

training. The fees thus properly available would be a source of income to the School. A number of children of this class have been sent to Training Schools in the United States because there was no such School in Ontario. Besides, there are many mentally-defective children who, if they are properly trained at an early age, can, after the age of fourteen, earn more or less by their work in a Training School or Colony, and thus help to pay their way.

Neglecting the question, and letting the mentally-defective multiply, means an appalling expense for public charities and penal institutions alone. The only way to reduce this enormous expenditure is to begin at the beginning and not allow mental defectives to drift into drunkenness, pauperism, vice, and crime. They need to be cared for. They cannot stand alone. They inevitably succumb to temptation. But care for them, prevent these expensive evils, and the cost will be reduced.

THE MENTALLY-DEFECTIVE ARE MAINTAINED AT THE PUBLIC EXPENSE

The mentally-defective who have thus far come to the notice of the authorities in Ontario are being maintained now, in almost every case, at the public expense.

In the first census of the Feeble-minded, September 30th, 1906, 1,505 persons were enumerated, and of these 1,094 were adults, and 411 were children. Of the 1,094 not one was self-supporting, and over 1,000 were supported by public charity. Most of the remaining 94, so far as is known, have become the objects of public charity since. Of the 411 children, one was the daughter of a well-to-do farmer, two others the sons of lawyers, one the daughter of a physician, one the daughter of an artisan earning very good wages, one the son of a house painter, one the son of a church officer, two the sons of merchants, one the son of a small farmer, one the son of a