

methods (29); English (167); French (7); geography (16); history (16); shorthand (Gregg) (36); shorthand (Pitman) (110); typewriting (212); trade and industrial—agriculture (15); carpentry (50); farm carpentry (24); farm metal-work (22); geometry (14); machine construction and drawing (4); physical science (15); practical mathematics (25); plumbing (14); shearing (12); trade drawing (10); wool-classing (52); woodwork (15); art—painting and design (25); arts and crafts (12). In addition the school provided instruction for primary- and secondary-school pupils in cookery (roll number 235) and woodwork (309).

The effects of the war will be seen in the reduction of capitation; country boys and girls who formerly attended for two or three days a week have only been able to attend for one day, as their assistance was required on their parents' farms. The curtailment of railway services during the first term of the present year caused some disorganization of the school-work for a time, and also consequent loss of capitation.

The dressmaking, millinery, art needlework, and pen-painting classes, though not so large as last year, have again been very successful. Successful classes in dressmaking and millinery have been conducted at Mayfield, Methven, and Lyndhurst. The home-nursing class has been doing splendid work. The large amount of gratuitous knitting for soldiers accomplished during the year is a task to be proud of, and is, I am sure, appreciated by "our boys."

The woodwork and trade-drawing classes have this year surpassed previous years for quality of work produced.

Mr. Marquet, instructor in wool-classing, was appointed Wool Inspector to the Imperial Government at the beginning of the year, and resigned his instructorship. Mr. Carlyle has capably conducted the classes throughout the year.

The students in the metal-work classes have again produced good work, proving the value of the instruction given.

During the year an attempt has been made to revive the plumbing class, but the support given was disappointing. The fault lies with the apprentices and employees; the employers have given every support and encouragement possible.

The book-keeping classes have been doing very good work, and the work of the senior students taking accountancy and company work is worthy of special mention. The shorthand classes have been maintained up to their usual standard.

The work of the art classes in drawing and painting has shown great improvement.

Forty students were awarded free places on the results of last year's examination. One student sat for City and Guilds of London Examination in cookery, and obtained first-class pass. This year five students sat for City and Guilds Examination, two for Public Service, and forty-three for Senior Free Place.

At the annual Ashburton Agricultural and Pastoral Association Show held in March last we had the usual fine exhibition of students' work. Our domestic students were successful in obtaining prizes in the open classes for knitting, pen-painting, and needlework. At the annual Agricultural and Pastoral Show in Methven our students were successful in obtaining three first prizes, three second prizes, and one third prize for drawing.

During the year I have compiled a list (though incomplete) of members of the staff and ex-students who have joined the colours. So far as I have been able to ascertain there were six members of the part-time staff and fifty-three ex-students, of whom ten have made the supreme sacrifice. In connection with ex-students serving at the front, the pupils and staff of this school sent each Christmas parcels, and the girls of the home-nursing class have contributed 240 knitted articles for the comfort of "our boys."

There are world-wide signs that we are at last waking up to the importance of education. Our schools are the nation's most important workshops, and must be kept up to the highest point of efficiency. It seems strange that a nation of manufacturers has to be continually reminded that the products of these workshops are men and women, and upon the class or quality of these products will depend the future of our nation.

The thanks of the Board are due to the following contributing bodies: County Council, Borough Council, Canterbury Sheepowners' Union, Ashburton Agricultural and Pastoral Association, High School Board, Borough and Hampstead School Committees, and numerous private subscribers who have generously contributed monetary and other support.

A. L. MOORE, Director.

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE KAIAPOI TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

During the year classes have been held in woodwork, dressmaking, French, and wool-classing. The manager of the Kaiapoi Woollen-mills kindly supplied the wool for the wool-classing class. As electricity has now been installed it is hoped that classes will be formed in this subject.

The contributing bodies have again kindly responded.

THOS. DOUDS, Director.

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE AKAROA TECHNICAL SCHOOL BOARD.

During the year the usual school classes in woodwork and cookery were held, the former, as was the case last year, necessitating two classes being conducted.

For technical classes the difficulty of the expense of obtaining instructors specially qualified is always considerable, but an opportunity was afforded for obtaining a suitable instructor for a dairy-science class. The Managers were, however, most disappointed at the response from those to whom this is a most important subject. The demand for classes in woodwork, cookery, and dressmaking was practically nil, so these classes were not persevered with.

WILFRED W. GARTON, Secretary.