

SCHOLARSHIPS.—The work done by the sixty-two scholars holding drawing scholarships has been of a very satisfactory character, and has proved of value to a large number of boys entering the various trades and professions. Over two hundred competed for the fifty vacancies occurring. The papers worked by the scholars competing surpassed in merit all previous years, and show how good and thorough the work in the primary schools is becoming. So excellent were twenty-one of the papers that I unhesitatingly gave second-grade certificates.

INSTRUCTION TO TEACHERS AND PUPIL-TEACHERS has been continued as usual during the year. The classes have made better progress this year, especially so in the case of those holding the full second-grade certificates, who have continued their more advanced studies in light and shade and colour. In the junior Saturday classes greater punctuality is still to be desired, especially in connection with geometry and perspective sections. The correspondence class is considerably extending its usefulness.

Technical School.—Number of Students.

Day classes—	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
Drawing and painting (whole-day students)	15	18	15	15
Drawing and painting (half-day students)	23	30	30	34
Geometry and perspective	11	11	11	11
Secondary-school scholars	...	45	53	51
Primary-school scholars	58	52	48	46
Teachers and pupil-teachers	107	104	106	100
Wood-carving	11	19	20	14
Manual instruction	...	68	38	32
Evening classes—				
Architectural and building construction ...	23	23	18	19
Mechanical drawing	31	36	32	31
Drawing	99	99	93	88
Life class	4	4	7	5
Practical plumbing	24	19	23	27
Theory of plumbing	15	9	17	21
Wood-carving, carpentry, and modelling ...	9	27	21	17
Applied mechanics	19	15	16	14
Totals	449	579	548	525

The following occupations are represented amongst the students of the evening classes: Engineers, 35; watchmakers, 2; fitters, 2; blacksmiths, 2; joiners, 6; carpenters, 19; carriage-builders, 2; cabinetmaker, 1; plumbers, 37; printer, 1; wood-turners, 2; engraver, 1; clerks, 11; painter, 1; architects' assistants, 2; draughtsmen, 4; bookseller, 1; art teacher, 1; messenger, 1; bricklayers, 2; bookbinder, 1; dentist, 1; woodcarvers, 2; teachers, 30; scholars, 10; Civil Service, 2; signwriter, 1; masons, 3; coppersmith, 1; brass-finisher, 1; office boy, 1; students, 12; ironmongers, 2; draper, 1; bootmaker, 1; jeweller, 1; tailors, 2; compositors, 5; engraver, 1; governess, 1; mechanics, 2; architect, 1; farmers, 3; artisans, 2; saddler, 1; whipmaker, 1.

Classes.

DRAWING AND PAINTING.—At the request of the Committee, Mr. Madden, of Christchurch, again examined these sections. His report states that the school well maintains its reputation for giving a thorough grounding in drawing and the earlier stages of art work. During the year the method of work has been generally broader, the junior students working in a variety of material, thus giving greater freedom. The life and antique work has been more combined than in former years. The sketch-club competitions have been continued as usual, and also drawing from memory of work in progress. The results of the Science and Art Department examinations are very gratifying, and must give considerable encouragement to the students. Prizes of £3 and £1 were offered by Messrs. Manning and Co., Brewers, of Christchurch, for the best bottle-labels: Miss Broome obtained the first place, and Miss Igglesden the second.

MACHINE CONSTRUCTION AND DRAWING.—This class has steadily increased in numbers and value of work. Mr. Fulton, C.E., who examined the class, after reporting upon the candidates' answers, concluded as follows: "For the time that the students have been at work, I found their work uncommonly well done. The parents of young men and the men themselves who are interested in mechanical pursuits, if they saw the work that has been done, would be quick to appreciate the great value of this class."

APPLIED MECHANICS.—After a delay of about eighteen months, caused by the difficulty of obtaining an instructor, Mr. J. A. Tripe, B.A., undertook the class, commencing with nineteen students. The great difficulty the instructor has to contend with is a want of knowledge of Euclid, algebra, and geometry upon the part of many of his class. It has always been a great difficulty to persuade students to attend as a preliminary class the geometrical drawing. Those, however, who have done so, and have attended the mechanical class, will reap the full benefits, and outdistance beyond measure those too wise to receive guidance as to their course of work. Mr. Fleming, B.A., LL.B., who examined the class, after expressing satisfaction with regard to the answers in the paper set, remarks that "the class is doing work of a kind which requires every encouragement. My hope is that the work may be extended, and that the students may have an opportunity of studying elementary mathematics in all its branches." There can be no doubt that this class has met a decided want in connection with the mechanical trades.

ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING AND BUILDING CONSTRUCTION.—There is considerable improvement in the attendance during the year, but considering the large number engaged in the trade the class