9	8	4	2	6	111	146
Total withdrawals	36	50	106	98	57	34	51	127	559
On the books at 31st December, 1923	78	88	169	118	83	85	63	..	684

RATES OF PAYMENTS BY PARENTS OR GUARDIANS.

An account of the rates paid is given in the following statement:—

2 at the rate of 5s. per week.	119 at the rate of 20s. per week.
1 " 6s. "	1 " 21s. "
1 " 7s. 6d. "	12 " 25s. "
65 " 10s. "	2 " 30s. "
2 " 10s. 6d. "	2 adopted with premium disbursed at the rate of 10s. per week.
1 " 11s. "	18 adopted with premium disbursed at the rate of 15s. per week.
7 " 12s. "	1 adopted with premium disbursed at the rate of 22s. per week.
90 " 12s. 6d. "	2 adopted with premium disbursed at the rate of 22s. 6d. per week.
4 " 13s. "	10 for whom no payment is being made.
2 " 13s. 6d. "	1 where clothing only is supplied.
2 " 14s. "	1 where only occasional payments are being made.
290 " 15s. "	
1 " 15s. 6d. "	
1 " 16s. "	
2 " 17s. "	
43 " 17s. 6d. "	
1 " 18s. "	

The following is a comparison of the rates paid during the last six years :—

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.
Under 7s. per week ..	11	7	2	2	4	3
7s. and under 10s. per week ..	52	53	22	11	5	1
10s. per week ..	502	368	240	133	105	65
Over 10s. per week ..	294	376	531	508	579	580

FOSTER-HOMES.

The 684 infants in foster homes at the end of the year were distributed as follows :—

In 469 homes, each having one child ..	469
„ 76 „ two children ..	152
„ 17 „ three „ ..	51
„ 3 „ four „ ..	12
565	684

Eight of the homes were those in which children under six were boarded out by Charitable Aid Boards.

The total number of licensed homes was 798, so that at the end of the year there were 233 licensed homes in which for the time being no infants were boarded.

EXEMPTED INSTITUTIONS.

Name of Institution.	Admissions, 1923.			Deaths, 1923.			On the Books at 31st December, 1923.		
	Under 6 Months of Age.	Between 6 and 12 Months of Age.	Total—All Ages (including Cols. (1) and (2)).	Under 6 Months of Age.	Between 6 and 12 Months of Age.	Total—All Ages (including Cols. (4) and (5)).	Under 6 Months of Age.	Between 6 and 12 Months of Age.	Total—All Ages (including Cols. (7) and (8)).
	(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)	(6.)	(7.)	(8.)	(9.)
Salvation Army Boys' Home, Russell ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
St. Mary's Industrial School (Girls' Branch), Auckland ..	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	7
St. Joseph's Orphanage, Takapuna, Auckland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Orphan Home, Papatoetoe, Auckland ..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	9
Children's Home, Ponsonby, Auckland ..	..	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	8
Methodist Orphanage, Mount Albert, Auckland ..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	5
Leslie Orphanage, Remuera, Auckland ..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	3
Manurewa Children's Home, Auckland ..	..	..	13	..	..	..	..	..	14
St. Mary's Home, Otahuhu, Auckland ..	25	35	66	8	2	10	32	2	43
Salvation Army Orphanage, "The Grange," Herne Bay ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Salvation Army Maternity Home, Auckland ..	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	3
Salvation Army Children's Home, Hamilton ..	..	..	13	..	..	..	..	..	36
Cook County Women's Guild Crèche, Gisborne ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Salvation Army Maternity Home, Gisborne ..	3	..	4	..	..	..	1	..	2
Salvation Army Samaritan Home, Gisborne ..	2	..	4	..	..	..	1	..	5
Children's Home, Palmerston North ..	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	10
Manawatu Willard Children's Home, Palmerston North ..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	9
Salvation Army Bethany Home, Napier ..	2	1	6	..	..	..	..	..	5
St. Hilda's Home, Otane, Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wanganui Orphanage, Gonville, Wanganui ..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	2
Salvation Army Boys' Home, Eltham ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Barnabus' Home, Khandallah, Wellington ..	8	9	29	1	..	..	6	4	20
St. Mary's Home, Karori, Wellington ..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	7
Residential Nursery, Wellington ..	12	14	165	..	..	1	..	..	14
Presbyterian Orphanage, Berhampore, Wellington ..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	7
Levin Memorial Home, Wellington ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
St. Joseph's Orphanage, Upper Hutt, Wellington ..	..	..	42	..	..	..	..	..	28
Home of Compassion, Island Bay, Wellington ..	17	5	46	2	..	5	19	8	65
Salvation Army Girls' Home, Owen Street, Wellington ..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	4
Salvation Army Boys' Home, Island Bay, Wellington ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
St. Mary's Orphanage, Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	5
Methodist Orphanage, Papanui, Christchurch ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nazareth House, Christchurch ..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	15
Sacred Heart Orphanage, Mount Magdala, Christchurch ..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	15
St. Saviour's Home, Shirley, Christchurch ..	..	..	20	..	..	..	..	..	30
Salvation Army Maternity Home, Christchurch ..	8	..	8	1	..	1	2	4	13
Presbyterian Orphanage, Papanui, Christchurch ..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	7
Children's Convalescent Home, New Brighton, Christchurch ..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	1
St. Saviour's Orphanage for Boys, Otipua Road, Timaru ..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	4
Salvation Army Boys' Home, Temuka ..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	6
Children's Rest Home, Mornington, Dunedin ..	..	1	37	..	..	..	..	..	8
Grant's Braes Home, Anderson's Bay, Dunedin ..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	7
St. Mary's Orphanage, Mornington, Dunedin ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	4
St. Vincent de Paul's Orphanage, South Dunedin ..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	14
Salvation Army Maternity Home, Roslyn, Dunedin ..	8	5	13	1	..	1	1	4	6
Salvation Army Home, Anderson's Bay, Dunedin ..	..	..	11	..	..	1	..	..	20
Presbyterian Orphanage, Gordon Street, Invercargill ..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	3
Victoria Memorial Home, Invercargill ..	3	3	11	..	..	..	..	1	5
Totals	88	75	598	13	2	20	62	23	480

