

expenditure on this account by Education Boards during the year amounted to £10,678. Details of the number and value of the scholarships in the various education districts are given in Table L5 of E.-6.

(iii.) *Foundation (or Governors') Scholarships.*

These are of two kinds, those afforded by the Governors of secondary schools not granting free places under the Act, and those offered as additional scholarships by the Governors of schools providing free places.

(iv.) *Private Scholarships.*

These are derived from funds provided by private donors at certain schools, by bequest or otherwise.

The number of foundation and private scholarships in the last term of 1915 was 148. Of the holders, fifty-five were also Government free pupils under the regulations. The total annual value of the scholarships in cash was £933. In addition, free tuition was given by the schools to holders of foundation and private scholarships to the value of £1,083, the value of the Government free places already mentioned not being included in this amount.

TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION.

GENERAL.

The work of the schools and classes has been generally satisfactory, and has proceeded on the lines of previous years. Local requirements in the way of technical instruction continue to be met as far as practicable by suitable modification and extensions of the curricula. There has been a very gratifying response on the part of the young people of the Dominion as a whole to the efforts of the school authorities in the directions indicated. It was expected, not without reason, that the returns for the year would show a considerable falling-off in the attendance. As a matter of fact, the reverse has been the case, and a substantial increase in the number both of classes and students has to be recorded.

The total number of students in attendance at all classes during the year was 20,202, of which number 6,983 received free education either under Government regulations or as holders of scholarships or free places locally provided. Capitation payments to controlling authorities totalled £48,475, being at the rate of £2.4 per student.

The practical interest taken by local bodies, industrial organizations, and others in technical education, which for years has been a prominent feature of the system, has been well sustained. Contributions in money from the above sources totalled over £5,000 for the year, and this in spite of the many calls on the community for patriotic and war purposes. These contributions, which carry a Government subsidy of £1 for £1, form a welcome addition to the funds of the school authorities.

The Government has, as far as financial considerations arising out of the war have permitted, favourably entertained applications for grants in aid of necessary buildings and equipment. The amount distributed during the year for these purposes was £13,461. Last year £14,753 was so distributed. New or additional buildings have been provided in connection with Napier Technical College, and Palmerston North, Westport, and Temuka Technical Schools, while necessary equipment has been provided for classes at the following schools, among others: "Elam" School of Art, Auckland; New Plymouth, Wanganui, Napier, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, and Southland Technical Colleges; and Palmerston North, Westport, and Greymouth Technical Schools. About sixty specially designed and well-equipped buildings are now available for purposes of technical instruction. Where special buildings have not yet been provided (*i.e.*, in country centres) use is made of the local public schools or of suitable rented buildings. During the year classes were held at twenty-nine such centres in the Wanganui District, at twenty-eight in the Taranaki District, at eleven in the Otago District, at ten in the Auckland District, and at smaller numbers in the remaining nine districts.