

1886.
NEW ZEALAND.

EDUCATION:
INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS AND ORPHANAGES
(PAPERS RELATING TO).
[In Continuation of E.-3, 1885.]

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

No. 1.

EXTRACT from NINTH ANNUAL REPORT of the MINISTER of EDUCATION.

UNDER "The Industrial Schools Act, 1882," 340 children (199 boys and 141 girls) were committed in 1885. Of these, 220 were destitute children, 13 vagrant, 30 were living in disreputable places, 48 were committed as uncontrollable, and 29 as guilty of punishable offences. Two of them had been to high schools, 3 to private schools, 39 to Roman Catholic schools, 159 to Board schools, 129 to no school (many being too young), and information is wanting as to the 8 remaining. As to the faith in which they are to be brought up, 154 belong to the Church of England, 113 are Roman Catholics, 55 Presbyterians, 10 Baptists, 6 Wesleyans, and one is described as a Methodist, and another as Protestant. The information supplied as to the parents of these children shows that in 35 cases the condition of the children is traceable to misconduct on the part of the father and mother, in 89 other cases to that of the father, and in 65 others to that of the mother; in 118 cases death, sickness, or other trouble appears to be the sole cause of destitution; in 14 cases such misfortune was at least in part the cause of destitution; and in 19 cases there is not sufficient information to justify any conclusion. The following table will bear out this statement:—

TABLE U.—COMMITTED CHILDREN CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO PARENTS' CIRCUMSTANCES AND CHARACTER.

Children of	Mothers described as						Total.
	Dead.	Sick, Lunatic, Disabled, &c.	Of Good Character (or poor).	Not known or not stated.	Of Bad Character.	Deserters.	
Fathers described as—							
Dead	36	1	16	7	16	1	77
Sick, lunatic, disabled, &c. .. .	1	8	1	1	2	3	16
Of good character (or poor) .. .	22	16	17	13	20	..	88
Not known or not described .. .	5	1	1	5	20	3	35
Of bad character	20	7	2	16	17	3	65
Deserters	16	6	13	9	11	4	59
Totals	100	39	50	51	86	14	340

By section 17 of the Industrial Schools Act a parent having a child whom he is unable to control may obtain from a magistrate an order for the child's committal, on giving sufficient evidence and security for payment for the main-
1—E. 3.

tenance of the child. Of the 48 children committed under this clause last year 30 were committed by one magistrate, and 9 by another; in some cases, 3, 4, or 5 children of one family were so committed, and no security was taken for maintenance, or the payment was fixed at a very low rate. The view of the Department is that such cases do not properly come under section 17, and the attention of the Minister of Justice has been called to the practice that has sprung up.

While 340 children were committed, 220 names were removed from the roll, 208 being discharged by warrant under the hand of the Governor (the majority being returned to their friends), 4 having reached the age (21) at which the control of the school ceases, and 8 having died. Considering that more than 1,500 children belong to the schools, and that many of them are affected with hereditary disease and weakness, the number of deaths must be considered very small. The particulars are as follows: A boy, 2 years old, boarded-out in Auckland; at Nelson, a boy, nearly 14 years old, drowned while bathing, and two girls, 6 and 8 years old; one boy from Burnham, aged 10, long in hospital with hip disease; a boy from Burnham, aged 9, boarded-out, died from sunstroke; an infant of 10 months, at Wanganui (nominally committed to Burnham); a boy, aged 12, at Caversham, of cramp and weak action of the heart.

The increase in the number of children belonging to the schools is 120, being, of course, the difference between 340 admitted and 220 discharged; and the number belonging to the schools at the end of the year was 1,566. But, of this number, 267 were at service, 156 were with their friends on probation for discharge, 24 were absent from the schools or from service without leave, and 3 were in hospital; so that the number actually maintained by the institutions was 1,116, which exceeds the corresponding number for the previous year by 57. Four of these children, being over the age of 15, were maintained by the institutions in which they resided, and no contribution was paid on their account by the Government. The following table shows the numbers maintained in connection with each institution, and the increase or decrease during the year:—

TABLE W.—NUMBER OF COMMITTED CHILDREN MAINTAINED.

