

STATUS OF TEACHERS IN REGARD TO CERTIFICATES.

The table below gives a summary of the position with regard to the number of primary-school teachers holding teachers' certificates in the last three years :—

PRIMARY TEACHERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

	1923.		1924.		1925.	
	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.
I. Certificated teachers .. ..	4,556	81	4,891	84	5,301	88
II. Uncertificated teachers—						
(1.) Holding licenses .. ..	78	1	68	1	73	1
(2.) Unlicensed .. ..	1,022	18	863	15	628	11
Total uncertificated .. ..	1,100	19	931	16	701	12
Totals of I and II.. ..	5,656	100	5,822	100	6,002	100

The numbers of teachers holding certificates of the various classes in 1924 and 1925 were as follows :—

Class of Certificate.				1924.			1925.		
				M	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
A .. .. .				53	12	65	53	10	63
B .. .. .				310	174	484	369	222	591
C .. .. .				916	1,692	2,608	976	1,903	2,879
D .. .. .				415	1,171	1,586	417	1,220	1,637
E .. .. .				20	128	148	17	114	131
Total .. .. .				1,714	3,117	4,891	1,832	3,469	5,301

The following figures indicate the very marked decrease in recent years in the numbers of uncertificated teachers employed in public primary schools :—

				Uncertificated Teachers.	
Year.				Number.	As Percentage of Adult Teachers.
1920 .. .. .				1,472	28
1921 .. .. .				1,336	25
1922 .. .. .				1,234	22
1923 .. .. .				1,100	19
1924 .. .. .				931	16
1925 .. .. .				701	12

FINANCES OF EDUCATION BOARDS.

In 1919 reference was made to the position into which the finances of various Education Boards had drifted, and the report drew attention to the fact that it was necessary to transfer £96,520 from accounts having credit balances to accounts which had been overspent by Boards. This large amount included an amount of £44,954 taken from trust-moneys held for the purpose of rebuilding worn-out schools. The report pointed out that a great deal of the money paid to Education Boards was voted by Parliament for special purposes, and that the Boards were required to keep, with respect to these moneys, "special accounts." A "special account" was defined as "an account of moneys received in trust for a special purpose and of payments properly made out of a fund thus created." When a fund is exhausted it ceases to exist, and no further payment can possibly be made out of it, so that it is impossible to have a debit balance in a "special account."