

as they deem fit. If the applicant borough accept the order the Act shall apply to them and to their borough as if the borough were a contributory borough subject to the order, and the number of representatives on the Board shall be altered accordingly. If the applicant council does not accept the order, then application shall be deemed to have failed, but without prejudice to a future application.

INEBRIATE REFORMATION IN IRELAND.

We learn from the *Dublin Express* that Ennis Gaol has been set apart for the purpose of a State Reformatory in Ireland, and that the Irish Women's Temperance Union is taking steps to establish an Inebriate Home for Women. It is further stated that the Irish Association for the Prevention of Intemperance is moving the County Councils in this matter.

INEBRIATES IN FRANCE.

Dr. Legrain, of the Ville Evrard Asylum, with Dr. Antheaume, has lately published a report dealing with the treatment of habitual drunkards. "Their opinion of the drunkard is that he is a moral invalid whose cure depends upon hospital rather than prison treatment. Three essential principles should enter into and govern this treatment. They are (1) that the patient should abstain from all intoxicants; (2) that he should be provided with suitable labour; and (3) that he should be subjected to influences conducive to moral reform. In order to secure as far as possible the realisation of the third principle, the report strongly urges that an inebriates' home should never under any circumstances be built to accommodate more than 200 patients, and in a letter addressed to a correspondent, Dr. Legrain expresses his condemnation of large establishments in very definite terms. It is also suggested in the report that the reformatory should be situated in the open country, far away from centres of population, so as to preserve the patients from the temptation to drink. The home itself should realise the conception of an agricultural and industrial colony. Special emphasis is laid upon the physical and moral value of work performed in the open air. The summer months are to be spent in agricultural and gardening operations; in winter the patients are to be trained in various occupations, such as brush-making, locksmiths' work, carpentry, bookbinding, basket-making, smithy work, leather work, etc. This labour should be obligatory upon the inmates. Dr. Legrain and Dr. Antheaume are of opinion that, next to the practice of total abstinence, muscular exercise is the most important factor in the process of mental and physical reform. Each hour of the day should be occupied; and in the evenings lectures, games, etc., should be enjoyed. A central hall should be provided for the realisation of the latter object. The entire separation of the sexes is held to be necessary, but the buildings in which they are to be severally housed ought not to be so placed as to be entirely independent the one of the other. It is suggested that the distance between them might be anything from four to six thousand yards, and that they should be connected by tram lines. By this means the work of the men would supplement that of the women, and *vice versa*. The men would grow garden and field produce, and the women do the washing, cooking, mending, etc., of the home for men. As for the buildings themselves, they should be of small size. An inebriates' colony should be a series of pavilions, and no one of them ought to accommodate more than sixty patients. They should also be designed and placed so as to produce a pleasing effect upon the inmates. Gardens should separate them from each other. Large dormitories are condemned. The general oversight of an inebriates' home should be entrusted to an experienced medical specialist who is not only capable of classifying the patients properly, but who also has the entire work at heart. It is also considered to be essential that total abstinence should be rigorously practised by the officials as well as by the patients. The treatment of an inebriate should be continued for from six to twelve months, and, on his release, it is recommended that he should ally himself with a temperance organisation, so as to assure the continuance of the good influences of the reformatory."