

The passes were 56·03 of the number on the roll; the failures were 14·1 per cent. of the number examined in standard classes. The corresponding percentages for 1897 were 55·5 and 15·31. Supposing that the conditions of examination have been equally rigid, these figures show a general advance.

Table G affords a means of comparing the percentages of passes in the separate standards for the several districts; the comparison must be largely qualified by the fact that the requirements, though nominally the same in all districts, are not actually the same; and, further, by what appears to be true also—namely, that greater attention seems to be paid to the class-subjects in some districts than in others. In Standard I. 97 per cent. of those presented pass; in Standard II., 93·6 per cent.; III., 81·9; IV., 79·1; V., 76·9; VI., 85·6.

TABLE G.—PASSES.

| Education Districts. | Passes in Standards. |        |        |        |       |       | Present at Examination. |        |        |        |        |       |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
|                      | I.                   | II.    | III.   | IV.    | V.    | VI.   | I.                      | II.    | III.   | IV.    | V.     | VI.   |
| Auckland ..          | 3,187                | 3,159  | 2,955  | 2,758  | 1,868 | 1,382 | 3,275                   | 3,387  | 3,602  | 3,615  | 2,403  | 1,592 |
| Taranaki ..          | 450                  | 519    | 390    | 282    | 142   | 80    | 521                     | 618    | 546    | 462    | 256    | 111   |
| Wanganui ..          | 1,295                | 1,234  | 1,198  | 1,041  | 595   | 408   | 1,336                   | 1,311  | 1,453  | 1,301  | 799    | 458   |
| Wellington ..        | 1,651                | 1,731  | 1,688  | 1,539  | 1,072 | 819   | 1,694                   | 1,833  | 1,964  | 1,772  | 1,327  | 943   |
| Hawke's Bay ..       | 1,053                | 920    | 810    | 713    | 410   | 248   | 1,121                   | 1,028  | 966    | 854    | 536    | 313   |
| Marlborough ..       | 218                  | 222    | 255    | 240    | 147   | 108   | 223                     | 290    | 300    | 301    | 186    | 157   |
| Nelson ..            | 597                  | 648    | 705    | 584    | 447   | 336   | 625                     | 719    | 867    | 743    | 610    | 444   |
| Grey ..              | 159                  | 175    | 205    | 166    | 138   | 77    | 172                     | 187    | 230    | 206    | 169    | 95    |
| Westland ..          | 130                  | 145    | 154    | 106    | 127   | 92    | 137                     | 158    | 186    | 138    | 156    | 113   |
| North Canterbury ..  | 2,267                | 2,299  | 2,211  | 2,186  | 1,579 | 1,149 | 2,321                   | 2,466  | 2,875  | 2,848  | 2,161  | 1,397 |
| South Canterbury ..  | 591                  | 587    | 643    | 591    | 408   | 290   | 596                     | 599    | 741    | 704    | 499    | 328   |
| Otago ..             | 2,363                | 2,480  | 2,235  | 2,117  | 1,700 | 1,420 | 2,331                   | 2,580  | 2,689  | 2,657  | 2,126  | 1,559 |
| Southland ..         | 1,069                | 1,101  | 1,024  | 938    | 718   | 516   | 1,091                   | 1,152  | 1,263  | 1,162  | 939    | 580   |
| For the colony ..    | 15,030               | 15,220 | 14,473 | 13,261 | 9,351 | 6,925 | 15,493                  | 16,268 | 17,682 | 16,763 | 12,167 | 8,090 |
| In 1897 ..           | 14,937               | 15,491 | 14,747 | 12,481 | 9,382 | 6,354 | 15,578                  | 16,712 | 17,991 | 16,758 | 12,091 | 7,160 |

Expressed as percentages of the total roll-number the passes in the several standards are: In Standard I., 11·3 per cent.; II., 11·5; III., 10·9; IV., 10; V., 7·1; VI., 5·2.

Table H shows the number of pupils receiving instruction in each subject of the syllabus.

