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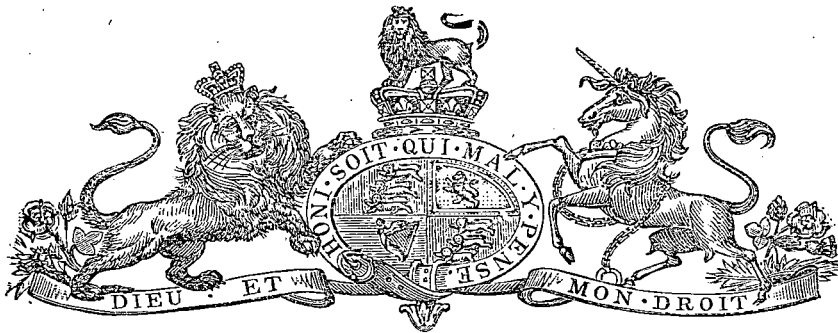
PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

DEPARTMENT FOR NEGLECTED CHILDREN :

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command.

Cost of printing—£6 15s.



*Department for Neglected Children,
New Town, 1st June, 1898.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Report of the Department for Neglected Children for the Year 1897, in accordance with the provisions of Section 6 of 60 Vict. No. 24.

Committals.

During the year 77 children were committed under the provisions of "The Neglected Children Act," and were disposed of as follows:—

Committed to Boys' Training School.....	11
Ditto Girls' Industrial School, Hobart.....	4
Ditto St. Joseph's Orphanage	2
Ditto Girls' Industrial School, Launceston.....	4
Ditto Boys' Home, Hobart.....	2
Ditto Girls' Training School	2
Ditto care of Department	52
	<u>77</u>

Parentage.

Father and mother living.....	14
Father dead, mother living	11
Father unknown, mother dead	2
Father living, mother out of Colony	1
Father dead, mother married again	3
Father living, mother in gaol	1
Father living, mother dead	13
Father unknown, mother in service	2
Father out of Colony, mother dead.....	1
Father and mother in gaol	8
Father in gaol, mother dead	5
Father in gaol, mother in C.D. Hospital	2
Father and mother in New Town Charitable Institution	1
Father in New Town Charitable Institution, mother dead	1
Father in gaol, mother living	1
Father and mother dead	6
Illegitimate, mother since married	1
Ditto, mother living	4
	<u>77</u>

The 52 children committed to the care of the Department were disposed of in the following manner:—

Transferred to Boys' Home.....	6
Ditto Girls' Industrial School, Hobart	1
Ditto Girls' Industrial School, Launceston.....	—
Ditto St. Joseph's Orphanage	2
Ditto Boys' Training School	13
Boarded out	27
Placed out in service.....	3
	<u>52</u>

One boy who was transferred to the Boys' Home absconded from that Institution shortly after being admitted; he was arrested at Longford, and was then placed in the Boys' Training School.

Full particulars regarding the ages of the children committed will be found in Return A.

Discharges.

During the year two boys, inmates of the Boys' Training School, were discharged by order of the Governor in Council under the provisions of Section 22 of 60 Vict. No. 24.

Expenditure.

The amount expended during the year for the services of the Department was £17 1s. 10d. As no provision was made in the Estimates for this service, the amount was provided for upon Supplementary Estimates.

In the Appendices will be found a Return of the number of children maintained at the expense of the State during the year in the Industrial and Training Schools of the Colony and under the Boarding-out system, from which it will be seen that the number maintained on 31st December, 1897, was 281, an increase of 40 compared with 31st December, 1896, and that the nett cost per head was £14 1s. 5d. per annum.

Attached will be found the following Reports :—

- Appendix A.—Report of Inspector to the Department.
- „ B.—The Boys' Home.
- „ C.—The Industrial School for Girls, Hobart.
- „ D.—The St. Joseph's Orphanage, Hobart.
- „ E.—The Industrial School for Girls, Launceston.
- „ F.—The Girls' Training School, Hobart.
- „ G.—The Boys' Training School, New Town.
- „ H.—The Boarding-out System.

I have, &c.

GEO. RICHARDSON,
Secretary Department for Neglected Children.

The Hon. the Chief Secretary.

A.

RETURN of Committals under the provisions of the Neglected Children Act for the Year 1897.