—					Dec., 1884.	Increase.	Decrease.	Dec., 1885.
Government Schools—								
Auckland—Kohimarama	..	..	..	..	102	3	..	105
Kent Street	..	..	..	..	71	..	6	65
Burnham	..	..	..	..	292	42	..	334
Caversham	..	..	..	..	351	..	13	338
Local School—								
Thames Industrial School	..	..	..	..	12	..	..	12
Private Schools—								
St. Mary's, Ponsonby	..	..	..	..	50	..	3	47
St. Joseph's, Wellington	..	..	..	..	16	9	..	25
St. Mary's, Nelson	..	..	..	..	165	25	..	190
Totals	..	..	..	..	1,059	79	22	1,116

The number of children actually residing in the schools was much less than the number shown in this table. The actual residents were only 618, the rest being placed with foster-parents under the boarding-out scheme, as follows: From Auckland, 106; from Burnham, 207; from Caversham, 183; and from St. Joseph's, Wellington, 2: that is, 498 in all. The actual number residing in the Government schools was: at Kohimarama, 61; Kent Street, 3; Burnham, 127; Caversham, 155.

Of non-committed children in orphanages and industrial schools there were 169 at the end of 1884; 45 were received during the year, 47 were discharged, 4 were committed under the Industrial Schools Act, and 1 (a girl, 16 years old, belonging to St. Mary's, Nelson) died; so that there were 162 on the books at the end of the year, as follows: Kent Street, 5 (1 at service, and 4 boarded-out); St. Mary's, Ponsonby, 3; St. Stephen's, Parnell, 14; Thames Orphanage, 13; St. Joseph's, Wellington, 4; St. Mary's, Nelson, 13; Motueka Orphanage, 5; Lyttelton Orphanage, 103; Caversham, 2. The numbers at Lyttelton Orphanage show an increase of 22; at most of the other schools there was a decrease.

Of the 45 cases of admission, 21 are traceable to death, sickness, or other trouble; there are only 4 that are due to the misconduct of both parents; in 2 others the mothers were in fault; in 12 others the fathers were of bad character; and in 6 cases the information is not sufficient to justify a conclusion. One of these children had been at a high school, and 27 at public schools; 13 had not been to school (most of them being too young); and information is wanting in 4 cases. As to religion, 34 belong to the Church of England, 3 are Presbyterians, 1 is "Protestant," and no information was supplied with respect to the remainder (7).

Under the operation of "The Hospitals and Charitable Institutions Act, 1885," all the non-committed children will now be cared for by the District Boards, instead of by the Government; and the Boards will pay for the maintenance of such of the Industrial School children as have been committed under the Industrial Schools Act simply as being destitute.

The children at the "private schools" (St. Mary's, Ponsonby, St. Joseph's, Wellington, and St. Mary's, Nelson) were maintained at a cost to the Government of 1s. a day for each child, paid by the Colonial Secretary's Department. The few (12) children at the one "local school," the Thames Industrial School, were maintained by an arrangement between the Borough Council and the Colonial Secretary's Department. The Thames Orphanage and the Lyttelton Orphanage were supported in the same way.

The expenditure in 1885 (exclusive of building works) on account of the children belonging to the Government schools was as follows:—

TABLE X.—COST OF "GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS."

School.				Maintenance of School.			Payments to Foster-parents.			Total.		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Auckland	..	..	..	2,404	7	11	1,867	9	4	4,271	17	3
Burnham	..	..	..	4,587	17	1	3,280	12	6	7,868	9	7
Caversham	..	..	..	3,320	6	3	3,541	19	9	6,862	6	0
Totals				10,312	11	3	8,690	1	7	19,002	12	10
Salary and expenses of visiting officer..				..	..	..	..	..	..	259	0	6
Total				..	..	..	..	..	..	19,261	13	4

The average of the twelve monthly statements of the number of inmates was 384 children in the schools and 459 boarded-out, the total being 843. The general rate of payment for the boarded-out children is 1s. a day, but as most of these children when committed are almost destitute of clothing, and must be provided with an outfit before they are sent to foster-parents, it is impossible to separate between the cost of those that remain in the institution and those that are boarded-out. During the year about 200 children were supplied with clothing on being sent out to board. Moreover, some items charged against the schools are for the travelling expenses of such children, and much of the time of officers of the institution is spent in attending to their affairs. The schools have also to bear the expenses of management involved in finding places of service for the older children that are no longer resident, and in looking after their wages and savings-banks accounts. The cost of the maintenance of each child is therefore not easy to ascertain. It can only be said that the total cost (£19,261 13s. 4d.) is equivalent to about £22 17s. for each of the 843 children of the average roll, or about 1s. 3d. a day. Apart from the explained impossibility of separating the items of expenditure on the resident and boarded-out children respectively, and from a consideration of the fact that the £10,312 spent on the schools includes the cost of education for 384 inmates, the conclusion that might be drawn—that each resident child costs the Government nearly £27 a year, and each boarded-out child £19 only—would be misleading. Probably the difference of expense either way is very small.

