

fifteen years of age for every 97 girls. Thus, 49·2 per cent. of the children in New Zealand between the ages mentioned were females, but 47·6 per cent. only of the number in attendance at schools were of that sex. In the report for the year 1911 the probable reasons for the discrepancy were discussed.

CLASSIFICATION AND EXAMINATION.

Table D1 in E.-2 shows the number of children in each education district arranged according to class. The following table is a summary for the Dominion :—

TABLE D.—CLASSIFICATION OF PUPILS AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS, DECEMBER, 1913.
(INCLUDING SECONDARY DEPARTMENTS OF DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOLS.)

Classes.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Percentages for Five Years.				
				1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
Class P	33,017	29,347	62,364	36·66	37·15	37·30	36·70	36·22
" S1	11,167	10,157	21,324	12·25	12·17	12·34	12·40	12·39
" S2	11,037	10,176	21,213	11·82	11·94	11·90	12·25	12·32
" S3	10,505	9,989	20,494	11·34	11·44	11·59	11·70	11·90
" S4	9,578	9,081	18,659	10·78	10·39	10·48	10·73	10·84
" S5	8,032	7,403	15,435	9·08	9·10	8·72	8·85	8·97
" S6	5,403	4,970	10,373	6·56	6·16	6·21	5·97	6·02
" S7	1,122	1,184	2,306	1·51	1·65	1·46	1·40	1·34
Totals.. .. .	89,861	82,307	172,168	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

The proportion of pupils in the preparatory classes again shows a slight decrease. In 1911 it was 37·30 per cent. ; in 1912, 36·70 per cent. ; in 1913, 36·22 per cent.

More detailed information in regard to the classification of pupils is to be found in Table B appearing on page 6.

The following is a summary of the examination statistics for 1913 as compared with the figures for 1912 :—

	1912.	1913.
Total roll at time of annual examination ...	167,800	173,459
Present at examination	160,687	164,197
Present in preparatory classes	58,202	57,869
Present in classes S6	9,903	10,283
Present in classes S7	2,025	2,006
Standard VI certificates gained, viz.,—		
Certificates of proficiency	7,644	7,489
" competency	1,610	1,835
	9,254	9,324

Details of these figures for each district are given in Table D2 in E.-2.

Average Age.—The average ages of the pupils in the several classes for the two years 1912–13 were as follows :—

					1912.		1913.	
					Yrs.	mos.	Yrs.	mos.
Preparatory classes	..	..	..	..	7	0	7	1
Class S1	..	..	..	..	9	1	9	1
" S2	..	..	..	..	10	3	10	2
" S3	..	..	..	..	11	3	11	3
" S4	..	..	..	..	12	3	12	2
" S5	..	..	..	..	13	2	13	2
" S6	..	..	..	..	14	0	14	0
" S7	..	..	..	..	15	1	15	0
Mean of average ages	..	..	..	..	9	9	9	10

Details for the several districts will be found in Table D3 of E.-2.

PRIVATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

By section 170 of the Education Act, 1908, the teachers or managers of any private primary school may apply to have the school inspected, and the school thereupon becomes "subject to inspection," and no education given to children between the ages of seven and fourteen is deemed efficient, so as to be legal ground for exemption from attendance at a public school, unless it is given at home or in