

prisoners in these institutions are sentenced for short terms, but the Commissioners see no reason why what is called the "good time," system may not at once be established in both. If the prisoners knew, that by observance of the rules, diligence at work and general good conduct they could earn a certain number of good marks every day and thus earn a remission of some portion of their sentence, they would certainly become better prisoners, and probably become more amenable to all good influences.

33. *Lock-ups and Police Stations: Recommendations.*—That full effect be given to the provision in the Prison and Asylum Inspection Act, requiring the inspector of prisons to make, at least, one inspection in the year of all the lock-ups in the province, and to report upon their condition and management in the same manner as is done with the common gaols; and that that official also have the same authority vested in him in respect to the construction and alteration of lock-ups, as well as in respect to the means of removing prisoners from the lock-ups to gaols as he now has under the Inspection Act, in respect of common gaols.

34. That structural provision be made in every lock-up for the complete isolation of the sexes in separate and distinct wards; that there shall also be the means of making a complete separation of prostitutes from other female prisoners, and that the separation of these classes of prisoners shall also be effected and carried out in taking them to and from court, and in their subsequent transfer to the common gaol.

35. That in every lock-up to which female prisoners are committed there shall be a police matron who shall have entire charge of the female prisoners in the lock-up, and who shall also be present at their removal to court and transfer to gaol.

36. *Common Gaols: Recommendations.*—It is claimed that when the common gaols are used only as places of detention for prisoners, waiting trial, and of confinement for the short term prisoners, they should be conducted strictly on the separate or cellular system. The Commissioners have little doubt that if a proper system of cellular seclusion could be strictly provided, and when provided, effectually carried out, it would be greatly superior to the present system of day association in corridors.

They earnestly recommend that when a new gaol is built or the complete interior reconstruction of an old gaol is found necessary, the separate or cellular system now in operation in the English local prisons be adopted; and that whatever can be done in any gaol, without great expense, to provide for even a partial adoption of the cellular system, or a more satisfactory classification of prisoners (the proposed reduction in the number of prisoners being taken into account), should be done as soon as possible.

37. *Prison Labor: Recommendation.*—It is recommended that in all prisons and reformatories entirely under the supervision and direction of the Provincial Government, the labor of the prisoners and inmates shall be conducted on what may be termed the Provincial Account System; that is, that the Province shall supply all the machinery, plant and fixtures necessary for carrying on industrial operations; that it shall purchase all the raw material and shall, under the direction and control of its officers, instructors and servants, use the labor of the prisoners and inmates in the manufacture and production of such articles and goods as may be best suited for the employment of such labor and for the best interests of the respective institutions and their inmates.

38. That is the selection of prison or reformatory industries, next to such branches of work as will best afford the means of giving good technical instruction to the prisoners, which should always receive the first consideration, preference should be given to the manufacture and production to the largest possible extent, of all goods required for every branch of the public service, including asylums, prisons, county jails, Government offices, etc., and also for hospitals, charities, and other institutions aided by Government grants.

39. That with respect to the youths committed to the Boys' Reformatory at Penetanguishene and to the Industrial school, although a great deal of the time of the inmates must be taken up in ordinary schooling, the inculcation of industrious habits is of the very first importance. The Commissioners are of the opinion that the managers of these institutions should endeavor, by every means in their power, to induce the large majority of the inmates to adopt the occupation of farming. If there is anything to fear from hereditary tendencies in the youths of the class sent to reformatories, no better foil to them could be found than the honest work and quiet and contentment of farm life. For boys drawn from urban quarters, who will not take to farming, but desire to learn a trade, thorough and effective instruction, technical and practical, in a few branches, such as carpentering, shoemaking and tailoring should be provided. The young girls in the Refuge should be thoroughly instructed in cooking, laundry work, general housework, and plain sewing, so as to fit them for domestic service.

40. *Supervision and Inspection: Recommendations.*—The commissioners were convinced by all that they saw in their visits to several penal and reformatory institutions in this Province and in the United States, that it is absolutely essential to the successful working of any system of management that competent, zealous men, capable of commanding the respect and gaining the sympathy of those entrusted to their care, should be employed in every branch of the service. In several of the United States, if not in all, this work is done by a local board of commissioners, directors or managers who, acting independently of or in subordination to a State board, make all the rules and regulations, authorize the most important executive acts of the warden or superintendent, and themselves do much work of importance directly at their meetings. . . . But whatever be the system of inspection and supervision, it must always be of the utmost importance that the best man be chosen for the position of warden or superintendent of prison or reformatory, and that his assistants be disposed to take an intelligent interest in their work and act thoroughly in accord and sympathy with their superior.