DISTRICT.	Number committed.	AGES.															RELIGION.				CAUSE OF COMMITTAL.						
		1 year.	2 years.	3 years.	4 years.	5 years.	6 years.	7 years.	8 years.	9 years.	10 years.	11 years.	12 years.	13 years.	14 years.	15 years.	Total.	C. F.	R. C.	Wesleyan.	Total.	Neglected child.	Larceny.	Receiving.	Surrendered by parents.	Injuring shrubs in Domain.	Total.
Hobart	19	..	..	1	..	..	2	2	2	2	1	3	3	1	1	1	19	11	8	..	19	12	5	..	1	1	19
Launceston	9	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	2	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	9	3	6	..	9	9	..	..	..	..	9
Fingal	6	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	6	6	..	..	6	6	..	..	..	..	6
Ulverstone	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	1	..	..	3	3	..	..	3	2	1	..	..	..	3
Deloraine	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1
Pontville	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	..	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	3
Sorell	12	..	..	..	1	1	2	1	3	..	1	..	1	1	1	..	12	12	..	..	12	10	2	..	..	..	12
Stanley	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1
Waratah	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1
Kempton	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1
Latrobe	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1
Bellerive	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	2
Strahan	5	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	5	5	..	..	5	5	..	..	..	..	5
Zeehan	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	5	3	2	..	5	4	1	..	..	..	5
Hamilton-on-Forth	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1
Devonport	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1
Longford	3	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	..	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	3
Lovett	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1
Scottsdale	1	1	1	..	1	..	1	1	1
Swansea	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
TOTALS.....	77	2	1	3	3	3	6	6	10	5	9	7	9	6	5	2	77	55	21	1	77	62	11	1	2	1	77

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B.

RETURN showing the Number of Children maintained at the Expense of the State in Training and Industrial Schools and under the Boarding-out System on the 1st January, 1897, the Number admitted and discharged during the Year, the Number remaining on the 31st December, 1897, and the Cost of same.

INSTITUTION.	Remaining 31 Dec., 1896.		Admitted during year.		Discharged during year.		Remaining 31 Dec., 1897.		Average daily number.	Cost of Maintenance.	Repayments.		Nett Cost.	Nett Cost per Head.
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.			Maintenance.	Other Sources.		
Boys' Home Industrial School.....	24	—	8	—	3	—	29	—	26·15	£ s. d. 339 18 3	£ s. d. 1 0 0	£ s. d. —	£ s. d. 338 18 3	£ s. d. 12 19 3
Industrial School for Females, Hobart	—	17	—	6	—	3	—	20	18·20	235 12 2	—	—	235 12 2	12 18 10
St. Joseph's Orphanage, Hobart	—	33	—	5	—	2	—	36	33·94	416 12 1	6 0 0	—	410 12 1	12 1 5
Industrial School for Females, Launceston	—	17	—	4	—	2	—	19	18·72	244 2 9	5 19 0	—	238 3 9	12 14 6
Girls' Training School, Hobart	—	8	—	2	—	2	—	8	8·55	111 4 2	0 3 3	—	111 0 11	12 19 9
Boys' Training School, New Town	47	—	32	—	24	—	55	—	49·	867 6 7	45 5 7	190 19 11	631 1 1	12 17 7
	71	75	40	17	27	9	84	83	154·58	2214 16 0	58 7 10	190 19 11	1965 8 3	12 1 5
Boarding-out system	61	34	15	17	9	4	67	47	103·13	1699 5 5	38 9 0	—	1660 16 5	16 2 5
TOTAL	132	109	55	34	36	13	151	130	257·69	3914 1 5	96 16 10	190 19 11	5626 4 8	14 1 5

APPENDIX A.

REPORT OF INSPECTOR UNDER "THE NEGLECTED CHILDREN ACT."

I was appointed Inspector by the Governor in Council on the 11th March, 1897, under the provisions of the 7th Section of the above-named Act. The duties imposed required me to visit and inspect the Schools under the Act. In accordance therewith I visited the following Schools during the year:—

The Boys' Home.

Date of visit, 23rd November, 1897. Matron, Mrs. Shipley, assisted by her daughter.

Found 29 boys in the Home. Three rooms, containing in all 32 beds. The boys were receiving secular instruction at the time of my visit under a certificated teacher. They were classed as follows:—Class V., 3; Class IV., 11; Class III., 6; Class II., 6; Class I., 3. The house and grounds are very suitable, the garden is kept in excellent order, the whole of the place scrupulously clean and tidy. The dinner, which was served while I was present, was excellent, both in quality and quantity.

Girls' Training School.

Visited 24th November, 1897. Mrs. Johnson, Matron.

