

of small sole-teacher schools. The average number in the larger schools, as the above figures show, is considerably greater, being forty-three when schools with six or more teachers are taken together. This figure shows a reduction of two on the corresponding average for 1919, due no doubt to the provision made at the end of 1919 for slightly better staffing in the large schools. Each year it has been possible to make some small advance in the direction of staffing-conditions, and the amended regulations of 1920, while not prescribing an increase in the number of the staff, provided for the appointment of assistants of a higher grade than previously in schools of various sizes, thus ensuring in these cases a more efficient if not a more numerous staff. In the London County Council schools the average number of pupils per teacher is thirty-seven, 4,000 classes under one teacher being forty or less in number, 7,000 being between forty and fifty, and nearly 5,000 being between fifty and sixty. Although it is recognized that ideal conditions in this respect are still some distance off in New Zealand, the comparison with the London County Council schools, where a high standard is set, is not altogether unfavourable.

With regard to the sex of public-school teachers, the figures below show the proportion of men and women teachers on the primary-school staff:—

	1915.		1918.		1919.		1920.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Ratio of adult male to adult female teachers—								
Schools with 1 to 20 scholars	100	: 323	100	: 523	100	: 362	100	: 392
Schools with more than 20 scholars	100	: 176	100	: 227	100	: 193	100	: 190
All schools	100	: 193	100	: 253	100	: 211	100	: 209
Ratio of male pupil-teachers to female pupil-teachers	100	: 344	100	: 425	100	: 409	100	: 409
Ratio of male probationers to female probationers ..	100	: 647	100	: 688	100	: 603	100	: 511
Ratio of male students to female students in the training colleges	100	: 387	100	: 488	100	: 362	100	: 333

With the exception of the sole-teacher schools in which there was a larger proportion of women than in 1919, and of the probationers and training-college students where the proportion of males has increased, the figures show little change from those of the previous year. So long as the present proportion of men teachers is maintained—i.e., one in every three—the position in this respect may be regarded as entirely satisfactory; it is, in fact, much better than obtains in most English-speaking countries. There has been some concern during the last few years at the dearth of young men entering the teaching profession, but an improvement will be observed in the proportion of males among the probationers and training-college students, and from later reports it appears that in the current year young men are applying in still larger numbers to enter the teaching service.

SALARIES OF PRIMARY PUBLIC-SCHOOL TEACHERS.

(Table E4.)

An amended scale of teachers' salaries was introduced in 1920, operating from April of that year, and providing salaries on the following basis:—

SALARY FOR POSITION HELD.						
Head teachers of schools with average attendance of—						
9–20	..	..	..	..	£	£
21–35	..	..	..	..	180–210	
36–80	..	..	..	..	220–270	
81–120	..	..	..	..	280–310	
121–240	..	..	..	..	290–330	
241–400	..	..	..	..	330–360	
401–480	..	..	..	..	370–410	
Over 480	..	..	..	..	420–440	
Over 480	..	..	..	..	450–480	
Assistants—						
Grade 1	..	..	..	..	160–170	
Grade 2	..	..	..	..	180–190	
Grade 2A	..	..	..	..	200–210	
Grade 3	..	..	..	..	200–230	
Grade 4	..	..	..	..	240–270	
Grade 5	..	..	..	..	280–300	
Grade 6	..	..	..	..	310–320	
Grade 7	..	..	..	..	330–350	
Grade 8	..	..	..	..	360–400	