

creased to £38 14s. 6d. This account cannot be allowed to encroach on the funds devoted to administration, and consideration will be given to render the former self-supporting. The Manual and Technical Account shows a small credit balance. "School" classes are largely in debt, but amounts still due will reduce the deficit.

As the full amount allotted for the maintenance of buildings for 1908 was received during the year, in addition to part of the previous vote, the receipts in the Building Fund are larger than usual. The result (excluding contractors' deposits) is a credit balance, £832 7s. 5d. Towards the end of the year grants totalling £650 were promised for the rebuilding of the teacher's residence, Hokitika, and of the school building at Jackson, the latter having been destroyed by fire. The contracts for re-erection were let in December. During the year £128 has been expended in renewing desks by the supply of those in dual form.

Authority was received to supply free text-books to the junior pupils of the schools, and the Board has authorised the teachers to obtain the necessary copies in accordance with the instructions issued.

The Hon. the Minister of Education.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE PERRY, Chairman.

GENERAL STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 31st December, 1908.

[illegible]

13th February, 1909.

GEORGE PERRY, Chairman.

A. J. MORTON, Secretary.

NORTH CANTERBURY.

SIR,—

Christchurch, 5th May, 1909.

I have the honour to present the following report of the proceedings of the Education Board of the District of North Canterbury for the year ending 31st December, 1908.

THE BOARD.—The members whose term of office expired under the provisions of the Act were Mr. Adams, Mr. Peryman, and Mr. Rowe (representing the North, South, and Central Wards respectively). Mr. Rowe did not offer himself for re-election. At an election held on the 27th July Mr. Adams and Mr. Peryman were re-elected for their respective wards, the former being unopposed. Mr. C. H. A. T. Opie was elected to represent the Central Ward. At the Board's annual meeting, held on the 9th September, Mr. Hardy was elected Chairman. The Board met fourteen times during the year, the Buildings Committee seventeen times, the Appointments Committee twenty-eight times, and the Normal School and Technical Committee fourteen times.