Found 13 girls present, 8 of whom are paid for by the Government. The remaining 5 are voluntary inmates. There are beds for 3 more inmates. The girls looked clean and tidy, and were industriously engaged at mangling, washing, &c. The building is old, and the cells showed indications of bed vermin. This might be remedied by painting and colouring the girls' bedrooms. The inside walls throughout require colouring. The garden might be kept in better order than it is. 57 visits were recorded in the Visitors' Book during the year up to the date of my visit.

Girls' Industrial School, Hobart.

Visited this School on the 25th November, 1897, in company with Mr. F. Salier, the Secretary to the Committee.

This building is admirably adapted for the purpose. There are three large well ventilated dormitories. The Visitors' Book evidences that great interest is taken in the School. Found the younger girls in the schoolroom under the instruction of a trained teacher. The elder ones were engaged in washing, mangling, ironing, sewing, and cooking, and all looked very neat and clean, and under excellent management. At the time of my visit there were 34 inmates, of whom 20 were paid for by the Government.

St. Joseph's Orphanage, Hobart.

Visited this School at 11 A.M. on the 29th November, 1897.

Found everything in excellent order. The dormitories large and well ventilated. The younger girls were receiving secular instruction; the elder ones were engaged in washing, ironing, needlework, stocking-knitting, &c. The management and methods in this School leave nothing to be desired.

Girls' Industrial School, Launceston.

Visited on 11th December, 1897.

Found 22 girls present, of whom 19 were paid for by the Government. Two of these should be apprenticed out. The lavatories and dormitories were clean and satisfactory in every way. The dining-hall and school in one, a somewhat inconvenient arrangement. The grounds are fairly large, a portion being sublet, which would be better retained for keeping a cow, and thus save a large expenditure in milk. Some of the walls require re-papering to add to the generally neat appearance of the interior. The front garden does not accord with the neatness of the other part of the premises.

GEO. RICHARDSON, *Inspector.*

31. 3. 98.

APPENDIX B.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOYS' HOME INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

SIR,

THE Governors of this Institution have the honour to submit to you their Report for the year ending 31st March, 1898.

State of the Institution.

The number of Boys in the Home at the commencement of the year was 26 ; admitted during the year, 7 ; apprenticed and left the Home, 5 ; leaving inmates at the present time, 28.

There are also 2 boys being maintained in the Home whose time has expired, making a total of 30 being provided for.

The health of the Boys for the past 12 months has been on the whole good, no sickness of a serious nature having occurred. The drainage has been attended to, and is now in a satisfactory condition.

The Boys attend to their school duties under the direction of Mrs. Spratt, a Certificated Teacher, and the following extract from the Report of Mr. J. Rule, the Director of Education and Inspector of Industrial Schools, shows the progress they have made :—

Report on the Annual Examination.

The Examination was held on the 9th December. There were present 29 Boys, in Classes from I. to V.

Lower First Class.—Number examined, 3 ; all new scholars since previous examination ; average age, 10 years 5 months.

Second Class.—Number examined, 6 ; average age, 10 years 5 months. 4 of these had been in a lower Class at the previous examination ; 2 were new scholars. All passed in three subjects, all gaining credit in reading, 5 in writing, 4 in arithmetic.

Third Class.—Number examined, 7 ; average age, 13 years, 4 months ; 5 of these had been in the Class more, 2 less, than a year. All passed in reading and writing with credit ; 6 passed in arithmetic.

Fourth Class.—Number examined, 10 ; average age, 13 years, 6 months ; 3 of these had been in the Class more, 7 less than a year. All passed in reading and writing, 5 with credit ; 7 passed in arithmetic.

Fifth Class.—Number examined, 3 ; average age, 14 years 6 months. All had been in a lower Class at the previous examination. In reading all passed, 1 with credit ; in writing all passed ; in arithmetic, 2 passed.

General.—The record of individual progress is as follows :—Good, 7 ; fair, 6 ; moderate, 6 ; slow, 4 ; number traceable, 23. The order of the school and the arrangement of the Home were found very satisfactory.

J. RULE.

The behaviour of the boys has been very good, and the discipline maintained by the Matron has been excellent.

The boys do all the household work and keep in order the grounds and garden, the neatness and splendid condition of which reflect much credit on the boys and Matron.

At the Agricultural Show last year the trophy prepared by the boys divided honours with the first prize taken, and at the Show recently held their trophy obtained first prize as a trophy of vegetables, fruits, and home products, &c., all of which were produced at the Home.

The boys are drilled once a week, Mr. Emery kindly undertaking this part of the work.

