

and eleven months; the difficulty of educating these children thus being greatly increased. In addition to the ordinary school-work the girl pupils receive instruction in general domestic work, cooking, laundry-work, dressmaking, and dancing; while the boys are taught woodwork and gardening.

A feature of this institution is the successful work carried on in the garden and on the farm, provision being thus made for a plentiful supply of milk, vegetables, and fruit all the year round. Notwithstanding the dry season intensive cultivation of the sandy soil has been carried out under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture, and very fine specimens of such products as lucerne, marrows, mangels, carrots, &c., the product of the school-farm, have been exhibited by that Department at the Dunedin, Timaru, and Ashburton agricultural and pastoral shows.

The expenditure on the school for the last financial year is as follows:—

	£	£
Salaries... ..	4,062	
Maintenance of pupils and sundry expenses	1,802	
Travelling-expenses	207	
Maintenance of buildings	94	
	—	6,165
Less—		
Parental contributions	1,088	
Amounts collected from Hospital and Charitable Aid Boards	768	
Sundry other recoveries	32	
	—	1,888
Net expenditure		<u>£4,277</u>

The net expenditure for the year 1915–16 was £3,740.

JUBILEE INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND, AUCKLAND.

The Jubilee Institute for the Blind, Auckland, which is established as a separate institution under the provisions of the Hospitals and Charitable Institutions Act, is governed by a Board of Trustees, four of whom are appointed by the Government. Provision is made at the Institute for the education and training of adults as well as children, although the Education Department is chiefly interested in the latter. In addition to the ordinary school subjects kindergarten classes are held, and instruction is also given in music, swimming, typewriting and shorthand, sewing, knitting, beadwork, &c. Technical work and manual training forms an important part of the curriculum. The boys and men receive instruction in woodwork and in several trades, such as piano-tuning, mat and basket making, &c., while the girls are taught household duties, which will be of great benefit to them when they return to their homes after completing their education in the day school.

It is noteworthy that two of the teachers in the Institute are themselves ex-pupils of the school. One graduate blind teacher last year successfully trained blind students for the Matriculation Examination.

The amount paid by the Government towards the cost of training thirty-three pupils was £810, and the amount refunded to the Government in the way of parental contributions and payments by Hospital and Charitable Aid Boards was £538. The amount paid by the Government as subsidy to the Board of Trustees under the provisions of the Hospitals and Charitable Institutions Act was £1,815 3s. 7d.

EDUCATION AND CARE OF THE FEEBLE-MINDED.

During the year full publicity has been given to the compulsory clauses in the Education Act dealing with the education and training of feeble-minded or epileptic children between the ages of six and twenty-one years. As the result of a systematic canvas information regarding over six hundred cases was obtained. About three hundred and fifty of these were boys and two hundred and fifty girls. The assistance of the Medical Inspectors of Schools has been obtained for the preliminary examination of the majority of these cases; a great many have been examined, and the work is still proceeding.