

supporting. They need special or institutional training and must have supervision always. But, if allowed, as children, to run wild and untrained they develop vicious qualities and degenerate into criminals."

This position is bound to commend itself to the medical profession. The Commissioner very properly expresses the opinion that the numbers of feeble-minded are not so great as to entail a cost that would be heavy enough to be in any way deterrent. While this is true, these persons are "the greatest hindrance to progress and efficiency in the social, educational and industrial world." (Page 123.)

Three quotations (pages 124 and 125) of the Commissioner set out the case very clearly and call for special notice, and should be followed up by speedy and effective action. These quotations are:

"The feeble-minded delinquent can be helped, if discovered young enough, properly trained and allowed liberty only on proof of good behaviour, and then under adequate supervision. This, as experience demonstrates, has resulted in a large measure in saving him from degenerating and lapsing into crime."

"When mentally defective children get beyond the school age, which is the formative stage, they must, if they have not been properly directed, trained, supervised or dealt with, be looked upon from a totally different point of view, that is, as social problems. By that time their place, either as comparatively innocuous members of society, or, as a rule, habitual criminals, or anti-social factors, has become fixed."

"The want of any machinery for ascertaining who are the feeble-minded, and particularly for classifying them with a view to their proper supervision and destination afterwards, whether in or out of school, is apparent, and the absence of the auxiliary or special classes both in the urban and rural school sections, accentuates this lack and renders intelligent dealing with the mentally defective most difficult."

The Commissioner gives a number of recommendations. These may be summarized as follows:

- (1) A plan of registration covering the Province, by which the mentally defective will be identified and classified.
- (2) The formation of a Board or Committee with a Secretary, to formulate a scheme of survey and registration, and to arrange for competent persons to make diagnosis of the cases.
- (3) The erection of a properly equipped Psychopathic Hospital in Toronto, and others later on in suitable centres.
- (4) The enlargement of the scheme of Juvenile Courts so that they may be opened in various centres in the Province, and to be provided with experts.