

bodily condition of many of this class of defectives, the health of the Institution was very satisfactory. An examination of the physician's journal showed that while a good many were requiring treatment, it was chiefly for trifling ailments. The dietary list and the meals were examined and found to be varied in supply and the food of good and wholesome quality.

At my second visit on the 30th and 31st of May, the names of the 125 pupils were on the register, although only 122 were in the Institution at the time, the other three being absent on leave. Although the health of the house was generally good, the physician reported that two or three of the pupils were so weakly in constitution as to preclude attendance at the literary or industrial classes. The Principal was instructed to send such cases home unless their ailments were of a temporary nature. Certain suggestions were made to the physician with a view to his keeping an exact record of all cases of sickness as well as of the remarks and recommendations he might find it necessary to make in respect to the sanitary condition of the Institution, the dietaries, etc. It was noticed on this occasion that the personal clothing of some of the pupils was in rather a dilapidated state, the Principal stating that he had been unable to prevail upon the municipalities to furnish a change of clothing, and that the parents were too poor to do so. This state of things shews the necessity for levying a small tax upon all municipalities as recommended in my last Report, in order to keep indigent pupils properly clothed and to defray their expenses to and from the Institution.

Certain recommendations were made to the Public Works Department, with a view to improving the plans of the new wing, which was about to be commenced, and which subsequently received attention.

As the Principal had received leave of absence for the three vacation months, his arrangements for the supervision of the premises, and for the visitation of blind pupils at their homes, as well as for carrying on the general work, were submitted and approved of.

Satisfactory arrangements, similar to those made in regard to pupils of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, had been entered into with the various railway companies for sending the pupils home at the close of the session.

My last inspection was made on the 5th and 6th October, when every inmate was again seen and every part of the premises examined.

The condition of the dormitories was fair as to cleanliness, but the reverse as to order. In fact, neatness and tidiness cannot be expected in the sleeping rooms until the new dormitories are ready, and the old ones re-arranged and furnished with clothes presses. When that is done I look for great improvement, as they must be locked up during the day, in order to prevent lounging upon the beds. The other portions of the building were found in admirable order.

When I paid this visit, although the seventh session of the institution had only been commenced about three weeks, there were 123 pupils in residence—63 males and 38 females. The promptness with which pupils had been sent forward, indicated the existence of an excellent system of supervision over the blind of the Province, by the authorities of the Institution, and a growing appreciation of its advantages by parents and guardians. The number of pupils more than exhausted the dormitory space, although the excellent natural ventilation justified a little overcrowding until the new building is ready for occupation. The appearance of the pupils was very satisfactory. As the supply of milk did not appear to be quite sufficient for the needs of such a large number of pupils, many of whom are very young, authority was given to add to the number of cows.