

tion, elementary hygiene, arithmetic, and English. The results just published may be regarded as very satisfactory. In the interests of uncertificated teachers in more remote places we hope to hold during June, in addition to the ordinary correspondence course, a winter school in the subjects that do not lend themselves to correspondence teaching.

Manual Instruction.—Instruction in woodwork and cookery is afforded in five centres. The need for a separate manual-training school in Napier itself is still an urgent matter. The ordinary handwork subjects in the schools have been to some extent interfered with owing to the difficulty of obtaining material.

Grading of Teachers.—The grading of teachers in accordance with the Dominion grading scheme appears to have met with little objection at the hands of the teachers. Seven appeals, most of which were based on reasonable grounds, were dealt with by the Appeal Board. With one exception all were upheld, and the necessary adjustments have been made.

We have, &c.,

WILLIAM W. BIRD,
DAVID A. STRACHAN, } Inspectors.
RICHARD G. WHETTER }

The Director of Education, Wellington.

WELLINGTON.

SIR,—

Wellington, February, 1918.

We have the honour to submit our report for 1917 on the work of the primary and district high schools of the Wellington District.

During the year a new side school was opened at Seatoun, while aided schools at Black Rock, Elaine Bay, Huritini, Pukekoikoi, Titirangi, Whakatahuri, Lowlands, Pencarrow, Pori, and Stronvar were closed. New Board schools were opened at Brancott, Saratoga, Tira Ora, Wairau Bar, and Whareatea. New private schools were registered at Carterton (St. Mary's Convent), Masterton (Solway College), and Wellington (St. Mark's). Details as to numbers, average ages, &c., of 264 public, twenty-nine registered private, and two special schools are compiled in the following tables:—

					Roll.	Present at Annual Examination.	Average Age.
<i>Public Schools.</i>							
Standard VII	..	..	..	..	354	337	Yrs. mos. 14 11
" VI	..	..	..	..	1,965	1,943	13 9
" V	..	..	..	..	2,444	2,402	12 10
" IV	..	..	..	..	2,725	2,701	11 10
" III	..	..	..	..	2,928	2,891	10 11
" II	..	..	..	..	3,153	3,107	10 1
" I	..	..	..	..	3,123	3,069	8 10
Preparatory	..	..	..	..	8,033	7,595	6 10
Totals	..	..	..	..	24,725	24,045	
<i>Registered Private Schools.</i>							
Standard VII	..	..	..	..	92	90	15 0
" VI	..	..	..	..	235	226	14 2
" V	..	..	..	..	312	309	13 1
" IV	..	..	..	..	353	337	12 3
" III	..	..	..	..	312	307	11 0
" II	..	..	..	..	346	328	10 0
" I	..	..	..	..	336	327	9 1
Preparatory	..	..	..	..	941	883	6 4
Totals	..	..	..	..	2,927	2,807	
<i>Special Schools.</i>							
Standard VI	..	..	..	..	4	4	14 6
" V	..	..	..	..	13	13	13 9
" IV	..	..	..	..	12	12	12 9
" III	..	..	..	..	19	19	12 0
" II	..	..	..	..	13	13	11 6
" I	..	..	..	..	16	15	10 0
Preparatory	..	..	..	..	57	55	7 0
Totals	..	..	..	..	134	131	

There was thus a total of 295 schools in operation, with 27,786 pupils on the rolls and 26,983 present at the Inspectors' annual visit.