

BUILDINGS.—The principal operations during the year 1898 were building a school at Cricklewood, altering and furnishing the temporary school at Te Ngawai, making additions to the residences at Washdyke and at Redcliff, and enlarging the school at St. Andrew's. The following schools and residences were painted and repaired: Waitohi Flat, Opihi, Gapes Valley, Temuka, Timaru South, Redcliff, and Hakateramea Valley. The Temuka and Timaru Main Schools were distempered, as well as Fairlie and Orari South. Pumps or wells were supplied to Belfield, Pleasant Point, Orton, Hook, Makikihi, Springbrook, and Sutherland's. Fencing and repairs to fences were carried out at Southburn, Belfield, Seadown, and Winchester. New furniture was supplied to Cricklewood, Hannaton, Upper Otaio, and Fairlie. New closets were erected at Redcliff, Orari Bridge, and Hook; maps and material were supplied to a number of schools; and grants made in aid to School Committees to make small repairs, &c.

PUPIL-TEACHERS.—The annual pupil-teachers' examination was held in the last week in June, when twenty-four pupil-teachers, together with ten candidates for employment, presented themselves for examination. Twenty-three pupil-teachers passed and one failed. Of the candidates, five passed and five failed. Seven pupil-teachers of the third and fourth year sat for certificates at the Education Department's examination; three passed for D and three for E, and one obtained a partial E.

DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOLS.—A special report of the secondary work of the District High Schools was submitted to the Board by the Inspector. From this report it appears that thirty-two scholars took part in the examination at Waimate and fifteen at Temuka. The subjects taken were English, French, Latin, algebra, and Euclid. The Waimate High School Board of Governors continues its annual grant of £100 per annum towards the teaching of the higher subjects in the Waimate District High School, and encourages attendance by awarding scholarships and exhibitions to successful candidates.

The Hon. the Minister of Education.

I have, &c.,

WM. B. HOWELL, Chairman.

GENERAL STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 31st December, 1898.

<i>Receipts.</i>			<i>£ s. d.</i>		<i>Expenditure.</i>			<i>£ s. d.</i>	
To Balance—	£	s. d.			By Office staff—salaries	..	..	265	17 0
On Building Account <i>Dr.</i>	1,114	1 2			Clerical assistance	..	..	4	0 0
On General Account <i>Cr.</i>	2,257	6 2			Departmental contingencies	..	..	207	16 6
			1,143	5 0	Inspector's salary, with travelling-expenses	..	..	599	0 0
Government grant for buildings	..	..	2,171	0 0	Examination of pupil-teachers	..	..	44	16 0
Subscriptions and donations for buildings, transferred from General Account	..	..	1,158	19 10	Teachers' salaries and allowances (including rent, bonus, &c.)	..	..	15,196	13 6
Other receipts for buildings—					Incidental expenses of schools	..	..	1,351	18 6
Interest on fixed deposit	..	..	2	10 0	Scholarships—				
Contractor's deposit transferred	..	..	5	0 0	Paid to scholars	..	..	342	19 10
Government statutory capitation	..	..	13,954	8 1	Examination expenses	..	..	72	13 8
Scholarship grant	..	..	340	16 5	School buildings—				
Inspection subsidy	..	..	300	0 0	New buildings	..	..	871	6 0
Payments by School Commissioners	..	..	2,922	0 6	Improvements of buildings	..	..	472	4 5
District High School fees	..	..	211	2 6	Furniture and appliances	..	..	96	7 0
Contributions from School Committees	..	..	56	3 8	Sites	..	..	11	11 0
Waimate subsidy	..	..	100	0 0	Plans, supervision, and fees	..	..	121	10 0
Rents	..	..	35	15 6	Transferred from General Account to Building Account	..	..	1,158	19 10
Refunds	..	..	22	3 1	Transferred from Deposit Account to Building Account	..	..	5	0 0
					Balance—				
					On Building Account	..	..	650	10 3
					On General Account	..	..	950	1 1
			£22,423	4 7				£22,423	4 7

WM. B. HOWELL, Chairman.

J. H. BAMFIELD, Secretary.

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

REPORT ON DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOLS.

SIR,—

Education Office, Timaru, 31st January, 1899.

I have the honour to submit the following report on the higher work of the District High Schools :—

Thirty-two scholars took part in the examination at Waimate, seventeen of whom were examined in five subjects, fourteen in four subjects, and one in three subjects. Fifteen scholars were examined at Temuka, ten in five subjects, four in three subjects, and one in two subjects. In each school the subjects were English, Latin, French, Euclid, and algebra. The following tables show the subjects taught, the number of pupils examined, the marks gained by each class, and the amount of work done in each subject :—