and industry are formed strictly on competitive lines. The inefficient gravitate to the least interesting and most deadening tasks. They hold a job only a short time and are the first to be dropped when business is dull. Incidentally it may be added that they help to ruin the entire labor market and beat down wages by rendering a minimum of service. The time lost between jobs is often the direct route to the criminal court and society as now constituted can take little cognizance of them until they have arrived at bar. If not at their first appearance, then at the second or third, they are made to feel the hard rules of the law. The making of a so-called professional criminal can be easily traced from data available to everybody. If the defective is low in the mental scale, the steps are few. The high-grade moron, on the other hand, escapes ordinary detection because he is slower to return to the meshes. He constitutes a large class of offenders who occasionally drift over the line.

"Here is the curse of the present situation in the light of recent knowledge: every correctional device so far employed becomes, in the case of the feeble-minded, but one more step in the degradation which ends in hopeless criminality. This is because the institutions and methods which have been evolved for the discouragement of crime are all predicated upon competence and responsibility; they are based on the conception, until recently universal, that every person not insane is keyed to normal motives and will react uniformly to certain disciplinary experiences.

"But we are entering upon a new dispensation now that we are able to unmask mental defectiveness. This is the most vital step necessary to break the disheartening routine of manufacturing criminals by process of law."

MINNESOTA SCHOOL FOR FEEBLE-MINDED AND COLONY FOR EPILEPTICS, FARIBAULT, MINN.—THE CHILDREN'S LIBRARY.

By Margaret MacLean, Principal.*

(Reprinted from The Modem Hospital, May, 1916, Vol. VI. No. 5.)

So much hand work is done by the feeble-minded, the exhibits sent out from the institution are so largely made up of hand work, and so much emphasis is placed on the value of manual and industrial work in all discussions of the training given here, that it is not to be wondered at that the visitors to the institution are surprised to find a school system with classes ranging from sense training and the kindergarten to the sixth grade, with perhaps more attention paid to music, both vocal and instrumental, than is paid in the average public school; with drawing and water-color work being done most creditably in all the grades; with physical training a part of the daily routine of the child going hand-in-hand with the manual training, which takes a serious place in the daily schedule as early as the first primary grades.

That reading is one of the subjects in which the feeble-minded delight and excel is attested by the appreciation shown of their work by a group of principals from one of our largest and best city school systems, who visited our schools not long ago, and were so delighted with the facility with which a primary class read at sight stories written by some of their number on the blackboard, that they sent to the class a large and beautiful picture to be hung on the wall of their schoolroom. So it goes without saying that a library has been for years one of the features of this institution, very dear to the hearts of the children. But, to be accurate, I must say libraries, for the institution has more than one children's library.

In those buildings too far removed from the school training department to be easily accessible, branch libraries are established for the benefit of the children in those groups; so one will find suitable collections of books in Skinner Hall, Sunnyside, Grandview, and Walcott, as well as in the main building, where is to be found the school library proper. At present this is small, containing only 1,050 odd volumes, for it has to be kept in limited quarters—one of the rooms connecting with the principal's office. It is in charge of a librarian, who also has in her care all the text and reference books, magazines, and periodicals belonging to the school department.

If you should examine the 1,050 odd volumes, you would find books ranging from those beloved by beginners in reading to those enjoyed by reading men and women, with, quite naturally, a larger number of the stories and biographies suited to younger children than any other class, for of the 167 readers of the school library the ages run from 10 to 50 years chronologically and from 6 to 13 years mentally.

The following tables will show the number of readers divided into chronological and mental aged groups respectively:

Chronological age.	Number of Readers	Chronological age.	Number of Readers
10 to 15 years	39	30 to 40 years	20
15 to 20 years	42	40 to 50 years	16
20 to 30 years	50		

These same readers, considering mental age only, would tabulate as follows:

Mental age.	Number of Readers	Mental age.	Number of Readers
6 years	10	10 years	26
7 years	40	11 years	21
8 years	37	12 years	8
9 years	22	13 years	3

•Editor's Note: Children's hospitals, homes for crippled children, and schools for the feeble-minded have been somewhat neglected in our efforts to secure better conditions in the libraries of hospitals for adults. Will those in charge of such institutions please help us remedy this neglect by sending lists of books for children to the editor of this page?

