

The majority of the secondary and technical school building-work was carried out by the Architectural Branch of the Public Works Department.

The following table shows for the year ended 31st March, 1927, the amount expended by the Department on new buildings, additions, sites, and teachers' residences :—

					£
Primary schools	..	..	..	..	238,286
Secondary schools	..	..	..	..	129,925
Technical schools	..	..	..	..	37,314
Training colleges	..	..	..	..	9,938
Universities	..	..	..	..	67,068
Native schools	..	..	..	..	8,999
Special schools	..	..	..	..	9,684
Free kindergartens	..	..	..	..	78
					501,292

PRIMARY EDUCATION.

NUMBER OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The number of public schools open at the end of 1926 was 2,601, or 21 more than in the previous year. In the following table the schools are classified according to their grade, and the yearly average attendance and the number of children per teacher are shown.

Grade of School.	Number of Schools.	Average Attendance.			Average Number of Children per Teacher in Primary Department.	
		Primary Department.	Secondary Department.	Total.	Excluding Probationers.	Including Probationers.
O (1-8) ..	228	1,359	..	1,359	6	6
I (9-20) ..	770	10,772	..	10,772	14	14
II (21-35) ..	534	13,970	..	13,970	25	25
IIIA (36-50) ..	305	12,745	21	12,766	22	22
IIIB (51-80) ..	268	16,042	36	16,078	30	28
IIIC (81-120) ..	135	12,708	171	12,879	31	30
IVA (121-160) ..	62	8,326	123	8,449	35	29
IVB (161-200) ..	32	5,574	191	5,765		
IVC (201-240) ..	40	8,700	587	9,287		
VA (241-280) ..	25	6,336	399	6,735	41	34
VB (281-320) ..	19	5,671	..	5,671		
VC (321-360) ..	28	9,474	430	9,904		
VI A (361-400) ..	24	9,082	400	9,482	41	34
VIB (401-440) ..	26	10,858	249	11,107		
VIC (441-480) ..	11	5,034	62	5,096		
VIIA (481-520) ..	13	7,887	147	8,034	41	34
VII B (521-560) ..	19	8,495	..	8,495		
VII C (561-600) ..	14	10,504	97	10,601		
VII D (601-640) ..	18	9,840	90	9,930	41	34
VII E (641-680) ..	12	7,109	217	7,326		
VII F (681-720) ..	4	2,816	..	2,816		
VII G (721-760) ..	4	2,232	..	2,232	41	34
VII H (761-800) ..	6	3,832	..	3,832		
VII I (801-840) ..	2	1,428	..	1,428		
VII J (841-880) ..	1	864	..	864	41	34
VII K (881-920) ..	..	..	..	..		
VII L (921-960) ..	1	930	..	930		
Totals, 1926 ..	2,601	192,588	3,220	195,808	31	28
Totals, 1925 ..	2,580	194,741	3,155	197,896	32	29
Difference ..	+ 21	- 2,153	+ 65	- 2,088	- 1	- 1