

The admissions for the year showed an increase of 44 on the number for the previous year. From the four chief centres of population 242 of these children were admitted. In no case were more than 8 children sent from any of the smaller towns. The records show that of the total number received 33·7 per cent. were illegitimate.

When children are before the Courts the Magistrates, after hearing evidence, direct in what religious denomination they are to be brought up. The orders made in 1908 show the denominations to be as follows : Church of England, 148 ; Roman Catholic, 117 ; Presbyterian, 43 ; Methodist, 17 ; Baptist, 5 ; Salvation Army, 2 ; Lutheran, 1 ; Church of Christ, 1.

The number of inmates over whom the control of the schools terminated during the year was 222. Of this number, 135 were of good character, 24 were fair, 6 bad, 4 were of weak mind, 16 were discharged under the age of fifteen years (11 of whom were legally adopted), and there were 11 deaths (8 under and 3 over fifteen years).

The number of deaths (11) shows a decrease of 5 on the number for the previous year. Four boarded-out children aged 2 years 5 months, 6 months, 1 year 4 months, and 6 weeks died, 1 of convulsions, 1 of broncho-pneumonia and enteritis, 1 of tubercular meningitis, 1 of bronchitis and heart-failure. Four resident inmates aged 11 months, 1 month, 3 months, and 6 months died, 2 of bronchitis and exhaustion, 1 of gastro-enteritis and exbaustion, and 1 infant committed to a receiving home died six days after its admission of meningitis and exhaustion. One inmate aged 14 years 11 months died in hospital of pulmonary phthisis and exhaustion, 1 boy of seventeen years committed suicide at sea, and 1 girl aged 16 years 11 months, residing with friends, died of consumption.

TABLE H7.—DISCHARGES, 1908.

Cause of Discharge.	Government Schools.										Private Schools.							All Schools.		
	Auckland.		Boys' Training Farm, Wairaroa.	Receiving Home, Wellington.		Te Oranga Home.	Receiving Home, Christ church		Burnham.	Caver-sham.		St. Mary's, Auckland.		St. Joseph's, Wellington.	St. Mary's, Nelson.		St. Vincent de Paul's, Dunedin.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
	B.	G.	B.	B.	G.	G.	B.	G.	B.	B.	G.	B.	G.	G.	B.	G.	G.			
Warrant of discharge	3	4	29	6	2	6	10	2	40	..	4	3	2	8	20	2	..	111	30	141
Death	..	..	1	3	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	9	2	11
Reached age of 21 years	..	1	2	..	3	8	1	8	9	..	14	..	4	2	7	2	2	19	44	63
Marriage	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	7
Totals	3	7	32	9	6	15	11	12	50	1	21	3	6	10	30	4	2	139	83	222
	10			15			23			22		9			34					

TABLE H8.—INMATES : NUMBERS OF 1907 AND 1908 COMPARED.

Inmates.	At End of Year		Increase or Decrease.
	1907.	1908.	
In the schools	721	792	+ 71
Boarded out	695	731	+ 36
With friends	171	191	+ 20
At service	420	421	+ 1
In hospitals, convalescent homes, &c.	9	7	- 2
In mental hospitals	8	11	+ 3
School for the deaf	..	2	+ 2
At Special School for Mentally Backward Boys	..	1	+ 1
At Costley Training Institution	19	15	- 4
Under control of refuges or cognate institutions	19	13	- 6
Under control of orphanage, cottage home, &c.	2	8	+ 6
In gaol	6	6	..
Absent without leave, or whereabouts unknown	80	64	- 16
Training-ship	1	1	..
Totals	2,151	2,263	+ 112

REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICERS.

AUCKLAND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

SIR,—

Auckland, 12th May, 1909.

I have the honour to report that the health of the children at Mount Albert School has been on the whole excellent. We have had one case of severe glandular affection in one child, and she is still very ill. Otherwise, what sickness there has been has been of short duration.

There has been considerable inconvenience caused to the management owing to insufficient pressure of gas ; but we hope that will soon be remedied.

I have, &c.,

A. CHALLINOR PURCHAS, M.B., C.M., M.R.C.S. Eng.,
The Secretary for Education, Wellington, Medical Officer.