

tributed amongst the different schools. Considerable success has attended the budding and grafting operations—all the prizes offered by the Board for roses from stocks budded in school-gardens were claimed. The results of the potato and turnip competition were both interesting and instructive. One school had the extraordinary yield of 56½ lb. of potatoes from eight sets. I am pleased to say that all our schools are now thoroughly well equipped for carrying out our scheme of work in agriculture and horticulture. For nursery-work all have had a supply of knives (grafting and budding in one) designed by myself and made especially for us by the Eye Witness Company, Sheffield. Thanks are due to the leading agricultural firms in the town for their liberal donations of seeds and manures, the value of which was £17. The Technical College plot being laid off as a model for primary schools has served admirably for the training of teachers attending Saturday classes. Several hundred stocks were propagated this season and distributed to various schools, and the nursery is rapidly becoming a valuable asset to your Board.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the Year ending 31st December, 1914, in respect of Special Classes conducted at Invercargill and Country Centres by the Southland Education Board.

<i>Receipts.</i>			<i>Expenditure.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Cr. balance at beginning of year	177	3 5	Salaries of teaching staff	358	6 9
Capitation on classes	162	2 5	Material for class use	70	8 1
Material	13	5 1	Caretaker	13	12 6
Subsidies on voluntary contributions	2	0 0	Lighting and heating	3	5 6
Fees and other class payments	110	6 5	Office expenses (including salaries)	26	1 8
Sales of material	35	4 6	Advertising and printing	1	1 0
On account of instruction of classes at Gore High School	60	15 0	Cr. balance at end of year	288	1 4
Contribution by Education Board from grant for training of teachers	200	0 0			
	<u>£760</u>	<u>16 10</u>		<u>£760</u>	<u>16 10</u>

F. G. STEVENSON, Secretary.

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE SOUTHLAND TECHNICAL COLLEGE.

The transfer of the control of the Technical College from the Education Board to a Board of Managers elected by contributing bodies was finally effected in May, 1914. The first step in the direction of arousing public interest was begun in 1913, and was carried out by inviting the members of local bodies to visit the College and see the classes in session. Deputations of representatives of the Town Council, Chamber of Commerce, Employers' Association, Master Plumbers' Union, Southland Farmers' Union, Agricultural and Pastoral Association, and County Council were arranged, and a lecture was delivered before a branch of the Farmers' Union. This involved much labour, but the results were encouraging, for wider interest was created in the work of the College, and five bodies in all decided to contribute to the funds of the institution and share in its management. The first Board of Managers was composed as follows: Messrs. J. Fisher, A. Lowrie, H. E. Niven, and A. L. Wylie, M.A. (Education Board), J. Gilkinson (Agricultural and Pastoral Association), W. H. Brent (Town Council), R. G. Speirs (Master Plumbers' Union), J. E. Watson (Wool-brokers' Association), and C. J. Ronaldson (Chamber of Commerce); Mr. R. A. Anderson was elected as the representative of the Agricultural and Pastoral Association, but was unable to act. At the first meeting, held on the 8th May, Mr. J. Fisher was elected Chairman, and the Principal of the College was constituted Secretary of the Board. The Board has met every month for the transaction of the College business, and a visiting committee has been elected at each meeting in order to acquaint members with the more intimate workings of the classes, and in order to give advice to the Board on matters arising for consideration during the month. The various commercial, educational, and industrial interests represented on the Board have proved of inestimable value in the management of the affairs of the institution, and it is hoped that ultimately all sections of the community who are interested in the instruction provided in the College will have a share in its control. The most formidable obstacle to the work of the Board lay in the arrangement of finance, for though the income of the College is sufficient to meet the demands made upon it it is paid at irregular intervals, and at times long after it has been earned. However, this difficulty has to some extent been overcome by the fact that the Board has been kindly permitted to bank through the Education Board in the meantime.

It soon became apparent to members of the Board that the room provided was insufficient for the growing requirements of the classes, and as the buildings now extend from the street to the back boundary of the site no further additions to the present buildings are possible. Negotiations were therefore entered into with the Board of Governors of the Southland Boys' High School, since it is anticipated that a new High School will be built shortly on the college reserve, and the site now occupied and its substantial buildings would serve the needs of the Technical College for many years to come if they were available as an extension to the College as constituted at present. The two sites are only half a block apart, and are admirably situated for the students attending the evening classes. An agreement was reached between the two Boards as to the terms on which the transfer of the property could be arranged, but the intervention of the war has checked negotiations for the present. However, it is hoped that shortly the College will be able to extend to the very convenient and suitable property of the High Schools' Board. The block of buildings at the rear of the manual-training rooms and workshops was completed and equipped during the year. This block includes two sets of lavatories, a room for the destruction