

SESS. II.—1884.
NEW ZEALAND.

COST OF PRIMARY EDUCATION IN NEW ZEALAND AND OTHER COUNTRIES

(COMPARATIVE RETURN OF).

Return to an Order of the House of Representatives, dated 10th September, 1884.

Ordered, "That a return, compiled from the latest authentic information, be laid before this House, showing the cost per scholar of primary education in New Zealand, in the Australian Colonies, and in England; also the school age as established by law in the above-mentioned places and in America; and also the cost of primary education in New Zealand from 1877 to 1883, both years inclusive."—(Mr. Montgomery.)

No. 1.

MEMORANDUM of the SECRETARY for EDUCATION.

Education Department,

Wellington, 26th August, 1884.

HON. MINISTER of EDUCATION.

IN accordance with instructions received from you, I submit the following notes relating to expenditure on public (primary) schools. The secondary schools, the University of New Zealand, and the University Colleges have been constituted and endowed by Acts of the Legislature, and have been severally placed under the independent control of local governing bodies; the Education Department is in no way responsible for their administration.

The following tables are extracted from the seventh annual report of the Minister of Education, (Appendix to Journals of House of Representatives, E.-1, 1884). They supply a considerable amount of information concerning the expenditure on the public schools.

Tables F1 and F2 show, under different heads, the income and expenditure of the Education Boards since the abolition of the provinces to the year 1883 inclusive. The year 1877 was a year of transition; the provinces were abolished towards the close of 1876, and the Education Act of 1877 did not come into operation till January, 1878. Table A2 should be examined along with Tables F1 and F2. It shows the yearly increase in the average daily attendance since 1877. As the attendance has increased every year since the Act of 1877 came into operation, the aggregate yearly current expenditure has necessarily increased also.

In Table F2 the current expenditure on the public schools is shown under the three heads (1) Management by Boards, (2) Inspection and Examination, and (3) Maintenance of Schools. The amount of expenditure on school buildings has varied from year to year, having been mainly dependent upon the amount of the parliamentary special vote. Table F3 shows the average cost per scholar for the year 1883, under the same four heads as those specified in Table F2.

TABLE F1.—SUMMARY OF BOARDS' INCOME. (E.-1., 1884, p. vii.)

Principal Heads.	Year 1877.		Year 1878.		Year 1879.		Year 1880.		Year 1881.		Year 1882.		Year 1883.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Balance 1st Jan., 1877 ..	32,490	7 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Parliamentary grants,—														
Maintenance ..	157,392	15 10	216,666	4 0	217,876	2 0	241,555	14 0	233,587	0 9	250,853	10 9	266,967	12 11
Buildings ..	46,812	7 6	101,257	2 11	150,581	4 7	104,436	16 8	64,318	0 0	45,265	10 9	83,322	10 9
Education reserves ..	16,604	4 3	8,862	3 9	21,330	7 1	19,749	0 4	23,533	6 7	21,258	13 4	24,714	18 9
Local receipts,—														
School fees, &c. ..	*41,955	11 4	3,005	0 6	1,799	5 9	924	8 6	1,415	8 5	2,354	13 6	1,221	13 6
For buildings ..	1,190	7 1	1,284	14 3	1,231	7 9	1,965	12 3	599	1 2	1,411	10 0	2,155	1 2
Interest ..	..	..	..	..	3,048	17 2	1,739	5 0	380	0 0	439	3 5	858	4 0
Ordinary income ..	296,445	13 6	331,075	5 5	395,867	4 4	370,370	16 9	323,832	16 11	321,583	1 9	379,240	1 1
Deposits, refunds, &c. ..	2,798	10 11	6,361	1 4	2,708	13 10	2,893	9 5	2,269	8 11	5,425	11 9	2,886	13 5
Total receipts ..	299,244	4 5	337,436	6 9	398,575	18 2	373,264	6 6	326,102	5 10	327,008	13 6	382,126	14 6
Add—Public libraries ..	..	..	..	..	†6,179	2 1	4,945	8 0	453	10 9	258	13 5	230	10 9
Secondary schools† ..	9,025	7 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Balances, 1st January ..	..	..	23,323	0 9	58,173	3 11	42,437	1 6	32,419	10 9	37,400	15 9	11,532	15 4
Totals ..	308,269	11 10	360,759	7 6	462,923	4 2	420,646	15 8	358,975	7 4	364,668	2 8	393,890	0 7

* Including sums raised by School Committees and expended on education without going through the Boards' books, as follows: New Plymouth, £750 is.; Hawke's Bay, £314 4s. 5d.; Otago, £20,828 3s. 2d.

† Including balances excluded from summaries of former years.

‡ The Auckland College and Grammar School and the Otago High School were under the charge of the Education Boards during the year 1877.

TABLE F2.—SUMMARY OF BOARDS' EXPENDITURE. (E.-1, 1884, p. vii.)

