

1916.
NEW ZEALAND.

EDUCATION:
SPECIAL SCHOOLS, AND INFANT-LIFE PROTECTION.

[In continuation of E.-4, 1915.]

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

CONTENTS.

	Page		Page
1. Extract from the Annual Report (E.-1) of the Minister of Education—		4. Infant-life Protection—	
Afflicted and Dependent Children.. ..	2	Report of the Secretary for Education ..	9
Infant-life Protection	3	Number of Infants in Licensed Homes ..	9
School for the Deaf, Sumner	4	Particulars of Infants in Licensed Homes ..	10
Jubilee Institute for the Blind, Auckland ..	4	Rates of Payments to Foster-parents by	
Special School for the Feeble-minded, Otekaika	4-5	Parents or Guardians	10
		Exempted Institutions	11
		Deaths	11-12
		Adoptions	12
		Illegitimacy	12
2. Industrial Schools—			
Financial Tables	5-6	5. School for the Deaf, Sumner—	
Statistics respecting Inmates	6-8	Extract from the Report of the Director ..	13
3. Costley Training Institution—			
Statement of Accounts	9	6. Special School for Boys, Otekaika—	
		Extract from the Report of the Principal ..	14-15

No. 1.—EXTRACT FROM THE THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION.

SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

AFFLICTED AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN.

The number of children brought under the operation of the Industrial Schools Act in 1915 was 453, being forty-eight more than for the preceding year. The number whose names were written off the books was 305, leaving a total roll number of 3,166. Of these, 1,885 were boys and 1,281 girls. The classification of the children was as follows :—

Boarded out—						
From Government industrial schools	..	..	..	..	..	1,129
From private industrial schools	..	..	..	..	..	5
Total	..	..	..	..	..	1,134
In residence—						
In Government industrial schools (other than reformatories)	..	..	..	..	..	423
At private (Roman Catholic) industrial schools	..	..	..	..	..	335
Total	..	..	..	..	..	758
At reformatories (boys)	..	..	..	..	..	153
„ (girls)	..	..	..	..	..	69
Total	..	..	..	..	..	222
In situations	..	..	..	..	..	543
With friends on probation	..	..	..	..	..	222
Under private guardianship	..	..	..	..	..	75
Committed, but on probation	..	..	..	..	..	9
In hospitals, private institutions, absent without leave, in prison, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	203
Grand total	..	..	..	..	..	3,166

In the total number on the books are included twenty-seven young women and five young men who are more than twenty-one years of age; and control of them is maintained under the law that provides for detention beyond that age of any young person who is shown, to the satisfaction of a Magistrate, to be morally degenerate or otherwise, in the public interest, unfitted to be free from guidance. These cases will be reviewed every four years, and by like procedure detention may be indefinitely prolonged. The power of placing out applies as though the inmate were under twenty-one. At each hearing counsel is provided at Government expense for the person concerned.

By similar provisions in the Education Act young people of feeble mind may be detained under the guidance of special schools. In this way lifelong control will be retained in case of necessity, and thus the public interest and that of young people who, without support, must surely fail signally in life are effectively safeguarded.

The number of children maintained at the public cost was 2,140. The parental contributions under orders of Court, agreements, &c., amounted to £9,535, being at the rate of £4 9s. 1d. per head of those maintained. This is an increase of 15s. 4d. per head over the rate for the preceding year.

The net expenditure for the last financial year on account of industrial-school children, exclusive of capital charges for additional buildings, works, and purchase of property (£41,948), shows a decrease of £2,728, although 148 more children were maintained.

Tables I 1 and I 2 give particulars of the expenditure during the year.

	Year 1914-15.	Year 1915-16.
Payments by Charitable Aid Boards for maintenance of children who came into Government schools owing to indigence (included in the total sum recovered) ..	£11,383	£12,810
Number of children at the end of the year belonging to Government schools who were so paid for ..	769	855
Number maintained at the expense of Charitable Aid Boards at private industrial schools ..	164	167

The amount paid by the Charitable Aid Boards on account of children sent to the four private industrial schools as indigent is not stated here, as the managers of these schools make their claims upon the Boards without reference to the Education Department.

Moneys are on deposit at interest in the Post Office Savings-bank that were earned by young people who are, or while under control were, in situations, or who, though it is advisable to have them in residence, are able to do work of more value than the cost of their keep. The disposal of these moneys is by law at the discretion of the Minister of Education, who may direct that payment be made either to the earner or to the Public Account. In practice payment is made to an applicant who, after the control of the school has ceased, shows evidence of good character, and that the proposed investment of the money is likely to be to his lasting advantage.

At the end of the year the total amount deposited in the Post Office Savings-bank on account of the earnings of young people who are now or were formerly under the control of industrial schools was £40,173, the Government schools accounts having £36,017 to credit, and the private (Roman Catholic) schools £4,156. The withdrawals from these accounts during the year were £3,275 and £335 respectively.

INFANT-LIFE PROTECTION.

The infant-life protection system deals with children under six years of age who are placed privately by their parents or guardians in foster-homes for payment. To a large extent they are the illegitimate children of young girls. They are not, as industrial-school children are, under State guardianship, but the homes of the foster-parents are licensed to receive children, the number that may be retained in the home being limited strictly by the license according to the capacity of the home.

The number of homes thus licensed was 941 at the end of the year, and the number of children in them during the year was 1,440, an increase of 17 over last year. Of this total the number of infants under one year was 325.

