

In connection with the foregoing table it should be borne in mind that there are really only two residential institutions in our industrial-schools system—the Boys' Training-farm, Weraroa, for boys, and a section of the Caversham Industrial School for girls.

The receiving-homes and probation homes are regarded as clearing-houses, where children are admitted for short periods for observation and treatment, if necessary, prior to being placed in ordinary homes in the community or in situations. These homes are also utilized—

- (1.) For housing children who for various reasons are changing from one home or situation to another, or who are sent in from country districts for medical or dental treatment, &c.;
- (2.) For children and young persons passing through from other centres or districts; and
- (3.) For girls and young women in situations who spend their weekly half-holiday and occasional week-end days with the Matron of the home.

The average number of children in residence at these homes is comparatively small, but an approximation of the work of the homes is given in the following return:—

Name of School.	Average Number in Residence.	Number of Children actually passing through.
Auckland Receiving-home	16.29	182
Auckland Probation Home	14.44	119
Hamilton Receiving-home	8.25	254
Wanganui Receiving-home	10.17	53
Napier Receiving-home	6.45	72
Wellington Receiving-home	14.46	213
Wellington Probation Home	11.24	95
*Nelson Receiving-home	5.50	56
Christchurch Receiving-home	19.81	312
Christchurch Probation Home	12.93	133
Dunedin Probation Home	10.76	61
	..	1,550

* This home was closed in October, 1923.

Average Cost of maintaining Industrial-school Inmates for Year ending 31st March, 1924.

	£	s.	d.
Gross cost of maintaining industrial-school inmates	117,117	7	8
Plus excess of liabilities, 31st March, 1924, over those of 31st March, 1923	2,080	8	11
	119,197	16	7

Less—	£	s.	d.
Direct expenditure on service inmates	1,284	3	7
Issues from institutions and stores	4,440	5	1
Salaries of Probation Officers, Infant-life Protection Agents, Caversham Factory, and proportion of Managers and office staffs of institutions	9,344	14	10
Travelling-expenses of Probation Officers, Infant-life Protection Agents, &c. (estimated at two-thirds of expenditure, £6,046 11s.)	4,031	0	8
Refund of inmates' earnings	132	5	6
Rents, office requisites, &c. (two-thirds of expenditure £1,222 14s. 2d.)	815	2	9
Law-costs	64	16	8
Grant to residential nursery	200	0	0
	20,312	9	1

Gross cost of inmates a charge on the State	£98,885	7	6
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Number of inmates maintained (including inmates in residence at Government Schools, boarded out, hospitals, convalescent homes, &c.) .. 2,169

Average cost per week per inmate—

	£	s.	d.
Gross	0	17	6
Recoveries	0	4	11
Net	£0	12	7

The net cost to the State of maintaining children under the industrial-schools system is therefore 12s. 7d. per head per week.