TECHNICAL.—The Technical School now requires additional accommodation to provide for the increasing demands for new classes and more adequate space for the students now attending the various classes already established. In his annual report the director deals exclusively with this subject, and emphasizes the steady development of technical instruction and the pronounced success of the institution, which this year has been practically self-supporting.

INSPECTION.—The Inspectors examined all the schools in operation, and inspected all but a few very small distant aided schools. Eight Roman Catholic schools were examined and inspected. The number of children on the rolls of the Board schools for the past year was 15,241, an increase of only thirty on the books over the number for the previous year. Including S 7, 8,543 children were passed in standards, an increase of 312 in the number promoted in 1900. Eighty-five schools are classed satisfactory, forty-eight fair, and ten inferior.

In the eight Roman Catholic schools 1,079 children were presented, as against 1,112 in 1900. Of the 644 children presented in standards, 566 passed, showing that the efficiency of the schools is maintained.

In the Board schools neither the standard nor the class work show any falling-off in quality, and there is a distinct improvement generally in the class-work of all the larger schools and in that of many others, especially in grammar, word-knowledge, science, and geography.

TRUANCY.—Proceedings were taken against eighty-one parents to compel them to send their children to school. Convictions were recorded in every case, and fines imposed on seventy-two parents. During the year the Truant Officer called on 742 parents, representing 971 children whose attendances had been unsatisfactory. After a full explanation of the duty of parents to take steps to insure to their children the fullest benefit of education, the results were generally satisfactory, and but few instances occurred where the visit was necessary a second time. Parents now begin to realise that repeated visits from the Truant Officer are certain to be followed by proceedings in the Court.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Minister of Education, Wellington. J. R. BLAIR, Chairman.

GENERAL STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 31st December, 1901.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.
Government grant for buildings	5,200	0	0
Rents from school-site reserves	71	13	9
Statutory capitation—			
Amount paid by Government	44,347	12	1
Amount paid by School Commissioners (reserves revenue)	2,075	4	2
Addition to statutory capitation—For teachers' salaries	2,489	5	0
Scholarship grant	929	10	7
Inspection subsidy	300	0	0
Grant for training of teachers	200	0	0
Manual and technical instruction—			
Capitation for—			
School classes	80	0	0
Special classes—			
Continuation	58	0	0
Ordinary	705	0	11
Grants for—			
Swimming	33	4	4
Apparatus	325	16	11
Material	33	13	6
Subsidy on voluntary contributions ..	152	0	0
Grants for rebuilding schools destroyed by fire	3,853	3	0
Other receipts for manual and technical instruction—			
Fees	1,370	15	1
Voluntary contributions	118	17	0
Other receipts	64	11	4
Balance—			
On General Account	5,532	7	0
On Building Account	2,191	9	2
	£70,132	3	10

Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
Balance—			
On Building Account	2,846	11	4
On General Account	3,927	14	10
Office staff—Salaries	839	11	8
Departmental contingencies	656	2	5
Inspectors' salaries and travelling-expenses	1,487	11	9
Truant Officer's salary and expenses ..	228	7	3
Scholarships—			
Paid to scholars	928	3	4
Examination expenses	29	18	1
Teachers' salaries	40,523	10	5
Teachers' house allowances	1,567	10	0
Pupil-teachers' lodging-allowances ..	179	3	4
Incidental expenses of schools	3,690	10	4
School buildings—			
New buildings	698	8	10
Improvements of buildings	1,685	6	2
Rebuilding schools destroyed by fire ..	4,677	18	2
Furniture and appliances	856	3	7
Rent of buildings used for school purposes	912	6	4
Sites	401	1	10
Plans, supervision, and fees	150	16	0
Manual and technical instruction—			
Salaries	2,379	14	1
Travelling-expenses	11	15	9
Printing, advertising, and examination work	151	19	0
Arts, crafts, freight	91	14	10
Material	99	13	10
Buildings	70	11	1
Apparatus	372	2	2
Cleaning and lighting	263	7	1
Incidentals	316	7	6
Other expenses—			
Swimming prizes	33	4	4
Bank exchange	54	18	6
	£70,132	3	10

J. R. BLAIR, Chairman.
A. DORSET, Secretary.

Examined and found correct, except that the bank overdraft and the interest paid thereon are without authority of law.—J. K. WARBURTON, Controller and Auditor-General.

HAWKE'S BAY.

SIR,— Education Office, Napier, 26th March, 1902.

I have the honour to forward the following report of the proceedings of the Hawke's Bay Education Board for the year 1901 :—

THE BOARD.—The Board consists of the following members: Rev. D. Sidey (Chairman), Messrs. C. A. Fitzroy, C. Hall, M.H.R., S. Johnson, S. McLennon, — Patterson, T. Tanner, J. C. Westall, and Captain W. R. Russell, M.H.R.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.—The average attendance for 1901 was 6,869, while the average roll was 8,160.

SCHOOLS AND RESIDENCES.—The school at Wakarara was closed during the early portion of the year, from the fewness of the pupils attending and the difficulty of obtaining a teacher. On the urgent petition of the residents the Board agreed that the school should be reopened with the commencement of the present year.