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ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

REFORMATORY SCHOOL,

DELHI,

FOR

1905.

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Report on the Reformatory School

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Delhi, for 1905.**

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No. 805 G.

FROM

W. BELL, ESQUIRE, M. A.,

*Director of Public Instruction, and
Inspector-General of Reformatory Schools, Punjab,*

TO

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, PUNJAB.

Dated Lahore, the 3rd May, 1906.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the annual report on the Reformatory School, Delhi, for the year ending the 31st December, 1905.

2. The number of boys admitted during the year was 22, but 4 were discharged and 5 licensed to employers, so that the number actually present on the 31st December, 1905, was 44. The rules regarding the admission and detention of youthful offenders have recently been considerably relaxed, and, I think, none too soon, for there have been only 8 admissions since 1st January last. With the increased discretion now allowed to Magistrates a more rapid increase in the population of the School may be expected; but I do not anticipate that the numbers will increase beyond the capacity of the School before 1908, when the first discharges will take place in accordance with the recent orders of Government by which the maximum period of detention is reduced from seven to five years. A further easing-off of numbers may be anticipated under the provisions of Section 13 of the Reformatory Schools Act.

3. The concluding sentence of paragraph 5 of the Superintendent's report contains particulars of the classification of the boys according to age and religion. The School rules provide also for a sub-division of the Senior and Junior Divisions, and the separation from the others of those boys who appear to have marked criminal propensities, or whose parents are habitual criminals. The Committee of Visitors have, however, not found it possible to arrange for this separation, but all such boys on admission are given a blue cap, as distinguished from the white of the others, the significance of which they readily understand when it is explained to them that a change from the blue to the white cap can only be effected by continued good conduct and industry.

4. The process continues of adapting the old Lunatic Asylum buildings to the requirements of the Reformatory. The Superintendent urges the execution by School agency of the annual repairs of the School buildings under the conditions in force in the Jail Department. This matter will receive my consideration, and, if necessary, will be referred to Government. The additions and alterations recently sanctioned to the Superintendent's bungalow are now well advanced, and, when completed, will provide ample accommodation.

5. The boys are reported to be generally well behaved, though there is an increase over the previous year in the number of punishments inflicted. There were two attempts at escape, both rendered possible by the lax supervision of the warder in charge. The second attempt was made with no little ingenuity, the boy prevailing on the warder on duty at the gate to allow him to carry in a ladder which he said he had been told to fetch. Possessed of this

ladder, he promptly scaled the wall unseen by the officials, and made off into some sugarcane fields hard by. But he was soon missed and his hiding place discovered. Both attempts were made in daylight.

6. The boys were examined by the Inspector of Schools, Delhi Circle, in general subjects, and by the Vice-Principal of the Mayo School of Art on the industrial side. Both officers report favourably. Shoe-making after native patterns has been discontinued, as it has been found that the profit from the industry is so small that it would not suffice to enable a boy to earn a living if he followed it after discharge. English shoe-making has now been started.

7. The general health of the boys was good. Ample opportunities are given the boys for recreation in the way of football, cricket, running, jumping &c., in which all keenly join. They lead a regular and methodical life and have a daily spell at physical drill and gymnastics and gardening—all important factors in the building-up of hardy constitutions. Malarial fever was not so prevalent as in the previous year. The depression in the School garden and the borrow-pits behind the jail have been filled up as suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner; and the change of direction of flow of the jail drain is being considered by the Public Works Department. The Superintendent again notices the want of a suitable play-ground outside the walls. The Deputy Commissioner, Delhi, is proceeding with the formalities connected with the acquisition of a piece of land adjoining the School garden, and I hope it will not be long before the School is put in possession of it.

8. Gardening is carried on under great difficulties for want of water, but, nevertheless, vegetables are raised in sufficient quantity for the requirements of the School. The water difficulty is undoubtedly real. A proposal to bring in the canal was negatived last year by the Officiating Lieutenant-Governor as being too costly; and it is now thought that pumping from the big well in the garden will give a supply for the garden as well as the swimming bath. The Superintendent has this matter under consideration.

9. The licensing system is said to be working well. Three boys are with Messrs. Cooper Allen & Co., Cawnpur, and two with the Delhi Cloth and General Mills, and all are well reported on.

10. Mr. Raynor, the Superintendent, has worked with his usual zeal and thoroughness.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

W. BELL,

*Director of Public Instruction, and
Inspector-General of Reformatory Schools, Punjab.*

NO. 71.

FROM

P. A. RAYNOR, ESQUIRE,

Superintendent, Reformatory School, Delhi,

TO

W. BELL, ESQUIRE, M. A., C.I.E.,

Inspector-General of Reformatory Schools, Punjab.

