

Teachers.—On the 31st December there were in the Board's service 652 teachers, classed as under :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Head teachers	105	..	105
Sole teachers	38	104	142
Assistant teachers	61	230	291
Total of adult teachers	204	334	538
Pupil-teachers	13	31	44
Probationers	6	24	30
Teachers of needlework	20	20
Manual and technical (special teachers)	10	7	17
Teacher of gymnastics	1	..	1
„ elocution	1	..	1
„ vocal music	1	..	1
Totals for 1912	236	416	652
Totals for 1911	225	399	624
Increase for 1912	11	17	28

The following table shows the ratio of male to female teachers for the past four years :—

Adult Teachers.				Pupil-teachers and Probationers.			
1909	100	males to	160 females.	1909	100	males to	212 females.
1910	100	„	156 „	1910	100	„	256 „
1911	100	„	164 „	1911	100	„	264 „
1912	100	„	163 „	1912	100	„	289 „

The excess of females over males joining the teaching profession in this district through the channels of pupil-teacherships and probationerships were even more marked than in the previous year. Of the twenty-eight young people appointed to these positions at the beginning of the year, seven were males and twenty-one were females. There is, however, solid ground for satisfaction in the knowledge that the educational qualifications of all of them were of a high order, no less than twenty-six having at date of entry passed the Matriculation Examination and two the Civil Service Junior Examination. So long as this standard can be maintained no fear need be entertained that the professional prestige which this district has for years enjoyed will be endangered. As a background to this picture it should be stated that during the year there were appointed, principally to small country schools, thirty-seven adult teachers who were only partially certificated, and nineteen adult teachers who had gained no success towards a certificate, a total of fifty-six teachers admitted to the service without possession of the full qualification.

As the following table shows, there were in the service in December last ninety teachers who did not hold full certificates or licenses to teach, an increase of eleven for the year :—

	Certificated.			Uncertificated.					
				Holders of Licenses.			Other Teachers.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
1909	160	233	393	4	6	10	21	58	79
1910	165	235	400	4	4	8	25	67	92
1911	168	252	420	3	3	6	20	59	79
1912	174	260	434	6	6	12	21	69	90
Increase for 1912	6	8	14	3	3	6	1	10	11

Attendance of Pupils.—Roll number : As the following table discloses, the roll number for each quarter again showed a substantial increase over the corresponding quarter of the previous year, the mean increase being 368, or 1·7 per cent. :—

	1910.	1911.	1912.
First quarter	19,695	20,065	20,515
Second quarter	19,875	20,193	20,622
Third quarter	19,964	20,281	20,703
Fourth quarter	20,296	20,697	20,869
Mean of the four quarters	19,953	20,309	20,679