

ment as the court would otherwise have passed, and, if it appears to the Secretary of State, on the report of the Prison Commissioners, that, owing to the character, state of health, or mental condition of the offender, it is not advisable to send the offender to a Borstal institution, the Secretary of State may order that the offender undergo such alternative sentence, but, apart from such order, the sentence of detention in the institution shall take effect. All these provisions may be extended by the order of the Secretary of State to persons apparently under such age as may be specified in the order, and to persons summarily convicted of an indictable offence; but we do not quite see why this large extension of the provisions of the Bill should be left to the discretion of a Government department, and it is to be hoped that all offenders, whether convicted on indictment or summarily, who are apparently between the years of sixteen and twenty-one will be brought within its provisions. Power is to be given to the Secretary of State to transfer a person from prison to a Borstal institution, and, as a necessary corollary of the Bill, clause 3 provides for the establishment of Borstal institutions and for making regulations for their rule and management. Clause 4 gives power to the Prison Commissioners, subject to regulations by the Secretary of State, at any time after the expiration of six months from the commencement of the term of detention, if satisfied that there is a reasonable probability that the offender will abstain from crime and lead a useful and industrious life, by license to permit him to be discharged from the Borstal institution on condition that he be placed under the supervision or authority of any society or person named in the license who may be willing to take charge of the case. Where a person detained in a Borstal institution proves to be incorrigible, or to be exercising a bad influence on the other inmates, the Secretary of State may transfer such person to prison, and power is given to remove a person sentenced to detention from one part of the United Kingdom to another.

These are the chief provisions of the Bill with regard to the reformation of young offenders, and it will be seen that a strong