Fourteen children died, being 0·98 per cent. of those in the homes. Of that number ten were in foster-homes, and four in hospitals or nursing-homes to which they had been removed for treatment, so that the deaths in foster-homes represented 0·75 per cent. of the total number dealt with. This continued low death-rate reflects great credit on the district agents, their assistants, the local visitors, and the foster-parents. Generally speaking, the Department has reason to be well satisfied with the homes in which these infants are placed.

The expenditure for the year ended the 31st March, 1916, was £1,476, as follows :—

	£
Salaries of visiting nurses and local representatives	1,079
Travelling-expenses of district agents, visiting nurses, and local representatives	285
Payment to foster-parents for board of infants	77
Medical attendance	6
Office expenses (including rent) and sundries	69
	1,516
Less recoveries	40
Total	1,476

For the preceding year the amount was £1,374.

SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF, SUMNER.

Number of pupils who returned to the school in February, 1915, after the summer vacation	100
Number admitted during the school year	12
Left during or at the end of the school year	13
Number remaining on the roll after the close of the school year	99

Thirteen pupils were removed from school during the year, having reached a satisfactory standard of education. The length of their school life varied from three and a half to eleven years. The necessity of sending deaf children to be properly treated at as early an age as possible is imperative, although often overlooked, as it is clear that the process of educating them must be slower and more arduous than in the case of normal children. Of twelve new pupils received during the year five were over eight years of age, and three of these were over twelve years of age, the difficulty of educating these children being thus immeasurably increased. In addition to the ordinary school-work, the girl pupils of the school receive instruction in cookery, laundry-work, domestic economy, dressmaking, and dancing, and the boys in woodwork and gardening.

The expenditure on the school for the last two financial years respectively was as follows :—

	1914-15. £	1915-16. £
Salaries	3,959	4,126
Maintenance of pupils and sundry expenses	1,740	1,745
Travelling-expenses	200	243
Maintenance of buildings	213	59
	6,112	6,173
<i>Less—</i>		
Amount collected from parents by way of maintenance contributions	1,027	1,195
Amount collected from Charitable Aid Boards	1,100	1,224
Sundry other recoveries	6	14
	2,133	2,433
Net expenditure	£3,979*	£3,740*

* Including for 1914-15 £300, and for 1915-16 £139, paid from national-endowment revenue.

JUBILEE INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND, AUCKLAND.

This institution is governed by a Board of Trustees, four of whom are appointed by the Government and the remaining five elected by the subscribers to the funds of the Institute. As the Institute comes within the scope of the Hospitals and Charitable Institutions Act, subsidy at the rate of 24s. in the pound is payable by the Government on voluntary contributions received by the Board, and 10s. in the pound on the value of bequests.

The amount paid by the Government towards the cost of training thirty-four pupils was £874, and the amount refunded to the Government during the year by parents and Charitable Aid Boards was £880, the Boards paying £523. The sum payable by the Government as subsidy to the Board of Trustees under the provisions of the Hospitals and Charitable Institutions Act was £1,940 3s. 7d.

SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR THE FEEBLE-MINDED, OTEKAIKE.

Numbers as at the 31st December, 1915 :—

	Males.	Females.
In residence	60	..
Boarded out	2	4
Temporarily absent with friends	7	..
Total of both sexes	..	73

Of the above number under control one was between the ages of five and ten, twenty-five between eleven and sixteen, thirty-one between seventeen and twenty-

one, and sixteen were over twenty-one years of age. The procedure in regard to the retention of control beyond that age is similar to that already described in respect of inmates of industrial schools.

The inmates are instructed in the occupations of basket-making, coir-mat making, and wood-carving. Farm and garden work is also carried out by the inmates, the institution producing more of such commodities as milk, fruit, and vegetables than its own requirements demand. Much of the school-work undertaken takes the form of handwork and kindergarten occupations.

As there is shown to be a very considerable aggregate of young persons of feeble mind throughout the country who would best be provided for at Otekaike, an important extension of the accommodation there has been in progress for some time past, and with the advent of warmer weather it is anticipated that the institution will be in a position largely to increase its usefulness by taking in many who are now excluded. Preparations have also been made for the establishment of a separate school for feeble-minded girls at Richmond, Nelson, towards the equipment of which a sum has now been placed on the estimates.

The following is a statement of the expenditure for the years 1914-15 and 1915-16:—

	1914-15	1915-16.
	£	£
Salaries	2,510	2,630
General maintenance	2,130	2,316
Travelling-expenses	247	299
Maintenance of buildings	172	144
Additional buildings, furniture, clearing land, &c.	2,245	12,515
	7,304	17,904
<i>Less—</i>		
Amount collected from parents by way of maintenance contributions ..	723	797
Amount collected from Charitable Aid Boards	694	950
Sundry other recoveries	133	346
	1,550	2,093
Net expenditure	£5,754*	£15,811*

* Including for 1914-15 £300, and for 1915-16 £139, from national-endowment revenue.

No. 2.—INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

TABLE I.—EXPENDITURE ON GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS, 1915-16.

