

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	14.83	186
Auckland Probation Home	15.74	184
Hamilton Receiving-home	8.34	230
Wanganui Receiving-home	10.13	68
Napier Receiving-home	7.87	64
Wellington Receiving-home	11.28	258
Wellington Probation Home	12.79	293
Christchurch Receiving-home	18.18	295
Christchurch Probation Home	13.40	167
Dunedin Probation Home	11.16	283
	..	2,028

Average Cost of maintaining Industrial-school Inmates for Year ending 31st March, 1925.

	£	s.	d.
Gross cost of maintaining industrial-school inmates	113,266	16	0
Less excess of liabilities, 31st March, 1924, over those of 31st March, 1925	3,510	16	11
	109,755	19	1

Less—	£	s.	d.
Direct expenditure on service inmates	1,185	4	6
Issues from institutions and stores	4,988	4	3
Salaries of Probation Officers, Infant-life Protection Agents, Caversham Factory, and proportion of Managers and office staffs of institutions	10,338	10	2
Travelling-expenses of Probation Officers, Infant-life Protection Agents, &c. (estimated at two-thirds of expenditure, £5,981 14s. 8d.)	3,987	16	5
Refund of inmates' earnings	74	12	8
Rent, office requisites, &c. (two-thirds of expenditure, £2,115 11s. 1d.)	1,410	7	5
Law-costs	57	8	10
	22,042	4	3
Gross cost of inmates a charge on the State	£87,713	14	10

Number of inmates maintained (including inmates in residence at Government Schools, boarded out, hospitals, convalescent homes, &c.) .. 2,151

Average cost per week per inmate—	£	s.	d.
Gross	0	15	8
Recoveries	0	4	11
Net	£0	10	9

The net cost to the State of maintaining children under the industrial-schools system is therefore 10s. 9d. per head per week.