

Teachers.—On the 31st December, 1915, there were in the Board's service 407 teachers, classed as follows :—

—	Certificated.		Licensed.		Uncertificated.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Head teachers	54	6	1	0	..	..	55	6
Sole teachers	9	17	..	..	10	51	19	68
Assistants	28	119	1	4	5	30	34	153
Totals of adult teachers	91	142	2	4	15	81	108	227
Pupil-teachers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	40
Probationers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	25
Totals for 1915 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	115	292

In addition to the above, the following instructors in special subjects were employed : Agriculture and dairying, 2 (male) ; domestic science, 2 (female) ; woodwork, 2 (male) : total, 4 (male), 2 (female).

Instruction of Teachers.—Teachers' Saturday classes in elementary hygiene and drawing were conducted at Gisborne, Napier, and Dannevirke ; classes in domestic science at Gisborne and Hastings, and in agriculture at Hastings. The roll numbers and average attendances were as follows :—

Centre.	Drawing.		Hygiene.		Domestic Science.		Agriculture.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Gisborne	17	13	19	14	10	8	..	..
Napier	33	25	32	26	..	..	..	..
Dannevirke	12	9	11	8	..	..	..	..
Hastings .. .. .	..	..	..	..	17	12	15	11
Totals	62	47	62	48	27	20	15	11

With the exception of the classes in domestic science the standard of instruction was for Class D. Correspondence classes were continued for the purpose of assisting uncertificated teachers to obtain their D certificates. Forty students joined the course, which was somewhat modified as compared with that offered during the previous year, teachers being permitted to take only two groups. The work submitted by the students during the year showed that much better work was done under the new arrangement. In connection with this course a summer school for practical work in science subjects was held at Hastings from the 29th November to the 19th December. Sixteen students attended.

District High Schools.—[See E.—6, Report on Secondary Education.]

Manual Instruction.—Except in a few of the household and Grade 0 schools, some form of handwork was taken in all the schools in the education district. The following table shows the subjects of instruction, the number of schools in which instruction was given, and the average attendance at the classes receiving such instruction :—

	Number of Schools.	Average Attendance.
Handwork	121	10,506
Elementary agriculture	52	788
Agriculture and dairy science	33	984
Elementary experimental science	10	540
Woodwork	15	697
Cookery	15	595
Dressmaking	15	557
Swimming and life-saving	2	397

Physical Instruction.—The Department's instructor, Mr. Roydhouse, has been stationed in the district and has given valuable instruction and assistance in this important branch of school-work. In Napier during the summer vacation he gave special instruction to a selected class of children more or less physically defective. His work with this class was highly successful and beneficial, and the Board trusts that similar classes will be conducted periodically in Napier and other centres of the district. The Inspectors report, "Generally the requirements under this heading [physical instruction] are carefully attended to."

Scholarships.—Scholarships in tenure at the end of 1915 were—Junior Board, 58 ; Senior Board, 19 ; Junior National, 8. As a result of the examinations held in November last three candidates from the district qualified for Senior and twelve for Junior National Scholarships. The Board is of opinion that under the new system of awarding scholarships those districts with many large town schools will secure an unfair proportion of the scholarships available.