

If the experience and judgment of penologists is to be accepted, the resultant association of juvenile delinquents with mature criminals threatens to make these boys criminals too.

If cases of transfer to Windsor are made as a counsel of desperation, these cases of transfer should not be recorded as "discharged" but should be rated and recorded as "transfers". Discharge when effective should, ordinarily at least, be discharge by and from the Industrial School.

In this connection, it may be noted that the incorrigible so-called, is frequently corrigible when conditions requisite to suitable discipline and training exist and the staff is of requisite personal calibre and experience.

The transfer of these boys to the State Prison at Windsor and other evidence indicates clearly a serious gap in our State facilities for handling delinquents. Between the Vermont Industrial School at Vergennes and the House of Correction which is practically combined with the State Prison at Windsor, no suitable provision is made for older boys and for so-called incorrigibles.

XIII GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS.

The scope and efficiency of the work and discipline of the Vermont Industrial School depends upon a number of factors among which may be distinguished the following:

1. Appropriations by the General Assembly for the maintenance and support of the School.

Your Committee recommends that the Committees of the General Assembly on State Institutions study the School situation in the light of our report and recommendations and consider the making of a more adequate appropriation for the Industrial School.

In this connection a minor adjustment seems highly desirable. Under present procedure the earnings of the School from productive enterprises are turned into the General Funds of the State. It would seem highly desirable to adjust the State's system of accounting so that there would be an adequate provision for auditing but permitting a refund to the School of its net earnings. Such an adjustment would put a premium upon the development of productive enterprises which have value not only for giving occupation to the inmates but also in connection with their training and vocational education. Under the present scheme of procedure, the School turning its earnings into the General Funds, loses the cost of seed, fertilizer, material and labor involved in its productive undertakings.

2. Material equipment.

(a) Farm. So far as your Committee could observe, the School Farm represents an adequate basis for farming activities necessary to the production of food supplies and to the occupation and training of inmates.

(b) Buildings. As earlier noted in this report, there is undesirable crowding in several boys' dormitories and in general the cottage groups are considerably above the optimum size. This condition suggests the desirability of increasing the number of cottages.

3. The Staff. The decisive importance of personnel, their personality traits, experience and training, as well as of organization and morale have all been emphasized in earlier sections.

4. Policy and Organization. As earlier sections have indicated, the highest efficiency of the School requires the forming of smaller cottage groups, the development of more individualized treatment, the provision of facilities for psychiatric examination and personality