

a friendlier relationship existed between pupils and staff ; and this experience is corroborated by that of my colleagues. In a worthy school one of the most helpful agencies in the formation of right habits of thought and conduct is that subtle influence known as the school spirit. The growth of this is a matter of time, but we have every reason for believing that it is here, and that it is becoming effective. I may not be in the best position for analysing this spirit or gauging its strength, but I hope, and would fain believe, that its chief characteristics are kindness and helpfulness one to another, and the recognition of that truth embodied in the College motto, "The useful is the noble."

Evening School.—Owing to the depression in trade, which made itself generally felt throughout the Dominion, the past year has been for technical institutions one of no marked growth ; but I am glad to be able to report that even in these circumstances there has been a satisfactory increase in the number of students taking the trade courses. As regards the commercial classes, there has been a decrease, which is largely explained by the fact that the age at which pupils were admitted to free places in the evening school was raised last year to fifteen. This raising of the age has been, I am sure, a step altogether in the right direction, for it has prevented from joining us a number of boys and girls who, after a long day's work would have been too tired to profit by the instruction. It has further had the effect of causing a number of pupils to enter the day-school, where they spend a much longer time over the same subjects, and where they are brought under the wholesome discipline and influences of school life. Of the trade classes, that of wool classing and sorting has made the most marked progress, there being an average attendance of over fifty adult students per week, while the numbers taking fitting and turning have nearly doubled. In two classes started last year—viz., bookbinding and photography—I regret to say that we have to record comparative failure. An endeavour will be made later on to re-form the class in bookbinding, as soon as we have a suitable room in which to carry on the work, and it is hoped that sufficient interest will have been by that time awakened amongst the young workers in the trade to make it successful. Thirteen students passed the City and Guilds of London Examination, three of them taking Honours in cabinetmaking.

Domestic Science Department.—The number of students taking advantage of the facilities afforded for instruction in this branch was much larger than at any previous period, no less than 274 adults attending the classes in cookery, dressmaking, millinery, and needlework. In directing the work and policy of this department the Board has the great advantage of the assistance of an advisory committee of ladies, who have always taken a great interest in the work of the institution, and offered many valuable suggestions. In order to complete our system of training in domestic economy, the advisory committee has strongly urged the Board to establish a training hostel, so that students may receive instruction in the care and management of the home ; and for this object they have already succeeded in raising the sum of £255. They hope that this hostel will serve a further purpose as a place of residence for students from country districts who at present have to spend many hours in the train going to and from school. In addition to the annual contributions from local bodies, which have been renewed this year, great encouragement has been received from a number of local firms, who have very generously contributed towards prizes in the various departments, while the Canterbury Carpenters and Joiners' Union, in addition to its annual subscription, has granted special prizes to the value of £5 to the apprentices making most progress during the year in the principles and practice of carpentry and joinery.

JOHN H. HOWELL, Director.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the Year ending 31st December, 1909, in respect of Associated Classes conducted by the Christchurch Technical Classes Association.

<i>Receipts.</i>			<i>Expenditure.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance at beginning of year	346	0 2	Salaries of instructors	3,498	14 6
Capitation on associated classes	1,988	18 9	Office and general expenses (including		
Capitation on account of free places ..	1,099	17 2	salaries, stationery, &c.)	684	6 11
Buildings	117	12 2	Advertising and printing	112	9 0
Rent	50	0 0	Lighting, heating, and cleaning ..	379	1 10
Furniture, fittings, and apparatus ..	208	11 6	Insurance and repairs	34	1 8
Material	273	12 6	Rent	200	0 0
Subsidies on voluntary contributions ..	520	9 0	Material for class use	413	13 8
Fees	766	1 3	Prizes	45	3 1
Voluntary contributions	557	10 0	Purchases, books, &c.	192	19 11
Capitation refunded by Education Board	1	8 0	Students' fees—refunds	44	18 9
Rent—part-payment by Education Board	50	0 0	Deposits—refunds	0	5 0
Furniture, fittings, and apparatus—refunds	3	19 2	Cadet Corps—advance for uniforms	110	0 6
Materials—part-payment by Education			Contracts (architect, &c.)	182	8 0
Board—charges, &c.	135	15 1	Furniture, fittings, and apparatus ..	562	17 7
Sales—books, stationery, &c.	287	15 8	Balance at end of year	440	19 7
Students' deposits	24	2 6			
Prize-fund donations	55	19 10			
Salaries—part-payments and refunds by					
Education Board	267	3 2			
Lighting and cleaning—part-payments and					
refunds by Education Board	68	12 4			
Working-expenses—refunds	5	0 0			
Sessional charges for typewriting and ma-					
terial	45	5 9			
Cadet Corps Account—repayments ..	28	6 0			
	£6,902	0 0		£6,902	0 0

JAMES HIGHT, Chairman
JOHN H. HOWELL, Secretary } of Managers.