Principal Heads.	Year 1877.		Year 1878.		Year 1879.		Year 1880.		Year 1881.		Year 1882.		Year 1883.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Management by Boards	10,484	14 10	10,225	12 2	11,109	8 10	10,037	17 6	8,109	6 9	8,458	16 10	9,662	12 9
Inspection and examination ..	5,606	19 7	6,142	14 5	7,735	4 0	8,273	13 9	8,387	15 4	9,115	16 7	9,866	11 8
Maintenance of schools*	173,726	9 7	192,736	19 7	221,053	4 0	247,121	3 5	243,257	3 6	258,683	3 0	272,484	9 3
School buildings ..	80,351	16 9	89,255	3 7	172,867	14 3	117,410	1 10	58,254	12 6	71,852	4 9	86,748	13 0
Ordinary expenditure	270,170	0 9	298,360	9 9	412,765	11 1	382,842	16 6	318,008	18 1	348,110	1 2	370,762	6 8
Refunds and advances ..	3,610	8 4	4,225	13 10	1,651	11 0	726	7 0	2,011	15 10	5,001	4 9	2,077	9 9
Total expenditure ..	273,780	9 1	302,586	3 7	414,417	2 1	383,569	3 6	320,020	13 11	353,111	5 11	380,839	16 5
Add—Public libraries ..	..	..	..	..	6,074	0 7	4,658	1 5	1,553	17 8	24	1 5	42	12 6
Secondary schools ..	11,166	2 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Balance, 31st Dec. † ..	23,323	0 9	58,173	3 11	42,437	1 6	32,419	10 9	37,400	15 9	11,532	15 4	13,007	11 8
Totals ..	308,269	11 10	360,759	7 6	462,928	4 2	420,646	15 8	358,975	7 4	364,668	2 8	393,890	0 7

* Maintenance includes teachers' salaries and allowances, grants to Committees and schools, scholarships, training, fire insurance, &c.
 † Deducting overdrafts.

TABLE A2.—SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND YEARLY INCREASE FOR SIX YEARS. (E.-1, 1884, p. ii.)

YEAR.	School Attendance.						Yearly Increase on					
	Number belonging at Beginning of Year.	Number belonging at End of Year.	Average Attendance.				Number belonging at Beginning of Year.	Number belonging at End of Year.	Average Attendance.			
			Strict Average.		Working Average.				Strict Average.		Working Average.	
			Fourth Quarter.	Whole Year.	Fourth Quarter.	Whole Year.			Fourth Quarter.	Whole Year.	Fourth Quarter.	Whole Year.
1877	..	55,688	..	..	41,773	40,837	..	..	..	..	..	..
1878	50,849	65,040	49,435	45,521	50,639	47,996	..	9,352	..	..	8,866	7,159
1879	59,707	75,566	57,301	53,067	58,738	54,724	8,858	10,526	7,866	7,546	8,099	6,728
1880	68,124	82,401	62,946	60,625	64,407	62,234	8,417	6,835	5,645	7,558	5,669	7,510
1881	74,359	83,560	63,009	61,822	64,744	63,735	6,235	1,159	63	1,197	337	1,501
1882	76,309	87,179	66,426	63,709	68,288	66,145	1,950	3,619	3,417	1,887	3,544	2,410
1883	79,416	92,476	70,077	67,373	72,214	69,843	3,107	5,297	3,651	3,664	3,926	3,698

TABLE F3.—EXPENDITURE PER SCHOLAR BY BOARDS. (E.-1, 1884, p. viii.)

EDUCATION DISTRICTS.	Number of Schools, December, 1883.	Number of Teachers, December, 1883.	Average Daily Attendance for 1883.	Cost per Scholar for the Year 1883, calculated on the Average Daily Attendance.									
				Current Expenditure.						School Buildings.	Total Current Expenditure and Buildings.		
				Boards' Management.	Inspection.	Maintenance.	Totals.	£	s.			d.	£	s.	d.
Auckland ..	192	490	13,079	s. d.	s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Taranaki ..	36	61	1,446	2 6½	3 0½	3 17 0½	4 2 7½	1 7 6	5 10 1½	..	..	..
Wanganui ..	67	126	3,967	4 0½	4 1½	3 9 10½	3 18 0	1 3 3	5 1 3	..	..	..
Wellington ..	53	169	5,204	2 9½	2 9½	4 3 8½	4 9 3½	1 4 0½	5 13 3½	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay ..	36	95	2,755	2 7½	4 11½	3 12 8½	4 0 3½	1 12 4½	5 12 7½	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	29	42	1,059	3 4½	3 8½	3 19 1	4 6 2	2 2 1½	6 8 3½	..	..	..
Nelson ..	82	126	3,247	3 0	3 2½	4 0 7½	4 6 10	0 14 4	5 1 2	..	..	..
North Canterbury ..	143	446	12,753	2 3	2 2	4 1 11½	4 6 4½	1 6 2	5 12 6½	..	..	..
South Canterbury ..	39	95	2,955	3 10	3 4½	3 12 8½	3 19 11½	2 4 3½	6 4 3	..	..	..
Westland No. 1	35	81	2,319	8 7	3 11½	3 3 6½	3 3 6½	0 10 8½	4 6 9½	..	..	..
Westland No. 2				10 5½	4 11½	3 11 0½	4 6 5½	1 19 6½	6 6 0½
Otago ..	159	433	16,659	1 9½	2 5½	3 19 6½	4 3 9½	0 19 6½	5 3 4½	..	..	..
Southland ..	72	127	4,400	2 7½	2 5	3 13 11	3 18 11½	1 6 4½	5 5 4	..	..	..
Totals for 1883 ..	943	2,291	69,843	2 9½	2 9½	3 18 0½	4 3 7½	1 4 10	5 8 5½	..	..	..
Totals for 1882 ..	911	2,143	66,145	2 6½	2 9	3 18 2½	4 3 6½	1 1 8½	5 5 3	..	..	..
Increase ..	32	148	3,698	0 2½	0 0½	0 0 2	0 0 1½	0 3 1½	0 3 2½	..	..	..
Totals for 1883, calculated on mean of roll-numbers at ends of four quarters—91,011	..	..	..	2 1½	2 2	2 19 10½	3 4 2	0 19 0½	4 3 2½	..	..	..
Similar totals for 1882	..	..	..	1 11½	2 1½	2 19 8½	3 3 9½	0 16 7	4 0 4½	..	..	..

