

significance of the problem can be had. A realization will also be gained of the dire results of uncared-for mental deficiency, in producing crime and unhappiness in the community, and in increasing the burdens both of municipalities and the Provincial authorities. Indeed no report would be useful unless it helped to arouse and quicken a public consciousness of the duty devolving on every social and governmental agency to aid in stemming the virulence of this hitherto unchecked evil. It is increasing and multiplying in such a way as to fill our criminal courts, gaols and penitentiaries, and even our charitable institutions, with subjects whose defects are controllable if properly dealt with. Their punishment is in no way a corrective, but rather tends towards an increase in the sum total of vice and immorality, while their presence in schools and institutions designed for only normal individuals, degrades their companions and diminishes the efficiency of the work. For these reasons I have felt it my duty to incorporate in this Report many extracts from the utterances of those who have made a life study of the subject, or are engaged in dealing with it practically, and as well, some of the more striking evidence submitted to me at my sittings as Commissioner.

In familiarizing myself with the thoughts and activities of those to whom I have alluded, I have visited Hamilton, Ottawa, New York (three times), Washington, and Boston, as well as the Institutions situated in Rome, N.Y., Letchworth Village at Thiells, N.Y., Vineland, N.J., Waverley, Mass., Wrentham, Mass., and Orillia. I have also discussed the matter with State and Provincial officials, with those at the head of these institutions, with school authorities, and many social workers in various centres. I have perused an immense number of pamphlets, papers and addresses written or delivered by authorities in Great Britain and the United States, and the report of the Royal Commission in Great Britain. I have also called before me everyone who I thought might have any useful information to impart, particularly those connected with institutions or with social work likely to be affected by the presence of the feeble-minded, and those who are actually caring for them.

In dealing with what I have learned in this way I have endeavored to remember our own position in this Province and to relate outside activities and movements to local conditions so as to arrive at some solution of the matter from an Ontario standpoint. I hope that whatever is undertaken here may be projected upon lines in keeping with the best that exists elsewhere.

Some manifestations of increased interest in the subject should be mentioned before passing to the consideration of what ought now to be done.

I recognize in this connection the excellent Institution at Orillia, to which I make reference elsewhere, and the work it has done in providing for those who have needed assistance. But its erection and maintenance had not its origin in any comprehensive scheme for the care of the feeble-minded, but was due to the fact that when cases came into public notice from any source, some provision had to be made for them. It is a great pleasure to acknowledge the care taken and the progress made in this single institution, which has so greatly succeeded without the stimulus of public opinion and sympathy. It owes its excellence to its enthusiastic head and his staff and the sympathy of the present and former Provincial Secretaries.

I also desire to mention the pioneer work of the Psychiatric Clinic of the Toronto General Hospital, initiated by C. K. Clarke, M.D., who thus describes it:—

"The Psychiatric Clinic at the General Hospital (in Toronto) was developed (in 1914) with the hope of affording relief to as many defectives as possible, and also with the idea of accumulating facts with which to carry on a propaganda in