

Lowest.—English: Longmans' Fourth Reader; History—Blackwood's Short Stories. Geography—Macdonald's Zealandia Geography, Part I.; physical geography—explanation of geographical terms, &c. Grammar—simple analysis and parsing. Object lessons—simple lessons on common objects, with a view to subsequent composition on the subject of lesson. French: Char-denal's First French Course. Arithmetic: Simple and compound rules in money, simple problems, mental arithmetic.

Drawing is taught throughout the school.

SOUTHLAND BOYS' AND GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL BOARD.

1. REPORT OF THE BOARD.

SIR,—

Invercargill, 27th March, 1893.

In conformity with section 8 of "The Southland Boys' and Girls' High Schools Act, 1877," and terms of circular of 10th December from the Education Department, I have the honour to present the following annual report of the High Schools Board for the year ended 31st December, 1892:—

The members of the Board at the beginning of the year were Messrs. G. Lumsden and H. Carswell, appointed by His Excellency the Governor; Messrs. D. L. Matheson and R. McNab, elected by the Southland Education Board; and His Worship Mr. J. W. Bain, the Mayor of Invercargill. Mr. Lumsden was elected chairman.

Miss Billing, successor to Miss Pitcaithly, as first assistant-teacher in the Girls' School, entered upon her duties at the beginning of 1892. There has been no change in the teaching-staff during the year. The Collegiate Classes Association continues the occupation of part of the school building during the winter session for their classes.

The boarding establishment referred to in last annual report is still continued. The Board has, during the year, availed itself of the opportunity of purchasing a property adjoining the school suitable, with addition, for a boys' boarding establishment. The building is now complete and is very suitable for the purpose. The want of a boys' playground is, however, still very much felt. An effort is being made to secure the use of an area near the school for this purpose, but arrangements are not yet completed.

The separation of the boys' and girls' schools, referred to in previous reports, is still under consideration, but no definite steps have yet been taken. The leasing of a property, suitable for a school and boarding establishment in one, for girls, was favourably considered by the Board, but before arrangements were completed a committee was formed for the purpose of ascertaining whether some scheme could be devised to increase the popularity of the school, and it was deemed desirable to defer deciding upon the matter until the committee had sent in its report.

The absence of a systematic annual examination of the schools by outside examiners, which has been referred to in previous reports, is a much-felt want, and this Board would be glad if such examinations could be undertaken by the Government.

No transactions of any importance have taken place during the year in connection with the Board's endowments.

At the end of the school year there was held a public demonstration on a limited scale, but somewhat more extensive than has been usual on previous occasions. The entertainment, which partook of the character of a *conversazione*, brought before the public the kind of work done at the schools.

I append hereto financial statement for the year ended 31st December, 1892, duly certified by the Auditor-General.

I have, &c.,

J. WALKER BAIN, Acting Chairman.

The Hon. the Minister of Education, Wellington.

2. GENERAL STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 31st December, 1892.

<i>Receipts.</i>			<i>Expenditure.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance	126	18 9	By Management—Office salary	75	0 0
Bank of New Zealand, fixed deposit from last year	2,219	14 9	Teachers' salaries and allowances	1,180	0 0
Bank of New South Wales, fixed deposit from last year	453	0 0	Boarding establishment	111	14 4
Endowments—			Prizes	8	10 3
Reserves sold	109	12 8	Printing, stationery, and advertising	24	19 6
Current income from reserves	890	3 11	Cleaning, fuel, light, &c.,	77	5 5
Interest on moneys invested and on unpaid purchase-money	172	15 4	Book and stationery account, and other temporary advances	17	10 1
Paid by School Commissioners	249	7 4	Fencing, repairs, &c.	41	7 11
School fees, Boys' School	309	8 8	Insurance and taxes	21	15 0
Boarding establishment	15	12 0	Interest on current account	0	7 0
Books, &c., sold, and other refunds, Boys' School	2	4 0	Site and buildings for Boys' Boarding Establishment	781	7 1
Books, &c., sold, and other refunds, Girls' School	147	2 2	Reserves—Rates, and expenses of leasing	3	16 6
Rent of building purchased for boarding establishment	12	0 0	Furniture and fittings	17	12 4
Amount received for window broken	0	9 0	Sundries—Stamps, telegrams, &c.	7	5 5
			Balance in Bank of New Zealand on fixed deposit	1,355	4 7
			Balance in Bank of New South Wales on fixed deposit	403	0 0
			Balance	582	9 2
	<u>£4,709</u>	<u>4 7</u>		<u>£4,709</u>	<u>4 7</u>

GEORGE LUMSDEN, Chairman.

CHARLES ROUT, Treasurer.

Examined and found correct.—JAMES EDWARD FITZGERALD, Controller and Auditor-General.