Government Schools.	Salaries.	General Maintenance (including Provisions, Clothing, Farms, &c.).	Travelling-expenses.	Furnishings, Repairs to Buildings, Small Works.	New Buildings and Works.	Boarding out. (Payments to Foster-parents.)	Gross Cost.	Recoveries from Parents and Others, and Sales from Farms, &c.	Net Cost.*
	(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)	(6.)	(7.)	(8.)	(9.)
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Auckland	860	1,205	103	128	160	2,664	5,120	2,283	2,837
Boys' Training-farm, Weraoa	2,733	5,548	179	713	..	..	9,173	3,330	5,843
Receiving Home, Wellington	1,055	1,595	275	17	..	10,139	13,081	7,865	5,216
Receiving Home, Nelson ..	265	130	20	..	531	671	1,617	172	1,445
Boys' Training-farm, Nelson	2,648	4,247	119	370	643	..	8,027	1,746	6,281
Receiving Home, Christchurch	924	1,028	91	10	..	5,481	7,534	3,589	3,945
Te Oranga Home	1,384	1,728	82	237	..	..	3,431	300	3,131
Burnham	3,345	4,782	318	462	..	..	8,907	967	7,940
Caversham	997	1,250	180	39	..	4,333	6,799	3,787	3,012
Totals	14,211	21,513	1,367	1,976	1,334	23,288	63,689	24,039	39,650
Salaries, travelling-allowances, and expenses of certain departmental officers (Inspectors, visiting officers, &c.)									1,759
Amount paid to Postal Department for payment of boarding-out orders									100
Sundries									102
Total net cost									†41,611

* Column (7) less column (8).

† Including £2,057 paid from national-endowment revenue.

TABLE 12.—GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON PRIVATE (ROMAN CATHOLIC) SCHOOLS, 1915-16.

Name of School.	Gross Cost.	Recoveries.	Net Cost.
	£	£	£
St. Mary's, Auckland	1,712	563	1,149
St. Joseph's, Upper Hutt	274	96	178
St. Mary's, Nelson	363	213	150
St. Vincent de Paul's, Dunedin	43	51	Cr. 8
Totals	2,392	923	1,469

TABLE 13.—SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE ON SPECIAL CASES AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS, 1915-16.

Institution at which inmates were temporarily residing.	Industrial School to which inmates belong.			Total.
	Auckland Industrial School.	Te Oranga Home.	Caversham Industrial School.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Auckland—				
Door of Hope Institution	55 0 10	..	..	55 0 10
St. Mary's Home, Otahuhu	44 19 9	..	..	44 19 9
Orphan Home, Papatoetoe	18 4 0	..	..	18 4 0
Salvation Army Home	14 2 10	..	..	14 2 10
Christchurch—				
Mount Magdala	..	115 11 5	..	115 11 5
Dunedin—				
Salvation Army Home	..	..	8 3 7	8 3 7
Totals	132 7 5	115 11 5	8 3 7	256 2 5
Less recoveries	53 9 9	..	10 0	53 19 9
	78 17 8	115 11 5	7 13 7	202 2 8

TABLE 14.—NUMBERS UNDER CONTROL, 31st DECEMBER, 1915.

Location.	Government Schools.														Private Schools.						All Schools.								
	Auckland.		Boys' Training Farm, Wairua.		Receiving Home, Wellington.		Receiving Home, Nelson.		Boys' Training-farm, Nelson.		Te Oranga Home.		Receiving Home, Christchurch.		Burnham.		Caversham.		St. Mary's, Auckland.		St. Joseph's, Upper Hutt.		St. Mary's, Nelson.		St. Vincent de Paul's, Dunedin.		Boys.	Girls.	Total.
	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.			
In the schools ..	50	175	7	7	2	1	131	69	1	8	153	..	41	89	80	50	34	38	44	..	..	..	..	..	..	592	388	980	
Boarded out..	66	64	..	278	193	46	19	..	..	140	119	..	111	98	..	4	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	641	493	1,134	
With friends ..	9	8	15	23	29	2	..	15	3	10	17	22	18	14	14	11	7	1	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	129	93	222	
At service ..	7	42	131	48	26	2	..	60	21	24	46	9	23	43	18	26	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	322	221	543	
Under guardianship ..	4	..	34	1	2	..	..	1	..	6	6	1	16	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	63	12	75	
Committed, but on probation	1	2	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	2	9	
In hospitals, convalescent homes, &c.	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	2	..	1	..	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	8	14	
In mental hospitals ..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	3	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	6	9	
At School for the Deaf ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	
At Special School, Otakaike	2	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	..	14	
At Jubilee Institute for the Blind	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Under control of refuges or cognate institutions	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	8
Under control of orphanages, cottage homes, &c.	1	12	..	1	4	..	..	..	16	1	4	..	..	1	..	2	4	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	44	47	
With the Expeditionary Forces	..	..	9	3	..	..	..	12	..	1	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48	..	48	
In gaol ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	7	
Absent without leave..	..	..	17	1	..	..	..	1	2	2	1	25	..	1	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49	5	54	
Totals ..	90	182	391	365	264	52	20	222	116	191	203	245	170	199	124	124	71	35	39	63	1,885	1,281	3,166						

TABLE I 5.—ADMISSIONS IN 1915, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO CAUSES OF ADMISSION.

