

3. WORK OF THE HIGHEST AND LOWEST CLASSES.

Highest.—English—Nesfield's Manual of English Grammar and Composition; Shakespeare's Twelfth Night; Lamb's Essays on Elia; selections from Tennyson; Nesfield's Senior Course of Composition. Latin—Composition; Allen's Latin Exercises, Part II; Allen's Latin Grammar; Livy; selections from Ovid; Bradley's Arnold's Latin Composition. French—Siepmann's Public School French Primer; Wellington College French Grammar; Berthon's Specimens of Modern French Prose; Berthon's Specimens of Modern French Verse; French idioms. Arithmetic—Workman's, the whole subject. Algebra—Hall and Knight's, covered the course for Junior University Scholarship Examination. Geometry—Hall and Stevens, covered the course for Junior University Scholarship Examination. Trigonometry—Pendlebury's, to solution of triangles. Geography, Longmans' Series, Book 5; Mills's Commercial Geography. History—Buckley's History of England.

Lowest.—English—Nesfield's Manual of English Grammar and Composition; Nesfield's Oral Exercises in English Composition; Yoxall and Gregory's Spelling-book; Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice; Murison's Selections from the Best English Authors. Latin—Elementa Latina; Allen's First Latin Exercise-book. French—Siepmann's Primary French Course, Part I. Arithmetic—Workman's School Arithmetic, omitting harder examples. Algebra—Hall and Knight's, to page 107. Geometry—Hall and Stevens, to page 78. Geography—Longmans' Series, Book V, Elementary Physical Geography; Bosworth's Short Geography of the World. History—Buckley's History of England.

SOUTHLAND HIGH SCHOOLS.

Staff.

Boys' School.—Mr. T. D. Pearce, M.A.; Mr. J. Williams, B.Sc.; Mr. J. P. Dakin, B.A.; Mr. J. S. McGrath, B.A.; Mr. J. B. Struthers, M.A.; Mr. P. Edmondson, B.A.; Mr. J. G. Galloway; Mr. R. Brownlie; Mr. J. W. Dickson.
Girls' School.—Miss N. Jobson, M.A.; Miss M. H. M. King, M.A.; Miss G. L. Opie, M.A., M.Sc.; Miss E. E. Law, M.A.; Miss V. C. Farnie, B.A.; Miss A. M. Griffin, B.A.; Miss M. F. Dale, M.A.

1. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

In compliance with the provisions of section 98 of the Education Act, 1908, the Board of Governors of the Southland High Schools presents the following report of its proceedings for the year ended the 31st December, 1911.

The Board is pleased to be able to report that the institutions under its control continue to carry on efficiently the work of secondary education in this district.

Staffs.—Boys' School: The staff of the Boys' School has undergone but little change during the year. Mr. James B. Struthers, M.A., was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. James Pow, who, after seven years of excellent service, removed to Dunedin. Girls' School: At the beginning of the year Miss C. M. Cruickshank, Lady Principal, resigned her position, after five years' splendid work, to accept an appointment as Lady Principal of the Girls' College, Wanganui. Miss Cruickshank's resignation was accepted by the Board with a keen sense of regret at her removal from a position which she had filled with great credit. The vacancy was duly advertised, and from a long list of applicants Miss Jobson, M.A. (Melb.) was appointed. The Board, after a year's experience, is gratified to be able to report that the interests of the Girls' School are not likely to suffer under Miss Jobson's careful management. During the year Misses G. F. Gibson and E. S. Morrison resigned their positions after a period of highly useful service, and their places were filled by the appointment of Misses G. L. Opie, M.A., M.Sc., and M. F. Dale, M.A.

Inspection.—Both schools were inspected during the latter part of the year by Dr. Anderson, Assistant Inspector-General of Schools, and Mr. T. H. Gill, Inspector of Secondary Schools, and their joint report on each school was of a uniformly favourable character.

Attendance and Successes of Pupils.—In the Boys' School, 163 pupils were enrolled during the year, the average roll being 146. In the December examinations three Senior National Scholarships and two University bursaries were gained, while fifteen matriculated. Two out of the three Senior Education Board Scholarships were gained by the school. Nineteen passed the Junior Civil Service and seven the Senior Free Place Examinations respectively. The classes in the Boys' School have remained in accordance with the suggestions of the Secondary Schools' Conference, III B now being the lowest. A new subject was added to the curriculum by the inclusion of (theoretical) agriculture. Among old boys, A. R. Acheson, B.A., was promoted to be Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Syracuse University, New York; T. R. MacGibbon won his F.R.C.S. England; and A. Gordon Macdonald has been appointed Inspector of Mines in Malaya.

In the Girls' School the maximum number on the roll during the year was 161, and the average roll-number 142. In the December examinations, 1910, one candidate gained a Senior National Scholarship, seventeen matriculated, fifteen satisfied the requirements for Junior Civil Service—six with credit—and four for that of Senior Free Place. The number of free-place pupils has, since the introduction of that system, gradually increased till now there were at the close of the year but fifteen fee-paying students in both schools.

Buildings and Grounds.—The school buildings and grounds have been maintained in good order during the year, but no new works were undertaken. The Board, however, has had under consideration the necessity which exists in the district for the establishment of a domestic-training school for girls, combined with a hostel where suitable board and lodging may be provided for those pupils from country districts in attendance at the school who are unable to avail themselves daily of the railway facilities provided by the Department. This is a somewhat serious undertaking, and cannot well be