

During the year 943 returned soldiers attended as free students at technical classes in twenty-seven centres. Instruction was provided in the following subjects: Electrical, motor, and mechanical engineering; plumbing; wool-classing; sheep-shearing; art; carpentry and joinery; and commercial subjects. The Repatriation Board, as in 1919, provided the funds for additional instructors and equipment wherever necessary.

The following technical schools had a roll of more than 500, exclusive of the technical high schools carried on in connection with some of them:—

School.	Number on Roll.	
	1919.	1920.
Christchurch Technical School	1,368	1,598
Dunedin Technical School	1,377	1,302
Auckland Technical School	1,285	1,236
Wellington Technical School	1,202	1,146
Palmerston North Technical School	580	695
Wanganui Technical School	619	677
Invercargill Technical School	630	542

Capitation earnings for the year amounted to approximately £39,240, as against £42,802 earned in 1919. In addition to the class capitation earned, however, payments totalling £3,239, representing capitation on account of part-time teachers and increases in salaries of full-time instructors, were made, making a grand total of £42,479.

Technological examinations were conducted by the Department on behalf of the City and Guilds of London Institute at fourteen centres in the Dominion. The total number of entries was 292, an increase of 124 on the number for the previous year, and the number of passes was 185, or 63·3 per cent. A bronze medal was awarded to one candidate for electrical installation work, Grade I.

TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOLS.

The year was marked by a distinct fall in the number of pupils taking the commercial and general courses. In all other courses an increase is shown. A significant fact is that the boys for the first time outnumber the girls in these schools.

The number of students in attendance at technical high schools during the year was as follows:—

Technical High Schools.	Number of Students.	
	1919.	1920.
Christchurch	596	581
Auckland	587	476
Dunedin	435	385
Wanganui	300	312
Wellington	405	299
Invercargill	300	298
Napier	275	249
Hawera	..	142
Westport	28	24
Totals	2,926	2,766

The numbers of pupils taking up the various courses provided were as follows:—

Course.	Number of Pupils.			Increase over 1919.
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	
Industrial	839	..	839	+ 53
Commercial and general	413	945	1,358	—277
Domestic	..	330	330	+ 33
Agriculture	232	..	232	+ 29
Art	1	6	7	+ 2
Totals	1,485	1,281	2,766	—160