

An immediate fillip might be given to two very important branches of education in this district by the establishment of special classes for the instruction of teachers in physical exercises and in blackboard drawing. We understand that a portion of last year's grant yet remains. We cannot conceive of any better use to which the money could be put.

The district high schools will presently be in full working order. While we express the hope that they will prove entirely successful, we cannot help feeling that the plan of giving any school not within easy distance of a secondary school a special grant for solid work in the more advanced subjects would have met the needs of this district better than the establishment of district high schools. This idea was mooted by the Otago Inspectors in their last year's report, and it has our warmest sympathy.

As a final word, we may say that we expect much from the Act embodying the new scale and staff, which, though bringing in its train cases of individual hardship, and cases, too, of questionable benefit to education, will, we are assured, be entirely beneficent in its general drift and tendency.

Appended you will find a schedule giving a summary of results for the whole district.

We are, &c.,

JAMES HENDRY, } Inspectors.  
GEO. D. BRAIK, }

The Chairman, Education Board, Invercargill.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS FOR THE WHOLE DISTRICT (exclusive of Roman Catholic Schools).

Classes.	Number on Roll.	Present at Inspector's Annual Visit.	Passed.	Average Age of those presented.
Above Standard VI. ...	202	178	...	Yrs. mos. 14 6
Standard VI. ...	680	666	542	13 10
" V. ...	1,003	967	818	12 9
" IV. ...	1,180	1,145	953	11 10
" III. ...	1,236	1,201	1,042	10 11
" II. ...	1,097	1,059	980	9 10
" I. ...	1,062	1,034	982	8 9
Preparatory ...	2,934	2,763	...	6 9
Totals ...	9,394	9,013	5,316	11 1.75*

\* Mean of average age.

*Roman Catholic Schools.*—Number on roll, 520; present in standard classes, 317; passed, 278.

*Approximate Cost of Paper.*—Preparation not given; printing (3,375 copies), £41 14s.

By Authority: JOHN MACKAY, Government Printer, Wellington. —1902.

Price 1s. 3d.]