

In the next table the average attendance in each education district is shown in detail by a statement of the aggregate attendance at each group of schools under the classification in Table J.

The number of small schools, with an average attendance not exceeding 20, has increased by 13, from 486 to 499.

TABLE J1.—AVERAGE ATTENDANCE FOR THE YEAR 1902 AT THE SCHOOLS AS GROUPED IN TABLE J.

Yearly Average Attendance.	Auckland.	Taranaki.	Wanganui.	Wellington.	Hawke's Bay.	Marlborough.	Nelson.	Grey.	Westland.	North Canterbury.	South Canterbury.	Otago.	Southland.	Totals.
1 to 8	39	12	20	54	7	137	110	36	64	38	8	34	33	592
9 " 20	1,513	207	488	474	234	149	428	186	158	707	165	806	294	5,809
21 " 30	2,387	402	733	738	226	159	616	53	52	1,194	562	711	1,159	8,992
31 " 40	1,592	395	762	421	247	102	356	..	71	487	306	1,135	1,030	6,904
41 " 50	1,574	493	579	575	172	86	498	187	86	1,124	441	824	314	6,953
51 " 70	1,583	230	1,174	643	801	180	433	57	66	829	405	1,506	780	8,687
71 " 90	1,050	221	610	765	378	..	465	154	74	1,037	239	871	661	6,525
91 " 120	1,477	499	843	586	406	216	107	102	..	1,393	104	489	761	6,983
121 " 150	1,075	292	828	514	530	432	279	..	..	422	..	764	407	5,543
151 " 200	1,559	..	..	836	645	..	326	173	..	847	534	668	563	6,151
201 " 250	1,823	212	1,315	214	460	..	443	..	455	892	..	873	469	7,156
251 " 280	..	..	270	803	263	..	270	..	..	253	..	785	273	2,917
281 " 330	1,234	..	..	324	294	..	..	..	..	596	326	886	311	3,961
331 " 390	..	..	715	333	362	..	..	..	..	343	332	725	..	2,810
391 " 420	411	..	394	408	..	..	..	..	..	417	..	1,215	..	2,845
421 " 480	443	431	879	909	..	..	..	446	..	2,171	425	911	..	6,615
481 " 510	1,014	..	..	491	..	..	482	..	..	..	..	508	..	2,490
511 " 570	2,752	564	..	542	553	..	..	..	..	537	..	2,755	..	7,703
571 " 600	1,751	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	574	2,825
601 " 660	658	..	..	1,254	..	..	..	..	..	..	617	652	642	3,823
661 " 690	672	..	..	1,356	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	661	..	2,689
691 " 750	..	..	..	712	1,463	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,175
751 " 780	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	773	..	..	..	773
781 " 840	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	805	..	..	..	805
841 " 870	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
871 " 930	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	886	..	..	..	886
931 " 960	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
961 " 1020	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	991	..	..	..	991
Totals, 1902	24,607	3,958	9,610	12,628	7,071	1,745	4,813	1,394	1,026	16,742	4,464	17,774	8,271	114,103
Totals, 1901	24,468	3,516	9,219	12,614	6,855	1,767	4,741	1,369	1,049	16,585	4,474	17,546	7,955	112,158
Difference	139	442	391	14	216	-22	72	25	-23	157	-10	228	316	1,945

During the year 1902, 40 schools were closed—viz., in Auckland, 5; Wanganui, 1; Wellington, 6; Hawke's Bay, 2; Marlborough, 8; Nelson, 3; Westland, 3; North Canterbury, 2; South Canterbury, 1; Otago, 7; and Southland, 2. These were all small schools, and were closed, generally speaking, for ordinary reasons connected with movements of the population.

Owing to the constitution of the new County of Egmont out of portions of the Counties of Taranaki and Hawera, it became necessary, under "The Education Districts Act, 1882," to redefine the Education Districts of Taranaki and Wanganui. An order was accordingly made by His Excellency the Governor in Council, and the new county was thereby declared to be comprised in the District of Taranaki, in consequence of which three schools were transferred to that district which had previously been in the District of Wanganui.

PUBLIC-SCHOOL TEACHERS.

In December, 1902, there were employed in the public schools of the colony 3,704 teachers; of these, 2,957 were adults and 747 pupil-teachers: the corresponding numbers for December, 1901, were 2,668 adults and 955 pupil-teachers. Of the adult teachers at the end of 1902, 1,272 were men and 1,685 were women; of the pupil-teachers, 143 were male and 604 female. The number of adult male teachers was 50, and of adult female teachers 239, more than in December, 1901; and the number of male pupil-teachers was 41 less, and of females 167 less, than at that period. Most, in fact nearly all, of the pupil-teachers displaced have during the year received appointments as assistant teachers. The average number of children in attendance to one teacher during the year 1902 was 30.7.