

The occupations of students may be summarized as follows:—

	Number of Students.	Percentage of Totals.
Clerical pursuits	1,678	12.3
Professional pursuits	2,308	16.9
Students	1,062	7.8
Domestic pursuits	3,136	23.0
Agricultural pursuits	1,130	8.3
Various trades	3,966	29.1
Other occupations not included in above	352	2.6
	13,632	100.0

These figures appear to indicate that the instruction provided by the technical schools as a whole is meeting in a satisfactory way the needs of the districts in which they are located.

TABLE JB.—NUMBER OF CLASSES FOR, AND CAPITATION ON ATTENDANCES DURING 1911 IN RESPECT OF, CERTAIN SUBJECTS OF TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION.

Subjects of Instruction.	Number of Classes.	Capitation.
		£ s. d.
Commercial subjects	229	3,129 12 1
Mathematics and science	86	798 10 11
Mathematics and science applied to trades and industries	430	4,408 8 1
Domestic science	275	2,748 3 10
Art and art-crafts	289	4,679 2 4
Continuation classes	158	824 6 0
Totals	1,467	16,588 3 3

Classes for subjects relating to the various branches of engineering—civil, mechanical, and electrical—continue to be well attended. Most of the larger schools are provided with facilities for practical work, enabling students to take up fairly full courses in engineering. Instruction in art and art-crafts is also well provided for, and well arranged courses—both elementary and advanced—have been carried out in the schools, six in number, in which special attention is given to these branches of technical education.

Instruction in one or more branches of domestic science was given at eighty-two centres as compared with seventy-three in 1910. Now that the special courses in home-science and domestic arts arranged for by the Council of the Otago University are in operation it is hoped that increased attention will in the near future be given to instruction bearing directly on the home.

The demand for commercial instruction continues to be maintained. Classes were held at forty-three centres. Though the number of what are known as “continuation” classes in operation during the year appears to be small, it must not be thought that adequate provision is not made by the schools as a whole for instruction on subjects of general education. Where, as in an increasing number of schools, the subject taken in a continuation class forms part of a grouped course of instruction, the class is regarded as ranking with technical classes, and capitation is paid thereon at the rate for the course to which it belongs. The continuation classes, 158 in number, included in the above table were classes attended mainly by students not taking grouped courses.

A considerable increase has again to be recorded in the number of centres in which instruction in subjects relating to rural pursuits was provided. Classes were held at sixty-one centres in 1910 and at sixty-seven in 1911. The subjects of instruction included wool sorting and classing, sheep-shearing, dairying, veterinary science, agriculture, horticulture, bee-keeping, and poultry-keeping. It would thus appear that the continued efforts of controlling authorities to provide facilities for instruction in subjects bearing on rural pursuits are at last meeting with fairly