a large proportion of our pupils remain long enough at school to complete the curriculum of instruction prescribed in the syllabus. The number of absentees has this year grown from 450 to 511, but we may fairly set off against this a decrease in the number of exceptions from 469 to 350. In passes and failures also the numbers show a decided improvement, being 11,237 and 2,065, as against 10,507 and 2,429 respectively in last year's return. The average mark assigned in class subjects has arisen from 45.8 to 47.9; in additional subjects there is no material difference.

The usual full information in regard to subjects, standards, and schools is contained in the appendices to this report.

We have, &c.,

L. B. Wood, M.A.,

W. J. Anderson, Ll.D., Inspectors.

The Chairman, North Canterbury Education Board.

TABLE A.—PASS-SUBJECTS.

Classes.	Number presented.		Number excepted.	Number failed.	Number passed.	Proportion presented of Total Sch'l-roll.	Total	No. of Schools present- ing.	Average Age of those that passed.
Above Standard VI  V  V  IV  III  II  Preparatory	139 756 1,614 2,578 3,253 3,154 2,808 6,514	18 61 105 154 105 68	 18 51 66 124 72 19	154 412 530 648 221 100	 566 1,090 1,877 2,327 2,756 2,621	0.67 3.63 7.75 12:38 15:63 15:15 13:49 31:29	$\begin{array}{c} \dots \\ 2\cdot71 \\ 5\cdot24 \\ 9\cdot02 \\ 11\cdot18 \\ 13\cdot24 \\ 12\cdot59 \\ \dots \end{array}$	45 120 143 158 162 162 159	Yrs. m.  14 0 13 2 12 3 11 3 10 0 8 10
Totals for 1891 Totals for 1890	20,816 20,779	511 450		2,065 2,429	11,237 10,507	100·00 100·00	53·99 50·57	165 164	11 7* 11 8*

<sup>\*</sup> Mean of average ages.

Table B.—Pass-subjects: Proportions calculated in Percentages.

Classes.		Absent.	Excepted.	Failed.	Passed.	Failed, of Sum of Passes and Failures : Percentage of Failures.		
						1891.	1890.	
Standard VI  " V  " IV  " III  " II		2·38 3·78 4·07 4·73 3·33 2·42	2·38 3·16 2·56 3·81 2·28 ·68	20·37 25·53 20·56 19·92 7·01 3·56	74·87 67·53 72·81 71·53 87·38 93·34	21·39 27·43 22·02 21·78 7·42 3·68	30·87 33·74 28·25 25·29 8·72 5·44	
All classes	•••	3.68	2.47	14.58	79.34	15.52	18.78	

TABLE C.

Class-subjects.	Per- centages.	No. of Schools.	Additional Subjects.	Average Marks.	No. of Schools.
History Geography Elementary science, objectlessons, &c	41·58 58·60 43·37	162 165 165	Repetition and recitation Drill and exercises Singing Needlework	12·68 11·42 11·05 14·57	163 140 136 157
Average of percentage on class-subjects	47.92	165	Subject - matter of reading- lessons Extra drawing Average of additional marks	12·65 7·5 57·82	$165 \\ 4 \\ 165$