

Head teachers of Native schools now receive salary at the same rate as do head teachers of public schools, and the payments are subject to similar conditions. Prior to the revision of the salary scheme the amount paid in salaries for 1906 was £17,519, for 1908 it was £20,292, and under the revised scale coming into force this year a further increase is effected. The average salary paid to head teachers of Native schools for the year 1908 was £158 11s. 7d.

The staffs of the village schools included seventy-six masters and nineteen mistresses in charge, one hundred and six assistants, and five sewing-teachers.

At the end of the year the standard classification of the children in the village schools was as follows:—

Class P .. .. .	1,939
Standard I .. .. .	465
Standard II .. .. .	524
Standard III .. .. .	536
Standard IV .. .. .	376
Standard V .. .. .	246
Standards VI and VII .. .. .	131

Six certificates of proficiency and twenty-four of competency were gained in these schools during the year. The number of European children in Native schools at the end of the year was 410, of whom 376 were in the preparatory class and lower standards, and 34 in Standards VI and VII. Two certificates of proficiency and seven of competency were gained by European children during the year.

The classification according to race of the children at the 31st December, 1908, was as follows:—

Maori or nearly so .. .. .	80.5 per cent.
Half-castes speaking Maori .. .. .	7.9 „
Half-castes speaking English .. .. .	1.9 „
Europeans .. .. .	9.7 „

There were 4,429 children of Maori or mixed race attending public schools: of these, 63.54 per cent. were Maori, 6.25 per cent. of mixed race living as Maoris, and 30.21 per cent. of mixed race living as Europeans.

Twenty-six certificates of proficiency and fifteen of competency were gained during the year by Maori children in public schools.

So far as statistics are available the number of persons in New Zealand of Maori and of mixed race receiving instruction at the end of the year 1908 may be summarised as follows (omitting Maoris attending secondary schools and Maoris at certain schools not under Government inspection, of whom no separate return is made):—

	Actual Number.	Number per 10,000 of Maori Population at Census of 1906 (47,731).
I. Primary schools—		
(a.) Government Native schools .. .. .	4,217	883.5
(b.) Mission-schools .. .. .	215	45.0
(c.) Public schools .. .. .	4,429	927.9
	8,861	1,856.4
II. Secondary schools .. .. .	303	63.5
III. Special technical training .. .. .	13	2.7
Totals .. .. .	9,177	1,922.6

## No. 2.

The INSPECTORS OF NATIVE SCHOOLS to the INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF SCHOOLS.

SIR,—

Wellington, 22nd March, 1909.

In accordance with instructions, we have the honour herewith to place before you our report on the general condition of the Native schools and the work done by them during the year 1908.

### NEW SCHOOLS, ETC., 1908.

At the end of the year 1907 there were ninety-nine village schools in operation. During the year 1908 seven new schools were opened, five were transferred to Education Boards, and four were closed, so that there were ninety-seven schools working at the end of 1908.

The new schools opened during the year were—*Waiuku*, Manukau Harbour; *Mataora Bay*, near Waihi, Bay of Plenty; *Wharekawa*, near Tairua, Bay of Plenty; *Ngongotaha*, near Rotorua; *Motiti Island*, near Tauranga, Bay of Plenty; *Taemaro*, near Mangonui; and *Kakanui*, in Kaipara district.

At four of these places—*Waiuku*, *Ngongotaha*, *Taemaro*, and *Kakanui*—school is being conducted for the present in temporary buildings.

The following schools were transferred to the Boards of Education in their respective districts:—*Puniho*, in Taranaki; *The Neck*, in Southland; *Little River*, *Rapaki*, and *Katapo*, in North Canterbury.