

in situations, and 660 residing under license with relatives and friends. The remainder were in various private institutions.

The young persons over school age in employment number 810 males and 495 females (a number of whom are residing with friends), included in the total of 4,818. Of the males, 623 are farm workers (234 skilled in dairy work and cheesemaking, and 389 competent to milk and carry out general farm-work), 51 are apprentices (of which number some are receiving assistance), and 136 others are employed in various trades. A number of these are also receiving assistance. Of the girls, 378 are domestic workers, 64 factory employees, and 53 engaged in various employments, such as shop-assistants, nurses, dressmakers, &c.

CHILD-PLACING SYSTEM.

Assisted Service, Higher Education, and Employment of State Children over School Age.

At the end of the year 101 State wards over fourteen years of age were in attendance at primary schools and maintained by the Department, 56 were attending secondary schools, and 47 technical schools.

Of the State wards in employment, 114, mainly apprentices, were being partly maintained by the Department.

INFANT-LIFE PROTECTION (INFANTS ACT, 1908).

At the end of the year 1,204 infants and young children were supervised in 985 licensed foster-homes. Of these, 829 homes had one child each, 110 had two children each, 34 had three children each, 8 had four children each, 3 had five children each, and 1 home had six children.

ADOPTIONS.

By an arrangement with the Department of Justice, applications for adoptions are investigated by Child Welfare Officers before being dealt with by a Magistrate. During the year 372 children were adopted, and in twenty-nine of these cases premiums were received by the Department's agents, and paid out usually at the rate of 15s. a week for each child concerned. Of the total number of children adopted, 71 were under the age of six months, 34 between the age of six and twelve months, 150 between the age of one and five years, 70 between the age of five and ten years, and 47 between the age of ten and fifteen years.

TABLE 1.—STATUS OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS UNDER THE GUARDIANSHIP OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, AT 31ST MARCH, 1930.

Status.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
In residence	157	131	288
Boarded out	1,269	972	2,241
At service	687	345	1,032
With friends	356	304	660
In hospitals or convalescent homes	14	15	29
In mental hospitals	6	3	9
In refuges or cognate institutions	24	84	108
In orphanages	12	13	25
Absent without leave	23	6	29
In Borstal institutions	4	..	4
Y.M.C.A. Hostel, Auckland	16	..	16
Institute for the Blind	..	1	1
At colleges	5	3	8
Girls' Hostel, Wellington	..	14	14
In residence, Roman Catholic schools	39	48	87
In schools for mentally backward	190	77	267
Totals	2,802	2,016	4,818

COMMITTALS TO THE CARE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1930.

The following table shows the new committals according to age :—

	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.
Under six months	38	36	74
Over six months and under one year	22	16	38
One year to five years	90	57	147
Five years to ten years	91	55	146
Ten years to fourteen years	92	60	152
Over fourteen years	102	74	176
Totals	435	298	733