Admitted as	Government Schools.												Private Schools.						All Schools.								
	Auckland.		Boys' Training-farm, Weraoa.		Receiving Home, Wellington.		Boys' Training-farm, Nelson.		Te Oranga Home.		Receiving Home, Christchurch.		Burnham.		Caversham.		St. Mary's, Auckland.		St. Joseph's, Upper Hutt.		St. Mary's, Nelson.		St. Vincent de Paul's, Dunedin.		Boys.	Girls.	Total.
	B.	G.	B.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	B.	G.	B.	G.	G.	B.	G.	G.	B.	G.	G.						
Destitute	13	12	4	48	26	..	..	8	7	..	4	5	7	4	8	..	4	3	..	..	..	84	69	153			
Vagrant	1	2	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	7	13				
In disreputable associations	..	..	1	5	4	..	..	3	2	..	4	3	3	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	13	29				
Not under proper control (complaint by police)	7	15	28	4	4	..	4	7	5	4	6	2	11	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	67	43	110				
Uncontrollable (complaint by parent)	..	3	7	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	6	16				
Accused or guilty of punishable offences	1	8	67	..	1	3	1	..	1	13	2	1	5	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	91	15	106				
By private arrangement	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3				
Transferred from gaol	..	..	2	..	..	..	7	..	..	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	7	23				
Totals	23	40	114	57	37	4	13	18	16	31	16	12	29	28	8	..	4	3	292	161	453						

TABLE I 6.—ADMISSIONS IN 1915, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO PARENTS' CIRCUMSTANCES AND CHARACTER.

Fathers described as	Mothers described as	Precedent Condition of Children admitted in 1915.								Total.
		Destitute.	Vagrant.	Associating with Disreputable Persons.	Not under Proper Control (Complaint by Police).	Uncontrollable (Complaint by Parent).	Accused or Guilty of Punishable Offences.	Admitted by Private Arrangement.	Transferred from Gaol.	
Dead	Dead	5	..	..	7	1	1	..	..	14
.. ..	Physically unfit ..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
.. ..	Good	7	..	..	1	1	8	..	3	20
.. ..	Questionable	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	3
.. ..	Bad	3	..	3	9	..	..	..	1	16
Physically unfit	Dead	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Mentally unfit	Mentally unfit ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
.. ..	Good	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Good	Dead	1	..	..	7	..	14	..	6	28
.. ..	Mentally unfit ..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
.. ..	Good	6	3	..	13	12	53	1	8	96
.. ..	Questionable	7	..	..	9	..	1	..	..	17
.. ..	Bad	3	1	2	1	..	1	..	..	8
.. ..	Unknown	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Questionable	Dead	10	..	..	3	..	3	..	..	16
.. ..	Physically unfit ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
.. ..	Mentally unfit ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
.. ..	Good	19	..	2	4	..	7	..	1	33
.. ..	Questionable	14	2	5	11	..	3	..	..	35
.. ..	Bad	11	..	5	2	..	..	..	..	18
.. ..	Deserter	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	3
.. ..	Unknown	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	4
Bad	Dead	1	..	1	10	..	..	..	..	12
.. ..	Mentally unfit ..	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	3
.. ..	Good	7	3	1	5	..	2	..	2	20
.. ..	Questionable	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	3
.. ..	Bad	2	..	5	6	..	3	..	..	16
.. ..	Deserter	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
.. ..	Unknown	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	3
Deserter	Dead	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
.. ..	Good	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	3
.. ..	Deserter	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Unknown	Dead	3	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	5
.. ..	Mentally unfit ..	6	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	7
.. ..	Good	5	1	..	..	..	3	1	..	10
.. ..	Questionable	13	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	16
.. ..	Bad	3	..	4	4	..	..	1	..	12
.. ..	Deserter	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
.. ..	Unknown	4	2	..	2	1	3	..	1	13
Totals		153	13	29	110	16	106	3	23	453

The numbers of children admitted were—From Auckland, 107; from Wellington, 101; from Christchurch, 35; from Dunedin, 42; from Napier, 18; from Hamilton, 20; from Wanganui, 12; while in no case were more than 8 sent from any other town in the Dominion. The records show that, of the total number of children admitted, 26·9 per cent. were known to be illegitimate.

When children are before the Courts the Magistrates, after hearing evidence, direct in what religious denomination they are to be brought up. The orders made in 1915 show the denominations to be as follows: Anglican, 230; Roman Catholic, 132; Presbyterian, 53; Methodist, 27; Church of Christ, 3; Salvation Army, 2; Congregational, 3; Baptist, 2; Lutheran, 1.

The number of inmates over whom the control of the schools terminated during the year was 305. Of this number, 232 were then of good character, 1 fair, 3 bad; 10 were married; 3 were weak-minded; 24 were discharged under the age of fifteen years (3 of whom were legally adopted). In 21 cases information as to character cannot be given, the whereabouts of the inmates (who were absent without leave) being unknown at the time of termination of the period of control.

The number of inmates missing at the end of the year was 54—49 boys and 5 girls.
There were 11 deaths, particulars of which appear in the following table:—

TABLE 17.—DEATHS, 1915.

Age at Death.		Status at Death.	Certified Cause of Death.	School to which belonging.
Years.	Months.			
..	4½	At board	Convulsions	Wellington Receiving Home.
..	10	In hospital	Gastro-enteritis; exhaustion; heart-failure	Wellington Receiving Home.
1	2½	At board	Acute broncho-pneumonia	Caversham.
3	9	"	Pneumonia; whooping-cough	"
12	7	"	Peritonitis, ruptured kidney; result of fall from a tree	Wellington Receiving Home.
13	11	In hospital	Acute periostitis	Boys' Training-farm, Nelson.
14	11	In residence	Accidentally drowned while bathing	Weraroa.
17	2	In hospital	Meningitis	"
17	3	"	Peritonitis	Nelson.
19	..	Expeditionary Force	Killed in action	"
19	1	At board	General tuberculosis; tubercular hip	Caversham.

