

day's work were too exacting, and the numbers rapidly declined. More than twenty of the students, however, are preparing to sit for the examination in June next, while about an equal number will be sitting at the end of the year. In addition to the above a large number of returned soldiers who were in occupations during the day have been admitted to our evening classes; more than 300 class entries have been made by them.

The classes in connection with the Training College, the Wellington Girls' College, the Wellington Boys' College, and the "Amokura" have been continued under our instructors as in former years.

JOHN H. HOWELL, Director.

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

In my last annual report I noted that some alterations in the method of granting capitation were desirable. Some changes have now been made, and the new system is certainly a very great advance on the old methods of computing capitation. The Department deserves the thanks of the Directors of the various schools for simplifying the returns.

The report on work of the school given by the Department's Inspector was of a very satisfactory nature. It indicated, however, that we will need to improve matters if we are to go any further ahead with regard to our electricity classes. I think that the time has come when the present woodwork room should be fitted up for electricity classes and another room built for carpentry. The room at present in use is quite unsuitable, and as the Education Board is proposing to build a new room it might be possible to have it planned to suit both day and night pupils.

The commercial classes are very well attended. Most of the pupils are doing excellent work, and from time to time our students secure good positions in many of the best commercial houses.

With regard to the domestic classes, dressmaking and cookery, we have had no success. The girls attending the commercial classes seem to have no inclination to take up these subjects. It is a pity the young ladies do not take more advantage of the opportunity of securing the best education in what are really essential subjects in connection with the home.

The physical-science class was started again, and excellent work was done by the pupils. It is pleasing to see the initiative shown by these young students in fitting up their apparatus for experiments.

Wool-classing was again a very popular class, many returned soldiers attending the class, which was held on four nights a week. The returned soldiers were very regular, and seemed to appreciate the instruction that was being provided.

The work done by the students in the carpentry, drawing, and plumbing classes was of a very high order, and shows that the instruction given is on practical and scientific lines.

The examination results have been of a highly satisfactory nature, seeing that in some of the subjects we do not pretend to have the examinations in view. Pupils have passed the Accountancy Examination in such subjects as book-keeping, economics, bankruptcy, and mercantile law, while others have passed in all the subjects of the Matriculation, Solicitors' and General Knowledge Examination, Medical Preliminary and Chemists' Examination.

Successes have also been recorded in the Plumbing Examinations. In a small school such as this I think it speaks volumes for the efficiency of the staff. Parents are very lax in seeing that their children attend school. There is no doubt that the pictures attract a great number of the pupils.

The following donations were received during the year: Wellington Woollen Company, £5 5s.; Petone Working-men's Club, £8; Hutt County Council, £10; Mr. Wainwright, £2; Gear Meat Freezing and Export Company, £25; Lower Hutt Borough Council, £30; Petone Borough Council, £30; Wellington Meat Export Company, £10: total, £120 5s. These contributions are of very great assistance in carrying on the work, and it is not difficult to see what will happen if we fail to get the help of these various institutions. Our fees are fast becoming a thing of the past, and I trust that the new method of capitation will help us along.

Classes at Lower Hutt were not so successful as in past years, but I have no doubt that, with energetic management, their future success is assured. When the new buildings are erected for technical education at the Lower Hutt things will improve a great deal. These classes have now been carried on for five years.

J. H. LYNSEY, Director.

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE MANAGER OF THE MASTERTON TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

Under the new departmental regulations issued August, 1918, the Board of Managers must consist of five members elected by the contributing bodies, in addition to the manager representing the Wellington Education Board, raising the number to six instead of five managers, as in former years.

The school opened for the session on Monday, 10th March, and continued for three terms of twelve weeks each, with a week's holiday between the terms, the majority of the classes finishing up during the week ending 5th December.

The total number of individual students attending the school during the session was 424—400 on the roll, and 24 public-school pupils. Of the 400, 183 were males and 217 females, made up of 195 free-place pupils and 205 paying pupils. Of the 195 free-place pupils, 118 (54 males and 64 females) held junior free places; 63 (23 males and 40 females) senior free places; and 14 were returned soldiers. The enrolments in all classes totalled 1,009. These figures constitute a record for the school, the next highest being in 1917, when the individual attendance was 423, including 142 free-place pupils, and the class enrolments 818. Taken throughout the year, the attendance, conduct, and diligence of the students were highly satisfactory.

During the year forty-three classes were held in twenty-two subjects, as follows: English; arithmetic; Standard VI proficiency subjects; elocution; Public Service and Matriculation subjects; French; shorthand (Gregg's and Pitman's); typewriting; book-keeping; accountancy; plumbing (theory and practice); carpentry and joinery and cabinetmaking; building and machine construction; magnetism and electricity; wool-classing; motor engineering; freehand, model, and geometrical drawing; shading; painting; art needlework; cookery; dressmaking. Early in the year the English and arithmetic class, which had outgrown the capacity of one teacher, was divided into junior and senior divisions. To accommodate the extra class it was found necessary to divide the art-room into two by a movable partition.