Dated Delhi, the 30th January, 1906.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the annual report on the Reformatory School, Delhi, for the year ending the 31st December, 1905.

2. Except for three months—3rd January to 2nd April—when I was on privilege leave and Mr. T. S. Farmer acted for me—I held charge of the School throughout the year.

3. *Accommodation.*—There is accommodation in the School for 146 boys, namely, in barracks 88, in cubicles 48, and in hospital 10. A detached block of 4 old cubicles, which was accounted for in the accommodation shown in paragraph 2 of the report for the year 1904, has since been converted into a godown, hence the reduced accommodation.

4. *Buildings.*—The buildings are clean and habitable, and were maintained in fair repair. It would, I think, be an advantage if the annual repairs to the buildings were executed by School agency under similar conditions to those in force in the Jail Department instead of by the Public Works Department. The arrangement would admit of the building being at all times kept in thorough repair, while at the same time Government would be saved the contractor's profits, and a valuable industry would be introduced into the School at no additional expense. Of the works mentioned in paragraph 3 of the report for the year 1904, all were executed except—(1) providing a verandah to the old block of cubicles facing the hospital, and (2) additions to the Superintendent's bungalow. In addition, 11 of the 22 old cubicles in front of the main gate were re-roofed, the ventilation of 12 new cubicles was improved, and the latrines attached to the teachers' quarters were roofed.

The following additional works received your approval during the year, and will, it is hoped, be carried out by an early date:—

- (1) reversing flow of jail drain so as to remove a nuisance and admit of the water being utilized in the back garden for irrigation purposes;
- (2) providing additional bathing accommodation;
- (3) correcting levels of waste-water drains and providing pacca drains to warders' quarters;
- (4) replacing the mud boundary wall in front by a stone wall;
- (5) providing a galvanized iron roof over the shed used for parching gram;
- (6) racks for office records.

5. *Population, admissions and discharges.*—There were 31 boys in the School on the 31st December, 1904, 21 were admitted in 1905, and 1 boy licensed out during the former year was re-admitted. Three boys were discharged during the year—2 by order of Government (1 on medical grounds, and the other under the provisions of Section 14 of the Reformatory Schools Act), and 1 by order of the District Magistrate, Delhi. A fourth boy, being over-

age at the time of his admission, was re-transferred to jail by order of the Chief Court, Punjab, and 5 boys were sent out on license, leaving 44 in the School on the 31st December, 1905. The daily average number of boys under detention during the year was 39.9.

Of the 44 boys remaining, 24 were in the Senior Division and 20 in the Junior Division. Twenty-five professed the Muhammadan religion and 19 the Hindu religion, the latter number including 1 sweeper.

6. *Particulars of boys admitted.*—Of the 21 boys admitted during the year, 4 were convicted in Lyallpur, 3 in Delhi, 2 each in Lahore, Hoshiárpur and Ferozepore, and 1 each in Simla, Dera Gházi Khan, Montgomery, Amritsar, Multán, Hissar, Ambála and Siálkot. Six were sentenced under Section 379, Indian Penal Code, 5 under Section 457, 4 under Section 380, 2 under Section 381, and 1 each under Sections 335, 392, 454 and 109, Criminal Procedure Code. One had been previously convicted three times, 8 once, and the remainder were sent to the School on first conviction.

Classified according to the ages recorded in the orders of detention, 14 of the boys were under the age of 14 years, 6 were 14 years and under 15, and 1 was 15. In regard to 2 of the first mentioned and 2 boys admitted in 1904, it was found necessary to take action under Section 13 (1) of the Reformatory Schools Act.

7. *Conduct and discipline.*—The general behaviour of the boys was satisfactory on the whole. There were 38 offences, namely, breaches of School rules 13, fighting 6, offences relating to work 5, petty thefts 5, destroying School property 5, idleness and inattention in School 2, and attempting to escape 2. The punishments awarded were—birching 7, caning 22, gunny clothing 3, and separate confinement 6. Thirty-three of the 38 punishments were awarded to boys in the Junior Division, among whom there are a few troublesome ones.

8. *Escapes.*—There were no escapes during the year. Two boys attempted to escape—one from outside and one from inside. Both attempts were rendered possible by the gross negligence of the warders responsible. The circumstances of these attempts have already been reported to you, so I need say nothing further about them here.

9. *Good-conduct badges.*—Fifty-eight ordinary and three special good-conduct badges were granted during the year under report. Two of the latter were for exemplary good conduct and one for reporting the determination of a newly-admitted boy to make a bid for liberty on the first favourable opportunity. Seven badges were forfeited, and there were nine disqualifications for misconduct. A sum of Rs. 17-1-3 was distributed as badge money.