General.

A pleasing feature of the year has been the number of old boys who have revisited the Home after an absence of many years. During the Jubilee time no less than eight visited the place, five of whom belonged to the Country Rifle Corps. They had grown very fine lads, and were doing well for themselves. One has a farm of his own on the North-West Coast. A lad, who had finished his apprenticeship, went to the West Coast, and extracts from his letters to the Matron are as follows :—“ I have got work at 30s. per week. I was sorry I was not present at the concert to help you, as I know you must have worked very hard, but I know you will think it a help if I get on well. I am doing well now, and will send a little to the Home. (This has since been received.) I can see that I have a lot to thank you and the Committee for. I am a teacher in the Sunday-school, and am in the choir.”

Another lad just out of his time joined H.M.S. *Penguin*, and visited the Home in his sailor's suit, and was of course much admired and envied by the other boys.

During the year the Patron (Sir Lambert Dobson), the President and Founder (Hon. A. Kennerley), and F. Belstead, Esquire (for many years a Governor of the Institution), have been removed by death.

Sir Lambert Dobson always evinced a keen interest in the Home, and was always willing to assist. The Hon. A. Kennerley was Founder of the Institution, and handed over the house and grounds free of cost for the purposes of the Boys' Home. Mr. F. Belstead had been a Governor for many years, and took a personal interest in the welfare of the Home and the well-being of the boys.

The Governors desire to express their deep regret at the decease of the above gentlemen, and to place on record their appreciation of the services rendered by them to the Home.

Finances.

The Accounts for the year have been audited and show:—

	£	s.	d.
The Receipts for the 12 months.....	795	14	4
The Expenditure.....	680	3	6
Showing a surplus for the year	115	10	10
The debit balance at the bank, being as per accounts at this date	35	0	4

During the year a legacy amounting to £285 was received from George Campbell's estate per Mr. A. H. Kennedy, trustee, and the solicitors, Messrs. Dobson, Mitchell, and Allport. This came very opportunely, and the sincere thanks of the Governors for the amount are tendered to the trustee of the estate.

Application has been made for a share in the Guesdon Bequest to charities, and it is understood that the claim has been recommended by the Honourable the Premier.

For some years past the subscriptions have been falling off, and a special appeal is now being made for regular annual subscriptions, which it is to be hoped will be liberally responded to. If it had not been for legacies left to the Home from time to time the Institution could not have been continued.

The thanks of the Governors are again due to all who have so willingly assisted in various ways towards the success of the Institution.

Signed, on behalf of the Governors,

G. W. SHOBRIDGE, *Chairman.*

Hobart, May 7, 1898.

APPENDIX C.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR FEMALES, HOBART.

REPORT for 1897.

It is with a feeling of deep thankfulness that we present our Report of the work of the Girls' Industrial School for the year 1897. Though the year has been an uneventful one, at the same time there has been no lack of energy and earnestness on the part of the management; everything has worked smoothly, and the health of all in the School has been most satisfactory.

One of the girls in service was badly burned, but after many weary weeks in the Hospital and a return to the School she has been able to take another situation. Another girl has also come back from the Hospital, where she was treated for an injury to the knee, and it is feared she will have a stiff joint.

The Committee view with regret the annually decreasing number of admissions to the School, owing, it is believed, to the difficulties caused by the last "Neglected Children Act," which makes many deserving cases apparently ineligible.

Only 18 are paid for by the Government at the present time, though the terms are the same or lower than that for "boarded-out" children, while the training is naturally infinitely better, as the entire time and thought of skilled persons are devoted to the work.

Another consideration is that the larger the number of inmates the greater the proportionate reduction in the expense per head, and, as the School has ample accommodation and a sufficient staff for many more, the Committee earnestly desire an increase of sympathy and help on the part of the Authorities in making up the complement.

The Committee beg all interested in the welfare of the young to remember the School and its many anxieties in their prayers; and they also desire to thank those who give religious instruction, both on week-days and Sundays, as well as the other friends who show their interest in the children in various ways. Particularly would they like to include Mrs. Harvey, of Melbourne, whose kindness and liberality is practically shown each summer.

In School, 1896.....	37
Admitted	7
	—
No of Girls, 1897.....	44
	==
Left for Service	7
Taken by Friends.....	1
Hospital.....	1
Remaining Christmas, 1897.....	35
	—
	44
	==

HARRIET M. SALIER, *Hon. Secretary.*

APPENDIX D.

