

was her guardian. The causes of the 6 deaths are recorded as follows:—A young woman, aged 19, on the books of the Caversham School, died of tubercular meningitis; a young man of 18, licensed to service from the Caversham School, was drowned while bathing; a girl of 17 died in the Auckland Industrial School of sarcoma and wasting; a girl from Burnham, aged 12½, died in the hospital from chronic inflammation of the ear; a little girl of 10, belonging to St. Joseph's School, Wellington, died of abscess of the liver; and a very delicate boy, aged 1½, belonging to Caversham, died of enteritis and pneumonia.

The precedent condition of inmates admitted during 1897 may be stated as follows:—54 destitute, 20 vagrant, 33 living in disreputable places, 8 uncontrollable, 64 guilty of punishable offences. The number of new inmates belonging to the Church of England is 88; 53 are Roman Catholic; 27 are Presbyterian; 10 Methodist; and 1 Congregational. A list is here given of the several Stipendiary Magistrates' Courts from which the 179 new inmates were sent to the schools, and of the number sent in each case:—Auckland, 31; Thames, 2; Hamilton, 1; Ngaruawahia, 4; Hunterville, 5; New Plymouth, 2; Palmerston North, 3; Wanganui, 1; Pahiatua, 5; Marton, 1; Wellington, 44; Blenheim, 1; Nelson, 2; Reefton, 1; Greymouth, 2; Christchurch, 24; Lyttelton, 4; Ashburton, 1; Timaru, 4; Waimate, 3; Oamaru, 5; Dunedin, 24; Port Chalmers, 2; Invercargill, 6; Riverton, 1: total, 179. The information from which Table U is compiled is somewhat meagre, but probably the following results derived from it are not very far from being true:—In 72 cases the character of both parents appears to be satisfactory; in 12 cases there is not sufficient knowledge of this matter; in 31 cases the father is of bad character; in 34 cases the mother; and in 30 cases both.

TABLE U.—ADMISSIONS, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO PARENTS' CIRCUMSTANCES AND CHARACTER, 1897.

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	9	1	18	..	2	..	30
Sick, lunatic, disabled, &c.	..	..	3	..	..	..	3
Of good character (or poor)	10	7	24	1	16	5	63
Not known or not stated	2	2	4	3	11	..	22
Of bad character	9	..	9	..	27	..	45
Deserters	5	1	7	..	3	..	16
Totals	35	11	65	4	59	5	179

The balance in the Post-Office Savings-Bank at the end of 1897 on account of wages of inmates belonging to the Government schools was £9,986 10s. 11d., and on account of inmates in private schools, £633 4s. 2d. The amount withdrawn during the year for inmates of Government schools was £1,617 19s. 7d., and for inmates of private schools, £74 12s. 4d.

Table W is the statement of the expenditure on the Government schools, and of the amount recovered from charitable institutions, from parents, from sale of farm produce, &c.

TABLE W.—COST OF GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS, 1897.

School.	Gross Cost of School.			Cost of boarding out. (Included in preceding Column.)			Recoveries.			Net Cost.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Auckland	1,119	9	9	493	2	0	242	19	9	876	10	0
Burnham	7,524	7	4	2,847	15	9	2,642	18	2	4,881	9	2
Caversham	7,115	3	1	3,505	11	5	3,948	13	5	3,166	9	8
Totals	15,759	0	2	6,846	9	2	6,834	11	4	8,924	8	10
Salary and expenses of Visiting Officer	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	398	8	10
Inmates maintained at other institutions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	346	4	3
Contingencies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	6	0
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£9,680	7	11