

This difference of 959 between those who entered for examination and those who actually sat is accounted for partly on the usual grounds, and partly by the operation of a clause in the Regulations for Senior Free Places, introduced in 1908, under which a number of candidates recommended on an accrediting principle therein embodied were exempt from examination, and accordingly did not present themselves. A provision on a somewhat similar principle recently embodied in the Regulations for Training Colleges also accounts for a certain proportion of the number.

In the several examinations the following were the numbers present :—

Junior National Scholarship and Junior Free Place Examinations	..	2,564
Civil Service Junior and allied examinations	2,563
Civil Service Senior Examination	518
Teachers' Certificate Examinations	1,626

The following table gives a comparative statement of the number of candidates examined under the principal groupings during the past five years :—

	1907-8.	1908-9.	1909-10.	1910-11.	1911-12.
Junior National and Education Board Scholarships and Junior Free Places	1,475	1,765	2,214	2,383	2,564
Civil Service Junior, Senior Free Places, Education Board Senior Scholarships, First Pupil-teachers	2,173	2,158	2,369	2,375	2,563
Teachers D and C	1,184	1,223	1,482	1,534	1,626
Civil Service Senior	231	373	443	390	518
Totals	5,063	5,519	6,508	6,682	7,271

With respect to the Civil Service Junior group, it is of interest further to note that during the same period the average proportion of the candidates making application to be examined in terms of the Civil Service Act, whether with the special view of gaining admission to the Civil Service or not, was 60·8 per cent. of the whole, the proportion being substantially uniform except in 1908, when through readily explainable causes it was greater than usual. On the results of the examination in this restricted sense the following are the numbers who have qualified during the past three years for inclusion in the order of merit list as annually published, boys and girls, respectively :—

Year.	Candidates examined.	Candidates who qualified.			Number obtaining "Credit."
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	
1909	1,421	520	280	800	220
1910	1,389	480	287	767	210
1911	1,552	500	373	873	193

The results of the Junior National Scholarship Examination were made known on the 11th January, those of the Civil Service Junior Examination on the 17th January, those of the Civil Service Senior Examination on the 19th February, and those of the Teachers' Examinations on the 23rd February.

Of the total number of candidates that sat for the Junior National Scholarship and Junior Free Place Examinations—

The number of candidates for scholarships was	1,607
The number who obtained a scholarship qualification was	847
The number who failed was	760
The number of candidates for free places was	957
The number who qualified for a free place was	556*
The number who failed was	401

The highest percentages of marks gained in the various subjects of this examination were as follows : English, 86 ; arithmetic, 100 ; geography, 93 ; general paper, 80 ; drawing, 92. The highest percentage gained by any one candidate on the whole examination was 84.

The following are details of candidature in regard to the Civil Service Junior and Intermediate Examination, in its varied applications :—

(a.) Total candidates presenting themselves for examination	2,563
(b.) Candidates under the provisions of the Civil Service Reform Act	1,552
(c.) Candidates for Education Board Senior Scholarships	374
(d.) Candidates included in both (b) and (c)	134
(e.) Candidates for Education Board Scholarships only	240
(f.) Candidates for first examination of pupil-teachers	53
(g.) Candidates for Senior Free Places only	597
(h.) Candidates for drawing only	121
Total	2,563

* Also the 847 above who gained a scholarship qualification, thus making a total of 1,403 who qualified for a free place