

out of consideration the head teachers, the average number of pupils per teacher was 23. This comparatively low average is dominated by the influence of the smaller schools of this type; where the number in the secondary department is large the staff provided falls considerably short.

SALARIES AND STATUS OF SECONDARY TEACHERS.

(E.-6, Table K4.)

The total annual amount of salaries of full-time teachers in secondary schools as at the rate payable in December, 1916, was £88,313, showing an increase of £8,686 over the corresponding amount for the previous year, due for the most part to the natural increase in the staff. To this figure should be added the value of board and residence when provided for teachers, amounting to £2,520, thus making a total of £90,833. Taking this amount the average cost of salaries per head of average attendance works out at £12·98, and ranges in the various schools from £9·6 to £26·62, or, excluding the Wanganui Collegiate and Christ's College Grammar Schools, from £9·6 to £17·82. In twenty-one out of the thirty-three schools the range is from £9·6 to £13. It might be stated in this connection that the highest rates of salary per head of average attendance do not as a rule, as is sometimes supposed, obtain in the schools with the largest income from reserves; in point of fact, in some cases the position is directly the reverse. Full particulars relating to individual schools may be found in Table K4 in E.-6.

By the provisions of the Education Act, 1914, certain minimum salaries and minimum average salaries are payable to secondary-school teachers. The following figures indicate the average rates prevailing in 1915 and 1916 :—

AVERAGE SALARIES IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

	1915.			1916.		
	M. £	F. £	All. £	M. £	F. £	All. £
Principals ...	585	436	535	593	431	539
Assistants ...	266	187	232	266	186	228
Whole staff ...	306	209	265	306	204	260

The average salaries for 1916 differ very little from those payable in the previous year. The employment of a number of temporary teachers at lower salaries than those of the men on military service whose places they are filling would probably account for the average salaries of male assistants not showing an increase. Salaries or allowances paid to teachers on active service have not been included in the figures.

The average salary of all secondary-school teachers in New South Wales is £204, and in Ontario £297, as compared with £260 in New Zealand.

In the secondary departments of district high schools salaries are uniform, in accordance with the schedule to the Act. The average salaries actually paid to secondary assistants, exclusive of the sums paid to head teachers by way of extra salary, were, in December, 1915 and 1916, as follows :—

	1915. £	1916. £
Male assistants ...	239	250
Female assistants ...	200	208
All secondary assistants ...	215	220

(The scale of salaries is the same for men and women.)

The total amount paid in salaries to teachers in secondary departments of district high schools, including the special payments to head teachers, was £22,957, as against £22,080 for 1915. The amount paid as a war bonus is not included.

The question of the training of secondary-school teachers has recently come into prominence. Provision is made for University graduates to attend the teachers' training colleges for one year and thus acquire some training and experience in the art of teaching, but the number of graduates availing them-