The table shows an increase in the cost of the Boards' management and inspection to the extent of 3½d. per scholar, and a decrease of 2d. per head on account of maintenance. The actual increase in the current expenditure was therefore at the rate of 1½d. The receipt by the Boards for a full year of the special capitation grant of 5s. has

probably led to the increase in the expenditure on management and inspection. The increase per scholar on account of school buildings is owing to the larger amount voted by the General Assembly for that object. As the expenses of the four training institutions are included in the Maintenance Account, the average cost per scholar in the Districts of Auckland, Wellington, North Canterbury, and Otago appears somewhat higher than it would otherwise have done.

In considering the average current expenditure for each scholar in the several Board districts, it has to be kept in mind that the Board funds are made up not only from the capitation grant of £3 15s., but also from the votes of the General Assembly for scholarships, inspection subsidy, the special capitation grant of 5s., and from local receipts. The income of the Boards from local receipts last year was £1,221 13s. 6d. for current expenditure, and £2,155 1s. 2d. for school buildings. In the estimate of the cost of each child's education, shown in Table F3, no account is taken of the expenses of the Education Department (Head Office). These, however, did not much exceed £2,000 for the year, and a very large proportion of that amount is fairly chargeable to Native schools, industrial schools, and other work of the department outside public-school business.

Management by Boards.—Table F2 shows that the amount of expenditure on management by Boards had fallen from £10,484 14s. 10d. in 1877 to £9,662 12s. 9d. in 1883, being a decrease of £822 2s. 1d., notwithstanding the large increase in the number of schools, and the increase in the number of Boards from 10 to 12. It may be remarked that the largest expenditure was for 1877, that the Education Act of 1877 did not come into operation until the beginning of 1878, and that the lowest expenditure was for the year 1881. The low expenditure in 1881 was, no doubt, owing to the fact that the special grant of 10s. per average attendance had been withdrawn towards the end of 1880, and that the Government had impressed upon Boards the necessity of retrenchment in their departmental expenditure, as well as in that of the other branches of their service. The expenditure on management again rose slightly in 1882, and to a larger extent in 1883, owing in all probability to the restoration of a special grant of 5s. per attendance. As might be expected, the cost of management per scholar is least in the case of those districts having the largest attendance and the greatest number of schools. Otago, Auckland, and North Canterbury stood highest as regards attendance and number of schools in 1883, and their average expenditure per scholar on management was 1s. 9½d., 2s. 6½d., and 2s. 3d. respectively. On the other hand, the Boards of Marlborough, Taranaki, and Westland had the smallest school attendance, and, in their case, the average expenditure per scholar was higher than that of all others: it was 3s. 4¾d., 4s. 0¼d., and 10s. 5½d. respectively. The Westland Board, from the outset, has gone far in excess of all the others in its departmental expenditure, which, in many respects, must be regarded as having been unnecessarily wasteful. The following table is instructive, as showing in detail the Boards' expenditure on management. It will be noticed that the allowances to members of Boards are not at all in proportion to the extent and importance of the district.

Table No. 3. (E.-1, 1884, APPENDIX, p. 3.)

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE EXPENDITURE OF THE SEVERAL EDUCATION BOARDS ON MANAGEMENT AND ON SCHOOL INSPECTION (INCLUDING EXAMINATION OF PUPIL-TEACHERS), FOR THE YEAR 1883.

(Compiled from the Detailed Statements of Expenditure forwarded by Boards.)

