

The following are some of the figures for 1923 in connection with the roll and attendance of the schools :—

(a.) Secondary Schools—						
Roll, 1st March	..	..	..	..	..	12,563
Roll, 31st December (boys, 6,392 ; girls, 5,227)	..	..	..	..	..	11,619
Average attendance	..	..	..	..	..	11,516
Number of new entrants	..	..	..	..	..	5,017
(b.) District High Schools—Secondary departments—						
Mean of average weekly roll	..	..	..	..	..	3,128
Roll, 31st December (boys, 1,521 ; girls, 1,607)	..	..	..	..	..	2,818
Average attendance	..	..	..	..	..	2,858
Number of new entrants	..	..	..	..	..	1,912
(c.) Technical high schools—						
Roll, 31st December (boys, 2,865 ; girls, 2,189)	..	..	..	..	..	5,054
(d.) Registered private secondary schools—						
Roll, 31st December (boys, 889 ; girls, 1,245)	..	..	..	..	..	2,134
Average attendance	..	..	..	..	..	1,834
(e.) Secondary schools for Maoris—						
Mean of average weekly roll	..	..	..	..	..	455
Roll, 31st December	..	..	..	..	..	493
Average attendance	..	..	..	..	..	433

The total number of children receiving secondary education at the end of 1923 was 22,118, representing an increase of 2,164 on the corresponding figure for the previous year.

Of the 13,251 children who left the public primary schools in 1922 with the Standard VI proficiency qualification, 8,771, or 66 per cent. entered a secondary school, district high school secondary department, or technical high school in 1923. This number represents 49 per cent. of the total number of pupils leaving the schools in 1922, of whom 26 per cent. had not passed Standard VI but had attained the age of fourteen years.

In addition to the pupils who entered upon a full course of secondary education, a further 1,872 entered technical schools or classes, of whom 1,460 had passed Standard VI and 412 had not.

#### GROUP TEST OF INTELLIGENCE.

At the beginning of the present year the Terman group test of mental ability was applied to all first-year pupils in the post-primary schools, the number tested being 8,657. Valuable information was secured, and this has been summarized and published in pamphlet form. On the whole the results correlated to a remarkable degree with the more elaborate entrance examinations. The interest and enthusiasm displayed by the teachers were most commendable.

#### FREE SECONDARY EDUCATION.

The following table gives details of the free places held at the end of 1922 and 1923 :—

	1922.—			1923.—		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
(i.) Secondary schools—						
(a.) Junior free pupils	.. 3,472	3,222	6,694	3,583	3,609	7,192
(b.) Senior free pupils	.. 1,536	1,216	2,752	1,860	1,426	3,286
Totals	.. 5,008	4,438	9,446	5,443	5,035	10,478
(ii.) District high schools—						
(a.) Junior free pupils	.. 1,033	1,063	2,096	1,081	1,175	2,256
(b.) Senior free pupils	.. 181	215	396	192	258	450
Totals	.. 1,214	1,278	2,492	1,273	1,433	2,706
(iii.) Maori secondary schools	.. 52	56	108	54	70	124
(iv.) Technical high schools—						
(a.) Junior free pupils	.. 1,881	1,461	3,342	2,326	1,730	4,056
(b.) Senior free pupils	.. 337	300	637	399	340	739
Totals	.. 2,218	1,761	3,979	2,725	2,070	4,795
Grand totals	.. 8,492	7,533	16,025	9,495	8,608	18,103

The number of free places represents 93 per cent. of the total roll number of all Government schools affording secondary education.