ST. JOSEPH'S ORPHANAGE AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, HOBART.

ANNUAL Report for 1897.

SIR,

THE Governors of St. Joseph's Orphanage have much pleasure in presenting their Report for the year ending 31st December, 1897, being the Nineteenth Annual Report of the Institute.

The number of children in the Orphanage on January 1st, 1897, was fifty.

Six were admitted during the year; four were discharged. One died, leaving fifty-one in the Institute 31st December, 1897. The girls discharged during the year were placed in situations, and are doing well.

The health of the children during the year has not been so good, several having caught the prevailing epidemic. Mr. J. Rule, Inspector of Industrial Schools, held his annual examination in December, and expressed satisfaction with the progress the children had made during the year.

The thanks of the Governors are again due to the kindly interest taken by the friends of the Institute, some of whom have continued to render valuable assistance for years.

The Governors again appeal to the public for a continuance and increase of their generous support, so that the good work of the Institute may be still further advanced.

We have, &c.

M. W. GILLERAN.
M. E. O'CONNOR.

APPENDIX E.

GIRLS' INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, LAUNCESTON.

REPORTS for the Year 1896-7.

THE Governors and Committee have the satisfaction of presenting the combined Reports for 1896-7 as determined upon at the last Annual Meeting.

The Accounts presented will therefore be for two years; and it is proposed in future to close them not later than April in each year.

During the whole of this period the health of the children has been remarkably good, not one serious case of illness having occurred.

Generally the conduct has been exemplary. Where there has been any wilful defiance of authority, it has been confined to one or two girls.

The usual Sunday and week-day Bible-classes have been held, several Ministers alternately conducting the latter. The secular educational work passes periodically under the review of one of the Government School Inspectors, and is in the main, we believe, satisfactory, but the last Report is not yet to hand.

Eight girls have been placed at service, and the majority of these are doing well. As a rule we prefer placing them with suitable persons in the country, for there are fewer temptations and less inducement to spend all their wages on dress. There are but few of the girls who will settle down to a country life, even during the term of their apprenticeship, and consequently we are at times greatly troubled to know what best to do in such cases, as there are no satisfactory means at our disposal for efficiently dealing with such cases.

Again we desire to emphasize the fact that the Institution is conducted, as far as possible, on the same lines which govern a well regulated home. No undue severity is allowed, and the "law of kindness" is allowed full play, but where this fails then suitable discipline has to be exercised. We are satisfied that in very many private homes the absence of proper discipline and parental control prevails to a lamentable extent, and this consequently reacts most prejudicially upon society at large.

We are pleased to report that the Institution is likely to receive substantial benefit from the fund known as "The Guesdon Bequest Fund." We presume that the bulk of the money so received will be invested, but we are in hopes that sanction may be obtained for a grant of about £500 to be expended in suitable and very necessary additions to the school premises, so as to afford better sleeping accommodation, and especially to provide facilities, which at present are entirely lacking, for the better classification of the girls and the effective carrying out of the necessary discipline. In addition to the sum required for new buildings a further expenditure will be necessary, as the premises require thoroughly renovating, especially the older portion.

It is with feelings of deep regret that we record the demise of Mrs. Fairthorne, who had been a member of the Committee since the Institution was founded, had always manifested the deepest interest in the success of the School, and was a regular and most generous contributor to its funds.

Dr. Hallows having retired from the active practice of his profession, Dr. Parker has very kindly taken his place as Honorary Medical Adviser. To both these gentlemen our warmest thanks are due, also to Mr. Hall, Dentist, and the many other friends who in a variety of ways have contributed to the economic and effective working of the School.

The Governors and Committee have the fullest confidence, in again bringing the claims of the School before the public, that they will respond as heartily to the continual appeal for help as they have done during the twenty-one years the School has been in existence, and they very earnestly desire that the blessing of Almighty God may continue to rest upon the efforts thus made to rescue some of these perishing waifs and strays of society.

Number of girls in the School January 1st, 1896	24
Admitted during 1896 and 1897	7
	—
	31
	—
Left for service during the same period	8
Remaining in the School December 31st, 1897.....	23
	—
	31
	—

For Governors and Committee,

F. STANFIELD.

APPENDIX F.

GIRLS' TRAINING SCHOOL REFORMATORY.

REPORT for 1897.

Hobart, 24th February, 1898.

THE Ladies' Committee, in presenting their Seventeenth Annual Report, are thankful to say the work of the Institution has gone on steadily during the year.