The boys were paraded every Saturday morning for the distribution of badge money, and the opportunity was taken of explaining the rules to them, and impressing on them the advantages to be gained by good behaviour. In addition, on the first Saturday of each month, the marks earned during the previous month were read out on parade, and the boys were required to take up their positions in the order of their standing according to the marks earned under each head, *viz.*, "General Education," "Industrial," and "Conduct". This monthly review affords the opportunity for encouragement and warning to every boy in the presence of all, and will, I hope, be found to exercise a moralizing effect.

10. *Education.*—All the boys admitted during the year were illiterate. The School was inspected twice by the Inspector of Schools Delhi Circle,—on the 20th February and on the 13th December, 1905. At the first inspection there were 32 boys on the rolls, and all were in class I. Eleven were presented for examination and passed a satisfactory test in all subjects, except the multiplication tables, in which they were weak. At the last inspection there were 44 boys on the rolls—9 in class II and the remainder in class I. Six of the boys in class II did well in the examination, and of the 21 presented for examination in class I all passed, doing fairly well in reading, writing and notation.

11. *Industrial training.*—The industries carried on during the year were the same as in 1904; and at the end of the year under report there were 16 boys learning tailoring, 6 carpentry, 4 shoe-making, (native patterns)

7 weaving, and 11 gardening. All departments were fully occupied throughout the year. Sanction was accorded towards the close of the year to the discontinuance of shoe-making of native patterns and the introduction of shoe-making of European patterns, and arrangements are being made to effect the change on an early date. A European pattern of loom with Japanese improvements was started during the year, but has not been a success so far, owing to the incompetence of the instructor of weaving. The resignation of this official has been accepted, and endeavours are being made to secure the services of a competent man. I may mention that all the cotton cloth and part of the woollen cloth required for the boys' clothing was manufactured in the School. The School was inspected on the industrial side by the Vice-Principal, Mayo School of Art, Lahore, on the 13th February, 1905, and the results were regarded as satisfactory.

12. *Weighments.*—The boys were weighed on admission and thereafter every fortnight, and their weights were recorded on a chart affixed to their history tickets. As in 1904, the boys seemed to lose their appetites during the great heat in the month of June, and there was a fairly general, though small, loss of weight in consequence. Milk diet was substituted for the daily ration of dal on the recommendation of the visiting Medical Officer for a period of 2 months and 6 days, with the result that the boys regained what they had lost.

13. *Health.*—The general health of the boys was good. There was only one case of serious illness, and the boy, being the subject of epileptic fits, was discharged by order of Government on the recommendation of the visiting Medical Officer. Malarial fever was not so prevalent as in the previous year, and the attacks were of a very mild nature,—results which were, no doubt, due to the failure of the monsoon rains and the issue of quinine once a week to every boy during the malarial season, as a prophylactic.

14. *Recreation.*—Cricket, football and native games were played by the boys. The two first mentioned under very unfavourable conditions, owing, as already pointed out in paragraph 14 of my report for 904, to the want of a suitable play-ground. A good play-ground is a great desideratum, and nothing can be done towards providing one until the land to be acquired for the extension of the garden is taken up and levelled, and provision made for an adequate supply of water for irrigation purposes. The swimming bath was brought into use for about six weeks during the hottest season. Here also the difficulty is a supply of water for which no provision was made when the bath was constructed. It is a very difficult and costly matter to keep the bath filled and fresh from the adjacent well.

The boys were sent out for a walk every Sunday evening under the charge of the Chief Head Warder. They were also sent out to witness the Rám Lila Fair and the Delhi Circle Government School Sports. In addition, selected boys were allowed out to visit the Government schools, factories and other places of interest in the station. As in-door recreation, the boys were treated to a series of magic lantern exhibitions, and were encouraged to play games needing thought and skill.

15. *Drill and physical exercises.*—One hour daily was devoted to simple movements in military drill, free gymnastics and Indian club and dumb-bell exercises, the duty of instructor being taken by Head Warder Rám Chand in addition to his own. Many of the boys evince a keen interest in these exercises and look forward with pleasure to the hour set apart for them. *Desi kasrat* was also practised occasionally, but, without an instructor, it has not been possible to do much in this direction. This matter has your attention, and you have kindly promised to order the instructors of the local Government schools to attend occasionally and give the needful instruction till we have a man of our own.

16. *License system.*—At the end of 1904 there was one boy out on license, but he was sent back to the School in 1905 owing to a reduction of establishment by the firm which had employed him. This boy and four others were licensed out during the year under report,—three (one carpenter and two shoe-makers) to the Army Boot and Equipment Factory, Cawnpur, and two (weavers) to the Delhi Cloth and General Mills. All of them are reported to be

doing well, and I hope it will be found possible to take full advantage of the system in 1906.

