that the regularity of attendance must be regarded as very satisfactory, and the appointment of the Attendance Officer, Mr. F. Bull, fully justified.

During the year informations have been laid against the parents of fifty-four of the most irregular attenders. Convictions were recorded in every case, and fines and expenses totalling £28 19s. inflicted. It is anticipated that in 1913 further improvement in the attendance will be shown.

Teachers.—The following table, giving particulars in respect of the teaching staff employed on the 31st December, 1912, may be of interest:-

		 		Male.	Female.	Total.	Certifi- cated.	Licensed.	Uncertifi- cated.
Head teachers	١	 		52	6	58	56	: 2	i
Sole teachers		 		19	54	73	31	4	38
Assistants		 		27	113	140	105	1	34
Pupil-teachers		 		10	31	41			
Probationers		 		3	13	16			
	Totals	 • •	٠.	111	217	328	192	7	72

Of the adult teachers (including thirteen employed in household schools) 26.5 per cent. were uncertificated. Instruction of Teachers.—During the year teachers' classes were held at Woodville, Dannevirke, At Dannevirke, Napier, and Gisborne special classes in art and science were Napier, and Gisborne. conducted throughout the year, primarily for the benefit of pupil-teachers and probationers; and classes in agriculture were conducted at Woodville and Hastings. The number of teachers who received instruction was 154. A class in physical culture, and extending over ten weeks, was held at Hastings, the instructor being Sergeant-major Just. Thirty-eight teachers (including eighteen females) were enrolled. The average attendance was thirty-two.

In June a camp of instruction in drill and physical exercises was held at Hastings, and was attended by fifty-one male teachers from this district. The camp was under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Hislop, the instructors being Captain Stevens and Sergeant-major Just, who gave the campers a strenuous week. The excellent results obtained were most gratifying to the Board and to the teachers

who took part.

District High Schools.—The science (rural) course was introduced into the district high schools in 1910, so that the year just completed is the second since its inception. At the beginning of the year the number of pupils taking the course were: Woodville-Seniors 8, juniors 8; Waipawa-Juniors 30; Hastings-Seniors 19, juniors 33. At the end of the year there were at Woodville 5 seniors and 6 juniors, at Waipawa 26 juniors, and at Hastings 16 seniors and 26 juniors. The pupils taking the course now take one or two science subjects for examination purposes. The following examination results clearly show that the instruction given in the district high schools is thorough: Hastings—Matriculation, 4 entered, 2 passed; Civil Service Junior, 11 entered, 10 passed; Civil Service Senior, 2 entered, 1 passed (the other passed in four subjects); teachers' D, 2 entered, 2 partials. Waipawa—Matriculation, 6 entered, 3 passed; Civil Service Junior, 18 entered, 15 passed (3 with credit); Woodville—Matriculation, 1 entered, 1 passed; Civil Service Junior, 5 entered, 5 passed.

Manual and Technical Instruction. The following table shows the subjects of instruction, the number of schools in which such instruction was given, and the number of children receiving instruction

in each subject :-

							No. of chools.	Roll Numbers.
Handwork							77	7,512
Needlework							11	122
Elementary agr	ricultur	e (primary)		,			63	1,157
Agriculture (sec							3	98
Elementary agriculture and dairying (primary)							23	619
,,		,,		econdary)			1	30
Dairy-work (see	condary)		• •			2	68
Elementary che							1	135
Chemistry (seco	ndary)	•••					3	98
Physical measu							3	26 9
,,		(secondar					3	98
Swimming and	life-sav	/ing					4	751
Woodwork							16	615
Cookery							15	590
Dressmaking							15	456
Total								12,611

In addition to the eighty-six schools shown as taking agriculture and agriculture and dairying, there

are over twenty schools in which the subject is taken, but not in accordance with the regulations.

Special evening classes were held at Hastings and Woodville. At Hastings instruction was given in wood-carving, wool-classing, and plumbing. The attendance and work were so satisfactory that additional subjects will be offered in 1913. At Woodville classes in shorthand, book-keeping, and