

*Mechanical Engineering Department.*—Instruction in the following subjects was given: Machine construction and drawing, practical mathematics, practical geometry, applied mechanics, and steam. The lack of early mathematical training was very decidedly shown in those subjects which have mathematics as a basis, the majority of students having had only a very imperfect knowledge even of arithmetic. Only one student was successful in passing the full first year's course for the Diploma in Mechanical Engineering, whilst two obtained the full second year's certificate.

*Electrical Engineering Department.*—Magnetism and electricity, practical mathematics, machine construction and drawing, electric lighting and power distribution, applied mechanics, and steam were the subjects taught in this department during the last session. The electrical classes were considerably handicapped at the beginning of the session, owing to lack of apparatus. During the year about four hundred and fifty pounds' worth of equipment was obtained, so that this department is now fairly complete as far as elementary work is concerned. For the Diploma in Electrical Engineering four students obtained the full first year's certificate, and one the second year's.

*Building Trades Department.*—Instruction was given in this department in practical mathematics, carpentry and joinery, freehand, model, and geometrical drawing, handrailing and staircasing, and building-construction. On the whole, this was the most successful department of the school last session. The advantage of having a thoroughly skilled mechanic, who is also a trained teacher, for such subjects as carpentry and joinery and handrailing and staircasing was clearly demonstrated, and under Mr. Trendall's guidance some excellent work was done. The building-construction classes, under Mr. G. W. Allsop, A.R.I.B.A., were again most successful, not a single failure in the local examinations having been recorded. Eight students were successful in passing the first year's examination for the Diploma in Carpentry and Joinery.

*Cabinetmaking Department.*—The subjects dealt with in this department were as follows: Theory and practice of cabinetmaking, freehand, model, and geometrical drawing, practical mathematics, and perspective. It is much to be regretted that so few students who are really engaged in the cabinetmaking trade attended the classes. Those, however, who did attend made very satisfactory progress. For the Diploma in Cabinetmaking one student obtained the first year's certificate, and one the second.

*Plumbing Department.*—Instruction in this department was given in practical mathematics, drawing for plumbers, physics and chemistry, and theory and practice of plumbing. This department is a most important one, the City Council having decided to recognise the Technical School as an institution at which all the apprentices in plumbing in the city shall receive a technical training. Early in the year the Council set up a Board of Advice in connection with the examination of plumbers, the Board being composed of the City Engineer, the City Sanitary Inspector, a representative selected by the master plumbers, a representative selected by the journeymen plumbers, and the Director of Technical Education. This Board made the following recommendations to the Council, which were adopted: (1.) That no plumber shall receive a license to do sanitary work in the city without having first passed an examination. (2.) That until the end of 1907 the examination shall be a practical and *viva voce* one only. (3.) That provisional licenses shall be granted to journeymen and master plumbers until the 31st March, 1906. (4.) That until the end of 1907 plumbers who possess one of the following qualifications shall be granted a license without further examination: (a) First-class Ordinary Certificate of the London City and Guilds; (b) Certificate of the Worshipful Company of Plumbers, London (by examination); (c) Final Certificate of the Wellington Technical School; or (d) Final Certificate of the Auckland Technical School. (5.) That after the 31st December, 1907, no plumber who has served his apprenticeship in Auckland shall be granted a license unless he has attended four years at the Auckland Technical School and obtained the Diploma in Plumbing. (6.) That after the 31st December, 1907, any plumber who has not served his apprenticeship in Auckland, and who wishes to obtain a license, shall be required to pass the Diploma Examination of the Technical School, unless he can produce evidence to the Plumbers' Board of having passed an examination of equivalent value. (7.) That after the 31st December, 1907, no plumber shall be granted a master's license unless he has been a licensed journeyman for at least two years, and is able to pass a special examination embracing preparation of plans and specifications, sanitary law, &c.

As the result of the adoption by the Council of these recommendations, a large number of journeymen and master plumbers (forty-three) attended the school, and some excellent work was done. Of the nine students who entered for the Ordinary Grade Plumbing of the City and Guilds all were successful, whilst twelve passed the preliminary grade out of fourteen entries. For the Diploma in Plumbing three students succeeded in passing the first year's examination, and three the second.

*Painting and Decorating Department.*—This was the most disappointing department of the school, as, although special courses of instruction, both for apprentices and for journeymen, in the theory and practice of painting and decorating were arranged, no students presented themselves. This is to be specially regretted when one looks around and sees the preponderance of inferior painting, and the very small amount of really first-class work. A special drawing class for painters was arranged, under the direction of Mr. Wallace, the Board's art specialist, but as only two or three students joined the class who were engaged in the painting trade, others were admitted who required any special art training in connection with their trade or occupation. Amongst those who joined this class were monumental masons, stained-glass workers, architects, &c. Considering that only one evening per week was devoted to this class, really excellent work was done.

Speaking generally, the work done in the Technical School during the last session showed marked improvement on that of the preceding year. There were fewer students attending who