

Building Construction (Part IV.), Standard Practical Plumbing (P. J. Davies), History of Ancient and Medieval Architecture (Ferguson), Architectural Perspective (Ferguson). General and art section.—How to Teach Drawing in Elementary Schools (T. R. Ablett), Directions for Chip-carving (J. B. Bury), Domestic Economy (Paul), Solid or Descriptive Geometry (Dobbie), The Teaching of Drawing (Morris), Elementary Principles of Ornament (Ward), New Zealand Official Year-book (1895), Wood-carving (Leland), A Manual of Cardboard Modelling (Heaton), Analysis of Ornament (Wornum), Course of Practical Lessons in Hand and Eye Training (3 vols., Bevis), Science and Art Drawing, Complete Geometry Course (Spanton), Woodwork (Barter), Geometry (2 vols., Morris), Bent iron Work (Erskine), Drawing and Design for Beginners (Taylor), Magazine of Art (1895), Studio (1895), Decorative Art (1895), Art Journal (1894-95), Work (1894-95), Decoration of Metals (Harrison), Leather-work (Leland), Manual Instruction (Barter), Sketch (1895), Wood-carving for Amateurs (Denning).

Objects of art and plant form have been kindly lent by His Excellency the Governor, the Colonial Museum, Mr. Edward Anderson, and the Dresden Company during the year, which have proved very acceptable.

PERIODICALS. — The following contributions have been received: The Engineer, from the publishers; Work, from Messrs. Cassell and Company; The Decorator, from Messrs. Baillie Brothers; The Electrician, from Lady Glasgow; Engineering, from the Education Board; The Idler, from J. A. Tripe, Esq.; The Artist, from G. R. Irvine, Esq.; The Art Journal, from J. Pearson, Esq.; Magazine of Art, from Dr. Grace; Education, from the publishers; Building News, from W. Crichton, Esq.; The Studio, from J. M. Nairn, Esq. The above are placed for the use of the students, and at the end of the year are bound and added to the library.

General.

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.—Exhibits of work in primary first-grade class and examination examples, second or intermediate grade, and in all the higher branches of art and industrial work were shown as a progressive exhibit, and received very favourable commendation from the public and educational authorities.

PRIZE DESIGNS.—Prizes of £15 and £10 10s. were offered for competition amongst the art and technical schools of New Zealand by the Government for designs for a medal and certificate as a distinction to be conferred upon persons distinguishing themselves by saving, or attempting to save, human life. Both prizes were secured by the Wellington school, Florence Broome obtaining first place for both certificate and medal, and Millicent Igglesden the second place in the same. In the award offered for the best design for a seal for the Industrial Association of Wellington, Florence Broome was again successful.

NEW ZEALAND TIMBER.—At my request specimens of New Zealand timber were presented by the Hon. the Minister for Public Works, and form a very valuable addition to the illustrations provided for the information of the building construction and architectural sections of the school.

LIBRARY AND APPARATUS PRIVATE FUND.—The Wellington Dramatic Students, many of whom are interested in the work of the school, very generously gave a performance of "The Magistrate," with the result that the substantial sum of £43 8s. 2d. was placed to the credit of the fund. This has enabled me to add considerably to the appliances of the various classes, with very beneficial effect, and I desire to again thank the Students for their generous action.

GENERAL.—The year's work has naturally been an increase upon that of 1895, and the general progress must be considered satisfactory. The whole of the clerical work and registration, &c., is now under my personal direction, Lilian Leslie having been appointed Registrar to the school.

With reference to the technical classes, it is disappointing to find the employers, with the exception of the Ironfounders and the Builders' Association, who contribute to the prize fund on behalf of their respective trades, do not sufficiently interest themselves in the matter of this education, for undoubtedly they reap the greater advantage. The success of the movement would, I believe, be almost doubled if the employers would show that they valued it, and would take a practical interest in the work of the school in connection with their employes.

FINANCE.—The total cost for the year is £2,525 7s. 2d., but of this amount £500 is charged on account of the building debt, leaving the actual cost of the school at £2,025 7s. 2d. The total receipts amount to £1,320 1s. 7d., leaving a balance of £705 5s. 7d.; as against this sum the following items are chargeable: Instruction to 82 teachers at 15s. per quarter, £246; instruction to 62 scholarship-holders at 10s. per quarter, £124; instruction to 19 teachers in evening classes at 7s. 6d. per quarter, £28 10s.; cost of primary examinations, £110; inspection of schools and correspondence class work, £143 17s.; amounts due from City Council, Education Department, and sundry amounts unpaid to the 31st December, £142 17s. 10d: total, £795 4s. 10d.

My thanks are due to all those whom I have named, and who have so generously contributed to the successful year's working, either by loans or contributions of prizes, books, periodicals, or appliances. To Messrs. J. Fulton, C.E., W. Crichton, H. S. Wardell, and T. Fleming, M.A., LL.B., who acted as honorary examiners. To the supervisors, and to my staff, of whom, for their energy and very sincere interest in the welfare of the school, I cannot speak too highly.

I have, &c.,

The Chairman, Wellington Education Board.

ARTHUR D. RILEY.