Of the above 480 children, 19 have no parents living, 51 have a mother only, and 127 have a father only. The remainder (283) have both parents living.

ILLEGITIMACY.

Districts.	Illegitimate Births registered during 1923.	Number of Illegitimate Children aged Twelve Months or less brought under the Infants Act during 1923.	Illegitimate Children under 6 Years of Age in Licensed Foster-homes at 31st December, 1923.
North Auckland	51	..	2
Auckland	265	45	102
South Auckland	83	5	12
Hawke's Bay	73	3	10
Gisborne	21	2	4
Wanganui and Taranaki	74	5	16
Palmerston North	64	10	33
Wellington	215	23	50
Nelson	30	4	5
West Coast	25	1	3
North Canterbury	168	59	122
South Canterbury	25	3	16
Otago	113	16	49
Southland	53	9	13
Totals for 1923	1,260	185	437
Totals for 1922	1,224	188	425

Deaths amongst Illegitimate Children during 1923.

District.	Under 6 Months.	Over 6 Months and under 1 Year.	Between 1 and 2 Years.	Between 2 and 3 Years.	Between 3 and 4 Years.	Between 4 and 5 Years.	Between 5 and 6 Years.	Totals.
North Auckland	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	6
Auckland	12	1	4	1	1	..	..	19
South Auckland	5	..	..	..	1	..	..	6
Wanganui and Taranaki	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	5
Gisborne	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
Hawke's Bay	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	5
Palmerston North	5	..	..	..	..	1	..	6
Wellington	15	3	1	2	..	..	..	21
Nelson .. .. .	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
West Coast	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	4
North Canterbury	16	1	..	..	..	1	..	18
South Canterbury	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Otago	3	..	2	..	..	..	..	5
Southland	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Totals	76	7	10	3	3	2	..	101

NOTE.—In addition, the bodies of 8 newly-born infants, whose parents were unknown, were found dead during the year 1923.

No. 6.—COSTLEY TRAINING INSTITUTION.

BALANCE-SHEET FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1923.

<i>Liabilities.</i>			<i>Assets.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Costley bequest	12,150	0 0	War-loan stock	1,500	0 0
Hodge bequest	742	3 9	Accrued interest	299	15 10
Jackson and Russell	78	18 7	Mortgages	23,165	0 0
Revenue Account as below	12,042	2 11	Cash in Bank of New Zealand	48	9 5
	<u>£25,013</u>	<u>5 3</u>		<u>£25,013</u>	<u>5 3</u>

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1923.

<i>Dr.</i>			<i>Cr.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Maintenance Account	980	16 4	By Balance, 1st January, 1923	11,629	1 3
Expenses	98	5 4	Interest	1,492	3 4
Balance carried forward	12,042	2 11			
	<u>£13,121</u>	<u>4 7</u>		<u>£13,121</u>	<u>4 7</u>

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