

Instruction of Teachers.—The following Saturday classes were held for the instruction of teachers: Wellington—Elementary home science and hygiene; singing; woodwork and cardboard-modelling; drawing and handwork. Masterton—Elementary hygiene, physiology, and first aid; drawing and handwork; singing. Pahiatua—Elementary hygiene, physiology, and first aid.

A course of continuous instruction for uncertificated teachers was held at the Training College on the lines which had been attended with much success in previous years. Though held in February, 1916, it formed part of the 1915 courses, and is therefore included in this report. The purpose of the course was to give such instruction and afford such guidance in the main subjects of study for the certificate as, faithfully followed, would enable the students to gain the certificate. The main subjects of study were—Agriculture (Mr. Tennant and Mr. Cumming); method (Mr. Webb); hygiene, drawing (Mr. Tennant); first aid (Dr. Arthur); music (Mr. Parker); physical drill (Miss Blackburne). The course was attended by twenty-nine teachers, including a number from Nelson, Grey, and Taranaki, whom the Board was very pleased indeed to admit to the course.

A course of instruction in elementary agriculture, extending over a fortnight, was held at the Masterton District High School in September, and was attended by forty-six teachers. The course included both lecture and practical work in agriculture, nature study, hygiene, and instruction in the making of suitable nature-study and science aids. The class was in charge of Mr. Cumming, who was ably assisted by Mr. Stevenson, Miss Lazarus, Messrs. Howe and Grant. The Board acknowledges valued assistance also from Mr. Morris, instructor in agriculture, Hawke's Bay, who delivered a lecture on "Sprays and Compatible Spray Mixtures used in combating Insect and Fungus Pests." It is to be added that for the former course the teachers attending deprived themselves of a part of the summer holiday, and for the latter of the whole of the term holiday in September. The Board is satisfied that excellent work was done at both courses.

Training College.—A full statement of the work of the year will be found in the report of the Principal in Appendix D. The following is a brief statement of the statistics of the institution: First-year students, 18 men, 43 women; second-year students, 17 men, 31 women. They were classified as follow: Division A, 93; B, 5; C, 10; D, 1. The students moved into the fine new college at Kelburn on the 28th July, where the work is pursued under conditions of very much greater comfort and efficiency. The thanks of the Board are gratefully accorded to the proprietors of the Women Students' Hostel, the Friends' Hostel, and the Catholic Girls' Hostel, for the excellent provision made for lodging our women students. The Board would be very grateful indeed if similar provision could be made for the accommodation of male students.

Manual Instruction.—The following table shows in detail the subjects of manual instruction undertaken in recognized classes, the number of schools at which the various subjects were taught, and the number of pupils under instruction:—

Subject.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.
Handwork	138	15,964
Elementary agriculture	91	1,763
Needlework	19	247
Elementary physical science	8	365
Physiology and first aid	13	682
Swimming and life-saving	12	1,008
Elementary physical measurements	15	947
Home science	2	55
Dairy-work	2	20
Botany	9	254
Dressmaking	9	248
Cookery—Wairarapa and Pahiatua centres	6	287
„ Wellington centres	14	709
„ Petone centre	2	126
„ Horowhenua centres	2	79
Woodwork—Wellington centre	15	858
„ Petone centre	2	192
„ Wairarapa and Pahiatua centres	6	319
„ Horowhenua centre	2	83
Building-construction and drawing	7	129
Laundry-work—Wellington centre	13	458

The full rural course was undertaken at the district high schools—Levin, Pahiatua, Eketahuna, Masterton, Carterton, and Greytown. Over ninety schools undertook elementary agriculture, and in this subject the Inspectors and the instructors report progress. To this result the excellent courses at the Training College, and the special courses for teachers which have been held at Greytown and Masterton for some years, no doubt contribute. Full discussion of this branch of the work will be found in the report of the Inspectors.

District High Schools.—[See E.-6, Report on Secondary Education.]

Scholarships.—At the end of the year there were held the following scholarships: Sixteen Junior National, fifty-eight Junior Board, eleven Senior Board A, fifteen Senior Board B. Of these there expired respectively eight, thirty-six, three, and four. On the results of the November-December examinations there were awarded, under the new national conditions, twenty-one Junior National, fourteen Senior National A, and two Senior National Rural (out of three only for the whole Dominion); As last year under the Board's regulations there were awarded sixteen rural Senior Scholarships, the Board is forced to the conclusion that in this competition the Rural Scholarship candidates have been