Education Districts.	Management by Boards.													Inspection of Schools and Examination of Pupil-teachers.				Total of Management, Inspection, and Examination.
	Staff. Secretary, Treasurers, Clerks, Messengers, Clerical Assistance, &c.	Allowances to Members of Boards.	Office Rent, Furniture, Repairs, &c.	Fuel, Light, and Cleaning.	Law Expenses.	Printing.	Advertising.	Stationery.	Sundries, including Stamps.	Totals as in Column 2, Table No. 2.	Salaries of Inspectors.	Inspectors' Travelling Expenses, &c.	Pupil-teachers' Examinations.	Totals as in Column 3, Table No. 2.				
Auckland	£ s. d. 1,081 2 10	£ s. d. 7 5 0	£ s. d. 170 5 5	£ s. d. 31 14 10	£ s. d. 5 17 0	£ s. d. 145 0 6	£ s. d. 94 11 6	£ s. d. 69 11 2	£ s. d. 47 0 1	£ s. d. 1,652 8 4	£ s. d. 1,533 6 8	£ s. d. 480 18 6	£ s. d. 15 8 8	£ s. d. 81,979 13 10	£ s. d. 3,632 2 2			
Taranaki	£ s. d. 157 2 6	£ s. d. 80 10 0	£ s. d. 4 11 0	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 8 9 0	£ s. d. 3 7 6	£ s. d. 33 5 3	£ s. d. 4 9 5	£ s. d. 0 8 10	£ s. d. 292 3 6	£ s. d. 300 0 0	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 300 0 0	£ s. d. 592 3 6			
Wanganui	£ s. d. 382 15 10	£ s. d. 160 8 3	£ s. d. 34 11 8	£ s. d. 11 14 0	£ s. d. 9 13 2	£ s. d. 58 1 0	£ s. d. 67 4 10	£ s. d. 35 4 6	£ s. d. 6147 13 0	£ s. d. 907 6 3	£ s. d. 400 0 0	£ s. d. 100 0 0	£ s. d. 54 3 7	£ s. d. 554 3 7	£ s. d. 1,461 9 10			
Wellington	£ s. d. 324 0 0	£ s. d. 30 7 3	£ s. d. 0 11 6	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 130 13 8	£ s. d. 63 12 6	£ s. d. 6113 7 0	£ s. d. 60 9 3	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 723 1 2	£ s. d. 500 0 0	£ s. d. 217 15 0	£ s. d. 8 6 9	£ s. d. 726 1 9	£ s. d. 1,449 2 11			
Hawke's Bay	£ s. d. 250 0 0	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 4 12 6	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 63 18 10	£ s. d. 35 15 0	£ s. d. 11 10 0	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 365 16 4	£ s. d. 500 0 0	£ s. d. 150 0 0	£ s. d. 32 5 0	£ s. d. 682 5 0	£ s. d. 1,048 1 4			
Nelson	£ s. d. 262 0 0	£ s. d. 70 19 0	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 14 16 0	£ s. d. 56 7 6	£ s. d. 66 2 3	£ s. d. 15 13 10	£ s. d. 2 0 0	£ s. d. 487 18 7	£ s. d. 500 0 0	£ s. d. 15 0 0	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 515 0 0	£ s. d. 1,002 18 7			
Marlborough	£ s. d. 112 10 0	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 0 8 6	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 21 14 3	£ s. d. 34 16 7	£ s. d. 10 17 5	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 180 6 9	£ s. d. 125 0 0	£ s. d. 67 12 0	£ s. d. 3 3 0	£ s. d. 195 15 0	£ s. d. 376 1 9			
North Canterbury	£ s. d. 1,160 12 4	£ s. d. 22 13 0	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 43 4 9	£ s. d. 21 0 0	£ s. d. 115 18 11	£ s. d. 28 2 7	£ s. d. 36 8 10	£ s. d. 11 18 6	£ s. d. 1,489 18 11	£ s. d. 950 0 0	£ s. d. 284 2 9	£ s. d. 9139 18 2	£ s. d. 21,374 0 11	£ s. d. 2,813 19 10			
South Canterbury	£ s. d. 315 7 9	£ s. d. 73 18 6	£ s. d. 8 14 0	£ s. d. 34 0 9	£ s. d. 1 0 6	£ s. d. 61 17 7	£ s. d. 12 4 6	£ s. d. 52 2 4	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 566 6 5	£ s. d. 375 0 0	£ s. d. 101 16 2	£ s. d. 22 18 10	£ s. d. 499 15 0	£ s. d. 1,066 1 5			
Westland No. 1	£ s. d. 364 11 6	£ s. d. 237 9 6	£ s. d. 34 6 0	£ s. d. 26 13 6	£ s. d. 77 16 6	£ s. d. 6111 5 6	£ s. d. 57 8 0	£ s. d. 11 11 0	£ s. d. 75 18 8	£ s. d. 997 0 2	£ s. d. 333 6 8	£ s. d. 121 13 4	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 455 0 0	£ s. d. 1,452 0 2			
Otago	£ s. d. 940 0 0	£ s. d. 165 8 0	£ s. d. 67 1 6	£ s. d. 56 8 1	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 111 13 2	£ s. d. 56 0 6	£ s. d. 77 3 10	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 1,473 15 1	£ s. d. 1,450 0 0	£ s. d. 589 3 6	£ s. d. 13 5 0	£ s. d. 2,052 8 6	£ s. d. 3,526 3 7			
Southland	£ s. d. 296 11 8	£ s. d. 34 9 3	£ s. d. 76 17 5	£ s. d. 22 7 0	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 38 4 6	£ s. d. 77 5 3	£ s. d. 14 5 2	£ s. d. 16 11 0	£ s. d. 576 11 3	£ s. d. 390 13 4	£ s. d. 130 0 0	£ s. d. 11 14 9	£ s. d. 432 8 1	£ s. d. 1,008 19 4			
Totals for 1883	£ s. d. 5,646 14 5	£ s. d. 883 7 9	£ s. d. 937 7 0	£ s. d. 230 5 5	£ s. d. 5,276 6 4	£ s. d. 851 11 9	£ s. d. 676 3 3	£ s. d. 9301 10 1	£ s. d. 9,662 12 9	£ s. d. 97,357 6 8	£ s. d. 82,208 1 3	£ s. d. 3,301 3 9	£ s. d. 99,866 11 8	£ s. d. 19,429 4 5	£ s. d. 17,573 13 5			
Totals for 1882	£ s. d. 5,328 18 11	£ s. d. 649 14 7	£ s. d. 280 6 10	£ s. d. 238 2 3	£ s. d. 47 2 6	£ s. d. 772 18 2	£ s. d. 625 6 2	£ s. d. 9138 4 8	£ s. d. 8,458 16 10	£ s. d. 6,570 10 8	£ s. d. 2,107 4 2	£ s. d. 2,437 1 9	£ s. d. 99,114 16 7	£ s. d. 17,573 13 5	£ s. d. 1,797 8 4			
Westland No. 2	£ s. d. 385 0 6	£ s. d. 237 9 6	£ s. d. 34 6 0	£ s. d. 42 18 6	£ s. d. 228 8 8	£ s. d. 111 5 6	£ s. d. 77 4 0	£ s. d. 11 11 0	£ s. d. 94 4 8	£ s. d. 1,222 8 4	£ s. d. 441 13 4	£ s. d. 133 6 8	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 575 0 0	£ s. d. 1,797 8 4			
Excess of No. 2	£ s. d. 20 9 0	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 16 5 0	£ s. d. 150 12 2	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 19 16 0	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 18 6 0	£ s. d. 225 8 2	£ s. d. 108 6 8	£ s. d. 11 13 4	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 120 0 0	£ s. d. 345 8 2			

Inspection and Examination.—Table F2 exhibits a gradual yearly increase in the cost of inspection and examination. This may be attributed to the larger number of schools and scholars, and to the fuller recognition of the truth of the maxim, "As is the inspection, so are the schools." The increasing attention given to the efficient inspection of the schools cannot but be regarded as a satisfactory feature.

