

operation there. A day school for cerebral-palsied children has been opened in Christchurch, a class has been attached to George Street School, Dunedin, and another class, housed in the Correspondence School building until suitable premises are made available, has been set up in Wellington. In equipping and organizing the work of these schools the Department has the co-operation of the Health Department and the Crippled Children Society.

#### THE INSPECTORATE

At the end of the year my colleague in Head Office, Mr. C. Robertson, Senior Inspector of Schools, retired on superannuation. In September, Mr. H. D. Prichard, Senior Inspector, Canterbury, retired after twenty years of service as an Inspector of Schools. I should like to record my appreciation of the loyal and efficient service they gave during the years they were in the inspectorate. It is with regret that I record the deaths of Mr. R. W. D. Maxwell, Senior Inspector of Schools, Dunedin, and Mr. G. H. Percy, Inspector of Schools, Auckland.

New appointees to the inspectorate during the year were Messrs. H. W. Findlay, W. S. Hormann, R. L. McNabb, J. W. Martin, B. M. Pinder, W. H. Scott, and E. J. Watts.

I have, &c.,

D. G. BALL,

Chief Inspector of Primary Schools.

The Director of Education, Wellington C. 1.

#### REPORT OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR OF POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS (MR. G. V. WILD) FOR THE YEAR 1949

SIR,—

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1949.

Though there have been no marked changes during the year, steady progress has been made in some activities that first came under notice within the last few years. Refresher courses, for example, have been very well attended and have undoubtedly demonstrated their great value in providing an opportunity for the inter-change of ideas and information. The short training courses for part-time teachers have been continued and have proved outstandingly successful. The introduction of compulsory day or evening classes for apprentices has created a big demand for part-time teachers from industry, and these instructors are naturally somewhat inexperienced in the art of teaching. It has therefore been gratifying to find them so keen that they are prepared to give up two or three days for an intensive course of training. Most instructors in motor engineering have now had a course, and plumbing instructors from all parts of New Zealand have also attended a short course in Petone. These courses were necessary and they have been successful beyond expectation.

The value of our recently introduced training schemes for teachers of woodwork, metalwork, homecraft, and commercial work has been emphasized by the readiness with which the trainees have found employment on the completion of their period of training. No fewer than 73 carefully selected woodworkers have been trained in the last four years, and there are positions for all of them. We would undoubtedly have had difficulty in filling these vacancies if there had been no training scheme. It is not yet possible to fill all homecraft positions; the shortage here is so serious that it is necessary to consider extending the training facilities.