Story telling and the dramatization of stories are regular feature of the school work in all grades, and it is not to be wondered at that the children form a taste for good reading and a fondness for books very early in life. This taste is fostered and encouraged by the teachers, and one of the strongest" incentives to learning to read is to be able to get books from the library.

The books are issued by a regular card system, not unlike that used in any library, and to the individual child, who is solely responsible for the care of the book is issued to him.

To become a reader of the library books is a privilege easily won; some yards of red tape must be wound up before one- attains that ambition, for to be a holder of a library card proves that a certain amount of erudition is possessed by his owner.

Library books are not loaned by one child to another, though there is no rule against it. The readers have found that it they are to be responsible for the condition of their books, and lose the privilege of the library
if they carelessly handle and abuse the, they must restrict the use of them to themselves.

It is a well-known fact that his "library," as the (children say, is the one

thing that a boy will not share with his best friend. His skates, his skis, his sled, his knife, his box of fruit, his candy, his clothes off his back even, are a friend's for the asking, but his library book, never! You see something might happen to it.

For this is the way in which one can obtain the coveted library privilege: when a child has learned to read well enough to want other reading matter than that found a in his regular text books, he is encouraged to go to the librarian who has a serious and thrilling; interview with the prosportive reader, and he is given a card which he must have filled in. This card, if for Tom Brown in Miss Smith's school room, reads as follows:

"This is to certify that Tom Brown reads well enough to enjoy the books in the school library.

(Signed: MARY SMITH, Teacher."

And under this recommendation we find the following:

"I hereby promise to use the libary books with care, and to return them promptly in good condition. If I fail to do so, 1 agree to give up the privilege of using these books until 1 can learn to be more careful with them.

(Signed) TOM BROWN "

When this card is deposited with the librarian. Tom's name is placed on the list of those entitled to all the privileges of the library; he may at once select a book from the shelves and it is formally issued to him. Thereafter he may have a new book at least once a week, provided he returns, in good condition, the one previously drawn. If a book becomes torn, soiled, or defaced while in his possession, he may not place the blame on anyone else for has he not pledged himself to be responsible for it?

It is seldom that one has to forfeit the privilege of the library, and never has a child who really enjoys his bocks been forced to do so the second time.

The reader may draw any book he wishes, though it is sometimes true that he will be happier in his choice if guided by the librarian. Some of the youngest readers may be attracted by the handsome binding, the cover page, or the illustrations, and a book "would not be refused him, no matter what reason he had for his choice.

A number of the readers keep lists of books which their friends have enjoyed and told them about, and these they will ask for first, and show great disappointment if they are not. Of course, they want the book "all the follows are talking about."

One feature of the library is the care of the numerous periodicals taken by the school. Many of the best educational, scientific, and literary magazines are taken. A number of these are used by teachers, or heads of departments whose work is especially considered in them. After reading them, the persons having bar. them return them to the library, where they are easily accessible for reference: but a large proportion of the magazines and periodicals are sent directly to the children's living rooms, to be used arm enjoyed by them in their leisure hours. Many children who do not read books enjoy the pictures and pretty illustrations, but none go unread. At the end of the month all are returned to the librarian, one copy of each is bled in the library, and the balance are sent to the hospital, where the convalescents enjoy them in any way they see fit.

A list of these magazines may prove of interest to the reader, and it may serve to illustrate one phase of our work.

Magazines.	Number of Copies.	Magazines.	Number of Copies.
American Boy	6	Modern Priscilla	3
The Craftsman	1	McClure's	8
Delineator	2	Normal Institute and Primary plans	1
Everybody's	6	Primary Education	3
Etude	1	School Arts	1
Farmer's Wife	12	Something to Do	2
Harper's Bazar	4	School Education	1
Home- NeedleWork	2	St. Nicholas	2
Independent	1	Scientific American	1
Kindergarten Review	1	Survey	1
Kindergarten Magazine	1	Sunday School Times	4
Little Folks	4	Weekly Welcome	20
Ladies' Home Journal	6	What to Do	20
Manual Training	1	Youth's Companion	18
Mind and Body	1		

Another branch of the work in the librarian's care is the games, all kinds of which are kept on hand and issued and interchanged as needed. The children are regularly supplies with such games as dominoes, checkers, playing cards, flinch, authors, crokinole, snap, old maid, chess, etc., while bean bags, ring toss, rubber balls, base balls, and basket and foot balls are furnished in abundance.

