PROVINCIAL INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

SUPERINTENDENT'S EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT.

PROVENCIAL ENDISTRIAL SCHOOL.

SEPTEMBERTS FIGHTH AXXIVE REPORT

To His Honour THOMAS W. PATERSON,

Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

The report of D. Donaldson, Superintendent of the Provincial Industrial School, Vancouver, from December 1st, 1911, to November 30th, 1912, is herewith respectfully submitted.

W. J. BOWSER,
Attorney-General.

Attorney-General's Office, Victoria, B.C., January 16th, 1913. · sauce Harry seems in this

PROVINCIAL INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

SUPERINTENDENT'S EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT.

Honourable W. J. Bowser, K.C., Attorney-General, Victoria, B.C.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you and the Honourable Members of the Legislature the Eighth Annual Report of the Provincial Industrial School of British Columbia from

December 1st, 1911, till November 30th, 1912.

During the year twenty-seven boys have been admitted, making a total of 196 since the institution was opened on February 1st, 1905. Twenty-three left during the year; five were paroled by His Royal Highness the Governor-General; six were pardoned by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor; five were released by the Juvenile Court, on condition that they report regularly each month to the Superintendent; five were liberated on termination of sentence. One boy left without leave and made his way to the United States and has not been recaptured, and one boy, William Wigman, had his sentence cancelled by His Lordship Justice Morrison of the Supreme Court, on a technicality because that His Honour Judge Shaw of the Juvenile Court had neglected to run his pen through the words "Police Magistrate," and write instead "Judge of Juvenile Court."

At present there are fifty-seven boys in the institution.

Countries where born.—Of the fifty-seven boys at present in the school, thirty-nine were born in Canada (of these one is an Indian, another a quarter-breed), seven being of Irish descent, ten of Scotch descent, ten of English descent, two of French descent, 2 of Italian descent, 2 of Slavonic descent, and four of German descent. In regard to the other eighteen, one boy was born in Ireland, one in Austria, six in the United States, seven in England, and three in Scotland.

During the year nine boys made their escape from the school, eight of whom were recaptured very shortly afterwards. "Why do boys run away?" is a question that we have often tried to solve, seen that it has always been our endeavour to make the institution a real home for boys. In reply to such a question put to runaway boys themselves on their return, the answer invariably has been, "I don't know, sir." One reason I think is that upon entering the school they find it extremely irksome to be under restraint and not able to do just as they please as they had been accustomed to, but find that they must submit to law and authority. Another reason is the terrible craving that comes over them for tobacco, as with very few exceptions the boys that enter the school are confirmed cigarette fiends, and the intense longing for a smoke is such that they are prepared to run all kinds of risks in order to gratify the appetite. Also to boys who have been in the habit of attending cheap shows almost nightly, hanging around pool-rooms, and reading the most exciting kind of yellow literature, they find it hard to reconcile themselves to the simple life. However, it is astonishing how these same boys later on settle down and become interested in the work of the school, and in many cases become the most trusted boys in the institution. One instance in point might be mentioned, when a few weeks ago a couple of boys ran away, after sending out all my officials in different directions, there was one other important position out in the adjoining bush which should be guarded until midnight. On looking around for a trusty among the boys, the one selected by the Superintendent was a boy who himself had run away the year before. In fact, upon several occasions runaway boys have been recaptured by their schoolmates and brought back

The general health of the boys during the year has been good, that is, we have had no cases of infectious diseases. At the same time a number of the lads who entered the school during the year required almost immediate hospital and medical treatment. One boy, part Indian, has been a heavy expense to the Government, and required a great deal of careful

nursing, being afflicted with acute eczema, having been a sufferer from this disease for the past seven years. Another boy had been badly ruptured before being committed to the school, and an operation forthwith was necessary. Another boy who had suffered from inflammatory rheumatism for three years, and never had received medical treatment, arrived at the school just in time to be placed in the sick ward, and is developing into a strong healthy boy. The general good health of the boys I attribute in a great measure to the healthy location of the school, pure water from our own reservoir on the farm, good, wholesome, well-cooked food, lots of fresh milk, and plenty of exercise. The physique of the boys show a marked improvement a very short time after they enter the school. They enter very heartily into such games as football, baseball, lacrosse, basketball, etc.; also their training in gymnasium and on parade has a telling effect in their physical development and brightens them up mentally.

