

Most of the inmates have a record of indifferent work habits, having had frequent changes of employment, choosing usually the job offering most money without any regard for the future—the gratification of the moment being the limit of their mental horizon.

A disquieting fact is the increasing number amongst both Maori and pakeha admissions of those with little mental or intellectual capacity. These naturally constitute a special problem and will in many cases require the guidance and help of institutional care if they are to be protected from further trouble.

Each girl on admission has received psychiatric examination by Dr. K. R. Stallworthy, of the Porirua Mental Hospital, and his reports are of value and a guide in determining the best method of treatment to be followed in each individual case. The medical officer, Dr. Douglas Brown, examined each inmate, and Sister Christian, of the Wellington Hospital, conducted all tests for V.D., and treatment wherever required was promptly carried out. Special attention has always been given to dental requirements, and Mr. W. P. Sommerville has continued to serve the institution by doing all the necessary work of extractions, fillings, and dentures.

The health of the inmates has been very satisfactory throughout the year, there being only 2 admissions to public hospital—one for operative treatment and the other for mental observation for a period of two months. There were 2 admissions to Bethany Maternity Hospital, each case receiving regular attention at the ante-natal clinic. There was no cases of V.D.

Special attention has been given the planning and preparation of meals, and there has been available from the farm a splendid variety of fresh vegetables and an adequate supply of milk. The result of the physical and mental care given the inmates is in all cases reflected in their increased fitness and vitality, and this should be a helpful factor in their rehabilitation after release.

With the aim of Borstal reformation in view, a balanced programme of work, education, and recreation has been planned, with due emphasis on the preparation for home-life. Training in laundry work, gardening, sewing, cooking, and domestic duties has been provided, and with the experience gained here a girl should be qualified to take up some employment when released. In addition to the usual work of the institution, regular laundry contracts for several Departments have been carried out, and large orders for dresses, sheets, and other garments for Porirua Mental Hospital have been executed in the sewing-room. Instruction in cooking has been provided, and under supervision the girls are responsible for the preparation and serving of meals.

An important part of the programme has been the encouragement of leisure-time activities, and the girls have been taught all types of handcraft, at which several display outstanding talent. Twelve woollen scarves were knitted and forwarded to CORSO.

Social activities and recreation have their distinct value, and time has been devoted to singing, dancing, and in the case of the Maori girls, to their own songs and poi dances. Each month programmes of interesting and educational pictures have been screened, and this form of entertainment has been much appreciated. In encouraging the girls to arrange their own concerts some good talent has been discovered.

The National Library Service has continued to supply tri-monthly a splendid collection of books, and these, in addition to the institution library, provide suitable reading-matter for the girls with their varying tastes. A number of magazines are provided by the Department, and the supply is augmented through the generosity and interest of several friends who regularly forward up-to-date journals.

Each Sunday regular religious services arranged by the Minister's Association have been held, and instruction classes have been conducted weekly by the Anglican minister (Rev. P. Wiltshire) and the Catholic priest (Father McGrath) for the members of their respective Churches. The Catholic Sisters of Mercy also attend fortnightly for religious instruction and guidance.