

“Special” classes—*i.e.*, classes conducted by an Education Board or by the governing body of a secondary school—continue to be the most numerous and the most widely distributed. Most of the classes conducted in the smaller centres come under this heading. “Associated” classes, or classes conducted by managers representing bodies contributing to the funds of the classes, though held in a comparatively small number of centres, include three of the largest and best equipped technical schools in the Dominion—namely, the Wellington Technical School, the Christchurch Technical College, and the Dunedin Technical School. The amounts received by these institutions during the year in the way of voluntary contribution were £420, 1,044, and £1,171 respectively. In only a few cases do the managers of associated classes conduct classes in more than one centre. “College” classes are conducted by the governing bodies of the University colleges, four in number. The most important are those constituting the School of Engineering and the School of Art in connexion with Canterbury College, Christchurch.

The number of individual students in attendance during 1912 was 13,527. Some particulars as to the age and the sex of students are as follows :—

				Twenty-one Years of Age and under.	Over Twenty-one Years of Age.	Totals.
Males	..	..	..	4,478	2,638	7,116
Females	..	..	..	3,587	2,824	6,411
Totals for 1912				8,065	5,462	13,527
Totals for 1911				7,800	5,832	13,632

The following is a summary of the occupations of students :—

				Number of Students.	Percentage of Total.
Clerical pursuits	..	..	..	1,617	11.9
Professional pursuits	..	..	..	2,219	16.4
Students	..	..	..	1,366	10.1
Domestic pursuits	..	..	..	2,915	21.6
Agricultural pursuits	..	..	..	902	6.7
Various trades	..	..	..	4,279	31.6
Other occupations not included in above	..	..	..	229	1.7
				13,527	100.0

It would appear from the above that the technical schools as a whole are doing a good deal in the way of providing facilities for instruction for the various classes of the community.

TABLE JB.—NUMBER OF CLASSES AND CAPITATION ON ATTENDANCES DURING 1912 IN RESPECT OF CERTAIN SUBJECTS OF TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION.

Subjects of Instruction.				Number of Classes.	Capitation.		
					£	s.	d.
Commercial subjects	..	..	..	220	3,136	9	0
Mathematics and science	..	..	..	101	844	16	8
Mathematics and science applied to trades and industries	..	..	..	448	4,481	11	2
Domestic science	..	..	..	290	2,764	7	4
Art and art-crafts	..	..	..	269	4,230	12	7
Continuation classes	..	..	..	224	803	7	8
Totals for 1912				1,552	16,264	4	5
Totals for 1911				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. The classes are, on the whole, well equipped for practical work, and fairly full courses in engineering are provided.