

and the dressmaking and millinery rooms, Hall of Commerce, Coburg Street. Most of these buildings are quite unsuitable for technical classes, and that classes have had to be held in such buildings has had a most depressing effect upon the students and teachers alike. It speaks well for the enthusiasm of the Auckland youth that the attendances at technical classes should have been so satisfactory under such adverse conditions.

As previously mentioned, a new Technical College is now in the course of erection, and should be ready for occupation early next year. Unfortunately, however, on account of lack of funds, it has only been possible to accept a tender for three stories instead of the five contemplated. This means that the accommodation provided when these three stories are completed will be inadequate even for present requirements without the use of some other temporary building. Even had the five stories been erected, the accommodation thus provided would not have been more than sufficient for present requirements. It seems shortsighted policy on the part of the Government not to provide adequate buildings for technical instruction in the larger centres, and I feel sure that a considerable sum of money is wasted annually in maintenance for technical education on account of the lack of proper teaching facilities.

Amongst the evening classes initiated last year were those in cookery for nurses, and special courses in electrical and mechanical engineering for Volunteers.

The total number of individual students in attendance at all classes of the College last year was 1,319. The number in 1902 was 30 (about); in 1905, 791; and in 1908, 1,086.

The continuation classes held at the Normal School, Wellesley Street, to enable students who had left the primary school without having passed the Sixth Standard to improve their education and become eligible for admission to the Technical College by obtaining certificates of proficiency, were attended by 114 pupils. Seventy-nine of these sat for the proficiency examination at the end of the year, and, of these 39 obtained certificates of proficiency, and 10 certificates of competency.

Students of the College were again most successful in the examinations held by the City and Guilds of London Institute, and by the English Education Board, South Kensington, London. The 90 passes obtained by the students of the College in the City and Guilds Examination was 14 more than the successes obtained by Dunedin, Christchurch, and Wellington students put together, or exactly one-third of the whole of the successes of the Dominion. The most conspicuous success was again in the plumbing department, no less than 34 successes in plumbing being recorded, or 12 more than any Polytechnic Institute in London. It should be noted, too, that the Auckland students claim 9 out of the 10 Honours passes in plumbing awarded in the Dominion.

The successes (160 in all) under the Board of Education, South Kensington, showed an increase of 50 per cent. over the preceding year. The most notable successes were those in machine construction and drawing, and geometry.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Board for the manner in which it has dealt with my recommendations, and for the progressive spirit it has shown in the development of technical education and manual training. I wish also to thank my colleagues for their loyalty and enthusiasm in their work.

GEORGE GEORGE, Director.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the Year ending 31st December, 1909, in respect of Special Classes conducted at the Auckland Technical College.

<i>Receipts.</i>			<i>Expenditure.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance at beginning of year ..	18,120	3 10	Salaries of instructors ..	3,787	16 3
Capitation on special classes ..	3,602	1 2	Office expenses (including salaries, stationery, &c.) ..	371	4 3
Capitation on account of free places ..	1,781	11 10	Advertising and printing ..	169	1 4
Rent ..	200	0 0	Lighting and heating ..	160	2 6
Material ..	214	19 1	Insurance and repairs ..	68	18 0
Subsidies on voluntary contributions ..	1,926	11 0	Rent ..	466	0 0
Fees ..	818	5 8	Examinations, &c. ..	7	7 0
Voluntary contributions ..	1,976	11 0	Material for class use ..	205	12 2
Grant for training of teachers ..	500	0 0	Contracts (new buildings, additions, &c.) ..	3,371	17 2
Rents from site ..	22	10 0	Architect, &c. ..	105	4 0
Sale of old buildings ..	54	17 4	Furniture, fittings, and apparatus ..	132	14 11
Interest on fixed deposits ..	663	10 6	Balance at end of year ..	21,035	3 10
	<u>£29,881</u>	<u>1 5</u>		<u>£29,881</u>	<u>1 5</u>

R. CROWE, Secretary.