number of schools opened during the year was 120. The totals of schools closed and of schools opened during the year are as follows :—

INCREASES AND DECREASES IN NUMBER OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

District.	Number of Schools closed.	Number of Schools opened.	Increase in Number of Schools.	Decrease in Number of Schools.
Auckland	15	30	15	..
Taranaki	2	5	3	..
Wanganui	7	12	5	..
Wellington	5	4	..	1
Hawke's Bay	5	21	16	..
Marlborough	8	17	9	..
Nelson ..	6	8	2	..
Grey ..	2	4	2	..
Westland	2	..	..	2
North Canterbury	4	5	1	..
South Canterbury	1	5	4	..
Otago ..	1	6	5	..
Southland	3	3	..	..
	61	120		
		61		
Increase (1909) ..	..	59		

The net increase in the number of schools open at the end of the year is thus 59.

The total number of public schools in each grade is shown in Table A ; it is, of course, necessary to remember that the grading in 1908 was in accordance with the former scale, whereas the grading for 1909 is that prescribed by the First Schedule to the Education Amendment Act, 1908.

TABLE A.—NUMBER OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN EACH GRADE, 1908 AND 1909.

Grade (as in Education Act, 1908).	Number of Schools. 1908.	Grade (as in Education Amendment Act, 1908).		Number of Schools. 1909.
0. (1–15)	504	0. (1–8)		182
1. (16–20)	250	1. (9–15)		387
2. (21–25)	216	2. (16–25)		438
3. (26–32)	190	3. (26–35)		259
4. (33–40)	139	4. (36–80)		434
5. (41–50)	169	5. (81–120)		118
6. (51–60)	82	6.	6A. (121–160)	55
7. (61–75)	82		6B. (161–200)	34
8. (76–90)	61	7.	7A. (201–250)	31
9. (91–120)	75		7B. (251–300)	23
10. (121–150)	43		8A. (301–350)	21
11. (151–200)	40	8.	8B. (351–400)	14
12. (201–250)	33		8C. (401–450)	12
13. (251–280)	15		9A. (451–500)	8
14. (281–330)	20	9.	9B. (501–550)	8
15. (331–390)	17		9C. (551–600)	5
16. (391–420)	12		10A. (601–650)	9
17. (421–480)	9		10B. (651–700)	6
18. (481–510)	7		10C. (701–750)	3
19. (511–570)	8		10D. (751–800)	2
20. (571–600)	2	10.	10E. (801–850)	4
21. (601–660)	10		10F. (851–900)	2
22. (661–690)	2		10G. (901–950)	..
23. (691–750)	4		10H. (951–1,000)	2
24. (751–780)	4			
25. (781–840)	2			
26. (841–870)	1			
27. (871–930)	..			
28. (931–960)	..			
29. (961–1,020) ..	1			
30. (Over 1,020)	..			
Total	1,998	Total ..		2,057

The number of schools in each grade in the several education districts are given in Table A1.