TABLE 18.—DISCHARGES, 1915.

Cause of Termination of Control.	Government Schools.												Private Schools.						All Schools.		
	Auckland.		Boys' Train- ing-farm, Weraoa.	Receiving Home, Well- ington.		Boys' Train- ing-farm, Nelson.	Te Oranga Home.	Receiving Home, Christ- church.		Burnham.	Caver- sham.		St. Mary's, Auckland.		St. Joseph's, Upper Hut.	St. Mary's, Nelson.		St. Vincent de Paul's, Dunedin.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
	B.	G.	B.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	G.	B.	G.	G.				
Discharged by warrant	1	4	54	9	6	27	1	5	2	72	8	1	21	6	3	..	6	..	197	29	226
Death ..	..	..	2	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	3	11
Reached age of 21 years	..	3	1	1	..	1	12	3	4	7	9	5	..	4	2	..	1	5	22	36	58
Married	..	..	3	..	2	..	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	10	10
Totals	1	10	57	12	9	31	16	8	6	79	18	9	21	11	5	..	7	5	227	78	305

NOTE.—Of the 197 boys discharged during the year, 63 were serving with the New Zealand Expeditionary Forces.

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 four years since this Act came into operation there have been 35 orders issued extending the period of control, 30 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 interest and in that of the community at large.

No. 3.—COSTLEY TRAINING INSTITUTION.

BALANCE-SHEET FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1915.

<i>Liabilities.</i>			<i>Assets.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Costley bequest	12,150	0 0	Mortgages	17,680	0 0
Hodge bequest	742	3 9	Accrued interest	153	17 4
Boys' savings account	11	2 5			
Jackson and Russell	343	3 11			
Revenue Account accumulated	4,560	14 1			
Bank of New Zealand	26	13 2			
	<u>£17,833</u>	<u>17 4</u>		<u>£17,833</u>	<u>17 4</u>

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Office expenses	41	12 1	By Balance, 1st January, 1915 ..	3,758	6 3
Maintenance	111	1 6	Interest on investments	955	1 5
Balance carried forward	4,560	14 1			
	<u>£4,713</u>	<u>7 8</u>		<u>£4,713</u>	<u>7 8</u>

27th January, 1916.

C. HUDSON, F.P.A.N.Z.,
Secretary.

Examined and found correct.—R. J. COLLINS, Controller and Auditor-General.

No. 4.—INFANT-LIFE PROTECTION.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION.

Education Department, Wellington, 31st April, 1916.

The Hon. the Minister of Education.

I SUBMIT the following report on the work of the Department in respect of infant-life protection for the year 1915.

It will be seen that the bulk of the infants were in foster-homes—that is, with women who have the motherly capacity and the time and accommodation necessary to satisfy the Department's requirements for the license prescribed by the Act. The remainder were in various benevolent institutions, of which particulars are given below.

NUMBERS.

The number of infants in licensed foster-homes on the 31st December was 887, which is 21 less than there were at the beginning of the year. The individuals comprising these totals varied to a much greater extent than these figures indicate, however, the total number of individuals dealt with in connection with foster-homes during the year, by admissions, withdrawals, transfers, &c., being 1,577. The number of new admissions to foster-homes—558—was 33 less than in the previous year, and the number removed from the homes was 38 more.

In the institutions there were 486 at the end of the year, making in all a total of 1,373 infants being dealt with under the Act on the 31st December, 1915—a decrease of 103 on the number on the books a year previously.

The following table exhibits the transactions of the year in respect of infants in licensed foster-homes:—

PARTICULARS OF CHILDREN ADMITTED TO AND REMOVED FROM LICENSED FOSTER-HOMES
DURING 1915.

	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.
Placed in licensed homes during the year	266	81	84	54	34	25	14	..	558
Withdrawn from homes—									
Removed by parents or guardians	46	52	91	61	47	21	23	10	351
Deaths	8	1	4	1	..	..	..	..	14
Adoptions without premiums	4	7	15	7	2	5	..	..	40
In homes to which exemptions was granted	..	1	2	3	2	2	..	..	10
Brought under the operation of the Industrial Schools Act	1	3	15	2	5	4	6	4	40
Written off the books for various causes	..	8	10	14	2	3	3	58	98
Totals	59	72	137	88	58	35	32	72	553
On the books at 31st December, 1915	91	103	213	143	120	82	73	62	887

FOSTER-HOMES.

The 887 infants in foster-homes at the end of the year were distributed as follows:—

In 545 homes each having one ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	545
In 103 " two ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	206
In 26 " three ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	78
In 9 " four ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
In 3 " five ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
In 1 " seven ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
687							887

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

The total number of licensed homes was 941, so that at the end of the year there were 254 licensed homes in which for the time being no infants were boarded.

RATES OF PAYMENTS TO FOSTER-PARENTS BY PARENTS OR GUARDIANS.

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

1 at the rate of 3s. 6d. per week.	566 at the rate of 10s. per week.
15 " 5s. "	11 " 11s. "
6 " 6s. "	35 " 12s. "
19 " 7s. "	57 " 12s. 6d. "
59 " 7s. 6d. "	5 " 14s. "
59 " 8s. "	22 " 15s. "
5 " 8s. 6d. "	1 " 17s. 6d. "
11 " 9s. "	6 " 20s. "

NOTE.—Nine children were being maintained without payment, but for various reasons their names are retained on the books.

Generally, the relatives of the infants provide clothing and medical attendance in addition.