TABLE H.—NUMBER OF PUPILS INSTRUCTED IN EACH SUBJECT.

| Education Districts. | Numbers belonging at End of Year. | Reading. | Writing. | Arithmetic. | English Grammar and Composition. | Geography. | History. | Elementary Science. | Drawing. | Object-lessons. | Vocal Music. | Needlework (Girls). | Domestic Economy. |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|-------------|----------------------------------|------------|----------|---------------------|----------|-----------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Auckland ..          | 27,557                            | 27,557   | 27,557   | 27,557      | 14,103                           | 17,149     | 13,020   | 9,936               | 27,297   | 17,807          | 22,165       | 11,640              | 994               |
| Taranaki ..          | 3,981                             | 3,981    | 3,981    | 3,981       | 1,658                            | 2,261      | 1,665    | 1,133               | 3,967    | 2,838           | 3,208        | 1,802               | 51                |
| Wanganui ..          | 10,205                            | 10,205   | 10,205   | 10,192      | 5,044                            | 6,562      | 4,829    | 3,775               | 9,014    | 5,965           | 4,076        | 3,284               | 121               |
| Wellington ..        | 14,432                            | 14,432   | 14,432   | 14,368      | 7,548                            | 9,187      | 7,482    | 5,342               | 14,130   | 9,502           | 13,692       | 6,282               | 3,332             |
| Hawke's Bay ..       | 7,726                             | 7,726    | 7,726    | 7,726       | 3,736                            | 4,781      | 3,582    | 2,719               | 7,649    | 5,230           | 7,192        | 3,174               | 68                |
| Marlborough ..       | 2,121                             | 2,121    | 2,121    | 2,121       | 1,194                            | 1,412      | 1,167    | 890                 | 2,069    | 1,231           | 1,162        | 937                 | 93                |
| Nelson ..            | 5,915                             | 5,915    | 5,915    | 5,915       | 3,445                            | 4,076      | 3,231    | 2,507               | 5,219    | 3,589           | 3,117        | 2,366               | 93                |
| Grey ..              | 1,683                             | 1,683    | 1,683    | 1,683       | 755                              | 975        | 650      | 471                 | 1,527    | 1,033           | 898          | 600                 | 30                |
| Westland ..          | 1,377                             | 1,377    | 1,377    | 1,377       | 787                              | 927        | 746      | 577                 | 1,226    | 778             | 922          | 526                 | 1                 |
| North Canterbury ..  | 20,619                            | 20,619   | 20,619   | 20,619      | 11,052                           | 13,390     | 11,011   | 6,490               | 20,419   | 12,477          | 18,919       | 9,723               | 1,926             |
| South Canterbury ..  | 5,197                             | 5,197    | 5,197    | 5,175       | 2,722                            | 3,383      | 2,692    | 2,074               | 5,010    | 3,154           | 4,759        | 2,255               | 4                 |
| Otago ..             | 21,184                            | 21,184   | 21,184   | 21,184      | 11,511                           | 13,889     | 11,391   | 8,064               | 20,377   | 12,314          | 20,326       | 8,672               | 880               |
| Southland ..         | 9,624                             | 9,624    | 9,624    | 9,624       | 4,808                            | 5,972      | 4,603    | 3,230               | 9,251    | 6,080           | 8,665        | 3,248               | 281               |
| Totals for 1898      | 131,621                           | 131,621  | 131,621  | 131,522     | 68,363                           | 83,964     | 66,069   | 47,208              | 127,155  | 82,048          | 109,091      | 54,509              | 7,824             |
| Totals for 1897      | 132,197                           | 132,197  | 132,179  | 132,065     | 68,415                           | 84,650     | 65,715   | 47,170              | 126,731  | 81,806          | 107,256      | 54,645              | 5,909             |
| Difference ..        | -576                              | -576     | -558     | -543        | -52                              | -686       | 354      | 38                  | 424      | 243             | 1,835        | -136                | 1,915             |

PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS.

During 1898 the number of schools increased by 39—from 1,585 to 1,624—while the average daily attendance in the fourth quarter decreased from 110,523 to 107,904. The mean average number per school in attendance during the fourth quarter was accordingly 66·4, as against 69·7 for 1897. It has already been pointed out, however, that the attendance during the fourth quarter was