

SECONDARY EDUCATION.

In 1926 there were in operation thirty-nine secondary schools at which Government free places were held and for which the teachers' salaries, &c., were provided by the Government. Twelve of the schools were for boys only, fourteen were for girls only, and thirteen were for both boys and girls. Two additional boys' schools, the Wanganui Collegiate School and Christ's College Grammar School, were originally endowed with public property. There were also seventy-seven secondary departments of district high schools, fourteen technical high schools, eight organized technical or art schools offering day courses, twelve Maori secondary schools, and thirty-five registered private secondary schools. Further, of the six junior high schools in operation during the year two schools—namely, Kowhai and Northcote—each provided a three-year course, the last year of which was devoted to secondary instruction. There was thus a total of 189 schools providing secondary education.

The following figures show the roll and attendance at these schools for 1926 :—

(a) Secondary schools (41)—			
Roll, 1st March	..	..	15,059
Roll, 31st December (boys, 7,462 ; girls, 6,189)	..	..	13,651
Average attendance	..	..	13,596
(b) District high schools—secondary departments (77)—			
Mean of average weekly roll	..	..	3,479
Roll, 31st December (boys, 1,516 ; girls, 1,646)	..	..	3,162
Average attendance	..	..	3,203
Number of new entrants	..	..	1,936
(c) Technical high schools (14)—			
Roll, 31st December (boys, 3,113 ; girls, 2,587)	..	..	5,700
(d) Day technical schools or art schools (8)—			
Roll, 31st December (boys, 416 ; girls, 680)	..	..	1,096
(e) Registered private secondary schools (35)—			
Roll, 31st December (boys, 1,091 ; girls, 1,703)	..	..	2,794
Average attendance	..	..	2,714
(f) Secondary schools for Maoris (12)—			
Roll, 31st December (boys, 332 ; girls, 238)	..	..	570
(g) Junior high schools, third-year pupils only (2)—			
Roll, 31st December (boys, 63 ; girls, 74)	..	..	137

The total number of pupils receiving secondary education at the end of the year was 27,110, compared with a total of 23,829 at the end of 1925. The large increase in the number of pupils receiving secondary education is partly accounted for by the fact that in previous reports the figures corresponding to those shown in (d) and (g) above have not been included in the total number of children receiving secondary education.

DESTINATION OF PUPILS ON COMPLETION OF THEIR SECONDARY EDUCATION.

The following table summarizes the returns furnished by school Principals respecting the destination of pupils who left high schools, district high schools, technical high schools, and day technical schools during or at the end of the year 1926. The figures are in all cases exclusive of pupils who left one school to enter another full-time post-primary school.

Profession, &c.	Boys.		Girls.	
	Number.	Per Cent.	Number.	Per Cent.
University college	192	4	114	3
Teaching or training college	135	3	285	6
Clerical—				
Government	403	8	41	1
Banks, insurance	202	4	9	*
Legal	73	2	20	*
Commercial	539	11	644	15
Engineering, surveying, architecture	299	6	30	1
Various trades and industries	752	15	97	2
Shops, warehouses	443	9	298	7
Farming	987	20	6	*
Home	172	4	2,333	52
Other occupations	191	4	310	7
Not known	506	10	260	6
Totals	4,894	100	4,447	100

* No significant percentage.