There is no restriction on their use and enjoyment of these games, but they are taught, as far as possible, to use them with care, and making in every class one or two individuals responsible for the care of the games issued to that class has been found to be a good plan.

Still another feature of the library is the Victor and Edison records, which are kept for loaning to the various buildings. The institution owns three Victors and one Edison machine, and 225 records for these are cataloged and kept in eases being issued as required. As with the books and the magazines, these represent the very best to be found in their line. New records are being added frequently to this collection.

Several of the children own machines, and their friends keep them supplied with a variety of records, so that there is no building that does not have an abundance of books, music, and flowers, for we have a greenhouse to add to the pleasures and refinements of life.

As to our moving picture machine, our band and orchestra concerts, our operettas, and other forms of entertainment well, that is another story!

TRAVELING LIBRARIES IN HOSPITALS

By Miriam E. Carey, Supervisor of Institution Libraries.

Minnesota State Board of Control, St. Paul, Minn.

Reprinted From the Modern Hospital for April, 1916.

Systems of traveling libraries have been operated in the rural districts of this country for many years by library organizations of various sorts. and the results of their experience can be used as guides by those who wish to introduce traveling libraries into hospitals and other institutions in which reside large numbers of persons, many of whom would be glad to have something to read.

In hospitals for the insane there is always a group of patients who like to read and who exhaust the collection of books in the library before they leave the institution. These patients often see the book reviews and advertisements in the magazines: their curiosity is aroused about certain publications, and they want to read the new books just as much as any other person. One way to satisfy this demand is by means of traveling libraries operated from some central point.

The practicability of such a system has been tried out in the state of Minnesota, which has a circuit of five libraries going the rounds of the institutions for the insane. This year (1916) sees the third series of these collections in operation, so that the scheme has ceased to be an experiment.

When the first set of libraries was started, each of the five institutions interested subscribed $25, and the combined sum was spent for 125 volumes and the cases needed to transport them. Each library remained one month at each hospital, and on a given date was shipped to the next place in

the circuit. At the end of six months each institution kept the books received in the last exchange, and sent the empty boxes back to headquarters. These boxes were tilled with new sets of books, and were started out to make the same rounds as the first series. This method is still in operation, and by it each hospital has the opportunity to examine 125 fresh books every six months and to add 50 books a year to Us present collection.

Good team work at each hospital is absolutely necessary to make a plan like this work smoothly, and in Minnesota it has cheerfully been rendered by the several persons in charge of the libraries at the various hospitals. On them devolves the task of rounding up the books at the proper times, and in a large hospital this is a rather difficult thing to do, making it very necessary to have a good charging system of book-cards and book-pockets in operation.

When the date occurs for changing the libraries, someone at headquarters (in Minnesota it is the library supervisor) sends to each of the librarians a list of the next set of books to be received, a shipping tag for use on the box to be sent away, a return post-card by which the receipts of the new library and its condition is to be acknowledged, and a note stating the date of shipping.

If it happens in some hospital that one or two books are not returned promptly, the library is shipped without them. If they are found within a week or ten days, they are sen; on by parcel post, but, later than that, the institution at which they were lost buys new copies, which are put into the proper libraries in order to keep the series intact. It usually occurs that after many days the mislaid books reappear, and they are then added to the permanent library of the hospital which lost and replaced them. It is to be expected that there will be some loss through the actions of destructive patients, but this should be regarded as part of the business and should not debar the use of books by the other patients.

Books coming in this way at regular intervals from the outside world are attractive to the whole hospital; not only the patients, but also the employes, look forward eagerly to the exchanges.

As the purpose of the hospital traveling library is to provide recreation and change of thought, the books are selected with no other object in view. The collections are not educational, except incidentally, nor of special literary value; they are made up almost entirely of fiction, with any popular books on the questions of the day which may be available and a few purely humorous books, which are always well liked by some of the patients. Editions are chosen, so far as is financially possible, for good print and paper, illustrations, and attractive and serviceable bindings.

As to size and construction of the traveling library cases, there is now a standard, and the number of books in each unit has also been established; it has been found best to send groups of 25 or 50 volumes in boxes made to accommodate exactly that number. The outside dimensions of the smaller cases are 28 by 10 inches, with a depth of 12 inches. For convenience in carrying, these cases have stout iron handles on both