

were held on four evenings and three half-days in the week, and many country students attended regularly. As usual, the classes for electricity, pharmacy, science, and mathematics were small. The demand for instruction in commercial subjects, which was growing strongly in 1914, was again evident in 1915, and the classes for shorthand, typewriting, book-keeping, and commercial correspondence were well attended. Though English and arithmetic are generally compulsory subjects in any course, students in these classes showed much interest, and several of them were enabled to pass the Public Service Entrance Examination. The elementary class in wool-sorting was well attended, and an advance class for the study of sheep, wool, and wool-values was instituted very successfully. There was a good attendance in the class held for instruction in primary subjects.

During the year a further revision was made in the scale of fees charged to paying students, the tendency being to reduce the charges to those who attend a course of subjects for the full session. It is pleasing to record that under the Arbitration Court awards in operation in Southland for the engineering and the carpentry and joinery trades encouragement is given to apprentices to attend evening classes. In the former additional remuneration is paid to those who have passed Grade 1 of the Mechanical Engineering Examination held by the City and Guilds of London Institute, while in the latter it is given to those who obtain a technical-school certificate for attendance at classes. This is a step in the right direction, but in view of the progress made in trade work by boys attending technical high schools and the number of years which many of them attend it is meet that recognition should be given to the time they spend in their continuation education, either by reducing the length of their apprenticeship or by paying them increased wages from its commencement.

Geographically Invercargill is situated in an isolated position, and more frequent visits to the College by educational experts would be appreciated. Much help is gained from visits made by Inspectors and other officers of the Education Department, and these could to our advantage take place more frequently each year.

Many persons interested themselves in the work of the College during the year, and contributed materially to its progress. Thanks are due to a number of firms, farmers, and others for permitting students to pay visits of inspection to factories, workshops, and farms. I have to thank the Chairman and members of the Technical School Board for the consideration they have accorded to me during the year, the officers of the Education Department for their uniform courtesy, and the Press for the support which it has given throughout. To my colleagues on the staff I wish to record my sincere thanks for their hearty co-operation.

D. E. HANSEN, Director.

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE CONTROLLING AUTHORITY OF THE GORE TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

During 1915 evening classes were held in the following subjects: English, arithmetic, shorthand, book-keeping, and dressmaking. Although the numbers enrolled for the various classes were small, good and satisfactory work was done, and the students in attendance displayed keen interest. Owing no doubt to the unsettled state of affairs, for which the war was primarily responsible, several classes had to be abandoned for the session. People were so busily engaged working for Queen Carnival, the Red Cross Society, and other organizations brought into being by the war that they had very little leisure time at their disposal, consequently our evening classes suffered. As the number attending each of the five classes held was so small, the Board deemed it inadvisable to hold them as usual for two terms of ten weeks each. Instead the classes were held for one term of thirteen weeks' duration, and this arrangement under the circumstances proved sufficient.

E. C. SMITH, Chairman.

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