

officers the cadet movement has made good progress, and generally the cadets of the Grey Battalion will compare favourably with any in the Dominion.

**TEACHERS AND TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION.**—Special classes for teachers were held in cookery, agriculture, chemistry, and wood-carving. Eight schools and two special classes were held in cookery and four in dressmaking; eight schools conducted classes in elementary agriculture; and at the various schools 890 children received instruction in hand and eye work. At Blackball the headmaster of the school successfully conducted two continuation classes.

**SPECIAL GRANTS.**—During the year authority was received to enlarge Blackball school, erect a new school at Te Kinga, and a side school at Blaketown. These very necessary works are now completed. Authority was also received to acquire additional land in connection with Blackball School, and to improve Seddon-Runanga school-grounds. On behalf of the Board, I have to heartily thank you for the consideration ever given for requests for special grants for necessary educational requirements.

**FINANCE.**—For the first time for many years the Board is in a sound financial position. At the 31st December the balance-sheet showed a net credit on all accounts (excluding contractors' deposits) of £554 12s. 1d. All the Board's accounts are in credit, either in cash or accruing assets. Compared with many preceding years, the record is one that the present Board and administration has just cause to be proud of. For the past three years the Board adopted a policy of drastic economy, and, without in any way impairing the efficiency of the educational work of its district, a great improvement has been made in the financial position. This year, however, will make a heavy call on the Building Fund. With the exception of the Education Office and Technical School, all the Board's buildings are of wood, and, although large sums are annually expended to keep them in repair, the fact that white-pine and rimu straight from the saw were wholly used in the construction of the older schools, and that the mean average rainfall is some 120 in., make the cost of upkeep and repair more than twice that of other parts of the Dominion, where better building-material and climatic conditions obtain.

**EDUCATION ACT AMENDMENTS.**—On behalf of yourself and the officers of your Department, please accept the hearty and sincere thanks of my Board for the educational legislation of 1908. The initiation of a free-school-books supply is a measure that has ever had the strongest advocacy of the Board; and the liberal provisions made for recompense of teachers and permanence of their positions must result in attracting a liberal proportion of the brains and ability of the rising generation to one of the noblest of the professions. The ultimate result must be increased benefit and good to the people of the Dominion.

The Hon. the Minister of Education, Wellington.

I have, &c.,

JAMES KERR, Chairman.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 31st December, 1908.

<i>Receipts.</i>			<i>Expenditure.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
<b>Grants from Government for—</b>			<b>Balance at beginning of year</b> .. ..	126	9 6
Teachers' and pupil-teachers' salaries, and allowances to pupil-teachers ..	5,831	13 4	Staff salaries and clerical assistance ..	563	10 0
Reserves revenue for primary education ..	88	0 0	Office contingencies .. ..	258	18 9
Capitation at 6d. for relieving-teachers ..	38	5 6	Teachers' and pupil-teachers' salaries, and allowances to pupil-teachers ..	5,884	6 1
Capitation at 11s. 3d., and grant of £250 ..	1,111	1 0	Relieving-teachers' salaries .. ..	53	13 8
Special capitation at 9d. for School Committees .. ..	55	1 0	Special capitation to School Committees ..	55	1 0
Training of teachers other than at training colleges .. ..	195	0 0	Incidental expenses of schools .. ..	263	13 5
Postages .. ..	0	10 0	Contributions, Canadian Park Fund ..	3	13 5
<b>Receipts from other sources—</b> Proceeds school concert, £45 3s.; rent, £42; refund Accident Association, 5s. 9d. ..	87	8 9	Allowance to scholarship-holders, and expenses of examination—		
Subscriptions, Canadian Fund (Imperial Park, Quebec) .. ..	3	13 5	Board scholarships .. ..	86	10 0
<b>Grants from Government for—</b>			National Scholarships .. ..	83	5 0
Scholarships—			Salaries of teachers and additions to salaries of head teachers on staffs of district high schools .. ..	415	0 0
Education Board .. ..	86	10 0	Other expenses, district high schools—		
National .. ..	85	10 5	Printing, £15; inspector, £25; incidentals, £26; apparatus, £1 17s. 6d. ..	67	17 6
District high schools—			Manual and technical—		
Salaries of teachers .. ..	355	0 0	School classes .. ..	152	8 5
Subsidies on voluntary contributions, &c. .. ..	45	3 0	Special classes .. ..	245	9 2
<b>Receipts from other sources, district high schools—</b>			Other expenses, manual and technical—		
Fees .. ..	7	0 0	Examination .. ..	6	0 0
Board of Governors Grey High School ..	250	0 0	Maintenance of school buildings—		
<b>Grants from Government for manual and technical instruction—</b>			Alterations, small additions, repairs, repainting, &c. .. ..	711	10 3
Capitation on all classes .. ..	222	18 8	Rebuilding .. ..	253	11 6
Material for class-work .. ..	40	7 8	Rent .. ..	29	18 6
<b>Receipts from other sources, manual and technical—Fees .. ..</b>	66	11 5	House allowances .. ..	350	0 0
<b>Grants from Government for—</b>			New school buildings, additional class-rooms, furniture, sites, &c. ..	891	10 6
Maintenance of school buildings, rebuilding, rents, sites, &c. .. ..	1,553	9 6	Buildings, class-rooms, furniture, &c., for manual and technical purposes—		
House allowances .. ..	364	3 4	School classes .. ..	10	4 5
New school buildings, additions, furniture, sites, &c. .. ..	595	0 0	Special classes .. ..	64	18 3
Technical-school buildings, furniture, fittings, apparatus, &c. .. ..	49	14 5	Balance at end of year .. ..	554	12 1
	<u>£11,132</u>	<u>1 5</u>		<u>£11,132</u>	<u>1 5</u>

1st March, 1909.

JAMES KERR, Chairman.  
P. F. DANIEL, Secretary.