Maintenance of the Schools.—The amounts shown in Table F2, under the head "Maintenance of Schools," include teachers' salaries and allowances, scholarships, training of teachers, and grants to Committees and schools out of the ordinary current income. The table shows that there was a gradual increase of the aggregate expenditure during the years 1878, 1879, and 1880, that there was a decrease in 1881 notwithstanding increased attendance and number of schools, and that there was an increase in 1882 and in 1883. The decrease in 1881 was evidently owing to the withdrawal, at the end of 1880, of the 10s. special vote, while the increase in the two following years was caused partly by the restoration of 5s. as a special grant, and partly by the larger number of schools and the increasing attendance. The grant of 5s. began to be paid on the 1st April, 1882.

School Buildings.—The amount of expenditure on school buildings varies each year according to the liberality of the General Assembly. The lowest expenditure was in 1881, owing to the smallness of the school-buildings vote, which was £42,700. The expenditure was highest in 1879, because the sum of £175,000 had been voted. I may explain that the "school year"—1st January to 31st December—overlaps the financial year by three months. This causes an apparent discrepancy between the figures shown in the Education Report and those in the Treasury accounts, which are for the financial year.

Average Annual Cost per Scholar.—Table A2 shows that the average attendance upon which grants are paid had increased in six years—1877 to 1883—from 40,837 to 69,843. The increase, 29,006, gives an average of 4,834 for each of the six years.

From the annual reports of the Minister of Education the following table has been compiled, showing the average cost per scholar from 1877 to 1883 inclusive:—

EXPENDITURE PER SCHOLAR EACH YEAR FROM 1877 TO 1883.

Authorities quoted.	For Year.	Current Expenditure.			School Buildings.	Total Current Expenditure and School Buildings.	
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Parliamentary Paper, H.-1, 1878, page 6 ..	1877	4	14	8½			
" H.-2, 1879, " 9 ..	1878	4	6	2½	1	17	6½
" H.-1A, 1880, " 9 ..	1879	4	7	8	3	3	2
" E.-1, 1881, " 10 ..	1880	4	5	3½	1	17	8½
" E.-1, 1882, " 9 ..	1881	4	1	6	0	18	3½
" E.-1, 1883, " 10 ..	1882	4	3	6½	1	1	8½
" E.-1, 1884, " 8 ..	1883	4	3	7½	1	4	10

It has already been explained why the rate of expenditure should appear lowest in the year 1881.

Comparison between the Otago Expenditure in 1875 and in 1883.—The Education District of Otago in 1875 included Southland, which is now a separate District. For the purpose of a fair comparison the figures for Otago in 1883, shown in the following table, include those for Southland. In the expenditure of 1875 is included the sum of £17,216 0s. 1d., which was raised from school fees and local voluntary contributions, and expended directly by the several School Committees.

OTAGO EXPENDITURE IN 1875 AND IN 1883 COMPARED.

Year.	Current Expenditure.			School Buildings.	Total.		Average Attendance.
	Management and Inspection.	Maintenance of Schools.	Total Current Expenditure.		Management, Maintenance, and Buildings.		
1875	£ 1,749 11 3	£ 39,418 19 1	£ 41,168 10 4	£ 25,000 0 0	£ 66,168 10 4	9,822	
1883	£ 4,635 2 11	£ 82,532 6 7	£ 87,167 9 6	£ 22,097 4 7	£ 109,264 14 1	21,059	

Average Cost per Scholar.

1875	0	3	6½	4	0	3	4	3	9½	2	10	10½	6	14	8½	..
1883	0	4	4½	3	18	4½	4	2	9½	1	1	0	5	3	9½	..

In 1875 there were one Board, one Secretary, and two Inspectors; in 1883 there were two Boards, two Secretaries, and four Inspectors.

Comparison between the Canterbury Expenditure in 1875 and in 1883.—The Canterbury Education District of 1875 included the present districts of North Canterbury and South Canterbury. I have obtained the information for 1875 in this statement from the report of the Canterbury Minister of Education for the year ending 15th October, 1875. On page 4 of the report is a

summary of the year's expenditure; pages 68 to 78 show the details. For the purpose of classification I have had to rearrange the several items as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Management and inspection.—Salaries ...	1,591	13	4						
" " Less Drill-master	250	0	0						
				1,341	13	4			
" " Printing and advertising...				507	14	7			
" " Inspectors' forage ...				292	4	4			
							2,141	12	3
Maintenance of the schools.—Ordinary ...				29,349	11	5			
" " Scholarships ...				904	10	11			
" " Drill-master, £250 + £106 14s. 6d.				356	14	6			
" " Miscellaneous ...				656	8	0			
							31,332	0	5
School buildings.—Public schools ...				31,619	5	2			
" " Normal school ...				9,937	3	10			
" " Planting sites ...				225	9	11			
							41,817	11	8
Total ...							£75,291	11	7

I have thrown out the receipts and expenditure on account of the sale and purchase of books and appliances. If to the above total the expenditure on the depôt (£863 15s. 7d.) were added, the amount (£76,155 7s. 2d.) would be the same as that given in the report, page 4.

As far as I can gather from the report the receipts of the Canterbury Education Department in 1875 were derived as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
From Provincial Treasury ...				69,378	14	0
Voluntary contributions ...	699	19	2			
Special rates ...	5,212	18	5			
				5,912	17	7

Total same as above ... £75,291 11 7

For a similar reason, as in the case of Otago, I have in the following table shown the figures for North Canterbury and South Canterbury together for 1883.