We are sorry to say this year again that we have had to draw heavily on our reserve fund, having so many voluntary inmates, leaving the small sum of £44 5s. 7d. in the Bank.

At the beginning of the year there were fourteen girls in the Home: two were received, four left, twelve remaining at the end of the year. Their behaviour on the whole has been good.

The Sunday service continues to be held, and classes by ladies for Bible instruction on Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoons.

The girls are employed in washing, housework, cooking, needlework, and receive instruction in reading, writing, and arithmetic.

The amount received by washing is £219 1s. 5d.

The Committee again record their appreciation of the Matrons, whose exertions help so much towards the success of the Institution.

M. WRIGHT, *Hon. Sec. G.T.S.R.*

APPENDIX G.

BOYS' TRAINING SCHOOL, NEW TOWN.

MANAGERS' Report for 1897.

4th May, 1898.

SIR,

THE Managers have the honour to submit their 14th Annual Report of the Boys' Training School.

The Superintendent's Report attached herewith gives full details of the work carried on during the year under review.

The management, under the control of the Superintendent and the warders, continues satisfactory, and the conduct of the boys on the whole very good.

In the industrial work the boys receive elementary training in farm-work, and as carpenters, blacksmiths, tailors, &c., fitting them to be useful when they are licensed out to farmers and others.

The cost per head for the year is £12 17s. 7d., showing a reduction on that of the previous year.

The Managers desire to record their satisfaction with the manner in which the Superintendent and the officials have carried out their duties.

We have, &c.

JOHN MACFARLANE, *Chairman.*
THEO. CANE.
M. W. GILLERAN.
J. O'BOYLE.
GEO. RICHARDSON.
FRED. T. WHITINGTON.

The Secretary, Neglected Children Department.

SUPERINTENDENT'S Report for 1897.

New Town, 31st March, 1898.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith the Annual Report of the Boys' Training School, New Town, for the year 1897.

Strength.

The number of boys on the books during the year was 79, and the number remaining on 31st December, 55.

The highest number of boys in the school at any one time was 55, and the lowest, 42.

The average daily number was 49, a decrease of 7 as compared with 1896.

Admissions.

The number admitted during the year was 32, viz:—

Committed to Training School.....	11
Committed to care of Department for Neglected Children, and transferred to Training School.....	13
Transferred from General Hospital.....	1
Ditto Boys' Home	1
Ditto, B.O. System	3
Returned to school, licence revoked by Managers.....	1
Absconders arrested by Police.....	2
	<hr/>
	32
	<hr/>

Discharges.

The number discharged during the year was as follows:—

Licensed to masters	15
Ditto to parents.....	4
Discharged by order of Governor in Council.....	2
Discharged, time expired	1
Apprenticed, ditto	1
Transferred to N.T.C.I.	1
	<hr/>
	24
	<hr/>

Religious Instruction.

The boys have regularly continued to attend their respective Churches, Sunday Schools, and Religious Instruction Classes during the year.

Secular Instruction.

At the end of the year the boys were classified by the Teacher, as follows:—First Class, 15; Second Class, 17; Third Class, 17; Fourth Class, 5; Fifth Class, 1.

The Examination by the Director of Education was held on the 15th December. Annexed will be found a copy of his Report.

Drill and gymnastics have continued to be taught during the year, and the larger boys are instructed in manual exercise and physical drill with the rifle.

Recreation.

Through the kindness of Mr. Back, General Manager of the Railway Department, the boys were treated to three trips on the Derwent Valley Line. On the 23rd December the annual cake and fruit treat was held.

Several entertainments have been given in the New Town Charitable Institution, at which the boys were present. The Monitors and First and Second Class boys were allowed to attend the Regatta and various athletic sports meetings.

Industrial Department.

Farming work has been carried on at Derwent Park and the Government Farm, and the boys have also been employed in gardening, domestic work, carpentering, tailoring, bricklaying, shoe-making, blacksmithing, &c.

Conduct of the Boys.

The conduct of the boys in the School on the whole may be stated as very good, while the reports from the employers of those who have been licensed or discharged to service during the

year are, in nearly every instance, most satisfactory: many of the masters speak in high terms of the boys' behaviour.

There was not a single instance of a boy absconding from the School during the year, notwithstanding the opportunities they have of doing so.

One boy who absconded from the service of his master in 1896 was arrested at Zeehan and returned to the School, and has since been licensed out to another employer.

Another boy left his place of service and returned to the School, and was subsequently licensed out to another place.

Finance.

