

Table B.—Pass Subjects for the Whole District for the Years 1888 and 1889.

Classes.	Presented.		Absent.		Excepted.		Failed.		Passed.		No. of Schools presenting.	
	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.
Above Standard VI. ...	108	84	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45	27
Standard VI. ...	514	483	16	20	8	8	113	105	377	350	103	96
" V. ...	1,291	1,140	43	31	45	51	361	383	842	675	134	129
" IV. ...	2,225	2,110	96	94	85	95	593	562	1,451	1,359	152	141
" III. ...	3,153	3,130	156	160	154	152	749	838	2,094	1,980	158	151
" II. ...	3,058	3,047	112	138	98	112	336	379	2,512	2,418	157	156
" I. ...	2,807	2,894	75	112	36	58	176	223	2,520	2,501	155	149
Preparatory ...	7,087	6,839	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160	156
Totals ...	20,243	19,727	498	555	426	476	2,328	2,490	9,796	9,283	160	156

The statistics in the above tables seem to mark a material increase in the efficiency of the teaching; and this advance I may say I expected, from my general impression, derived from daily observation, as to the steady improvement in these subjects.

In class subjects and in additional subjects the results of my examinations are almost identical with those for the whole district, published in Table C of the Appendix. Geography is on the whole the best taught, and is the only one of these subjects in which any substantial improvement is shown.

In explanation of the brevity of this report, I beg leave to say that I purposed to embody in it a criticism of the syllabus of instruction; but, as this subject has just been dealt with by me in a report which I have submitted to the Minister of Education, the remarks I wished to offer must necessarily come before the Board in another form.

I have, &c.,

The Chairman, Education Board, North Canterbury.

L. B. Wood, M.A., Inspector.

2. DR. ANDERSON'S REPORT.

SIR,—

Christchurch, 12th April, 1890.

I have the honour to present a general report on the past year's work. The year's work to which such a report refers is supposed to end with the close of December, but through the reduction in the staff of Inspectors the annual series of examinations included has extended to the close of March.

As usual, the months preceding July were occupied by the Inspectors in completing any examinations left over from the previous year, in compiling returns, in examining candidates for scholarships at the April examination, in preparing a sufficient number of examination papers for use in the ensuing standard examinations, and in paying visits to schools for purposes of inspection.

The schools of the northern division of the district, taken by Mr. Wood in the previous year, and comprising the chief suburban schools and those north of Christchurch—in all fifty-eight schools—fell to me in the ordinary rotation. I inspected and reported on fifty-four of these during the months March–June, the four omitted being two at Kaikoura, at too great a distance for an inspection visit, one which received instead an interim examination from Mr. Wood, and one closed temporarily through a change of teachers.

The annual examinations began on the 2nd of July, and, the third Inspector being meanwhile withdrawn, it became my duty to join my colleague in the examination of the large city schools. These, with two side schools attached, having a roll number of 5,507 children, were finished about the 17th of August. During the remainder of the period covered by this report I have examined separately seventy-nine schools, with a roll number of 7,496 children, and shared with my colleague and Mr. Veel the annual examination of pupil-teachers and a second scholarship examination, both held in December, but, so far as the work of the examiners is concerned, extending well into January.

I submit in tabular form the chief facts of the standard examination results, distinguishing the schools examined jointly and those examined separately. A series of comparative proportions is also submitted, which may prove of some interest now, or be convenient for future reference. The returns for the whole district are contained in the appendices.

Table A.—Pass Subjects, Number examined.

Class.	Presented.		Absent.		Excepted.		Failed.		Passed.		Schools included.	
	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)
Above Standard VI. ...	46	44	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	26
Standard VI. ...	177	187	4	3	1	3	28	50	144	131	4	54
" V. ...	440	463	11	13	14	20	99	134	316	296	4	67
" IV. ...	671	810	25	40	26	36	170	239	450	495	4	78
" III. ...	794	1,203	38	65	39	49	161	314	556	775	4	79
" II. ...	814	1,133	21	44	24	38	83	148	686	903	6	77
" I. ...	708	1,062	20	29	4	20	14	78	670	935	6	78
Preparatory ...	1,857	2,594	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	79
Totals ...	5,507	7,496	119	194	108	166	555	963	2,822	3,535	6	79
	13,003		313		274		1,518		6,357		85	

(a) Examined jointly with colleague.

(b) Examined separately.