CANTERBURY IN 1875 AND IN 1883 COMPARED.

Year.	Current Expenditure.			Buildings.	Total.		Average Attendance.
	Management and Inspection.	Maintenance.	Total Current Expenditure.		Management, Maintenance, and Inspection.		
1875	£ 2,141 12 3	£ 31,332 0 5	£ 33,473 12 8	£ 41,817 18 11	£ 75,291 11 7	7,240	
1883	3,880 1 3	63,015 9 10	66,895 5 1	23,232 10 7	90,127 15 8	15,708	

Average Cost per Scholar.

1875	0 5 10½	4 6 6½	4 12 5½	5 15 6½	10 7 11½	..
1883	0 4 11½	4 0 2½	4 5 2	1 9 7	5 14 9	..

EXPENDITURE IN ENGLAND.

The latest information received is that contained in the report of H.M. Committee of Council on Education, 1882–83. I take the following extracts from pages xxxvi. and xxxvii. of the report:—

"The sum expended by School Boards in England during the year [1882] amounted to £3,946,317. . . . The expenditure may be divided into six headings, viz.:—(1), Administration; (2), Maintenance of schools; (3), Capital charges for works of a permanent character [sites, buildings, &c.]; (4), Repayment of loans contracted for capital charges; (5), Interest on loans; (6), Miscellaneous: and the proportion each bears to the total expenditure is shown by the following table:—

	£	
1. Administration ...	249,108	6·3 per cent.
2. Maintenance of schools ...	2,054,473	52·1 "
3. Capital charges for permanent works ...	1,043,250	26·4 "
4. Repayment of loans ...	169,304	4·3 "
5. Interest on loans ...	422,765	10·7 "
6. Miscellaneous ...	7,416	0·2 "
Total ...	£3,946,316	100·0

“The total expenditure of the year—viz., £3,946,317—was met by—

Rates	...	...	...	£1,682,534	= 42·6 per cent.
Grants, school fees, &c.	...	...	...	1,220,533	= 31·0 "
Loans	...	...	...	1,043,250	= 26·4 "
Total	...	...	...	£3,946,317	100·0

“The expenditure on the maintenance of schools—viz., £2,054,473—was defrayed from the following sources, viz. :—

Rates	...	...	...	£842,196	= 41·0 per cent.
Grant	...	...	...	724,582	= 35·3 "
School fees, &c.	...	...	...	447,695	= 21·8 "
Other sources of school income	...	...	...	40,000	= 1·9 "
Total	...	...	...	£2,054,473	100·0

“The cost of ‘maintenance’ per child in average attendance was as follows :—

	England.	London alone.
1. From ratepayers	£0 17 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	£1 11 7
2. " the children	0 9 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 8 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
3. " endowments	0 0 1	0 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$
4. " miscellaneous	0 0 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 1 0 $\frac{1}{4}$
5. " parliamentary grant	0 16 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 16 10 $\frac{3}{4}$
Total	£2 3 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	£2 17 10 $\frac{3}{4}$

The above does not include, as in the New Zealand calculation, the cost of scholarships and training of teachers, which in New Zealand was as follows :—

Scholarships, say	...	...	...	£0 1 6
Training, £7,740 ÷ 69,843	...	...	...	0 2 2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Total	...	...	...	£0 3 8 $\frac{3}{4}$

In England the cost of administration (6·3 per cent.) by School Boards is not included under the heading “Maintenance.” As School Boards in England correspond in a great measure to School Committees in New Zealand, and as the cost of School Committee management is included in the New Zealand calculation, allowance for this should be made in a comparison of the two systems. In England the following are the objects of expenditure included under “maintenance”—viz., “Salaries of teachers, books, repairs of furniture and buildings, lighting and warming.” In New Zealand the returns of School Committees’ expenses for 1883 show that at least 6d. per scholar had been expended, and this is included in the “maintenance” account. The comparison between England and New Zealand would stand somewhat as follows :—

England, per scholar	...	...	...	£2 3 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
New Zealand, per scholar, Table F3	...	...	...	£3 18 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
“ deduct scholarships, training, and Committees	...	...	...	0 4 2 $\frac{3}{4}$
				<u>3 14 9$\frac{3}{4}$</u>
Excess of New Zealand	...	...	...	£1 11 0 $\frac{1}{4}$

Besides other obvious circumstances that have to be taken into account in making a comparison between England and New Zealand as regards the cost of education, there is the circumstance that if the means of education are to be carried within reach of the settlers generally, the cost of public schools per scholar must be greater in a sparsely-settled young colony than in the much more densely-peopled Mother-country.

COMPARISON WITH NEIGHBOURING COLONIES.

As the Education Reports of these colonies for 1883 have not yet reached New Zealand, I must make use of those for 1882. In Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia the public schools are administered directly by a Minister of the Crown. There are no District Boards as in New Zealand; and, instead of School Committees, there are local “Boards of Advice.” In Queensland and Victoria there are no school fees for primary education. In New South Wales there are fees “not to exceed 3d. a week for each child up to four in a family; all over four are free.” The fees are received by the teachers, and paid into the Treasury. A resolution was passed by the Lower House lately that no fees are to be paid in future. In South Australia there are school fees of 6d. and 4d. a week, with remission to those unable to pay. Fees go to teacher, except where he receives a fixed salary. In the following comparison I have included school fees in the expenditure of New South Wales and South Australia.