A small proportion of the cost of maintaining these children is paid by parents under orders of Court; but such payments with all other recoveries amounted during the year to no greater sum than £1,080 9s. 1d. The recoveries

were—for Auckland, £443 0s. 10d.; Burnham, £373 15s. 11d.; Caversham, £263 12s. 4d.

The excess of the expenditure at Burnham over that at Caversham requires explanation. In the Burnham accounts a sum of £85 is entered for salaries of the preceding year; the excess in the expenses of travelling is £112, due to the distance of Burnham from Christchurch; about £300 has been spent on stock and farm with a view to future use; and an excess of about £625 in the expenditure on clothing appears to be due to the fact that the new manager has had to use great exertions to bring up the stock of clothing to a proper level.

The outlay on buildings, which is not included in the foregoing statement, was £882 16s., as follows: Caversham, £810 8s. 8d., principally on account of the new school-room built to supply the place of the old one that was destroyed by fire in 1884; Burnham, £36 19s. 6d.; Auckland, £35 7s. 10d.

Thanks are due to the ladies who visit all the boarded-out children and make a report on every case every month. It is proposed to arrange if possible for the extension of this system of visiting, so as to obviate the necessity of making inquiries through the police authorities as to the welfare of young people placed at service. It should be remarked that the police officials render very efficient aid to the Department, not only in making such inquiries, but also in tracing defaulting parents and obtaining payment from them.

No. 2.

MEMORANDUM by the INSPECTOR-GENERAL of SCHOOLS.

THE following is a statement of the number and status of the inmates of the industrial schools, using the word "inmates" in the sense given to it by the Industrial Schools Act, that is, as equivalent to "persons under the legal guardianship of the managers of industrial schools."

"INMATES" OF INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS, 31ST DECEMBER, 1885.

Inmates.	Government Schools.						Local Schools.		Private Schools.				All Schools.		
	Auckland.		Burnham.		Caversham.		Thames.		Ponsonby.	Wellington.	Nelson.		Boys.	Girls.	Total.
	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.			B.	G.			
In the schools ..	63	1	95	32	91	64	4	8	47	23	108	82	361	257	618
Boarded-out ..	66	40	112	95	98	85	..	..	..	2	..	..	276	222	498
With their friends ..	22	8	23	17	45	27	..	..	6	2	3	3	93	63	156
At service ..	26	29	59	27	65	38	6	..	7	..	4	6	160	107	267
In hospital ..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3
Absent without leave ..	6	..	10	..	7	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	23	1	24
Totals ..	183	79	299	172	306	215	10	8	61	27	115	91	913	653	1,566
	262		471		521		18		61	27	206		1,566		

The number of committed children received into industrial schools and their precedent condition is shown in the following table:—

PRECEDENT CONDITION OF CHILDREN ADMITTED IN 1885.

Committed as	Government Schools.						Local Schools.		Private Schools.				All Schools.		
	Auckland.		Burnham.		Caversham.		Thames.		Ponsonby.	Wellington.	Nelson.		Boys.	Girls.	Total.
	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.			B.	G.			
Destitute ..	9	4	53	36	33	27	1	3	7	11	21	15	117	103	220
Vagrant ..	1	..	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	6	2	11	2	13
Living in disreputable places ..	6	5	1	9	..	1	..	..	..	..	5	3	12	18	30
Uncontrollable ..	22	5	6	1	3	2	..	..	5	3	1	..	32	16	48
Guilty of punishable offences ..	7	..	8	..	10	1	..	..	..	..	2	1	27	2	29
Transferred from other schools ..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1	7	2	9
Totals ..	47	15	69	46	49	31	1	3	12	14	40	22	206	143	349
	62		115		80		4		12	14	62		349		

The number removed from the control of the several schools during the year is stated in the next table:—

DISCHARGES, DEATHS, AND TRANSFERS IN 1885.

