

## EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE DUNEDIN SCHOOL OF ART.

During the year instruction was given to 577 students, made up as follows: Day students, 171; evening students, 116; pupil-teachers attending afternoon classes, 92; pupil-teachers attending Saturday classes, 29; teachers attending Saturday classes, 46; students in training, 123. Day students were provided with a very complete course of subjects in art and art crafts, but since the abandonment by the English Education Board of the system of examinations in single subjects it is becoming increasingly difficult to induce students to give due attention to vital but unattractive aspects of their training, such as design, perspective, instrumental drawing, systematic light and shade, anatomy, &c. It would be of the greatest assistance to art schools throughout the Dominion if standard examinations in these subjects could be restored. Much solid progress was made in painting from still life and life, both in oil-colour and in water-colours. Landscape was also as successfully dealt with as weather conditions permitted. Modelling from life and the antique, relief work in copper and pewter, wood-carving, enamelling, stencilling, &c., attracted only a moderate number of students, the increasing cost and difficulty in obtaining material militating considerably against craft work. Students of the School of Mines were instructed in instrumental drawing, free sketching of mechanical details, and a course of drawing leading to sketching from nature. The number of evening students was affected considerably by war conditions. Art enthusiasm is chiefly present amongst students from twenty to twenty-five years old, and the loss of the more ardent and advanced workers has a depressing effect upon the rank and file. A wide programme of art subjects was provided—freehand, model, geometry, perspective, light and shade, drawing from antique, drawing from life, painting, modelling, beaten copper, pewter-work, enamelling, art jewellery, leather-work, wood-carving, &c.—and, though the numbers were not equal to normal years, the average attendance was good. The attendance at the life classes was especially well maintained, and excellent work was done. The classes in building-construction and architecture, although naturally much depleted, were well co-ordinated and efficient. There was a pleasing increase in the interest taken by the retail trade in ticket and show-card writing. Art needlework, too, attracted more attention than usual. To meet the needs of evening students for daylight experience of colour, Saturday afternoon classes were conducted as in previous years. City and suburban pupil-teachers and probationers were afforded instruction twice weekly in the drawing subjects necessary for their D certificate. The appliances for blackboard drawing were improved during the year and are now satisfactory. It is felt that the hour at which these young teachers attend (4 p.m. to 5 p.m.), and the large number in each class, do not tend to produce the best results, and steps are being taken to improve these conditions wherever possible. The results of the year's work, so far as examination successes indicate, were eminently satisfactory. On Saturdays provision was made, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., for affording instruction to teachers outside Dunedin. Pupil-teachers, probationers, and uncertificated teachers were afforded assistance in preparing for their examinations, but generally an effort was made to equip teachers with a thorough knowledge of the subjects in handwork most commonly taught in schools, and the special drawing correlated with each. Design, brushwork, modelling, bricklaying, cardboard-work, light and shade, plant-study, &c., were insisted on for this purpose. The stringent conditions imposed by the Education Department very considerably reduced the attendance at these classes, and it would appear that in the near future they will be confined entirely to pupil-teachers, probationers, and uncertificated teachers. The influence of these classes upon up-to-date developments in the teaching of drawing will be missed. Training-college students, junior and senior, were provided with instruction in the usual D subjects, and in light and shade, brushwork, and design. Every effort was made to render the teaching of blackboard drawing especially efficient. The nature of the work was made as varied and as interesting as possible, and students, on the whole, showed themselves appreciative and assiduous.

The annual exhibition of the School of Art was again held in conjunction with the autumn exhibition of the Otago Art Society. The school examples were of every variety, ranging from elementary studies to paintings from life and landscapes from nature; examples of design, modelling, metal-work, enamelling, jewellery, leather-work, needlework, wood-carving, &c., were included, the whole exhibition attracting much attention and favourable Press comment.

I have to thank the members of the staff for their attention to duty and interest in the work.

R. HAWCRIDGE, Director.

## EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE OAMARU TECHNICAL SCHOOL BOARD.

The work of the school has been satisfactorily carried out. Owing principally to the support given to the commercial classes by those who are anxious to take advantage of the present opportunities to enter offices the attendance has increased, and has reached a record number. A country class for dressmaking was established at Herbert and proved very successful. Wool-classing, dressmaking, and millinery classes were well supported. The thanks of the Board are accorded to the public bodies and various subscribers who contributed materially towards the maintenance of the school.

C. H. CHURCH, Chairman.

## EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE MILTON TECHNICAL SCHOOL BOARD.

Classes for book-keeping, typewriting, and shorthand were held for a period of thirteen weeks, while classes for painting and art metal-work were conducted for thirty weeks. The number of students attending the various classes was as follows: Typewriting, 14; book-keeping, 14; shorthand, 4; painting, 8; art metal-work, 4: a total of 44.

The total income for the year, including a credit balance of £66 7s. 7d. carried forward from 1916, was £138 11s. 4d. The total expenditure was £66 11s. 9d., leaving a credit balance of £71 19s. 7d.

J. R. LAING, Secretary.