

Wanganui District High School. The money is lent on the mortgage of freehold lands situate in the colony, and an ample margin is always required to meet any depreciation in value.

FINANCE.—The general statement of receipts and expenditure, together with the accompanying details, give a full account of the Board's operations during the year. It will be recollected that the last statement showed that the Board had been enabled to transfer the sum of £434 16s. 3d. from the General to the Building Account, with a view of meeting some of the more urgent works. The Building Account now shows an overdraft of £2,790 13s. 6d. and liabilities amounting to £65 18s. 8d., making a total indebtedness in this account of £2,856 12s. 2d. The greater portion of this is, however, balanced by the Government grant (since allocated) of £2,736, leaving a liability of £120 12s. 2d. The General Account shows a credit balance of £1,532 4s., with liabilities for one quarter's school fund amounting to £318 6s., leaving a net balance of £1,243 18s. There is also shown in this account a balance of £800 13s. 4d. which belongs to the Capital Account of the Rees Bequest, and is now awaiting investment. The departmental expenses are heavier than usual, owing to two or three causes. First, the Truant Inspector's salary is charged against them, and, secondly, the charge for advertising is swelled by the cost of advertising for an Inspector and teachers, and also in advertising the boundaries of the school districts. The printing, too, is a heavy item in consequence of new rules having been published. In other respects every possible economy has been observed. The Board has paid over to the School Committees during the year the sum of £1,218 3s. 6d. for school fund, &c., as shown in returns. Considering the many non-paying schools which it maintains, the Board believes that the accounts display a very satisfactory state of things. It has hitherto exercised every care in the administration of its affairs, and will continue to do so in the future. The Board cannot, however, conclude this report without bringing under your notice the fact that the grant for buildings, which has lately been allocated, is utterly inadequate for the requirements of the district, and it would urgently impress upon you the necessity of bringing under the notice of Government the need which exists for making further and speedy provision in this direction.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Minister of Education.

W. H. WATT, Chairman.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 31st December, 1883.

<i>Receipts.</i>			<i>Expenditure.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balances on December 31st, 1882—			By Balance of account on December 31st,		
Rees Bequest Account	0	13 4	1882—Buildings	1,908	11 3
General Account	1,442	8 4	Office staff, salaries	382	15 10
Government grant for buildings	4,376	19 0	Departmental contingencies	503	10 10
Statutory capitation (£3 15s.)	14,654	9 2	Inspector's salary	400	0 0
Special capitation (5s.)	497	15 0	Inspector's travelling expenses	100	0 0
Scholarships grant (1s. 6d.)	260	14 0	Examination of pupil-teachers	54	3 7
Scholarships (see assets last year)	61	13 9	Teachers' salaries and allowances (in-		
Inspection subsidy	300	0 0	cluding rent, bonus, &c.)	13,530	17 5
Payments by School Commissioners for			Incidental expenses of schools	1,218	3 6
Primary Education	386	5 7	Scholarships—		
Payments by School Commissioners for			Paid to holders	235	0 0
Secondary Education	89	16 2	Examination expenses	25	14 0
Fees for district high schools	79	0 0	School buildings—		
Rees Bequest, Capital Account*	800	0 0	New buildings	1,471	13 3
Rees Bequest, Interest Account	210	7 2	Improvements of buildings.	3,319	15 11
			Furniture and appliances	7	9 9
			Sites	35	17 6
			Plans, supervision, and fees.	403	5 3
			Painting and repairs of offices	20	19 7
Dr. Balance of Building Account, 31st			Credit balance on 31st December, 1883—		
December, 1883	2,790	13 6	Rees Bequest, Capital Account	800	13 4
			On General Account	1,532	4 0
	£25,950	15 0		£25,950	15 0

* Mortgage paid off awaiting investment.

W. H. WATT, Chairman.

A. A. BROWNE, Secretary

Examined and passed.—R. MACALISTER, Provincial District Auditor

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES on 31st December, 1883.

A. Exclusive of Building Fund.

<i>Assets.</i>	£	s. d.	<i>Liabilities.</i>	£	s. d.
Cash in bank on this account, 31st Decem-			Balance on this account		
ber, 1883	1,532	4 0	Due to Committees' School Fund for Decem-		
Due from Rees Bequest, Interest Account	30	0 0	ber, 1883	318	6 0
			Balance	1,243	18 0
	£1,562	4 0		£1,562	4 0

B. Building Fund only

	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Cash in bank, 31st December, 1883			Balance, 31st December, 1883	2,790	13 6
Due from Government	2,736	0 0	Balance of amounts due or to fall due under		
Balance	120	12 2	contracts	23	0 0
			Due on account of grants to Committees	13	0 0
			Due on account of furniture	10	11 0
			Due on account of sites	19	7 8
	£2,856	12 2		£2,856	12 2

A. A. BROWNE, Secretary