

FINANCIAL.—The certified statement of this Board's income and expenditure, a copy of which has been forwarded to your department, shows the gross receipts, inclusive of last year's credit balance of £2,710 2s. 10d., to have been £38,958 7s. 3d. The principal items constituting this aggregate are as follows: Capitation grants, £27,037; building grants, £4,930; Southland's share of primary reserves rents, £3,201; scholarships, £600; inspection subsidy, £300. These, with other incidental receipts shown in the balance-sheet, make up the total income of the Board as above stated. The net expenditure for the year is shown as £35,945 2s. 2d., the most important charges against this amount being as follows: Teachers' salaries, £26,840; building, £4,521; School Committees' allowances, £1,853; office staff and Inspectors' salaries, £1,191; scholarships, £600. These payments, along with others of less significance, constitute the aggregate disbursements during the year, and leave balances to debit of Building Account of £422 7s. 3d. and to credit of General Account of £3,435 12s. 4d., the net amount to credit being thus £3,013 5s. 1d. Against these balances have to be placed ascertained liabilities as follows: Against Building Account, a sum of £1,153 2s. 1d., balance of amounts due or to fall due under existing contracts; against General Account, a sum of £730 18s., due to School Committees, teachers, and others as on the 31st December, 1898; and these, of course, have to be deducted from the actual sum standing to credit to exhibit the Board's true financial position.

The Hon. the Minister of Education, Wellington.

By order of the Board,
JOHN NEILL, Secretary.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 31st December, 1898.

<i>Receipts.</i>			<i>Expenditure.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance—			By Office staff—salaries ..	470	18 4
On Building Account <i>Dr.</i> 863 10 1			Truant Officer—salaries and expenses ..	192	13 8
On General Account <i>Cr.</i> 3,573 12 11			Departmental contingencies ..	395	0 0
	2,710	2 10	Inspectors' salaries ..	720	7 7
Government grant for buildings ..	4,930	0 0	Inspectors' travelling expenses ..	202	17 10
Subscriptions and donations for build- ings		32 8 11	Examination of pupil-teachers ..	16	11 11
Government statutory capitation ..	27,037	0 4	Teachers' salaries and allowances (in- cluding rent, bonus, &c.) ..	26,840	16 9
Scholarship grant	600	16 11	Incidental expenses of schools ..	1,853	18 10
Inspection subsidy	300	0 0	Training of teachers (kindergarten teaching)	15	15 0
Payments by School Commissioners ..	3,201	2 2	Scholarships—		
Interest on fixed deposits	79	7 4	Paid to scholars	582	10 0
Rents of school sites	55	17 6	Examination expenses	18	6 11
Refunds	11	11 3	School buildings—		
			New buildings	2,712	7 10
			Improvements of buildings ..	1,249	0 8
			Furniture and appliances ..	78	16 7
			Sites	125	14 10
			Plans, supervision, and fees ..	318	8 2
			Advertising tenders	36	18 0
			Interest on overdraft	1	0 0
			Exchange on cheques	15	19 9
			Members' travelling expenses ..	96	19 6
			Balance—		
			On Building Account <i>Dr.</i> 422 7 3		
			On General Account <i>Cr.</i> 3,435 12 4		
				3,013	5 1
	<u>£38,958</u>	<u>7 3</u>		<u>£38,958</u>	<u>7 3</u>

ALFRED BALDEY, Chairman.
JOHN NEILL, Secretary and Treasurer.

Examined and found correct—J. K. WARBURTON, Controller and Auditor-General.

REPORTS OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS.

AUCKLAND.

SIR,—

Auckland, 10th April, 1899.

I have the honour to report upon the administration of education reserves in this district for the year 1898, as follows:—

The reserves let comprise fourteen sections of town and suburban lands, yielding a rental of £43 12s. 6d., and fourteen sections of country lands, yielding a rental of £150 18s. 6d.

On the termination in August of a twenty-one years' lease at Gisborne, granted by the Education Board in 1877, the Commissioners, after arbitration, were awarded to pay £390 as compensation for buildings. Since the close of the year this property has been extensively improved, and now commands a net rental of £260 instead of £73 under the old lease. This is the only case in which compensation is to be paid by the lessors, as in all leases now existing this liability falls upon the incoming tenant.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Minister of Education, Wellington.

R. UDY, Chairman.