

attendance clauses of the Act. Private schools are inspected annually by the Department's Inspectors, and the S6 pupils examined for the award of proficiency and competency certificates; in this way it is ensured that children not attending the State schools are receiving an adequate education elsewhere. The following statistics relate to registered primary schools in 1922 :—

	Catholic Church Schools.	Other Church Schools.	Undenominational Schools.	Total.		
Number of schools ..	178	42	43	263		
Roll number ..	20,253	2,556	2,052	Boys. 11,234	Girls. 13,627	Total. 24,861
Average attendance	21,246
Ages of pupils —						
Children under seven years of age	4,299
Children from seven to eleven years of age	10,364
Children from eleven to thirteen years of age	5,396
Children from thirteen to fourteen years of age	2,351
Children from fourteen to fifteen years of age	1,641
Children over fifteen years of age	810
S6 examinations —						
Number of pupils in S6	2,039
Number obtaining proficiency certificates	1,395
Number obtaining competency certificates	272
Number obtaining endorsed competency certificates	22
Number of teachers—						
Catholic Church schools	Males. 36	Females. 533
Other Church schools	13	97
Undenominational schools	25	96
Totals	74	726

Tables D1 and D2 in E.-2 give particulars of the schools in the various districts. A list of registered private schools is published annually in the *New Zealand Gazette*.

CONVEYANCE AND BOARD OF SCHOLARS.

Free passes on the railway to the nearest public or private school are granted to children living near to the railway-line but out of reach of a primary school, and the same privilege is enjoyed by pupils having to travel to attend secondary schools, district high schools, and technical high schools, and also by free-place holders travelling to attend technical schools or classes other than technical high schools.

Education Boards are also authorized to make provision when necessary for the conveyance of pupils to primary schools by road or water, and to contribute towards the payment for board of children compelled to live away from home in order to attend school. The Department contributes at the rate of from 4d. to 8d. per return trip, according to the mode of conveyance used, for each child over five years of age that is conveyed to school, and 5s. a week towards the cost of the board of each child compelled to live away from home to attend a public school. If the expenditure by Education Boards exceeds this allowance the Department also pays half the excess cost.

The following represents the expenditure by the Department for the year 1922-23 on the above-named services :—

	Railway Fares.	Boarding-allowance and Conveyance by Road and Water.	Total.
	£	£	£
Primary	11,942	22,839	34,781
Secondary	6,789	..	6,789
Technical	4,742	..	4,742
Total	23,473	22,839	46,312

The total expenditure for the previous year was £46,058.