

TABLE H.—NUMBER OF PUPILS INSTRUCTED IN EACH SUBJECT.

Education Districts.	Numbers belonging at End of Year.	Reading.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	English Grammar and Composition.	Geography.	History.	Elementary Science.	Drawing.	Object-lessons.	Vocal Music.	Needlework (Girls).	Domestic Economy.
Auckland ..	26,607	26,607	26,607	26,607	13,599	16,669	12,619	9,552	26,361	17,629	21,454	11,290	1,296
Taranaki ..	3,827	3,827	3,827	3,827	1,542	2,087	1,544	1,020	3,761	2,746	2,482	1,706	10
Wanganui ..	9,927	9,927	9,927	9,904	5,743	6,190	4,385	3,408	8,867	6,275	4,500	3,193	30
Wellington ..	13,541	13,541	13,541	13,541	7,486	9,910	7,210	5,686	13,091	8,953	12,320	5,343	533
Hawke's Bay ..	7,383	7,383	7,383	7,383	3,422	4,393	3,203	2,292	7,319	4,884	6,440	2,940	80
Marlborough ..	2,183	2,183	2,183	2,183	1,289	1,534	1,231	748	2,083	1,376	1,327	959	265
Nelson ..	6,004	6,004	6,004	6,004	3,542	4,154	3,224	2,462	5,342	3,695	3,646	2,577	98
Grey ..	1,673	1,673	1,673	1,651	763	954	635	370	1,487	1,109	1,002	656	6
Westland ..	1,541	1,541	1,541	1,541	851	1,040	797	627	1,333	859	936	637	66
North Canterbury	21,300	21,300	21,300	21,300	11,415	14,037	11,365	6,422	20,998	13,124	19,225	9,948	1,914
South Canterbury	5,322	5,322	5,322	5,322	2,583	3,285	2,551	1,774	5,030	3,399	4,749	2,416	118
Otago ..	22,091	22,091	22,091	22,091	11,580	14,289	11,182	8,201	20,897	13,967	21,102	8,922	931
Southland ..	9,638	9,638	9,638	9,575	4,853	6,056	4,621	3,406	9,375	6,143	8,647	3,501	275
Totals for 1896	131,037	131,037	131,037	130,929	68,668	84,598	64,567	45,968	125,944	84,159	107,830	54,088	5,622
Totals for 1895	129,856	129,856	129,848	129,631	66,331	82,293	63,318	43,448	124,192	83,293	106,020	53,226	7,018
Difference ..	1,181	1,181	1,189	1,298	2,337	2,305	1,249	2,520	1,752	866	1,810	862	-1,396

It is shown in Tables A and B that the number of pupils on the rolls at the end of 1896 exceeds the corresponding number for 1895 by 1,181. Table B carelessly interpreted would lead to the conclusion that the number of new pupils in 1896 was 48,729, and that the number of pupils withdrawn from school in twelve months was 40,117, *plus* the difference (7,431) between the number on the rolls at the end of 1895 and the number on the rolls at the beginning of 1896, the net gain (1,181) being the difference between 48,729 new pupils admitted and 47,548 old pupils withdrawn. But these high numbers are deceptive, and are due in great part to removals from school to school, and to such long absences (from illness and other causes) as lead to the striking-off of names and subsequent re-entries. It is not likely that the number of really new pupils in any year is much above the highest number given in any line of Table C, where the pupils are classified according to age with intervals of a year, and this year the highest number in that table is 15,212.

A comparison of the age-table of 1896 with that of 1895 shows that, if the correct ages of the children have been recorded, there must have been 15,518 really new pupils enrolled in 1896, and that at least 14,337 must have finally left during the year. The details are as follows :—

Entered between	5 and 6	...	...	...	...	9,708	
"	6 " 7	...	...	...	...	3,381	
"	7 " 8	...	...	...	...	1,937	
"	8 " 9	...	...	...	...	192	
"	9 " 10	...	...	...	...	210	
"	10 " 11	...	...	...	...	90	
							15,518
Left between	11 and 12	...	...	...	...	196	
"	12 " 13	...	...	...	...	926	
"	13 " 14	...	...	...	...	3,056	
"	14 " 15	...	...	...	...	4,350	
Left, being over	15 ...	...	...	...	...	5,809	
							14,337
					Gain ...	...	1,181

Fairly consistent with this estimate is the result obtained from a study of Table D for 1895, and Tables D and G for 1896 :—

New pupils in	Preparatory and First Standard Classes	...	15,061	
"	class preparing for Standard II.	...	112	
			<hr/>	15,173
Losses from	"	III.	...	1,008
"	"	IV.	...	2,077
"	"	V.	...	3,269
"	"	VI.	...	2,240
"	class above Standard VI....	...	...	5,398
			<hr/>	13,992
				<hr/>
		Gain	...	1,181