Educational Bursaries.

Educational bursaries are awarded under the Education Act, 1914, and any matriculated student is entitled to one who—

(i.) Has within the six months immediately preceding satisfactorily completed his term of service as a pupil-teacher or probationer, and declares his intention of entering a recognized training college on the completion of the tenure of his bursary; or

(ii.) Has satisfactorily completed his course of training at a recognized training college and gained a trained-teacher's certificate; or

(iii.) Has otherwise gained a teacher's certificate of a class not lower than Class C.

These bursaries are tenable for three years, with possibly two yearly extensions, at a University college or recognized school of agriculture. The classes taken must be such as to form part of the course in arts, science, or agriculture, and proof of satisfactory progress must be given.

The number of educational bursars in 1917 was thirty-seven (as compared with fifty-five in 1916), of which number seven completed the three years' tenure of their bursaries. In addition sixteen holders of bursaries were absent on military service. The amount expended on tuition and examination fees on account of educational bursaries was £252 1s., the cost per head being £6 16s. 3d.

Domestic-science Bursaries.

Domestic-science bursaries tenable at the Otago University may be awarded under the regulations for manual and technical instruction. Applicants for the bursaries must have been resident in the Dominion for not less than twelve months, and must have—

(1.) Passed the Matriculation Examination or some other examination approved for the purpose; or

(2.) Obtained at least a partial pass in the examination for the Class D teachers' certificate; or

(3.) Gained a higher leaving-certificate or, in the case of pupil-teachers or probationers, a lower leaving-certificate.

Applicants are required to make a declaration that they will on completion of their course engage in teaching for not less than three years.

The term of a bursary is two (or possibly three) years. The bursar receives £20 per annum, together with the fees for the course for the degree or the diploma in home science or domestic arts, and, if obliged to live away from home, an allowance of £30 per annum.

Bursaries of this kind were awarded to nine students in 1917, making in all twenty-five bursars in attendance at classes. Three students completed the diploma course in 1917, and four the degree course sitting for the examination at the end of the year. Since the inauguration of the home-science course in 1912 sixteen students have gained the diploma and fifteen the degree. Of these ex-students twenty-seven now hold good positions as teachers, the rest having married or taken up other work.

Agricultural Bursaries.

The Education Department, in co-operation with the Department of Agriculture, has established a scheme for the granting of agricultural bursaries to qualified candidates in order to enable them to obtain the necessary practical training for positions as teachers or agricultural instructors, as officers of the Department of Agriculture, or as farmers. After completion of their training the bursars are under a legal obligation to serve for a term of three years in one or other of these capacities.

The qualification for a bursary is Matriculation or a higher or lower leaving-certificate, and candidates are preferred who have received agricultural instruction during their secondary-school course. In addition, ex-students of teachers' training colleges who desire to specialize in the teaching of agriculture may obtain bursaries to enable them to receive the necessary training in agriculture. Agricultural bursaries are tenable at an experimental farm, an agricultural college, or other approved institution for two years, with a possible extension to a third year.