Day-school.—As the education of most of the boys committed to the school has been sadly neglected, I consider the three hours spent each day by every boy in school to be a very important part of our work, and I am pleased to report that the year just ended has been a most successful one in this department. Our present school-teacher, Miss Mabel F. Pullen, has proved a great success, having the faculty of arousing the boys' interest in their work. Besides the ordinary school-work, she gives them lessons in painting, singing, and drawing. Samples of their school-work were sent to the Vancouver Exhibition, and a diploma was awarded for the same.

The tailoring and shoemaking departments, with first-class instructors in charge, have turned out all the boys' and officials' uniforms and overalls, boys' boots, slippers, etc., worn during the year, and many boys have made good progress in both departments. Samples of the boys' own work in these departments also won a diploma.

The carpenter-shop is in good working order, and a great deal of practical, useful work has been accomplished. A washing-machine, an official table, and other articles made altogether by the boys were greatly admired at the exhibition, and a diploma awarded for the same.

A great deal of useful hard work has been done during the year by the farm instructor and a number of the senior boys; as a result, we harvested 12 tons of potatoes, 3 tons parsnips, 2 tons carrots, 5 tons turnips, 10 crates tomatoes, 6 crates pumpkins and squash, 15 tons corn for feed, also an abundance of sweet corn, celery, rhubarb, lettuce, and other garden products. Our flower-gardens were quite a success; a number of the boys had considerable experience in this elevating and most interesting work. About 125 cords of firewood for heating the buildings were cut, split, and hauled from the adjoining bush.

During the year we organized a School (brass) Band, under the leadership of Mr. H. B. Collier, our Carpenter Instructor, who was formerly a noted cornet-player in Toronto. The band consists of fourteen pieces—three cornets, two tenor horns, two baritones, one euphonium, two trombones, two basses, one side-drum, and one bass-drum. The members of the band are very much interested in the new departure, and are making splendid progress with their musical studies.

The year has been made brighter for the boys owing to the thoughtful generosity of a number of Vancouver gentlemen, and as a result the following weeklies and monthlies have been regularly received and read with much interest and mental profit, namely: The Illustrated London News, Graphic, Tit-bits, Chums, Boys' Own, Tip-tops, Youths' Companion, Saturday Post. Also the following popular magazines: Canadian, British Columbia, Popular Mechanics, Technical World, Red Book, Cosmopolitan, McClure's, Pearson's, Blue Book, Baseball, People's, Popular, Everybody's, Munsey, and Argosy. The lights in the dormitories are left burning for an hour after the boys retire, in order that they may spend a quiet hour in reading.

The religious training of the boys is not overlooked; every Sunday morning the boys parade in their natty blue and scarlet uniforms and march to church. In the afternoon a religious service is held in the school-room; the services are made bright and interesting, the various speakers are listened to with the greatest attention, and the boys join very heartily in the singing. Bible-reading and prayers are conducted each night and morning by the Superintendent.

The year has certainly been a strenuous one, but we have the satisfaction of honestly believing that it has been the most successful in results of any year in the history of the school.

The following is the present staff of officials:-

Superintendent—D. Donaldson.

Matron-Mrs. D. Donaldson.

Tailor and First Assistant-Wm. Forsyth.

Second Assistant—Thos. Calbick.

Shoemaker and Third Assistant-Alex. McLean.

Carpenter and Fourth Assistant—H. B. Collier.

Farm Instructor—Wm. Johnston.

Cook and Baker-Hugh Duff.

School-teacher-Miss Mabel F. Pullen.

Nightwatchman-A. M. Evans.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. DONALDSON. Superintendent.

November 30th, 1912.

ADDENDUM.

Ages of Boys.—Eleven years, 1; twelve years, 8; thirteen years, 5; fourteen years, 12;

fifteen years, 10; sixteen years, 11; seventeen years, 8; eighteen years, 2.

*Crimes committed.**—Theft, 26; incorrigible, 6; vagrancy, 6; housebreaking, 7; placing dynamite on railway-track, 1; obtaining goods under false pretences, 2; receiving stolen goods, 2; shoplifting, 2; hold-up, 1; horse-stealing, 1; pointing gun, 1; neglected, 1; vicious conduct, 1.

Length of Sentence.—Indefinite, 5; indeterminate, 20; two years, 14; three years, 14;

four years, 1; five years, 3.

Deaths .- None.

VICTORIA, B.C.:

Printed by WILLIAM H. CULLIN, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty. 1913.

The following is the present such of officials :-

Superincendent I Donaticon
Matron Mass D Tonaticon
Suites and First Assistant W m. Legath,
Second Assistant - Plus Calhiels
Specialist and Third Assistant - Alex, Molasin
Carpenter and Pourth Assistant - Alex, Molasin
Parti fisherence - West Authorities
School reader - Mass Makel F. Builder
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