

The number of schools at the end of the previous year was 309, and the total enrolment 27,709.

There has been a decrease of 3 in the number of registered private primary schools when compared with the number at the end of 1936.

25. ENDOWED SCHOOLS AND REGISTERED PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

The following table summarizes the returns furnished by endowed schools and registered private secondary schools with respect to the years 1936 and 1937:—

TABLE T.

	1936.	1937.
Number of schools	56	57
Roll at 1st July	4,982	5,419
Average attendance	4,752	5,167
Teachers (inclusive of principals)-		
Men	151	154
Women	199	204
Total	350	358

26. CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL.

The roll of the correspondence school continues to increase, there being on 1st July, 1937, 1,701 primary pupils, as against 1,587, and 961 secondary pupils as against 786 on the same date in the previous year.

The school curriculum was extended during the year to include commercial subjects and light woodwork. It is intended to permit members of the staff to visit the homes of pupils to advise parents concerning the work of their children and to discuss problems which confront parent and pupil alike.

27. KINDERGARTEN SCHOOLS.

The number of schools, pupils on the roll, average attendance and average weekly roll at schools conducted in 1937 by recognized kindergarten associations were as follow:—

TABLE U.

Association.	Number of Schools.	Pupils on Roll at End of 1937.	Average Attendance, 1937.	Average Weekly Roll, 1937.
Auckland	10	458	353	422
Hastings	1	55	34	41
Hutt Valley	1	49	39	47
Wellington	7	289	262	302
Christchurch	7	384	279	351
Dunedin	6	304	237	277
Invercargill	4	148	119	142
Totals, 1937	36	1,687	1,323	1,582
Totals, 1936	34	1,701	1,278	*
Difference..	+2	-14	+45	

* Not available.

It will be observed that for this year the average weekly roll number of pupils under each kindergarten association is given. This information has now been added to the table because of the fact that the capitation payments made by the Department to the associations is now computed on that basis instead of on average attendance, as formerly. This provides a slightly more liberal basis of payment.