

In the case of teachers' salaries, teachers' house allowances, and scholarships it will be seen that the balance or deficit, as the case may be, is practically covered by the corresponding liability or asset. For these items the Department makes grants to cover the actual cost.

The transfers made during the year amount to only £6,246 17s. 3d., as compared with £34,683 8s. 10d. for the previous year. The fall is due to the fact that Education Boards have adopted the method suggested by the Department of charging items directly to the account to which the receipts or expenditure relate. This has done away to a large extent with the necessity of making transfers to adjust accounts at the end of the year.

Table F3 shows the salaries and allowances paid to officers of Education Boards other than teachers. Tables F4 and F5 give a summary of the receipts and expenditure of Education Boards from 1877 to 1912.

Excluding the expenditure on buildings, which is dealt with separately below, the following summary shows the chief items of expenditure for the past five years :—

|                                              | 1908.   | 1909.   | 1910.   | 1911.   | 1912.   |
|----------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                              | £       | £       | £       | £       | £       |
| Board's administration .. ..                 | 39,730  | 42,392  | 41,396  | 43,697  | 47,772  |
| Incidental expenses of schools .. ..         | 38,077  | 40,374  | 37,394  | 42,831  | 44,723  |
| Teachers' salaries* .. ..                    | 489,042 | 554,012 | 582,288 | 608,958 | 643,921 |
| Training colleges .. ..                      | 19,949  | 22,425  | 27,467  | 28,992  | 29,756  |
| Scholarships and district high schools .. .. | 31,892  | 32,136  | 32,811  | 32,620  | 33,361  |
| Manual and technical instruction .. ..       | 48,212  | 47,927  | 56,049  | 65,195  | 77,131  |

\* Excluding house allowance.

The increase in the expenditure on teachers' salaries is due in the main to three causes—the increased number of children receiving instruction, the yearly increment of £5 in teachers' salaries provided by section 7 (3) of the Education Amendment Act, 1908, and the replacement of most of the pupil-teachers in schools with an average attendance of 81 to 160 by adult assistants.

In the case of manual and technical instruction the increase is mainly due to the increased number of classes for manual instruction (especially woodwork, agriculture, and cookery) in connection with public schools, and to an increase both in the number of and the attendance at day technical schools. The expenditure also includes several payments which fell due in the previous year but were not actually made until 1912.

The following table shows the proportion of expenditure on administration to the whole expenditure, and the corresponding proportion of the incidental expenses of schools (through the School Committees), the figures for the five years previous being also entered for purposes of comparison :—

|            | Boards. | Committees. | Total. |
|------------|---------|-------------|--------|
| 1907 .. .. | 4.7     | 4.8         | 9.5    |
| 1908 .. .. | 4.7     | 4.5         | 9.2    |
| 1909 .. .. | 4.6     | 4.4         | 9.0    |
| 1910 .. .. | 4.5     | 4.0         | 8.5    |
| 1911 .. .. | 4.3     | 4.2         | 8.5    |
| 1912 .. .. | 4.3     | 4.1         | 8.4    |

The corresponding percentages for the several Education Boards are printed in Table F12. As is to be expected, the ratio of expenses of administration to total expenditure is highest in the smallest district (9.4).

Out of the capitation paid to Education Boards for general administration purposes the Boards provide School Committees with funds according to scale to meet incidental expenses of schools, such as lighting, fuel, cleaning, &c.