

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.
Girls' Receiving-home, Auckland	19·3	152
Boys' Receiving-home, Auckland	17·8	215
Girls' Receiving-home, Hamilton	8·92	243
Girls' Receiving-home, Wanganui	10·69	127
Girls' Receiving-home, Napier	8·08	81
Girls' Receiving-home, Wellington	13·18	164
Boys' Receiving-home, Wellington	12·04	184
Girls' Receiving-home, Christchurch	17·31	210
Boys' Receiving-home, Christchurch	11·95	141
Boys' Receiving-home, Dunedin	10·44	99
	..	1,616

Average Cost of maintaining Industrial-school Inmates for Year ending 31st March, 1926.

	£	s.	d.
Gross cost of maintaining industrial-school inmates	115,900	16	1
Plus excess of liabilities, 31st March, 1926, over those of 31st March, 1925	375	18	1
	116,276	14	2
<i>Less—</i>			
Direct expenditure on service inmates	1,927	1	1
Issues from institutions and stores	4,270	7	10
Salaries of Probation Officers, Infant-life Protection Agents, and proportion of Managers and office staffs of institutions	10,615	18	2
Travelling-expenses of Probation Officers, Infant-life Protection Agents, &c. (estimated at two-thirds of expenditure, £5,779 4s. 7d.)	3,852	16	4
Refund of inmates' earnings	81	6	5
Rent, office requisites, &c. (two-thirds of expenditure, £1,935 1s. 3d.)	1,290	0	10
Law-costs	66	14	8
	22,104	5	4
Gross cost of inmates a charge on the State	£94,172	8	10

Number of inmates maintained (including inmates in residence at Government schools, boarded out, hospitals, convalescent homes, &c.) .. 2,175

Average cost per week per inmate—	£	s.	d.
Gross	0	16	8
Recoveries	0	5	1
Net	0	11	7

The net cost to the State of maintaining children under the industrial-schools system is therefore 11s. 7d. per head per week.