

At the Special School for Boys at Otekaike a scheme providing instruction in carpentry, bootmaking, and mat and basket making has been carried out satisfactorily during the year. The younger boys receive instruction by means of kindergarten and Montessori methods, and many of them become quite skilled at handwork. Basketmaking and matmaking are occupations that feeble-minded boys take to readily, but as the majority of them are of low vitality it is essential that occupations involving physical movement should also be available for them. Many of the elder boys assist either in the garden or orchard or on the farm. Considerable improvement has been made during the past twelve months in the methods of farming the 300-odd acres attached to the institution.

The following tables show the numbers dealt with during the past year, together with particulars regarding expenditure :—

Special School for Boys, Otekaike.

Numbers as at 31st December, 1918 :—

In residence	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	86
Boarded out	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Temporarily absent with friends	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Service	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
								91

Particulars of expenditure for the financial year ended 31st March, 1919 :—

								£	£
Salaries and war bonus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,660	
General maintenance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,789	
Travelling-expenses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	344	
Maintenance of buildings, furnishings, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	329	
Additional buildings, furniture, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	172	
									8,294
<i>Less—</i>									
Parental contributions towards maintenance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	801	
Amount collected from Hospital and Charitable Aid Boards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,516	
Sundry other recoveries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	654	
									2,971
Net expenditure	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		£5,323

Special School for Girls, Richmond.

Numbers as at 31st December, 1918 :—

In the school	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
On vacation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
At service	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
								53

Particulars of expenditure for the financial year ended 31st March, 1919 :—

								£	£
Salaries and war bonus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,262	
General maintenance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	985	
Travelling-expenses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	51	
Buildings, furniture, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26	
Maintenance of buildings, furnishings, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	273	
									2,597
<i>Less—</i>									
Parental contributions towards maintenance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	511	
Amount collected from Hospital and Charitable Aid Boards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	989	
Sundry other recoveries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	
									1,505
Net expenditure	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		£1,092