17. *Moral training.*—Every opportunity is availed of to inculcate good principles into the minds of the boys. They are carefully supervised during play hours when, in the society of companions of like age, their characters and dispositions are developed and the best opportunities afforded for moral training. Moral instruction, illustrated by narratives, is given three times a week by the Manager during the hour set apart for reading, and also for one hour on Sundays by one of the teachers. The boys are questioned on the knowledge so imparted to them, and efforts are made to impress on their minds the great truths of religion and morality common to all mankind. Apart from moral instruction, reformation is also sought by training the boys to habits of obedience, regularity, industry, order and cleanliness. The use of indecent language, with which the vernaculars abound, is strongly discouraged.

The question of religious instruction was once again brought before the Committee of Visitors during the year, but its consideration was deferred. It may, however, be mentioned that the Muhammadan boys were permitted to observe the fast and to attend the mosque on the premises on Fridays and fast days, the Muhammadan Hospital Assistant attached to the School conducting the services. Hindu boys were sent to the river to bathe on festival days.

18. *Garden.*—Owing to the nature of the soil and an inadequate supply of water, gardening was carried on under considerable difficulties. The latter is the main difficulty, and, until an ample supply is provided, it will not be possible to do much towards improving the appearance of the premises and having anything in the shape of a flourishing garden. A proposal to extend the canal to the School was negatived on the ground of expense, and Mr. Farmer, who acted for me, suggested an aermotor as likely to meet all requirements. One was accordingly obtained on loan from the Irrigation Department and set up over the well in front of the gate, but it has not come up to expectations. In my opinion nothing short of a No. 5 pulsometer with 8 N. H. P. boiler will suffice. This matter will be referred separately.

Notwithstanding the difficulties that had to be contended with, all the vegetables and condiments (save turmeric) required for the School dietary were raised in the garden, and a sum of Rs. 45-11-6 was realized by the sale of vegetables and grass.

19. *Expenditure.*—The total expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 14,645-14-5 as against Rs. 12,056-15-5 in 1904. The increase is due to acting allowance paid while I was on leave, the larger daily average number of boys, the extra establishment engaged in 1904 having been paid for part of that year only, and to the higher rates of food-grains. The ~~daily~~ average cost per head of rations was Re. 1-11-0 as compared with Re. 1-7-10 in 1904.

20. *Manufactures.*—The net profit from the Manufactory Department amounted to Rs. 187-7-8 as against Rs. 145-7-6 in 1904.

21. *Committee of Visitors.*—There were in all 12 monthly general meetings of the Committee of Visitors. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab visited the School on the 18th December, 1905, and it was twice visited by you and three times by the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Punjab.

22. In conclusion, I beg to tender my thanks to the Committee of Visitors for the support at all times afforded me in my management, and to Lieutenant-Colonel T. E. L. Bate, C.I.E., Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Punjab, for a valuable magic lantern presented to the School.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

P. A. RAYNOR,

Superintendent, Reformatory School, Delhi.

TABLE I.

Statement showing the number and disposal of boys in the Reformatory School, Delhi, during the year 1905.

				Number.	REMARKS.
PUPILS.					
Number at the beginning of the year	...	...	...	31	* Includes one boy out on license in 1904 and re-admitted in 1905.
Admitted during the year	...	...	...	22*	
Discharged during the year	...	...	...	9†	† Licensed ... 5
Died during the year	...	...	...	Nil.	Released ... 3
Remaining at the end of the year	...	...	...	44	Remanded to jail ... 1
					Total ... 9
EDUCATION ON ADMISSION.					
Able to read	...	...	...	Nil.	
Illiterate	...	...	...	21	
RELIGION.					
Hindús	...	...	...	18	
Muhammadans	...	...	...	25	
Other classes	...	...	...	1	
NET EXPENDITURE	...	...	...	Rs. 14,408-5-9	

TABLE II.

After conduct of boys discharged during the three years preceding the year of report.

(1) Total number discharged in the three years	...	...	...	...
(2) Number discharged who were taught agriculture	...	...	...	...
(3) Number in entry (2) occupied in agriculture	...	...	...	...
(4) Number who were taught other trades and handicrafts...	...	...	...	...
(5) Number in entry (4) occupied in the trades and handicrafts taught	...	...	...	...
(6) Occupied in industries not taught at School	{ Agriculture ... { Other industries ...		...	...
(7) Unemployed or with friends	...	...	...	...
(8) Reconvicted	...	...	...	...
(9) Of bad character	...	...	...	...
(10) Died	...	...	...	...
(11) Not known or not reported on	...	...	...	...



