

TABLE J.—SUMMARY OF THE ACCOUNTS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR 1908 FURNISHED BY THE GOVERNING BODIES OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

<i>Receipts.</i>				<i>Expenditure.</i>			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Credit balances on 1st January, 1908 ..	27,729	4	4	Liabilities on 1st January, 1908..	5,781	7	11
Endowment reserves sold and mortgage moneys repaid .. ..	4,517	14	11	Expenses of management .. ..	3,412	8	9
Rents of reserves .. ..	28,788	9	1	School salaries .. ..	52,340	3	1
Interest on moneys invested .. ..	3,781	6	10	Boarding-school accounts .. ..	15,390	11	9
Reserves Commissioners' payments ..	4,204	9	3	Scholarships and prizes .. ..	2,031	14	6
Government payments—				Printing, stationery, fuel, light, &c. ..	3,949	11	2
For manual instruction .. ..	881	18	6	Buildings, furniture, insurance, rent, and rates .. ..	40,102	11	4
For free places .. ..	24,538	15	10	On endowments .. ..	3,883	13	10
Subsidy on voluntary contributions ..	1,080	0	6	On manual instruction .. ..	754	12	7
Grants for buildings, sites, furniture, &c. 16,164	2	3		Interest .. ..	1,895	2	5
Statutory grant (Marlborough High School) .. ..	400	0	0	Examination expenses .. ..	207	16	9
Technical instruction—				Sundries not classified..	5,934	9	8
Government payments .. ..	2,207	10	4	On technical instruction .. ..	4,043	15	3
From other sources .. ..	1,534	8	2	Credit balances, 31st December, 1908 ..	25,937	17	9
School fees (tuition) .. ..	19,159	12	6				
Boarding-school fees .. ..	16,892	16	5				
Books, &c., sold, and refunds .. ..	368	0	9				
Sundries not classified..	6,789	7	1				
Debit balances, 31st December, 1908 ..	6,627	14	6				
	£165,665	11	3		£165,665	11	3

This table shows that, generally speaking, the finances of the secondary schools are in a sound condition, notwithstanding the large expenditure under the head of buildings. It may be as well to compare the chief items of income and expenditure in 1907 and 1908.

	1907.	1908.
	£	£
Income from reserves and endowments..	33,636	36,774
Grants from Government (exclusive of building grants)	24,948	29,108
Building grants .. ..	9,473	16,164
Tuition fees .. ..	20,128	19,160
Salaries of staff .. ..	50,038	52,340
Expenses of management .. ..	3,421	3,412
Buildings, &c. .. ..	38,153	40,103

As the free-place system is extended, the amount received in tuition fees will naturally diminish, and the capitation grants from Government will increase.

The Education Amendment Act of last session will, by the introduction of a higher scale of capitation on free pupils, benefit not only those secondary schools which have few if any endowments, but also the more numerous class of schools whose income from endowments is small in proportion to the number of pupils; further, it will relieve from anxiety those schools where a necessity arises for a large building expenditure in any year, as the effect of the new sliding scale is that in any year the total of the net annual income from endowments and the capitation—that is, of the moneys available for the payment of staff salaries and working-expenses—cannot, with due safeguards, fall below £12 10s. per pupil—a sum which past experience shows to be just sufficient.

The new scale does not, like the former scale, proceed by jumps, but is a true sliding scale, increasing the rate of capitation for even the smallest decrease of the net annual income per pupil. The words of the schedule are, for this and other reasons, at first sight somewhat complicated, but their meaning may be clearly seen by the following statement of their effect at certain stages of the net annual income per head, which is found by dividing the net annual income from endowments, defined above, by the total number of pupils excluding the lower department, the latter being required to be self-supporting.

Rate of Capitation payable on Free Pupils for certain Stages of the Net Annual Income per Head.

Net Annual Income per Head.	Capitation per Free Pupil.	Total Income per Pupil.
£17 and over .. ..	£4 (or £6) ..	£21 and over.
£15 .. ..	£4/10 (or £6) ..	£19/10 at least.
£13 .. ..	£5 (or £6) ..	£18 ..
£11 .. ..	£5/10 (or £6) ..	£16/10 ..
£9 .. ..	£6 ..	£15 ..
£7 .. ..	£7 ..	£14 ..
£5 .. ..	£8 ..	£13 ..
£4 .. ..	£8/18 ..	£12/18 ..