It will be seen from Return A. that the expenditure for the year was £867 6s. 7d., and the receipts from all sources £236 5s. 1d., leaving a net expenditure of £631 1s. 1d. Included in the expenditure is the sum of £73 13s. 4d. for the purchase of farm implements, the details of which are given in Return C. This expenditure is of a special nature, and not an annual one. The cost per head on the expenditure is £12 17s. 7d., but if the amount expended on farm implements were deducted, and credit taken for the milk supplied to the New Town Charitable Institution,—valued at £199 5s. 4d.—*vide* Return C.—the net cost per head would be £7 6s. 2d. The cost per head in 1896 was £15 18s. 4d.

Farm.

In the previous year the Government Farm was attached to the New Town Charitable Institution, but by the approval of the Government it was transferred, together with the live Stock thereon, to the Boys' Training School from the 1st January, 1897, and the proceeds therefrom have been credited to the School.

Full particulars under this head will be found in Return B.

Library.

Several additions were made to the Library by friends of the Institution. Mr. G. Steward sent illustrated papers, and Mr. W. H. Burgess continued to supply the Library with the "*Boys' Own Paper.*"

Visitors.

A great many visits were paid during the year by persons interested in philanthropic institutions; among them a number of the Christian Endeavour Convention. The friends and relatives of the boys have freely taken advantage of the facilities for visiting.

Health.

During the year the health of the boys was exceptionally good, and the work of the medical officer light. One boy had a slight fit of convulsions; one had a finger caught in a cog-wheel, but no permanent injury or disfigurement arose therefrom. In May and October a slight epidemic of colds occurred, but the patients were not laid up. One boy who was sent to the General Hospital in December, 1896, for treatment of the eye, returned to the School in March last; another boy, suffering from a disease in the knee, from which he suffered prior to admission, was sent to the General Hospital on 16th November, and returned to the School on 7th December; as this was likely to be a protracted case he was placed in the Hospital in the Charitable Institution. Another boy was treated at the General Hospital for a rather severe scalp wound, caused by falling off a cart: he remained only eight days in that Institution.

Revised Rules.

Revised rules for the management of the Institution were made by the Managers, under the provisions of Section 73 of "The Neglected Children Act, 1896" (60 Vict. No. 24), and were duly approved by the Governor in Council on 6th April, 1897, and published in the *Hobart Gazette* of the 13th of that month.

The classification system under these rules has been found to work well, and the liberty allowed to the privileged boys has in no case been abused during the year.

I have the honour to be,
Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEO. RICHARDSON, *Superintendent.*

The Managers the Boys' Training School.

A.

RETURN showing the Expenditure at the Boys' Training School, New Town, during the year 1897, the Receipts for the same period, and the Net Cost per head.

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.	RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.
Salaries	285	0	0	By Cash received for maintenance of inmates	45	5	7
Provisions	270	2	5	Sale of milk	43	10	0
Clothing, bedding, stores, and stationery ...	109	8	1	Sale of stock	43	12	3
Fuel and light.....	50	12	6	Sale of grain.....	81	2	11
Repairs to buildings ..	10	0	0	Services of beasts.....	4	0	0
Miscellaneous expenses.....	28	12	9	Milk supplied to Gaol.....	18	3	8
Farm expenses	113	10	10	Meat to N. T. C. I.	0	11	1
					236	5	6
				Balance, being net Cost of Establishment	631	1	1
	<u>£867</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>		<u>£867</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>

Average daily strength for the year, 49.
Cost per head, £12 17s. 7d.

B.

RETURN showing the Operations of the Farm in connection with the Boys' Training School for the year 1897.

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.	RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.
Purchase of seed	8	18	6	By Cash received for sale of milk	43	10	0
Ditto bran	6	6	3	Ditto ditto stock	43	12	3
Ditto bone-dust	4	10	0	Ditto ditto grain	81	2	11
Ditto harness	0	17	0	Ditto services of beasts	4	0	0
Ditto Massey-Harris Binder.....	47	10	0	Milk supplied to Gaol	18	3	8
Ditto accessories for ditto	3	15	4	Meat supplied to N. T. C. I.....	0	11	1
Ditto cultivator	16	0	0	Milk ditto ditto, 31,883 pints, at 1½d. per pint.....	199	5	4
Ditto chaffcutter.....	5	10	0				
Ditto cogwheel, 8s., knives, 10s., for chaffcutter	0	18	0				
Threshing grain	6	10	0				
Insurance of hay.....	2	0	0				
Grinding peas and beans	0	13	9				
Shoeing horses and blacksmith's work	10	2	0				
	113	10	10				
Balance credit.....	276	14	5				
	<u>£390</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>		<u>£390</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>

REPORT on the Annual Examination, 1897.