Ontario Prison Reform Commissioners' Report.—Excerpts.

Industrial Schools in Great Britain.—The industrial schools are for the greater part denominational. In England there are 46 industrial schools for Protestant boys, 38 for Protestant girls; 11 schools for Catholic boys, and 9 for Catholic girls. In Scotland the Protestants have 14 schools for boys, and 11 for girls; the Catholics, 3 for boys, and 2 for girls. In England there are 4 schools, and in Scotland 4 in which the detained are Protestant and Catholic. In the Edinburgh schools of this class, and indeed at all the others, and in the training-ship schools, Catholic teachers are employed for the Catholic children, and proper regulations as to their religious instruction and attendance at public worship are enforced.

Day Industrial Schools in Great Britain.—In 1873 Mr. Sydney Turner reported that for a considerable portion of the children sent to industrial schools "a much cheaper and simpler form of institution, in fact a good day feeding school with fair means of instruction and employment, would answer the end in view as well as the present costly industrial schools." The present inspector says that experience has shown this opinion to have been well founded, and thinks that the time will shortly come when such schools will form part of every school board system. It is remarkable that there are but three day industrial schools now in Scotland, where the idea of such schools originated and was first successfully carried out. These three, established by authority of a special act of parliament, are all in Glasgow.

These day schools provide for the control and training during the day of disorderly or neglected children generally belonging to what has been described as the Arab class, at a very low cost to the public, and without taking them away

from their homes, to which they return in the evening. It may be taken as a rule that the homes are poor rather than criminal. Three meals are provided—breakfast, dinner and supper. The schools are all well managed. The Inspector says, "the results of the examinations have, without exception, been most satisfactory."

Probation Laws.—The opinion that in many cases better modes of punishing or preventing offences than imprisonment may be found, has gained much ground in England. The Summary Jurisdiction Act of 1879 not only increased the powers conferred on magistrates by the Juvenile Offenders Act of 1847, to dismiss young persons on admonition and without imprisonment in certain cases, but also permitted the substitution of fines instead of detention for various offences under the Acts relating to poaching, vagrancy, public health and even to some felonies. The previous scale of sentences for several offences was also reduced by this Act, and it obviated many imprisonments of poor persons by authorizing the fines to be paid gradually by instalments. In 1887 an Act was passed entitled in the Statute Book, "An Act to permit the conditional release of first offenders in certain cases;" this as is provided "may be cited as the Probation of First Offenders' Act, 1877." The Act says: "Whereas it is expedient to make provision for cases where the reformation of persons convicted of first offences may, by reason of the offender's youth or the trivial nature of the offence, be brought about without imprisonment, be it enacted, etc."

There has scarcely been time to test the Act of 1887, but Mr. Tallack says that "these two Acts together, with the collateral measures for the committal of delinquent and neglected youth to reformatories and industrial schools, have already materially contributed towards that diminution, both of prisoners and of gaols in Great Britain, which is a gratifying feature of the age. Especially satisfactory is the approximate abandonment of the imprisonment of children in this country of late years. In proportion as the gaol has been less used than at a former period, it has been proved that other ways of disposing of offenders, at once less costly and less degrading, have been found practically advantageous." May this lesson be practically pondered.

The Massachusetts System.—Following the example of older countries, Massachusetts at first strove to gather vicious and neglected and destitute juveniles into large institutions, and she employed training ships as reformatories. All this has been essentially changed. Mr. Wrightington, superintendent of indoor poor, in his evidence before the commission, said: "When Massachusetts was only half its present size we had a reform school with 600 boys and two school ships full. Now we have only one school and no ships, and the school has only got one hundred and odd inmates! Why! Because we have attended upon the courts and prevented committals to those institutions. We saw there was no use committing them to such establishments when we could put them out to their own homes on probation, or into families with constant surveillance and visitation, with a provision that if they are worthless they may be subsequently recommitted."

Probation is the peculiar feature of the Massachusetts system, and it seems remarkable that it was not used when the work of saving and reforming juveniles was first undertaken, and that it is not carried farther now. From the first settlement of New England, and for many years after, each community asserted, and through its selectmen or otherwise exercised, the right of safe guarding its morals, by watching closely and vigilantly the conduct of families and individuals, and imposing severe penalties for offences of omission or commission. The probation officer and his assistants now discharge some of the duties which the selectmen undertook even in Boston a few years ago.

The law relating to the appointment of probation officers provides that the aldermen of any city or the selectmen of any town may establish the office of probation officer and fix the salary. The mode of appointment is prescribed, and the powers of police officers conferred on the person so appointed.

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