The following comparison of the rates paid during the last four years shows that the usual payment is about 10s. a week:—

	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Under 7s. 	23	24	29	22
7s. and under 10s. 	195	161	163	153
10s. 	485	482	596	566
Over 10s. 	71	91	120	137

EXEMPTED INSTITUTIONS.

From the provision that "it shall not be lawful for any person in consideration of any payment or reward to receive or retain in his care or charge any infant for the purpose of nursing or maintaining it apart from its parents or guardians for a longer period than seven consecutive days unless such person is licensed as a foster-parent" the Minister may grant certain exemptions, and under this authority exemption has been granted to the institutions set forth in the following list, which shows also the numbers dealt with and the deaths. The conditions of the exemptions provide for inspection, and for removal of the infants only with due formality.

Name of Institution.	Admissions, 1915.			Deaths.			On the Books at 31st December, 1915.		
	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.)	
The Door of Hope, Auckland	22	10	37	3	..	3	4	2	6
Mission House of the Order of the Good Shepherd, Auckland ..	..	..	16	..	..	..	..	..	35
The Methodist Orphanage, Mount Albert, Auckland ..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	9
The Orphan Home, Papatoetoe, Auckland ..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	16
St. Mary's Orphanage, Epsom, Auckland ..	..	2	17	..	..	..	..	1	24
St. Vincent's Home of Compassion, Epsom, Auckland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
St. Joseph's Orphanage, Takapuna, Auckland ..	..	1	10	..	..	..	..	..	23
The Manurewa Children's Home, Auckland ..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	15
Children's Home, Ponsonby, Auckland ..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	12
Leslie Presbyterian Orphanage, Remuera, Auckland ..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	10
St. Mary's Home, Otahuhu, Auckland ..	30	5	35	2	1	5	14	6	40
Salvation Army Samaritan Home, Gisborne ..	14	3	38	..	..	..	..	..	7
Cook County Women's Guild Crèche, Gisborne ..	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	9
Salvation Army Bethany Home, Napier ..	3	2	9	..	..	..	1	2	4
Wanganui Orphanage, Wanganui ..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	9
Children's Home, Palmerston North ..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	7
Salvation Army Children's Home, Wellington ..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	5
The Levin Memorial Home, Wellington ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Presbyterian Orphanage, Wellington ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	5
Home of Compassion, Island Bay, Wellington ..	9	2	31	1	..	2	2	6	49
St. Joseph's Orphanage, Upper Hutt, Wellington ..	..	..	53	..	..	..	..	2	36
St. Mary's Orphanage, Nelson ..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	15
Salvation Army Maternity Home, Christchurch ..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sacred Heart Orphanage, Mount Magdala, Christchurch ..	3	..	20	..	..	..	3	..	28
Nazareth House, Christchurch ..	..	..	18	..	..	..	..	..	20
Methodist Orphanage and Children's Home, Papanui, Christchurch ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Presbyterian Orphanage, Papanui, Christchurch ..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	5
St. Saviour's Home, Shirley, Christchurch ..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	10
Children's Convalescent Cottage, New Brighton ..	..	..	29	..	..	..	..	..	4
St. Mary's Orphanage, Mornington, Dunedin ..	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	10
Salvation Army Home, Bishopscourt, Dunedin ..	..	..	31	1	..	1	..	..	11
St. Vincent de Paul's Orphanage, South Dunedin ..	1	2	6	..	..	..	1	2	14
Glendining Home, Anderson's Bay, Dunedin ..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	10
Salvation Army Home, Middlemarch ..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	7
Victoria Memorial Home, Invercargill ..	9	1	12	..	..	..	1	1	2
Totals for 1915	93	28	458	7	1	11	26	22	486
Totals for 1914	174	59	480	17	9	37	45	51	568

DEATHS IN FOSTER-HOMES.

Of the 1,440 infants that were at one time or another on the books as being in foster-homes during 1915, 14 died. Of these, 10 died in the foster-homes and 4 in hospitals or nursing-homes to which they had been removed for treatment, so that the deaths in foster-homes represented 0·75 per cent. of the total number dealt with. Nine of the 14 were under the age of twelve months, and 11 were of illegitimate birth.

The following is a statement of the number of deaths during the time that the infant-life-protection system has been in the Department's charge :—

1908	26	deaths out of 1,017 infants = 2·56 per cent.
1909	25	„ 1,181 „ = 2·11 „
1910	26	„ 1,183 „ = 2·19 „
1911	13	„ 1,183 „ = 1·09 „
1912	12	„ 1,228 „ = 0·98 „
1913	13	„ 1,330 „ = 0·98 „
1914	20	„ 1,423 „ = 1·40 „
1915	14	„ 1,440 „ = 0·98 „

This continued low death-rate reflects great credit on the district agents, their assistants, the local visitors, and the foster-parents. Generally speaking, the Department has reason to be well satisfied with the homes in which these infants are placed.

DEATHS IN EXEMPTED INSTITUTIONS.

These, with other particulars, are shown in the foregoing table relating to exempted institutions. The following is a statement of the deaths during the five years in which a record of the deaths has been kept:—

1911 ..	..	..	47	deaths out of 899 infants dealt with = 5.23 per cent.
1912 ..	..	..	36	„ 911 „ = 3.95 „
1913 ..	..	..	18	„ 984 „ = 1.82 „
1914 ..	..	..	37	„ 944 „ = 3.91 „
1915 ..	..	..	11	„ 1,026 „ = 1.08 „

ADOPTIONS, 1915.

