

The Principal of the School is a decorative artist, who also occupies the position of Professor in Design at the Royal College of Art at South Kensington.

Amongst the examples of students' work I purchased for the permanent exhibition that is to be started at the School of Art in Christchurch, I was fortunate in getting a complete set of drawings and notes made by one of the advanced students in the Furniture Department of the Central School of Arts and Crafts. The set of examples of the Mural painting course at the Royal College of Art will also be most valuable, and will enable our advanced students to make a start in this direction next year. The set of etchings from the School of Etching at the Royal College of Art will also form splendid examples for our students in the etching classes that are to be commenced next year.

The examples of jewellery and enamels, and the fine collection of figure-modelling, together with the reproductions of the studies of Alfred Stevens, Lord Leighton, A. M. Mucha, and the Raphael and Michael Angelo cartoons will be most valuable to the students of the life classes.

The up-to-date collection of books and portfolios of drawings I was able to procure in England and on the Continent of Europe with the grant that was provided by the Board for this purpose has been the means of placing the school in line with similar institutions in England in the matter of equipment.

I look forward next year to being in a position to obtain from the life classes some creditable mural work, as well as other forms of illustration and figure-compositions.

In conclusion I have to thank the Board for enabling me to visit Europe and make the purchases on behalf of the School. I also wish to thank the staff for the able way the work of the School was conducted during my absence.

CANTERBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1909.

Reference Department.

During the past year 396 volumes and pamphlets have been added to this Department, bringing the total number of volumes up to 18,576. Two hundred and five volumes have been purchased, 189 presented, and 2 volumes transferred from the Circulating Department, while 19 volumes have been damaged or are missing.

In March the books were reclassified under the Dewey system, Mr. James, an expert from the Parliamentary Library in Wellington, with the assistance of one of the staff, doing the work. Some time must yet elapse before the whole of the work is finished.

I beg to again draw your attention to the necessity for better ventilation and a better system of lighting. On account of the ruinous results from the gas it should be attended to as soon as possible, as it is a most necessary undertaking. Some two hundred volumes were sent to the binders during the year, and there are still some hundreds that require repairing.

The patent papers, which were regularly received from Great Britain, Canada, and Australia, now take up some twenty-six shelves, and, as the space could be used to greater advantage, I would suggest that steps should be taken to provide some other scheme of housing them. "New-Zealanders," by George Angus, published in 1846, was one of the many valuable books purchased for this department, while various official publications have been received from the Governments of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania, Commonwealth of Australia, Canada, United States, and New Zealand. The Reference Department is also indebted to the Smithsonian Institute for the regular donation of its publications.

ACCOUNTS AND BALANCE-SHEET.

STATEMENT OF BALANCES AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1909.

<i>Cr.</i>	<i>Accounts.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Chemical Laboratory, Building Fund	3,161	7	7			
Astronomical Observatory Account	411	4	6			
School of Engineering, Electricity, and Technical Science Account	432	0	5			
Boys' High School Maintenance Account	463	17	0			
Boys' High School, preparatory department		4	4			
Girls' High School, Capital Account	5,002	8	1			
School of Art Account	636	12	3			
Museum Guide-book, sinking fund		30	0			
Public Library, Capital Account	1,666	8	6			
Public Library, Sinking Fund Account	292	9	7			
Museum, Library, and School of Technical Science, Capital Account	18,941	8	4			
Museum, Library, and School of Technical Science, Endowment Account	203	11	11			
Medical School, Reserves Account	4,369	7	10			
Emily S. Foster Memorial Fund		65	18			
Helen Macmillan Brown Memorial Fund		97	14			
Thomas Miller Prize Fund		100	10			
Joseph Haydon Prize Fund		216	17			
					36,096	1	2
<i>Dr.</i>							
College Maintenance Account	4,574	3	0			
College Buildings, Loan Account	5,834	0	0			
Boys' High School Buildings Loan Account	5,000	0	0			
Girls' High School Maintenance Account	2,090	18	7			
Museum Account		507	1			
Public Library Maintenance Account	1,136	9	5			
					19,142	12	0
					<u>£16,958</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>2</u>