

Pupil-teachers and probationers were paid allowances at the following rates in 1921 : First year, £90 per annum ; second and third years, £95 per annum, with an additional £5 in the case of a male. In addition a boarding-allowance of £30 per annum is paid if the young person is obliged to live away from home, or a travelling-allowance not exceeding £10 per annum if daily travelling is necessary.

STATUS OF TEACHERS IN REGARD TO CERTIFICATES.

(Table E2 in E.-3.)

The table below gives a summary of the position with regard to the number of primary-school teachers holding teachers' certificates in the last three years :—

PRIMARY TEACHERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

	1919.		1920.		1921.	
	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.
I. Certificated teachers	3,577	72	3,703	72	3,924	75
II. Uncertificated teachers—						
(1.) Holding licenses	122	2	86	2	139	3
(2.) Unlicensed	1,301	26	1,386	26	1,197	22
Total uncertificated	1,423	28	1,472	28	1,336	25
Totals of I and II	5,000	100	5,175	100	5,260	100

The substantial proportion of uncertificated teachers employed in primary schools has for some years been a reason for dissatisfaction, and every effort has been made to reduce the number. The statistics for 1920 showed no improvement over those of the previous year, but fortunately the figures for 1921 show that there are 136 fewer uncertificated teachers than in the previous year, 75 per cent. of the staff being certificated, as against 72 per cent. in 1920. The very large number of small country schools in the Dominion militates against the possibility of attaining a completely certificated staff, but it is recognized that there is still room for improvement. Excluding teachers in schools with less than twenty-one children, 84 per cent. of the staff was certificated in 1921—i.e., 3,742 teachers out of a total of 4,450. Education Boards report that during the current year the position has again improved materially, and several are now able to notify uncertificated teachers that unless their status is improved it will be necessary for them to sacrifice their positions. The following table shows the number of teachers holding the various certificates in 1920 and 1921 :—

CLASSES OF CERTIFICATES HELD BY PRIMARY-SCHOOL TEACHERS.

Class of Certificate.				1920.			1921.		
				M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
A				42	10	52	41	7	48
B				209	77	286	219	79	298
C				659	970	1,629	707	1,072	1,779
D				427	1,079	1,506	458	1,126	1,584
E				29	201	230	32	183	215
Total				1,366	2,337	3,703	1,457	2,467	3,924

It is gratifying to find that the largest increase has taken place in the number of teachers holding Class C certificates, 54 per cent. of certificated teachers now holding a Class C or higher certificate.