

FREE PLACES IN DECEMBER, 1919 AND 1920—*continued*.

	1919.			1920.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.
(ii.) District high schools—						
(a.) Junior free pupils ..	849	859	1,708	809	867	1,676
(b.) Senior free pupils ..	116	191	307	157	184	341
Totals	965	1,050	2,015	966	1,051	2,017
(iii.) Maori secondary schools ..	42	48	90	48	50	98
(iv.) Technical high schools—						
(a.) Junior free pupils ..	1,351	1,403	2,754	1,226	1,000	2,226
(b.) Senior free pupils ..				151	199	350
Totals	1,351	1,403	2,754	1,377	1,199	2,576
Grand totals	6,338	6,178	12,516	6,607	5,937	12,544

Of the pupils of Government secondary schools it thus appears that 91 per cent. are receiving free education.

SCHOLARSHIPS HELD AT SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOLS.

(See also Tables K 4 and K 5.)

National Scholarships.

Junior and Senior National Scholarships are awarded by the Government on the results of annual examinations, the junior examination being of a standard somewhat higher than that of the certificate of proficiency, and the candidates being not over fourteen years of age; and the senior examination being of a standard comparable with the standard of the Public Service Entrance Examination, the candidates being not over sixteen years of age. Scholarships are awarded to all candidates reaching a certain standard, the standard of award being determined so as approximately to provide one scholarship (junior or senior) for every 500 children in attendance at all public schools; the Junior and Senior Scholarships awarded are in the proportion of nine to five, so that there is one Junior Scholarship among approximately every 750 pupils in attendance at the schools, or among every fifty-five S6 pupils. In the case of pupils from sole-teacher schools—*i.e.*, schools with an average attendance of under thirty-six—the standard of award is made 10 per cent. lower than the general standard. The standard of qualification fixed for the 1920 examinations was 64 per cent. for Junior Scholarships (general standard) and 63½ per cent. for Senior Scholarships.

The results of the examination were as follows: 220 candidates qualified for Junior National Scholarships, as compared with 211 in 1919, of which number seven were pupils of sole-teacher schools, and fifty-seven were pupils of secondary schools. The number of successful pupils from sole-teacher schools was greater than in the previous year, and the number from secondary schools considerably smaller. The number of candidates qualifying for Senior National Scholarships was 122, of which number only one qualified on the alternative programme provided specially to suit the needs of those taking a rural or domestic course.

Junior and Senior National Scholarships are tenable at secondary schools and district high schools, each for three years, provided that the total tenure of the two scholarships in the case of one person must not exceed five years. The holder receives £5 per annum if a junior scholar, or £10 per annum if a senior scholar, with a further sum of £35 per annum in each case if obliged to live away from home.

The figures below indicate the number and the value of scholarships current in December, 1919, and December, 1920, respectively. The number of scholarship-holders is, of course, included in the number of free-place holders shown in the preceding section.

Number of scholarship-holders—	1919.	1920
Boys	481	458
Girls	285	280
Totals	766	738
Number receiving boarding-allowance (included in the above total)	221	201
Number receiving travelling-allowance (similarly included) ..	42	45
Number held at public secondary schools	661	627
Number held at other registered secondary schools	23	36
Number held at district high schools	82	75
Total annual rate of payment	£12,913	£12,510