

The annual reunion of old students was held during Easter week. About 92 per cent. of the old students were present at one or other of the functions held, the bulk of the missing ones being one-year students who, as I have pointed out previously, are not in training long enough to be really influenced by College traditions. The different activities include an address by the Principal on school matters, a tennis tournament, a social evening, a swimming match (past *v.* present), and afternoon tea and talk each day. It is the most interesting week I spend in the year, and the opportunity the students get to talk over their difficulties I am sure bears fruit in improved efficiency in their schools. The outgoing students presented four large engravings as a memento of their stay in the College, and these make a fine addition to the walls.

The College magazine, the *Manuka*, was published in April, and every student, past and present, took one copy. The addresses of all old students since the College opened are recorded, so that the magazine also serves as a register for reference.

The Teachers' Institute met in Auckland this year, and very kindly presented twenty volumes to the College library, which make a very notable addition to the fiction section.

The alteration in the College regulations was gazetted early in 1914, and the improvement in salaries of the Normal School staff was very welcome. No member of the staff receives a salary of under £150 per annum now, so that in future we shall not be dependent upon raw ex-students when vacancies arise. This is a long-looked-for improvement, and one that is bound to make for higher efficiency. It is a pity that two needed additions were not included in the amendments, and then the College Principals would have been able to bury their "Oliver Twist" spoons for some time. I refer first to the small salary available for the science tutor. An income of £210 per year is not enough to keep a well-trained man holding good degrees. A novice can command a salary of £250 a year in secondary work, and I think I have the other three Principals with me when I say that a salary of £300 to £350 per year is the least that will put the matter on a satisfactory basis. The second matter is the need of a small honorarium—say, £10 per term—to be given to those teachers selected for the purpose of training students in external schools. Six such teachers would be able to take charge of twelve students, and so provide a much-needed relief in the Normal School.

There only remains now to chronicle the changes in the staff. The headmaster of the Normal School, Mr. H. G. Cousins, was given a year's leave of absence by the Board, and is now touring the world. His position is filled temporarily by Mr. C. Hall from the Devonport School, who will, on Mr. Cousins's return, be the first assistant master. Mr. R. H. Paterson, who has been first assistant since the school's inception, was appointed headmaster of the Mount Roskill School at the end of the year. Mr. Paterson has worked faithfully and well, and we shall miss his genial personality very much. Miss E. Schofield found the strain of teaching under Normal School conditions too much, and was transferred to the Te Papapa School, her work being taken by Miss H. Worrall, an old student. Miss Holloway, who, like Mr. Paterson, was one of the original staff of the Normal School, also found the strain beginning to tell, so got preferment at the Grafton School, Miss I. Hare filling the vacancy. Miss Holloway was a very reliable, hard-working, thorough teacher, and the details of her class-work were always above suspicion and a very good model for students to copy. I am sorry she had to leave us. The last to be mentioned, but by no means the least, is the resignation of Mr. A. J. Cottrell, M.A., M.Sc., who has taken up the medical course at Dunedin. Mr. Cottrell as science tutor has been my right-hand man, and as hockey coach, as conductor of the College band, as a regular attender at College socials, and as a thoroughly efficient teacher, has left his mark behind him. I look forward confidently to the time when his course is completed, as the Dominion is in sore need of men like him to direct the campaign of medical inspection of school-children.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Board for their many kindnesses in the past year, not the least of which was their message of sympathy in my time of trouble.

I have, &c.,

H. A. E. MILNES, B.Sc. (Lond.).

The Secretary, Education Board, Auckland.

WELLINGTON.

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL FOR THE YEAR 1913.

SIR,—

Training College, 16th February, 1914.

I have the honour to submit the following report on the work of the Wellington Training College for the year 1913.

Terms.—The session opened on the 25th February and closed on the 5th December, a working year of forty weeks.

Enrolment.—Forty-four senior students returned to complete their training, and sixty-four new students were admitted, making a total of 108, of whom eighty-six were women and twenty-two were men. This latter number will not maintain the present proportion of men in the teaching profession in New Zealand—a fact to be regretted, as in the early stages of a country's development more male teachers are certainly needed in the outlying and remoter districts. Of the total number of 108 students, 105 belonged to the A division—that is, they had been pupil-teachers or probationers—two were graduate students, and one belonged to Division B.

District.—The various districts were represented as follows: Wellington, 38; Hawke's Bay, 23; Wanganui, 24; Taranaki, 6; Nelson, 7; Marlborough, 5; Grey, 3; Westland, 2.