

Table I4 attached to this report shows the new admissions classified according to the causes of admission. Of the total number (535), 172 were destitute, 199 not under proper control, and 78 had been charged with punishable offences. Of the children admitted under these three headings all excepting 44 were placed out in foster-homes before the end of the year.

Table I5 gives particulars of the character or state of the parents at the time of the admission of the children. From this table I have selected the following figures showing (1) the number of children of drunken parents, and (2) the number of children of feeble-minded parents.

Admission of Children during 1920 on account of the Drinking Habits of one or both Parents.

Drunken mother	26
Drunken father	54
Both parents drunkards	6
	86

Children admitted during 1920 on account of Mental Deficiency of Parents.

Mentally deficient mother	51
Mentally deficient father	11
Both parents defective mentally	3
	65

The following figures show the number of committals to industrial schools for the past twelve years: Year 1909, 294; 1910, 290; 1911, 389; 1912, 405; 1913, 328; 1914, 405: average for six years before the war, 352. Year 1915, 453; 1916, 436; 1917, 358; 1918, 381; 1919, 864; 1920, 535: average for six years after commencement of war, 505 (excluding epidemic orphans the average is 438).

SCHOOLS FOR THE FEEBLE-MINDED.

Numbers at 31st December, 1920.

	Stoke.	Otekaike.	Richmond.	Total.
In residence	43	63	54	160
On vacation	11	6	18	35
At board	..	..	1	1
With friends	..	..	1	1
At service	..	1	..	1
Totals	54	70	74	198

Particulars of Expenditure for the Year 1920-21.

	Stoke.	Otekaike.	Richmond.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
Salaries	5,489	4,379	1,529	11,397
War bonus	74	59	15	148
Maintenance buildings	16	149	3	168
Travelling-expenses	1,014	198	105	1,317
Maintenance institutions	3,993	809	3,356	8,158
Additional buildings	98	39	..	137
	10,684	5,633	5,008	21,325
Recoveries	..	..	..	5,720
Net cost to Department	..	..	..	£15,605

I have, &c.,
J. БЕСК,
Officer in Charge, Special Schools Branch.

The Director of Education, Wellington.