

The children are classified as follows :—

In residence—		
In Government industrial schools other than reformatories	...	472
In reformatories (boys)	...	142
,, (girls)	...	40
In private industrial schools	...	654
Total	...	355
Boarded out—		1,009
From Government schools (including receiving-homes)	...	
From private industrial schools	...	1,076
Total	...	6
Placed out in situations	...	1,082
With friends on probation	...	570
In private institutions, hospitals, absent without leave, in prison, &c.	...	387
Grand total...	...	236
		3,284

The net expenditure for the last financial year, exclusive of capital charges for additional buildings, works, &c., was £41,304, showing a decrease of £644 on that of the preceding year, although 515 more children were actually maintained, the numbers being 2,655 and 2,140 respectively.

The contributions from parents under orders of Court, agreements, &c., amounted to £12,297, being at the rate of £4 12s. 8d. per head of those maintained. This is an increase of 3s. 7d. per head over the rate of the preceding year.

The following figures show the expenditure in connection with Government and private industrial schools during the year :—

EXPENDITURE ON GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS, 1916–17.

	£
Salaries	14,788
General maintenance	23,237
Travelling-expenses	1,346
Furnishings, repairs to buildings, small works	1,568
New buildings and works	332
Payments to foster-parents	23,408
Gross cost	64,679
Recoveries from parents and others	£23,796
Sales, &c.	2,565
	26,361
Net cost of institutions	38,318
Salaries, &c., of visiting and probation officers and sundries	2,118
	£40,436

EXPENDITURE ON PRIVATE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

	£
Gross cost	2,857
Recoveries	1,884
Net cost	£973

Included in the total sum recovered (£25,680) is an amount of £13,383 paid by Hospital and Charitable Aid Boards for the maintenance of 836 children committed to industrial schools on account of indigency. In addition 169 inmates of private industrial schools were maintained at the expense of Hospital and Charitable Aid Boards. As these latter schools make their claims direct against the Boards the figures are not included in this report.

Section 50 of the Industrial Schools Act provides for the placing of inmates of industrial schools in situations and for part of their earnings to be placed in trust accounts in the Post Office Savings-bank. There are some two thousand such trust accounts, representing about £50,000. Though these earnings cannot be claimed as a right in practice, they are generally paid over to the