

The following table shows, since the institution of the Otago education scheme in 1856, the number of schools, teachers, and pupils :—

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Teachers.	On the Roll.	Average Attendance.	Percentage of Attendance, Otago District.	Percentage of Attendance for Whole of Dominion.
1856-57	5	7	..	236	..	..
1876	165	329	13,537	11,210	..	..
1896	218	554	22,091	19,502	85.9	81.4
1916	261	754	21,880	20,237	92.4	88.6
1920	253	783	21,981	19,479	88.63	87.0
1921	254	797	21,991	20,275	92.2	89.8

The average attendance in the secondary departments of district high schools were : Balclutha, 61 ; Normal, 45 ; Port Chalmers, 40 ; Tokomairiro, 37 ; Alexandra, 36 ; Lawrence, 31 ; Tapanui, 26 ; Palmerston, 23 ; Mosgiel, 12 : total, 311 ; being a decrease of 15 from the previous year.

Ages, Standards, and Sex.—The classification of the pupils according to the standards as at 31st December, 1921, was : Class P, 7,024 (31.7 per cent.) ; S1, 3,000 (13.5 per cent.) ; S2, 2,843 (12.8 per cent.) ; S3, 2,715 (12.2 per cent.) ; S4, 2,641 (11.9 per cent.) ; S5, 2,288 (10.3 per cent.) ; S6, 1,641 (7.4 per cent.) ; S7, 40 (0.2 per cent., exclusive of secondary pupils of district high schools) : total, 22,192.

Of the 22,192 pupils, 6,785, or 30.6 per cent., were under eight years of age ; 4,957, or 22.3 per cent., were between eight and ten years ; 4,797, or 21.7 per cent., were between ten and twelve years ; 4,518, or 20.3 per cent., were between twelve and fourteen years ; and 1,135, or 5.1 per cent., were over fourteen years.

There were on the rolls of the primary schools at the end of the year 11,564 boys and 10,628 girls ; total, 22,192. The percentages were—boys, 52.1 ; girls, 47.9. In the secondary classes of district high schools there were 136 boys and 179 girls ; total, 315 ; the percentages being—boys, 43.2 ; girls, 56.8.

Teachers.—On the 31st December there were in the Board's service 797 teachers, classified as under :—

					Males.	Females.	Totals.
Head teachers	..	..	..	..	101	1	102
Sole teachers	..	..	..	..	31	119	150
Assistant teachers ..	..	..	..	..	77	271	348
Organizing teachers ..	..	..	..	..	3	..	3
Training College staff ..	..	..	..	..	5	1	6
Total of adult teachers				..	217	392	609
Pupil-teachers	..	..	..	..	13	49	62
Probationers	..	..	..	..	24	73	97
Teachers of needlework ..	..	..	..	..	—	17	17
Manual and technical (special teachers) ..	..	..	..	..	7	5	12
Total of all teachers				..	261	536	797

The following table shows the position with regard to the number of teachers who held teachers' certificates in 1920 and 1921 :—

Year.	Classified Teachers.		Holders of Licenses.		Unclassified and Unlicensed.		Total Number.
	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	
1920	486	79.6	16	2.6	109	17.8	611
1921	500	82.1	13	2.1	96	15.8	609

During last year 245 young persons entered the teaching profession in Otago, viz. : As training-college students, 122 females and 33 males ; total, 155 : as pupil-teachers, 27 females and 5 males ; total, 32 : as probationers, 44 females and 14 males ; total, 58. During the year the Board made 173 appointments of adult teachers. Ninety pupil-teachers and probationers were admitted to the service, of whom forty-eight had passed the Matriculation Examination, three had secured partial Matriculation, and thirty-nine had passed the Intermediate or the Public Service Entrance Examination. At the 31st December last sixty-one teachers were receiving salaries of £180 per annum or under, 243 from £181 to £250, eighty-one from £251 to £300, ninety-four from £301 to £350, seventy from £351 to £400, twenty-nine from £401 to £450, and thirty-one over £450.