

As stated last year, there is a movement in certain education districts in the direction of the establishment of compulsory continuation and technical classes under section 18 of the Education Amendment Act, 1910. Regulations requiring the attendance of young persons between the ages of fourteen and seventeen who are not otherwise receiving a suitable education, or who are not specially exempted from attendance have now been approved for certain school districts in Taranaki, Wanganui, and Hawke's Bay. The operation of these regulations, which it is expected will shortly be put into force, will be watched with much interest in view of the attention now being given to the question of the further education of adolescents in other parts of the world.

Free places at classes other than classes at day technical schools were held by 2,308 students. The following table gives the school age and sex of free pupils attending such classes :—

School Age.	1910.			1911.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Junior free pupils { First year ..	688	406	1,094	670	341	1,011
{ Second year ..	257	184	441	356	200	556
Senior free pupils { First year ..	189	116	305	223	140	363
{ Second year ..	104	73	177	130	99	229
{ Third year ..	57	24	81	81	68	149
	1,295	803	2,098	1,460	848	2,308

In 1911 the number of pupils holding Junior Free Places tenable for two years was 1,567, the number holding Senior Free Places tenable for three years being 741. About 51 per cent. of the pupils who entered on Junior Free Places in 1910 continued to attend in 1911. Of the total number of senior free pupils in their first year about 45 per cent. had previously been in attendance as junior free pupils. The remainder were either admitted on transfer from day technical schools, district high schools, or secondary schools, or had qualified by examination for Senior Free Places. Of the total number (2,308) of students admitted to free places 2,016, or 87 per cent., qualified for capitation. Capitation payments on account of free places amounted for 1911 to £5,900 15s. 10d., being at the rate of £2·9 per free place.

The following is a summary of the chief sources of income and items of expenditure for 1911 in respect of "Special" and "Associated" classes for technical instruction (including day technical schools) :—

#### ASSOCIATED CLASSES.

<i>Receipts.</i>	£	<i>Expenditure.</i>	£
Capitation on attendances and free places	16,699	Administration, &c. ..	5,413
Voluntary contributions and subsidies thereon ..	6,155	Salaries of instructors ..	18,453
Grants for buildings and equipment ..	4,164	Buildings and equipment ..	7,145
Grants for rent and material ..	1,090	Rent and material ..	2,619
Students' fees ..	4,316		
Other receipts ..	2,686		
Totals ..	£35,110		£33,630

#### SPECIAL CLASSES

<i>Receipts.</i>	£	<i>Expenditure.</i>	£
Capitation on attendances and free places	14,547	Administration ..	6,215
Voluntary contributions and subsidies thereon ..	2,436	Salaries of instructors ..	15,416
Grants for buildings and equipment ..	6,032	Buildings and equipment ..	16,724
Grants for rent and material ..	1,025	Rent and material ..	2,043
Students' fees ..	4,528		
Other receipts ..	1,799		
Totals ..	£30,367		£40,398