During the year 246 orders of adoption were made, and four orders cancelling four adoption orders. Forty-six of the adoption orders provided for premiums, and 200 were without monetary consideration.

The following shows the ages of the adopted children :—

Age.				With Premium.	Without Premium.	Total.
Under 6 months	..	..	..	21	46	67
Between 6 months and 12 months	..	..	..	13	30	43
„ 1 and 2 years	..	..	..	6	40	46
„ 2 „ 3	„	..	..	..	24	24
„ 3 „ 4	„	..	..	4	8	12
„ 4 „ 5	„	..	..	2	11	13
„ 5 „ 6	„	..	..	..	6	6
„ 6 „ 7	„	..	..	..	7	7
„ 7 „ 8	„	..	..	..	3	3
„ 8 „ 9	„	..	..	..	3	3
„ 9 „ 10	„	..	..	..	6	6
„ 10 „ 11	„	..	..	..	3	3
„ 11 „ 12	„	..	..	..	6	6
„ 12 „ 13	„	..	..	..	4	4
„ 13 „ 14	„	..	..	..	1	1
„ 14 „ 15	„	..	..	..	2	2
				46	200	246
The adopting persons were—						
Husband and wife jointly ..				..	..	239
Husband alone ..				..	..	2
Widow ..				..	..	5

The amount of the premiums ranged from £10 to £194.

ILLEGITIMACY.

For its obvious relation to the intentions of the Infants Act the following table is given :—

Provincial Districts.							Illegitimate Births registered during 1915.	Number of Illegitimate Children aged Twelve Months or less brought under the Act during 1915.
Auckland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	351	43
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	34	10
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	..	54	9
Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	302	63
Marlborough	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	..
Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32	5
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	3
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	204	70
Otago ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	152	47
Totals for 1915 ..							1,152	250
Totals for 1914 ..							1,302	276

E. O. GIBBES,
Secretary for Education.

No. 5.—SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF, SUMNER.

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you my report for the year 1915.

The number of pupils under instruction during the year is shown in the following tabulated statement :—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Pupils of 1914 who returned to school	54	46	100
Admitted at or near the beginning of the year	7	2	9
Admitted later	3	..	3
Total number at the school	64	48	112
Left in July	1	..	1
Left in December at end of school year	7	5	12
Pupils expected to return to Sumner in 1916	56	43	99

Of the 112 pupils on the roll, 64 came from the North Island and 48 from the South Island. There were 35 from the Auckland District, 3 from Taranaki, 9 from Hawke's Bay, 17 from Wellington, 3 from Nelson, 2 from Marlborough, 2 from Westland, 24 from Canterbury, and 17 from Otago.

Nine boys and 4 girls attended as day pupils, and 55 boys and 44 girls were in residence at the school.

Of the 112 pupils admitted during the year 5 were over the age of eight years. The ages of these 5 were respectively as under: 8 years 10 months, 10 years 7 months, 12 years 5 months, 14 years, and 17 years 2 months. In only one of these 5 cases—that of a boy of fourteen years, whose deafness was acquired—was there any valid reason for the long delay in admission. Four of these pupils made good progress during the year, but no amount of progress will compensate for the wasted time caused by the delay in their admission. It is especially to be regretted that the case of the pupil aged seventeen years was not brought under the notice of the authorities years ago. As I have often pointed out, the necessity of commencing the education of deaf children at an early age cannot be too strongly urged. It is insisted on by practically all who have studied the question of the education of the deaf; indeed, the preponderance of opinion among experts appears to be in favour of commencing the education of deaf children at four or five, or even earlier. The mental condition of deaf children that have been allowed to reach even the age of twelve or thirteen without education is appalling, and can scarcely be conceived by any one who has not been faced with the problem of educating such children. Yet such cases are by no means uncommon, even in this country, where the education of deaf children has been wisely made compulsory between the ages of six and twenty-one years. During the past ten years there have been admitted to this school fifty-one children over the age of eight, thirty over the age of ten, eleven over the age of twelve, four over the age of fourteen, and two over the age of sixteen years.

I do not in the slightest degree suggest that parents should not call in the aid of an aural surgeon when there is any possibility of their children's hearing being improved by treatment, but I wish to point out that such treatment could be just as efficiently given at this school as in the home, and without prejudice to the educational aspect of the case. I also desire to warn parents of deaf children of the danger of having the ears of the latter meddled with by any one but a properly qualified aural surgeon, and especially to beware of advertised remedies for deafness. In every case parents would do well to obtain my advice as soon as defective hearing is noted in children, as intelligent home treatment has a marked influence on subsequent progress. Furthermore, persons knowing of uneducated deaf children of whatever age will be doing a real service to all concerned if they report such cases to the Education Department.

As a rule, when a child is stone-deaf there is not so much delay on the part of the parents in getting them admitted here; whereas, when a child has some residual hearing and is able to say "Daddy" and two or three other words, its parents are apt to think that it is in no need of the special instruction that alone will enable it to speak. It ought to be generally known that a child that is too deaf to hear the ordinary tones of the voice will, unless given special instruction of the kind given here, grow up dumb or practically dumb. Unfortunately, this knowledge is very often not acquired by parents until it is too late for the children to receive anything like adequate instruction.

