

College, Brondesbury and Trenton Schools, and the Latter-day Saints' Agricultural College near Hastings.

The following table gives details in Board and Roman Catholic schools, such as classification in the various standards, the average age of pupils, and the proportion of pupils in each class from Standard I to Standard VI:—

Public Schools.

			Roll.	Present at Annual Examination.	Average Age.	Per Cent. of Roll, 1914.	Per Cent. of Roll, 1913.	Per Cent. of Roll for Dominion, 1913.
					Yrs. mos.			
Standard VII	..	..	141	137	15 3	1·13	1·12	1·34
„ VI	..	..	775	764	14 3	6·19	6·04	6·02
„ V	..	..	1,188	1,163	13 1	9·50	8·85	8·97
„ IV	..	..	1,340	1,321	12 2	10·71	11·11	10·84
„ III	..	..	1,543	1,491	11 1	12·34	11·84	11·90
„ II	..	..	1,593	1,535	10 3	12·73	13·18	11·32
„ I	..	..	1,621	1,551	9 1	12·96	12·90	12·39
Preparatory	..	..	4,309	4,086	7 1	34·44	34·96	36·22
			12,510	12,048	9 10*	..	..	..
Roman Catholic schools	..	..	1,124	1,068	9 9*	..	..	..
Others	..	..	439	405	..	..	..	..
Totals	..	..	14,073	13,521	..	..	..	..

Roman Catholic Schools.

						Roll.	Present at the Annual Examination.	Average Age.
								Yrs. mos.
Standard VII	..	..	..	..	..	18	13	15 10
„ VI	..	..	..	..	..	110	110	14 5
„ V	..	..	..	..	..	94	89	13 7
„ IV	..	..	..	..	..	123	113	12 6
„ III	..	..	..	..	..	99	94	11 3
„ II	..	..	..	..	..	129	123	10 5
„ I	..	..	..	..	..	125	118	8 8
Preparatory	..	..	..	..	..	426	408	6 4
						1,124	1,068	9 9*

* Mean of average age.

Number of Pupils in Standards compared with every 100 in Standard I.

Standard	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	Board Schools.	Roman Catholic Schools.
Standard	I	..	..	..	..	..	100·0	100·0
„	II	..	..	..	..	..	98·2	100·0
„	III	..	..	..	..	..	95·2	79·2
„	IV	..	..	..	..	..	82·6	98·4
„	V	..	..	..	..	..	73·3	75·2
„	VI	..	..	..	..	..	47·8	88·0

A comparison of the results for 1913 with the above shows there has been a fair improvement in the proportionate number of children in the higher classes and in the standards as a whole. The number of pupils in the preparatory classes shows a corresponding decrease. It is interesting to find under a perfectly free system of classification that the percentage of children in standard classes is on the increase. According to the Minister's report for 1913 the preparatory classes for the Dominion contained 36·22 per cent. of the roll. For this district the percentage in the preparatory classes was 34·44, or 1·78 per cent. better than the Dominion average. The grouping of the school life into three periods such as the regulations now recognize is likely to affect the classification in the direction indicated in the Board schools.

Accommodation.—The increase in the school attendance leads on to the question of school accommodation, and whether full provision has been made for the growing requirements of the district. During the past year new school buildings were opened at Napier West, Mahora South (Hastings), Matawai, and Woodlands Road (near Woodville). Additions were also made to