

7. REGULARITY OF ATTENDANCE.

The regularity of attendance has continued at a highly satisfactory figure, the average attendance for the year 1931 being 92·6 per cent. of the average weekly roll number, an increase of 0·4 per cent. on the figure for 1930 and the highest average recorded in any year.

The Otago Education District, with 93·9 per cent., had the highest degree of regularity, but the figures for all districts are creditable, in no case falling below 91·8 per cent.

For the purpose of comparison the following figures (taken from the official reports) are given :—

Year 1930—					Percentage Average Attendance in Primary Schools.
England and Wales	..	..	..	..	89·0
Scotland	..	..	..	..	90·2
South Australia	..	..	..	..	91·5
New South Wales	..	..	..	..	87·2
Queensland	..	..	..	..	83·7

8. STAFFS OF SCHOOLS.

The following table shows the number of adult teachers in the public primary schools of the different grades and in Forms I and II of junior high schools and departments.

TABLE H 1.—NUMBER OF ADULT TEACHERS EMPLOYED IN PRIMARY DEPARTMENTS OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND IN FORMS I AND II OF JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS AND DEPARTMENTS, DECEMBER, 1931.

Grade of School *			Sole Teachers.		Head Teachers.		Assistant Teachers.		Total Adult Teachers.		
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total.
Grade O (1-8)	..	..	30	163	..	..	..	..	30	163	193
„ I (9-20)	..	..	336	408	..	..	..	..	336	408	744
„ II (21-35)	..	..	234	212	16	10	1	28	251	250	501
„ IIIA (36-50)	..	..	16	15	159	107	2	265	177	387	564
„ IIIB (51-80)	..	..	1	..	212	47	2	275	215	322	537
„ IIIC (81-120)	..	..	..	..	124	5	6	252	130	257	387
„ IV (121-240)	..	..	..	..	138	2	110	424	248	426	674
„ V (241-360)	..	..	..	..	73	1	116	349	189	350	539
„ VI (361-480)	..	..	..	..	58	..	154	393	212	393	605
„ VII (over 480)	..	..	..	..	100	..	367	980	467	980	1,447
Junior high schools and departments†	..	..	..	..	2	..	49	34	51	34	85
All grades—											
1931	..	..	617	798	882	172	807	3,000	2,306	3,970	6,276
1930	..	..	597	811	891	191	860	3,129	2,348	4,131	6,479
Difference	..	..	+20	-13	-9	-19	-53	-129	-42	-161	-203

* The grade of school given above is the grade in which the school is placed when all attached side schools are included, while part-time schools taught by the same teacher are counted as one school.
† In 1931 there were two separate junior high schools only.

This year is the only one within at least the last ten years in which the total number of adult teachers employed has shown a decrease, and the decrease reaches the large figure of 203. This decrease is due partly to the decrease of thirty-six in the number of schools in operation, but in the main to the withdrawal of the additional assistants allowed previously in certain cases where it was felt by the Department that an additional assistant was warranted. This withdrawal has been mainly in schools of Grade V, and has been due to the present financial stringency.