Queensland.—The average cost per scholar for 1882 is explicitly stated on page 7 of the report, viz. :—Based on the average daily attendance: Teachers’ salaries and allowances and incidental expenditure, £4 3s. 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; buildings, £1 4s. 5d.; total, £5 7s. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.

New South Wales.—On pages 27 and 29 of the report for 1882–83 the cost per scholar is given as £6 15s. 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., of which £4 5s. was for current expenditure, and £2 10s. 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. for buildings. The following is given as the average: Cost to the State, £6 4s. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; cost to the parent, 11s. 9d. It is stated on page 26 of the report that “in ten years the amount of the vote per school has increased threefold, and that the amounts per pupil for the first and last of the ten years are approximately

in the ratio of two to five." The net amount of school fees for 1882 paid into the consolidated revenue was £51,312 5s. 11d. The revenue of the department for 1882 was as follows:—

Parliamentary vote (including fees, £51,312 5s. 11d.)	...	£630,954	14	5
Balance from 1881	...	12,069	10	3
Proceeds of sales of land	...	5,788	4	6
Total, as shown on page 25 of the report		£648,810	9	2

Victoria.—The Education Report for 1882 furnishes information on page 9 and in Appendix A, from which I make out the following expenditure per scholar:—

Items 1, 4, 7, 8, and 9—Maintenance	...	£4	3	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Item 5—Management	...	0	2	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Item 6—Inspection	...	0	2	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
Total current expenditure		4	8	10
Item 3—Buildings	...	0	14	4
Total		£5	3	2

I have left out of the above the following expenditure, as there is nothing in New Zealand corresponding to it:—

Officers' retiring allowances (pensions)	...	£6,959	4	0
Compulsory clause (truant officers, &c.)	...	8,224	1	7
Total		£15,183	5	7

Victoria in past years had expended very large sums in school buildings of a costly and permanent character, and this probably accounts for the comparatively small expenditure in 1882-83. The expenditure in Victoria for 1882-83 was—

1. Current expenditure	...	£532,051	6	3
2. Buildings	...	82,225	1	9
Total		£614,276	8	0

South Australia.—The South Australian Report for 1882 does not give so full and clear a statement in regard to expenditure as other reports. School fees were levied to the amount of £21,181 16s. 2d. in 1882. To ascertain the expenditure per scholar I have inspected Appendix P and other tables. For current cost per scholar I have divided the total current expenditure (£92,784 8s. 4d.) by the average daily attendance (21,984), the result being £4 4s. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. For cost per attendance for buildings I have divided the amount expended (£16,575 5s. 7d.) by the average attendance, the result being 15s. 1d. A smaller sum (£3 5s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.) is given as the average cost per scholar; but, as far as I can understand the statement, this must mean the cost *exclusive* of receipts from school fees.

From the preceding notes, and from a memorandum written by the Inspector-General relating to school expenditure in America, I compile the following table:—

COST PER SCHOLAR IN AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE FOR 1882.

Countries.	Current Expenditure.			Buildings.			Total Current and Buildings Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
New Zealand	4	3	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	1	1	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	5	5	3
Queensland	4	3	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	4	5	5	7	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
New South Wales	4	5	0	2	10	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	6	15	11 $\frac{3}{4}$
Victoria	4	8	10	0	14	4	5	3	2
South Australia	4	4	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	15	1	4	19	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
England	*2	3	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	†1	3	10	3	7	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
New York	3	18	0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Masachussetts	4	6	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
California	5	5	3	..	..	..	..	..	..

* Exclusive of expenditure on School Board administration, inspection, and scholarships.
† Calculated from a table on page xxxvi. of the Report of Committee of Council.

SCHOOL AGE.

In almost all education systems there are two sets of school ages: (1) The ages between which children *may* attend a public school, on account of whose attendance parliamentary or other grants may be earned; and (2) the ages between which parents *must* send their children to school under

the compulsory-attendance law. The following are the ages in England and some Australasian Colonies:—

Countries.	Children may attend School and earn Grants between	Children must be sent to School by Parents between
England	3 and 18	5 and 13
Scotland	3 " 18	5 " 13
New Zealand	5 " 15	7 " 13
Victoria	3 " 16	6 " 15
Queensland	5 " 14	6 " 12
New South Wales	4 " 14	6 " 14

The following were the ages of children attending school at the end of 1882 in—

Victoria—Three years and under four	...	...	...	3,550
Four " five	...	...	...	9,862
Five " six	...	...	...	15,199
Six " fifteen	...	...	...	178,035
Above fifteen years	...	...	...	11,524
Total	...	...	...	216,890

New South Wales—Under four years	...	...	...	2,148
Four years and under six	...	...	...	20,576
Six " fourteen	...	...	...	129,991
Over fourteen years	...	...	...	15,274
Total	...	...	...	167,989

The following is the summary for New Zealand for 1883:—

AGES OF SCHOLARS. (E.—1, 1884, p. iv.)

Table No. 5 of the Appendix shows the ages of the scholars of both sexes who belonged to the schools of the different Board districts during the quarter ending 31st December, 1883. The following is a summary of the ages of the scholars in the whole of the schools:—

TABLE B.—AGES OF SCHOLARS AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

Ages.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Percentage for Four Years.			
				1883.	1882.	1881.	1880.
Five and under seven years	10,791	9,735	20,526	22.20	22.64	22.73	22.33
Seven and under ten years	17,814	16,202	34,016	36.78	35.56	35.41	35.99
Ten and under thirteen years	13,750	13,060	26,810	29.00	30.09	30.39	30.25
Thirteen and under fifteen years	4,629	4,685	9,314	10.07	9.82	9.60	9.66
Over fifteen years	720	1,090	1,810	1.95	1.89	1.87	1.77
Totals for 1883	47,704	44,772	92,476	100.00	..	100.00	100.00
Totals for 1882	45,082	42,097	87,179	..	100.00	..	..
Increase	2,622	2,675	5,297	..	..	..	..

