

IA. REPORT OF THE LADY PRINCIPAL OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

The total for the year was 265, a decrease of twelve on that of 1912. The respective term-numbers were 258, 249, and 244, and the average attendance 232.

In the main school eighteen pupils paid fees, fifty-seven held Senior Free Places, 179 Junior Free Places, and three school free places. There were eight pupils in the preparatory department, all paying fees.

More than half of the girls took the full course, including, in addition to usual secondary subjects, both Latin and geometry. About fifty whose stay at school will probably not exceed two, or at most three, years substituted book-keeping and shorthand for Latin and geometry, and about fifty others took a still simpler programme, paying more particular attention to technical and domestic subjects. Altogether more than 120 had a year's course of instruction in plain needlework, eighty attended the cookery classes, sixty those in dressmaking, and over 150 classes in either hygiene and physiology or home science. Every pupil has the chance at some part of her school course, if not in every year, of taking such classes.

There was an unusual number of changes of teachers. At the beginning of the year Miss Gresson, B.A., was promoted to be first assistant in place of Miss Henderson (resigned), and Miss E. Baxter, M.A., and Miss Burns took up appointments as staff assistants. At the end of the first term Mrs. Longton resigned after more than ten years' service. Her place was filled by Miss E. Sims, M.A., of the staff of the Dunedin Technical College. Miss Wills, who had taught the preparatory class since May, 1908, also left to take up work under the North Canterbury Education Board, whilst the teaching of the preparatory class was carried on by Miss Isabel Webster. At the end of July Miss F. Sheard, M.A., B.Sc. (third assistant) left for England on leave of absence for twelve months, and Miss E. Graham, M.A., was appointed a temporary relieving-teacher. At the close of the year Miss M. Bell Hay resigned her position of second assistant on account of ill health, and Miss I. Wilson, M.A. (eighth assistant) also left to take up secretarial work. The vacancies were filled by the appointments of Miss E. McIntosh, M.A., of Wanganui Girls' College, and Miss H. Leversedge, M.A., a former pupil of the school, who was last year teaching at the Waitaki Girls' High School.

There were only two pupils in Form VI (Upper) and both took the University Entrance Scholarship Examination. Wilberfield Gunn gained a Senior National Scholarship, and Louisa Oldridge—the highest Canterbury candidate on the credit list—was awarded a Gammack Scholarship. Twelve pupils passed the Matriculation Examination. This year no girls were admitted to the Junior Public Service Examination as actual candidates for employment in the Service; but the fifteen pupils who took the examination as candidates for Education Board Senior Scholarships all qualified, and three gained scholarships—one being first on the North Canterbury list. Fifty-five pupils, out of an entry of sixty-four, were admitted to Senior Free Places without further examination. Of the nine required to take the full test four subsequently passed. Education Board Junior Scholarships were won by two pupils, one being first and the other third on the North Canterbury list. Three pupils of the preparatory class gained proficiency certificates.

The school was inspected in November by the Assistant Inspector-General, Dr. Anderson, and Mr. T. H. Gill, M.A., LL.B., and the preparatory class by Mr. W. Brook, Senior Inspector of the North Canterbury Education Board.

Nine country pupils have been in residence for the year at the authorized school boardinghouse, a tenth boarded there during the winter term, and four others had midday dinner there.

The most important event of the year was the completion and occupation of the new part of the school-building. Both the exterior and interior of the school have been very greatly improved by this addition. The opening ceremony was performed by the Chairman of the Board of Governors on the afternoon of the 12th December. The addition includes five large class-rooms, a kitchen with pantry and storeroom, a needlework and dressmaking room, and a small dark room for photography. The lighting, heating, and sanitary arrangements of the whole school have been provided for on modern and approved lines with great benefit to the comfort of the pupils and staff.

The pupils of the school visited the battleship "New Zealand" in the last week of the May holidays.

An ex pupil, Mary Barkas, M.Sc., N.Z., who is now studying bacteriology at University College, London, and home science at the Women's Department of King's College, London, has been awarded a Gilchrist Trustees' Domestic Science Scholarship on the records of her New Zealand school and University College career, considered in conjunction with a personal interview. Other honours gained by ex-pupils during the year are as follows: Julia Pegg, Degree of M.A., N.Z., with first-class honours in natural science (botany); Catherine Reynolds, degree of M.A., N.Z., with third-class honours in Latin and French; Elizabeth Harvey, exhibition in English, Canterbury College.

MARY V. GIBSON, Lady Principal.

2. WORK OF THE HIGHEST AND LOWEST CLASSES.

Boys' School.

Highest—Latin—Livy, Book XXI; Vergil, Æneid, V; Myths and Legends of Ancient Rome; Bradley's Arnold; Bradley's Aids to Latin Prose; Kennedy's Revised Latin Primer; Tutorial History of Rome; Rivington's Class Book of Latin Unseen; Cicero, Select Letters; Horace, Selections, Satires, and Epistles. *English*—Shakespeare, Tempest; De Quincey, Joan of Arc; Palgrave's Golden Treasury; Nesfield's Aid to the Study and Composition of English; Nesfield's Historical English; Arnold's Epochs English Literature, Vols. I, II, III; Chaucer, Prologue. *French*—Duhamel, Advanced French Composition; Longmans' Advanced French Unseen; Moriarty's French Grammar; Molière,