Removed by	Government Schools.						Local Schools.		Private Schools.				All Schools.		
	Auckland.		Burnham.		Caversham.		Thames.		Pen-souby.	Wellington.	Nelson.		Boys.	Girls.	Total.
	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.			B.	G.			
Warrant of discharge ..	33	7	48	22	42	25	2	1	8	3	10	7	135	73	208
Death ..	1	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	6	2	8
Warrant of transfer to other schools ..	1	..	6	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	2	9
Attaining the age of 21 ..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	4
Totals ..	37	9	57	24	43	25	2	1	8	3	11	9	150	79	229
	46		81		68		3		8	3	20		229		

Many individual changes have taken place in the condition of the committed children that have been on the books of the institutions for the whole year, as shown in the following table:—

CHANGES OF INDIVIDUAL CONDITION IN 1885.

Inmates on the 31st December, 1885.	Government Schools.						Local Schools.		Private Schools.				All Schools.			Differences.
	Auckland.		Burnham.		Caversham.		Thames.		Pen- souby.	Well- ington.	Nelson.		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	
	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.			B.	G.				
Placed out to board ..	33	16	41	38	25	21	..	..	..	2	..	..	99	77	176	147
Returned from boarding- out	4	1	2	2	7	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	16	29	
Sent to friends ..	14	3	6	8	22	8	..	..	5	2	2	3	44	29	73	64
Returned from friends ..	1	2	1	..	2	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	4	5	9	
Sent to service ..	9	7	22	7	22	13	4	..	4	..	4	6	61	37	98	88
Returned from service ..	1	1	2	3	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	4	6	10	
Sent to hospital ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	0
Returned from hospital ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	
Absconded ..	2	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	4	2	6	5
Returned after absconding	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	

For purposes of comparison with the preceding year the numbers both of the committed and of the non-committed children for 1884 and 1885 are given in the following table, without distinguishing the different schools:—

NUMBERS OF 1884 AND 1885 COMPARED.

Inmates.	1884.	1885.	Increase or Decrease.
Committed—			
In the schools ..	675	618	— 57
Boarded-out ..	384	498	+ 114
With their friends ..	163	156	— 7
At service ..	201	267	+ 66
In hospital ..	4	3	— 1
Absent without leave ..	19	24	+ 5
Non-committed—			
In the schools ..	161	157	— 4
Boarded-out ..	8	4	— 4
At service ..	..	1	+ 1
Totals ..	1,615	1,728	+ 113

WM. JAS. HABENS.

No. 3.

Dr. PURCHAS'S REPORT on the AUCKLAND SCHOOLS.

SIR,—

Auckland, 22nd May, 1886.

I have the honour to report that the health of the children at the industrial schools at Kohimarama and in Kent Street during the past year has been remarkably good.

The same may be said of the children who have been boarded-out in this district. There have been cases of sickness here and there, but no serious epidemic and no death.

On the occasions of my inspection of the school at Kohimarama I have found the buildings clean and tidy, and the boys generally as healthy in appearance as one could reasonably expect considering the previous history of most of them. The supply of water is now good, and the culinary appliances are much improved.

The site of the school is in some respects very suitable, but the buildings are not altogether desirable. In the event of a new lease being obtained I trust that many improvements will be made. At the time of my last quarterly inspection on the 30th March there were sixty boys on the list, of whom nine were away fishing; it was between 4 and 5 in the afternoon, and therefore during playtime. There are one or two boys at this school who are of weak intellect, and therefore would be better placed at an asylum for idiots than among the ordinary class of boys at an industrial school. I think it would also be desirable that boys of decidedly criminal habits should be sent to a reformatory, and not be allowed to live together with children who have been left to the care of the State because of the death or misfortune of their parents.

The home in Kent Street (known as Walmsley House), under the charge of Miss Jackson, is always in thorough order, and seems completely to answer the purpose for which it is maintained, namely, as a receiving-house for girls and young children for the time that may elapse from their committal until suitable homes can be found for them. Nothing can exceed the care and attention of the matron.

