

APPENDIX D.

TRAINING OF TEACHERS.

No. 1.—EXTRACT FROM THE FORTIETH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION.

TRAINING OF TEACHERS.

There are four training colleges situated in the four principal centres of the Dominion, which are open to four classes of students, as follows: Division A, ex-pupil-teachers, ex-probationers, or ex-trainees of recognized kindergarten schools; Division B, other students who have passed Matriculation or obtained a higher leaving-certificate; Division C, University graduates admitted for one year; and Division D, teachers entering on short-period studentships. The numbers of students in attendance during the last quarter of 1916 under the various divisions were—Division A, 381; Division B, 44; Division C, 9; and Division D, 8; the total being 442, as compared with 390 for the previous year. These figures do not include students absent with the Expeditionary Forces.

The numbers of students at each training college during the last quarters of 1915 and 1916 respectively are indicated in the following table:—

				1915.			1916.		
				Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Auckland	...	...	...	33	79	112	29	85	114
Wellington	...	...	...	17	69	86	11	91	102
Christchurch	...	...	...	14	78	92	18	92	110
Dunedin	...	...	...	16	84	100	21	95	116
Totals	...	...	...	80	310	390	79	363	442

The number of students in 1916 shows a considerable advance over the number for the preceding year, the increase being among the women students. The necessity for men students taking up military duties upon reaching the required age naturally results in a large reduction in their number at training colleges.

The ordinary course of training is for two years, so that if the training colleges had their full complement of students (125 in each case) the number of students annually completing their training and passing into the schools would be about 250. Under certain conditions a one-year course is provided for in the case of University graduates or matriculated students who have completed a two-years course at an agricultural college or a school of home science recognized by the University of New Zealand. In addition, there are short-period studentships, of not less than three months' or more than one year's duration, for the benefit of teachers who have been already employed in teaching and are deemed worthy of further training in professional work, the allowances payable to such students being the same as those payable to students under Division B. The actual number of students completing one or other of these courses at the end of 1916 was 210.

For the teaching practice of students the normal practising schools forming part of the training college in each case are available, and opportunities of observation are now extended so as to embrace specially selected teachers and classes in neighbouring schools. Each normal school includes—(a) a main school, organized as a "mixed school"; and (b) such "model schools" as may