

and one, perhaps the most happily placed of all, is working as a carrier's assistant. One lad is a fairly skilled carpenter. It was not found to be possible to place him in continuous employment of this nature in the neighbourhood, so he is employed partly as the Hostel carpenter, partly in carrying out orders obtained from private individuals or firms. He is paid in exactly the same way as the other lads who are working outside, and is entirely satisfied with this arrangement.

In the case of the boys, we use the Home Safes of one of the large banks for their savings. The boys take great pride in banking their money themselves each week. Each has his own pass-book, and can draw on his savings with the approval of the Superintendent. In addition to saving money themselves, the feeble-minded young men and women in our Hostels are contributing materially to their own support, as a part of their earnings is returned to the Local Authorities who are maintaining them. Those in residential posts are, of course, entirely self-supporting.

The Hostel system, therefore, while making for happiness and self-respect, should also prove an economical method of dealing with the highest-grade of mental defectives in the community.

Hostel for Girls at Bath

(We have received a short note on the Hostel at The Old Rectory, Bathwick Hill, Bath, from the Superintendent there. The Hostel was opened last January and promises very well.)

The Old Rectory is for training high-grade mentally defective girls for domestic service; though in the short time they have been here we have found those girls who have been steadily improving in character in an institution and are good plodding workers are the ones that fit in most readily and easily.

If after some months they prove capable enough (and suitable situations can be found for them) they go out to daily work and return here at night, until they are considered fit for permanent situations.

The first girls came on January 20th of this year; the Hostel is not yet full, for the Committee find it inadvisable to admit more than two or, at the most, three girls at a time.

There has been so far a greater demand for house-parlourmaids than anything else—but I think there is no doubt that we shall find that it will be much easier to place those who have had a little general knowledge and experience of work all round in cooking, house-parlourmaid's work, laundry, neat sewing and even gardening.

J. HAMMOND.