The boarding-out of the children has I think been attended with great success. As far as my observation enables me to judge, the children are well cared for, happy, and thriving. In cases where sickness has occurred I have no reason to complain of the nursing. In one case of severe illness I considered it desirable to have the little girl removed for a short time to Kent Street, and I have no doubt that the change accelerated her recovery.

I have, &c.,

A. G. PURCHAS, M.R.C.S. Eng.

The Secretary, Education Department, Wellington.

No. 4.

Dr. PRINS'S REPORT ON BURNHAM SCHOOL.

SIR,—

Christchurch, May, 1886.

I have the honour to forward the following report on the industrial school at Burnham for the year ending the 30th April, 1886.

The number admitted from the 1st May, 1885, to the 30th April, 1886, was—boys, 71; girls 34. The number discharged was—boys, 35; girls, 20. One boy died in the Christchurch Hospital.

The institution has during the year been kept in a very clean and orderly condition, and the master has displayed a thorough knowledge of the duties required of him.

The health of the inmates has been generally good. I append a return of those treated in the Christchurch Hospital.

Since my last report the necessary additions and alterations to the buildings have been completed. A more complete and plentiful water-supply has also been provided. These improvements have added materially to the comfort of the inmates. For the purpose of guarding against the risk of fire a small manual fire-engine has been purchased.

The matron has been at considerable pains to make the different rooms as homely and comfortable as possible. The windows have been curtained, and the walls have been brightened by the addition of a number of fresh pictures. The matron has established an evening class for girls. The time is pleasantly and usefully spent in conversation and in examining and explaining the illustrated papers.

Those children who have been boarded-out with foster-parents have also been free from any serious illness. With reference to the boarding-out system I desire to remark that the more I see of it the more I feel convinced of its advantages. I have invariably advocated the boarding-out principle; and I feel myself justified, seeing how admirably it has worked up to the present, in strongly urging the authorities the importance of extending the system.

I am pleased to state that the master is endeavouring, by procuring an instructor, to bring the band into a state of efficiency again.

In conclusion, I can confidently bear testimony to the efficient manner in which the master, matron, and their assistants have fulfilled the duties intrusted to them. They are certainly to be commended for the very great pains they take to render the inmates comfortable and happy, and at the same time to cause them to conform strictly to the rules of the institution.

I have, &c.,

H. H. PRINS, M.R.C.S. Eng.

The Minister of Education, Wellington.

LIST OF CHILDREN ADMITTED TO CHRISTCHURCH HOSPITAL FROM BURNHAM SCHOOL, FROM 1ST MAY, 1885, TO
30TH APRIL, 1886.

Date of Admission.	Age.	Disease.	Date of Discharge.	Remarks.
16th October, 1885 ..	14	Ulcerated finger	24th October, 1885 ..	..
30th ..	14	Scrofula	..	Under treatment.
28th March, 1886 ..	8	Pneumonia	25th April, 1886 ..	With foster-parents.
20th April, ..	6	Tonsillitis	..	..
7th June, 1883 ..	7	Strumous disease of knee ..	11th June, 1885 ..	Dead. "

Remaining from previous year, 1; admitted, 4; discharged, 2; died, 1; remaining in hospital, 2.

No. 5.

Dr. BURNS'S REPORT ON CAVERSHAM SCHOOL.

SIR,—

Dunedin, 29th May, 1886.

In furnishing my annual report I have much pleasure in recording that we have experienced another fortunate year as regards the sanitary condition of the school and inmates, one death only having occurred in the school out of an average number of 160; this was a boy aged twelve years, a delicate, scrofulous child whose general condition had often caused anxiety, and had induced me some months previously to send him to the Dunedin Hospital, from which he returned to us apparently improved. No other serious illness occurred during the year.

I have peculiar pleasure in recording this pleasant state of affairs, as my duty had compelled me frequently to put on record my opinion that what illness we had resulted from the attempt—well meant, but impracticable—of combining the foundling hospital with the industrial school. And now that the boarding-out system has taken the place of the latter department—all children under ten years of age being now placed out under proper regulations with private families—I see every reason to hope that, epidemic illness apart, our children will continue to enjoy the same immunity from sickness and display the same robust health and high spirits which now characterize them.

I have, &c.,

ROBERT BURNS, F.R.C.S.E.,

Medical Officer to the School.

The Secretary for Education.

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