

The agricultural work at the school has been very successful, and has been commended by the officers of the Agricultural Department. At the last winter show of the Northern Agricultural and Pastoral Association, exhibits from the school gained several first prizes. As it is intended to make this branch of secondary education a prominent feature, the Board has recently purchased a piece of land adjacent to the school for this purpose.

The Technical School, now under the control of the High School Board, is doing satisfactory work. Classes are held in Rangiora and at centres served by the railway. The subjects taken are wool-classing, cookery, woodwork, typewriting, shorthand, painting, millinery, dressmaking, architectural drawing, &c.

ROBERT BALL, Chairman.

2. WORK OF THE HIGHEST AND LOWEST CLASSES.

Highest.—English—Grammar: Nesfield's Manual, pp. 1-252; Ashton's edition of Mason's Senior English Grammar for the nature and classification of English sounds; precis-writing; paraphrase; punctuation; sentence-structure; paragraph arrangement; figures of speech; use and misuse of words; correction of errors and ambiguities; composition. Literature: Hamlet (in detail); Romeo and Juliet; Macaulay's Essay on Milton; Samson Agonistes; Selections from Lewis Marsh's Literary Reader and Composition, chiefly from the works of the following authors: Dickens, Scott, Leigh Hunt, Longfellow, Goldsmith, Macaulay, Addison, Wordsworth, Irving, Prescott, Shelley, De Quincey; Lamb's Essays of Elia; selected essays of Lamb, De Quincey, Bacon, and Addison; Wordsworth's Ode; Lamb's Tales from Shakespeare; selected poems of Christina Rossetti. French—Grammar, Hossfield's Method, supplemented by notes from the Wellington College Grammar; translation, Perret's Matriculation French Reader, Beuzemaker's Modern French Reader, Pelissier's French Unseen for Upper Forms; prose, Weekley's French Prose; phonetics, oral work and conversation. Latin is not an examination subject, and the work has not advanced beyond the elementary stages. Grammar, Longmans', Parts I and II; translation, Collar's Gate to Caesar.

Lowest.—English—Grammar: Nesfield's Manual, pp. 1-200 (cursorily); analysis; synthesis; punctuation; paraphrase; figures of speech; correction of faulty English; composition based mostly on actual observation. Literature: Journal of Cook's Second Voyage; Hawthorne's Tanglewood Tales; Selections from Lamb's Tales; Ancient Mariner; Deserted Village; Elegy in a Country Churchyard; Mazeppa. French—Grammar, Chardenal's First French Course; translation, Chardenal's Course, supplemented by lessons from Hogben's Méthode Naturelle; oral work and conversation. Latin—Longmans' Latin Course, Part I, pp. 1-50; translation of all the exercises in the book to p. 50, with additional exercises exemplifying the rules. Arithmetic—Simple rules; vulgar fractions, decimals, practice, approximations, proportions, simple interest, compound interest, discount, and simple problems. Algebra—Baker and Bourne's Algebra, to graphical methods, and problems involving simultaneous equations. Geometry—Baker and Bourne, pp. 1-73 (great attention paid to practical work, especially in connexion with measurement of heights, distances, and areas); tabulation and averaging of results, &c. Botany—The root, stem, leaf, flower, studied with regard to their nature and uses; Marche's Elementary Botany; drawings from specimens studied.

CHRISTCHURCH BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL.

Staff.

Mr. C. E. Bevan-Brown, M.A.; Mr. B. K. S. Lawrence, B.A.; Mr. W. Walton, B.A.; Mr. R. M. Laing, M.A.; B.Sc.; Mr. A. Merton; Mr. T. H. Jackson, B.A.; Mr. R. J. Thompson, B.A.; Mr. M. C. Gudox, M.A.; Mr. R. H. Biggar, B.A.; Mr. L. G. Whitehead; Mr. F. G. Gurnsey; Mr. R. W. Webster; Sergeant-major Hoar; Monsieur Malaquin; Mr. T. S. Tankard.

I. REPORT OF THE HEADMASTER.

The roll at the beginning of the first term was 192 (main school) and 7 (preparatory class); second term, 183 (main school) and 9 (preparatory); third term, 184 (main school) and 11 (preparatory). The number of Junior Free Place holders is ninety, and of Senior Free Place holders fifty-two. The number of paying pupils is fifty.

The number of boys taking Latin in the Main School is 143; the number taking both Latin and French is 124; those not taking Latin number thirty-nine. These latter take commercial work and workshop in place of Latin. Drawing or history is alternative to French; history is also taken by eight boys in place of either mechanics or chemistry. The following were the results of the examinations for December, 1911: One boy obtained a Junior University Scholarship, being second on the list; another obtained a Senior National Scholarship; two were placed on the credit list, one of whom won a Military Scholarship and was afterwards offered a National Scholarship; two qualified for Matriculation on the Junior Scholarship papers, and ten others on the Matriculation papers. Fifty-four boys sat for Junior Civil Service or Education Board Senior Scholarship or Senior Free Place Examinations, and thirty-eight passed; three of these won Senior Education Board Scholarships.

In December, 1912, there were four candidates for Medical Preliminary and one for Engineering Preliminary, and eighteen candidates for ordinary Matriculation. For Junior University Scholarships there were nine candidates. Among old boys' distinctions were the following: C. S. Marshall won the Bowen Essay and Haydon Essay prize; G. H. Robertson a Senior University Scholarship in zoology; H. Rands, W. S. Wauchop, J. D. Davey, D. J. B. Seymour obtained their M.A. degree with honours; W. D. Campbell, A. Donnelly, and H. Edgar obtained the LL.B. degree; C. M. Bevan-Brown obtained his B.A. at Cambridge, with second-class honours in natural science; R. E. Bevan-Brown won an exhibition at King's College, Cambridge; five old boys won exhibitions at Canterbury College, and another the Sir George Grey Scholarship.