The last four columns of the table show that the proportion of scholars at the different ages remains much the same from year to year. As compared with 1882, there was an increase last year in the proportion of those between seven and ten years, and a corresponding decrease in the number between ten and thirteen years.

I attach an extract from the American Cyclopædia on the subject of school age.

JOHN HISLOP.

EXTRACT FROM THE [AMERICAN] CYCLOPÆDIA OF EDUCATION.

School Age, or Scholastic Age.—The age fixed by law during which pupils may attend the public schools. This varies considerably in different countries, both as to its commencement and termination. Thus, in Prussia the school age is from 5 to 14 years; in France, from 7 to 13; in Switzerland, from 6 to 13; and in England, from 3 to 18. In the latter country the rule is as follows: "Attendances may not be reckoned for any scholar above 18, or in any day school under 3, or in an evening school under 12 years of age." The legislation on this subject in the different

States of the American Union also presents considerable diversity, as is shown by the following table :—

State.	School Age.	State.	School Age.
Alabama	7-21	Mississippi	5-21
Arkansas	6-21	Missouri	5-21
California	5-17	Nebraska	5-21
Colorado	5-21	Nevada	6-18
Connecticut	4-16	New Hampshire	5-15
Delaware	5-21	New Jersey	5-18
Florida	6-21	New York	5-21
Georgia	6-18	North Carolina	6-21
Illinois	6-21	Ohio	6-21
Indiana	6-21	Oregon	4-20
Iowa	5-21	Pennsylvania	6-21
Kansas	5-21	Rhode Island	4-16
Kentucky	6-20	South Carolina	6-16
Louisiana	6-21	Tennessee	6-18
Maine	4-21	Texas	6-18
Maryland	5-20	Vermont	5-20
Massachusetts	5-15	Virginia	5-21
Michigan	5-20	West Virginia	6-21
Minnesota	5-21	Wisconsin	4-20

It will thus be seen that the school age begins at 4 years in five States, at 5 years in seventeen States, at 6 years in fifteen States, and at 7 years in only one State; also that the school age ends at 21 in twenty-two States, at 20 in six States, at 18 in five States, at 17 in one State, at 16 in three States, and at 15 in two States, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

The statistics showing the age of the children who actually attend school is very meagre, but few of the State-school reports giving any information on the subject. It has been estimated that the vast majority of children leave school before the age of 15 years. The average age of pupils in the evening schools must, however, be much higher. In the rural districts the average age of pupils in the public schools must be higher than in the large cities, especially in the winter term. After a comparison of all available statistics, Francis Adams, in "Free School System of the United States," remarks, "There can be no doubt, however, that, as a general rule, children remain at school much later in America [United States] than in England." It is also stated by the same writer that "in England and Wales the percentage of children over 14, in schools receiving grants, in 1874, was 0.99. The age fixed by most compulsory-attendance laws is from 8 to 14 years.

No. 2.

MEMORANDUM of the INSPECTOR-GENERAL of SCHOOLS.

Education Department,
Wellington, 27th August, 1884.

Hon. MINISTER of EDUCATION.

IN answer to your questions in memorandum of 26th August, I submit the following information, derived from the "Report of the Commissioner of Education for the year 1881," which issued from the Government Printing Office at Washington in 1883:—

Sources of income for educational purposes:—

New York State.—(a) A State tax of 1.14 mill. on \$1, or rather more than $\frac{1}{4}$ d. (1.0944 farthing) in the pound.

(b) Income from the "United State Deposit Fund" (a fund of more than \$4,000,000, of which I suppose the interest is about \$250,000).

(c) Income from the "Common School Fund" (a fund of \$3,276,602, of which I suppose the interest is about \$196,000).

The income from these three sources is \$3,400,000.

(d) Voluntary local taxation—\$7,400,000.

Massachusetts.—(a) Income of "State School Fund" (a fund of \$2,086,886, with an income of \$138,775).

(b) Local taxation.

The whole income is \$4,851,567, exclusive of income for sites, buildings, furniture, and appliances. The expenditure is \$5,776,542.

California.—(a) State poll-tax of \$2 on each voter.

(b) County tax not exceeding 50c. on \$100 ($\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.).

(c) District taxes not exceeding 100c. on \$100 (1 per cent.).

One tax—not exceeding 70c.—is for buildings; the other—not exceeding 30c.—is for other educational purposes.

The "United States Deposit Fund" arises from the surplus fund in the United States Treasury in 1836, which amounted to \$15,000,000, and was distributed on loan to the older States. The New York portion of the loan constitutes a permanent school fund, with the name quoted above.

The "School Fund" is an accumulation from national grants of land and State appropriations.

For the Year 1881.

	New York.	Massachusetts.	California.
Cost of education per pupil on rolls, including interest on property	\$10·69 (£2 2 9)	\$15·44 (£3 1 9)	\$16·95 (£3 7 10)
Cost per pupil in average attendance, including interest on property	\$19·52 (£3 18 0)	\$21·54 (£4 6 2)	\$26·32 (£5 5 3)
School days in year	178	178	115
School age	5-21	5-15	5-17
Cost of buildings, sites, furniture, and appliances	\$1,677,673	\$803,441	\$299,976

I have merely extracted, and not *calculated*, these figures.

WM. JAS. HABENS.

By Authority: GEORGE DIDSBURY, Government Printer, Wellington.—1884.

