

lucid report of the learned Commissioner. It is replete with information, and throughout bears an impress of and earnest desire to discover the whole truth regarding the feeble-minded and to lay sound plans for the handling of this class. The report should be carefully considered by every member of the profession in this Province, in order that intelligent co-operation may be rendered the legislation in its efforts to formulate proper laws relating to this question, and to have clear views as to how aid may be best given for the care of the feeble-minded.

His Lordship, under the heading of "Legislation", takes up the matter of the definition of this class of the community and remarks this: "I am much in favour of adopting as a comprehensive term the word 'Mental Defective' and dividing those whom it includes into classes as described in the English Act, and then making the same general law as to the power of commitment, detention, parole and discharge applicable to each class." (Page 118.)

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The classes described in the English Act are given as follows in the definition of mental defectives:

"(a) Idiots, that is to say, persons so deeply defective in mind from birth or from an early age as to be unable to guard themselves against common physical dangers; (b) Imbeciles, that is to say, persons in whose case there exists from birth or from an early age, mental defectiveness not amounting to idiocy, yet so pronounced that they are incapable of managing themselves or their affairs, or, in the case of children, of being taught to do so. (c) Feeble-minded persons, that is to say, persons in whose case there exists from birth or from early age mental defectiveness not amounting to imbecility, yet so pronounced that they require care, supervision and control for their own protection or for the protection of others, or in the case of children, that they, by reason of such defectiveness, appear to be permanently incapable of receiving proper benefit from the instruction in ordinary schools. (d) Moral imbeciles, that is to say, persons, who, from an early age, display some permanent mental defect, coupled with strong vicious or criminal propensities, on which punishment has had little or no deterrent effect." (See page 118.)

The learned Commissioner (page 123) quotes Dr. Tredgold to the effect that of every 100 mental defectives there will be 6 idiots, 18 imbeciles and 76 feeble-minded. This shows what a chance there is for properly directed efforts, as the latter class can be benefited very much by proper care and training. He then goes on to state that no single fact is so well established now as that most of the feeble-minded can be trained and made proficient in industrial work and manual labour. They can be made happy, healthy, and in many cases almost, if not altogether, self-