THE Examination was held on the 15th of December. There were present 47 Boys, in Classes I. to V.

Class I (1), (Lower First).

Number examined 3. In the same class the previous year 1. New scholars 2.

Class I (2), (Upper First).

Number examined, 10. In the same class the previous year, 1; in a lower, 2. New scholars, 8. All passed in three subjects, 7 with credit in reading, 9 in writing, 3 in arithmetic.

Class II.

Number examined, 14. In the same class the previous year, 1; in a lower, 3. New scholars, 10. All passed in three subjects, 7 with credit in reading, 5 in writing, 8 in arithmetic.

Class III.

Number examined, 18. In the same class the previous year, 2; in a lower, 10. New scholars, 6. All passed in three subjects; 11 with credit in reading and writing, 7 in arithmetic.

Class IV.

Number examined, 1. Age, 15 years 5 months. In a lower class the previous year. Passed in three subjects, gaining credit in arithmetic.

Class V.

Number examined, 1. Age, 16 years 4 months. In the same class the previous year. Passed (this year) in three subjects, gaining credit in arithmetic.

General.

Except Classes IV. and V., insufficient data were obtainable for a statement of average ages.

The record of individual progress is as follows:—Good, 7; fair, 9; moderate, 3; slow, 1; No. of cases traceable, 20.

Circumstances considered, the results of the Teachers' work are as good as could be reasonably expected.

J. RULE.

APPENDIX H.
BOARDING-OUT DESTITUTE CHILDREN.

REPORT for 1897.

On the 1st January, 1897, the number of children maintained under the Boarding-out system was 95—boys, 61, girls, 34: viz., in

	Boys.	Girls.
Hobart and suburbs	34	18
Launceston ditto	11	4
Municipal and Police Districts.....	16	12
	61	34

During the year, 32 children—15 boys, 17 girls—were added to the list of boarded-out children, and 13—9 boys and 4 girls—ceased, under the following circumstances, to be charge upon the amount voted for this purpose—

	Boys.	Girls.
To service	6	2
Adopted	1	1
To relatives	1	—
Admitted to St. Joseph's Orphanage for industrial training	—	1
Boys' Training School	1	—
	9	4

Leaving 114—67 boys and 47 girls—on the list on the 31st December, 1897, or 19 more than at the beginning of the year. Of this number there were located in—

	Boys.	Girls.
Hobart and suburbs..	41	31
Launceston ditto	11	4
Municipal and Police Districts	15	12
	67	47

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year, including salaries of Secretary to Central Committee and the Inspecting Officer, Hobart, was £1699 5s. 5d., or £449 5s. 5d. in excess of the amount voted by Parliament.

The sum of £38 9s. was received as repayments by relatives, leaving the net cost for the year £1660 16s. 5d.

The daily average number of children maintained during the year was 103.13, and the net cost per head £16 2s. 5d. per annum.

The net cost per head for the years 1894 and 1895 was £16 13s. 6d. and £15 0s. 10d. respectively. No comparison can be made with the year 1896, as no report was furnished by the Central Committee for that year.

Fox's Bequest.

In 1897 the sum of £6 7s. 6d. was received from the Hon. the Chief Secretary, and was distributed amongst the boarded-out children throughout the Colony at the rate of 1s. 4d. each.

Apprentices.

During the year payments were made to six apprentices, amounting to £38 9s. 7d.

The deposit books of the apprentices, made up to the 28th February, 1898, were 34 in number, and the amount to their credit was £162 5s. 4d.

Visits of Inspection.

The report of the Visiting Committee, the Inspecting Officer, and the Wardens and Magistrates received during the year were all of a satisfactory nature.

By direction of the Minister, I paid a special visit to the houses of the foster parents in Launceston, on the 11th December, in company with the Inquiring Officer, and I pointed out to him a few instances in which improvements could be effected.

On the 15th and 16th December, I visited the houses of the foster parents of the children in Hobart, and found everything very satisfactory.

Central Committee.

The Central Committee, acting under the conviction that their functions were now vested in the Department of Neglected Children, decided, on the 23rd September last, to postpone further meetings until the question as to their original powers being restored to them had been considered.

GEO. RICHARDSON, *Secretary Department Neglected Children.*

WILLIAM GRAHAM,
GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TASMANIA.