In July one boy was removed, after having been seven years and a half at the school and having made excellent progress. At the end of the year a boy and a girl, who had been admitted towards the beginning of the year on trial, were removed on account of mental deficiency. There were also removed seven boys and five girls, who had reached a satisfactory standard of education. They had been at the school respectively 8 years, 9 years 8 months, 11 years, 9 years 5 months, 10 years, 3 years 3 months (a lip-reading case), 9 years, 7 years, 10 years, and 9 years.

The work of the school was carried on in a satisfactory manner during the year, and at the annual examination, which was conducted in November by Mr. T. H. Gill, M.A., the pupils acquitted themselves creditably.

In addition to the ordinary school-work the girls received instruction in cooking, laundry-work, domestic economy, dressmaking, and dancing, and the boys in woodwork and gardening.

In November a visit of inspection was paid to the school by the Chairman and four other members of the Board of Education of North Canterbury. Mr. Opie, the Chairman, made the following entry, which was endorsed by his fellow-members, in the Official Visitors' book: "I am more and more impressed with the highly satisfactory management and control of this institution. A benevolent and national work of great value and importance is being well done."

Many letters have been received from ex-pupils in different parts of the Dominion, and it is gratifying to find that all appear to have no difficulty in earning a living. Quite a number of the old boys have written expressing their disappointment and dissatisfaction at not being accepted for active service in the field on account of their deafness.

The staff contributions to the various war relief funds amounted to £145 0s. 1d., besides contributions given privately.

In conclusion, I wish again to urge upon the Department the necessity of providing more suitable quarters for the boys, and also of establishing a separate or completely detached school for young deaf children. From an educational point of view the policy of herding the deaf together in large numbers is most strongly to be condemned. In point of numbers this school is already too large, and the sooner subdivision is commenced the better.

J. E. STEVENS, Director.

No. 6.—SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR BOYS, OTEKAIKE, OAMARU.

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you my report on this school, for the year ending 31st December, 1915.

ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES.

	Boys.	Girls.
Number of children in school, 1st January, 1915	69	4
Number admitted during year	1	..
Number discharged during year	1	..
Died	..	..
Number of children in school, 31st December, 1915	69	4
Ages of children on the school roll, 31st December, 1915---		
From five to ten years	2	..
From eleven to sixteen years	24	1
From seventeen to twenty-one years	28	1
Over twenty-one years	15	2
Total	69	4

I am again able to report that the health of the children has been excellent. Throughout the year we have had scarcely any occasion to call in any outside medical assistance. No deaths have occurred during the year. It would be an advantage if we could arrange for a periodic visit from an Oamaru dentist. A periodic examination of the children's teeth would not only tend to prevent disease and promote good health, but would also help to render the work of teaching the children much less trying.

SEASIDE CAMP.

During the Christmas vacation those boys who were unable to be sent home to their parents had the advantage of going into camp by the sea, at Hampden. Our yearly camp is much enjoyed by the boys.

MANUAL OCCUPATIONS.

Basketmaking and coir-mat making are the chief industries in our workshops. Our greatest need at the present time is a complete set of workshops, where other forms of manual training, such as boot making and repairing, tailoring, weaving, and rugmaking can be undertaken.

FARM AND GARDEN.

We have passed through one of the driest seasons which has ever been experienced in North Otago. In common with the neighbouring farmers, most of our farm crops have been almost a total failure. During the past eight years we have grown enough potatoes for our own use each season, besides a considerable quantity which we have been able to spare for other institutions under the control of the Education Department. This year we shall not have enough potatoes to last us until the next season's crop is ready. Fruit and vegetables, however, were plentiful, owing to the fact that in the garden and orchard we have a plentiful supply of water.

SCHOOL-WORK.

The work in school has progressed satisfactorily. In the upper division of our day school the children, though of varying capacity, are showing signs of development much beyond my expectations. The reading, writing, recitation, singing, and drill of this division are quite creditable. The articulation of the children of this division has much improved. The manual occupations in this division of the school are also satisfactory. Smyrna-rug making, rafia-work, knitting, and sewing, are well done.

The lower division of the school comprises most of the children who have very little scholastic ability. The work in this division consists mainly of sense-training exercises, simple kindergarten occupations, musical drill, observational, conversational, and expressional lessons. In all these children there is a very marked defect in the muscular apparatus, which takes the form of inco-ordination. This is probably responsible for many of the forms of imperfect speech in this division. Musical drill to simple nursery-rhyme tunes, which involves the most elementary movements of the hands, head, arms, trunk, and feet, form a most important branch of training in the lower division. Our new day school, with eight class-rooms and open-air teaching-verandas, is nearing completion. The provision of this building will greatly help our school-work.

During the year we have made a commencement with special daily vocal classes, where tuition is given to all those who have the capacity in solo and chorus singing. The brighter children are now able to sing rounds and easy two-part choruses. We are indebted to the Vicar of Kurow for the fortnightly Church services, which are bright, cheerful, and helpful to the boys. The children look forward to the services, which, together with the morning and evening prayers, and grace at meals, are a means of training the emotions.

EXTENSIONS.

Three large villas, with sleeping-accommodation for approximately thirty-six children each, are nearing completion. In addition, a club-house for the male staff has been erected, cottages for the married attendants, and bedrooms for the single men.

GEORGE BENSTEAD, Principal.

NOTE.—Appendix giving particulars of deaths in foster-homes and in exempted institutions not printed for 1915.

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given ; printing (1,700 copies), £12 10s.

By Authority : MARCUS F. MARKS, Government Printer, Wellington.—1916.

Price 6d.]

