

TABLE Q 2.—NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO COMMENCED POST-PRIMARY COURSES IN 1934 AND WHO DEFINITELY LEFT IN THE SAME YEAR.

Type of School.			During First Month of Course.		During Second Month of Course.		During Third Month of Course.		During Fourth Month of Course.		During Fifth Month of Course.		During Sixth Month of Course.		During Seventh Month of Course.		During Eighth Month of Course.		During Ninth Month of Course.		During Tenth Month of Course.		During Eleventh Month of Course.		Total.	
Secondary schools	..	..	B. 3	G. 2	B. 11	G. 4	B. 10	G. 13	B. 23	G. 9	B. 10	G. 6	B. 17	G. 17	B. 27	G. 26	B. 15	G. 24	B. 28	G. 17	B. 32	G. 16	B. 140	G. 179	B. 316	G. 313
Percentage	..	..	1		2		4		5		3		5		8		6		7		8		51		100	
Combined schools	..	..	1	2	2	..	2	..	1	3	2	3	4	4	9	4	5	4	5	3	12	19	24	21	67	63
Percentage	..	..	2		2		2		3		4		6		10		7		6		24		34		100	
Technical schools	..	..	9	10	11	8	35	13	23	23	35	24	28	21	64	52	32	38	64	34	69	37	293	239	663	499
Percentage	..	..	2		2		4		4		5		4		10		6		8		9		46		100	
Secondary departments of district high schools	..	..	14	6	11	8	11	12	18	9	19	11	21	12	36	17	27	24	34	20	23	32	119	136	333	287
Percentage	..	..	3		3		4		4		5		5		9		8		9		9		41		100	
Totals	..	..	27	20	35	20	58	38	65	44	66	44	70	54	136	99	79	90	131	74	136	104	576	575	1,379	1,162
Percentage	..	..	2		2		4		4		4		5		9		7		8		10		45		100	

18. FREE PLACES IN POST - PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

The following table gives the number of free-place holders in post-primary schools in 1933 and 1934 :—

TABLE R.—FREE-PLACE HOLDERS AS AT 1ST JULY.

			Secondary Schools.		Combined Schools.		Technical High and Day Schools.		Secondary Departments of District High Schools.		Correspondence School.		All Post-primary Schools.	
			Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Junior free places	..	..	4,925	4,625	759	595	3,877	3,109	1,870	1,759	159	232	11,590	10,320
Senior free places	..	..	2,884	2,097	473	291	983	814	767	533	28	24	5,135	3,759
Totals	..	..	7,809	6,722	1,232	886	4,860	3,923	2,637	2,292	187	256	16,725	14,079
Grand totals, 1934	..	..	14,531		2,118		8,783		4,929		443		30,804	
Grand totals, 1933	..	..	14,263		2,060		8,594		4,947		381		30,245	
Difference	..	..	+268		+58		+189		—18		+62		+559	

On the 1st July, 1934, 31,231 children were in attendance at *public* schools providing secondary education, and of these 30,804 held free places and 427 were paying pupils. Ninety-nine per cent. of the children were thus receiving free secondary education.

In 1933 445 out of the 30,866 children in attendance were paying pupils. The percentage of children receiving free education in 1934 was 1 per cent. more than that of the previous year.

19. SPECIAL CLASSES FOR BACKWARD CHILDREN.

The classes for backward children continue to provide in a very satisfactory manner specialized instruction which the children concerned would not otherwise receive but for the special-class system. One new class was commenced during the year, situated in the Wellington Education District.

The total roll number of those classes does not vary greatly from year to year. The number of pupils in attendance is less than 1 per cent. of the total primary-school roll.