

who postpone the joining of evening classes until they have found permanent occupations, and know with reasonable certainty what course they should take. Reference to Table E 1 shows that the only large increase of students as compared with the previous year was in the class marked "no occupation." As compared with the preceding year the proportion of part-time day and evening students over seventeen years of age had increased by about 4 per cent. of the total of all ages; the actual numbers being 6,402 in 1931, and 6,711 in 1930. The number under fifteen years of age decreased from 1,171 in 1930 to 930 in 1931—i.e., from 9.9 per cent. of the total in 1930 to 8.8 per cent. of that in 1931. Of this number a considerable proportion were included in the 607 part-time day pupils. These part-time day pupils include a small proportion of adults and a considerable number of children of primary-school age attending classes in drawing, woodwork, cookery, &c.

STUDENTS IN TECHNICAL CLASSES : NUMBERS ATTENDING FROM CERTAIN GROUPS OF OCCUPATIONS.

Year.	Commercial, &c.					Engineering and Building.						Total, Industrial and Commercial.	Professional.
	Clerical.	Shop and Warehouse.	Dressmaking, Millinery, Tailors, and Tailoresses, &c.	Printers, &c.	Total.	Engineers and Mechanics.	Electricians.	Plumbers and Metal-workers.	Woodworkers.	Painters and Plasterers, &c.	Total.		
1926 ..	2,513	1,016	197	147	3,873	812	488	811	905	190	3,206	7,079	800
1927 ..	2,573	1,063	198	188	4,022	979	444	828	971	193	3,415	7,437	676
1928 ..	2,253	1,090	154	175	3,672	912	375	740	825	218	3,070	6,742	650
1929 ..	2,303	1,165	194	131	3,793	885	302	826	762	246	3,021	6,814	625
1930 ..	2,456	1,249	193	154	4,052	1,180	331	774	919	287	3,491	7,543	614
1931 ..	2,151	1,162	140	181	3,634	1,054	257	584	659	190	2,744	6,378	458

NOTE.—The 1926 and 1927 figures are total enrolments for the year; the 1928 and 1929 figures show roll at the 30th June in each year; the 1930 and 1931 figures are the roll at 1st July.

TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOLS.

The enrolment at technical high schools and technical day schools of full-time pupils taking courses under the regulations for manual and technical instruction was 8,541 at the 1st July, 1931, as compared with 8,002 at the corresponding date in the previous year. The enrolment of 8,541 consisted of 4,760 boys and 3,781 girls. Of the boys, 2,518 took industrial courses, 454 agriculture, 880 commercial work, 730 a general course, and 178 an art course. Of the girls, 31 took the agricultural course, 1,256 the domestic course, 1,919 the commercial course, 257 the general course, and 318 the art course.

MANUAL TRAINING.

The total number of pupils receiving instruction in woodwork, metalwork, or domestic subjects under special instructors at manual-training centres was 45,774, as compared with 46,557 in 1930 and 45,493 in 1929. The numbers attending from primary schools were 17,444 for woodwork, 98 for metalwork, and 15,954 for domestic subjects. Secondary departments of district high schools sent 1,608 pupils for woodwork and 1,488 for domestic subjects. From Forms I, II, and III of junior high schools there were 1,394 pupils for woodwork, 620 for metalwork, and 1,263 for domestic subjects. From secondary schools 952 attended for woodwork, 428 for metalwork, and 700 for domestic subjects. Private schools sent 1,841 pupils for woodwork and 1,984 for domestic subjects.

The standard of work in the manual-training centres is in some cases very high, and is very satisfactory in almost all centres. Instruction in elementary science, nature-study, and elementary agriculture, involving practical work in school-gardens and experimental plots was continued on the lines of previous years under the guidance and supervision of twenty-two itinerant instructors in agriculture. Agricultural clubs for crop-growing and calf-rearing were a prominent feature of juvenile work in agriculture in several districts in continuation of the work of previous years, and under the joint control of local associations of farmers, the Department of Agriculture and the agricultural instructors of the Education Boards concerned. The work has a very definite value in connection with the school courses, and forms a valuable link between the schools and the farming community. In some districts, including Otago and Taranaki, a similar development of club work for the girls in domestic arts was successfully undertaken; competitions being arranged in jam-making, preserving, sewing, and cooking, with promising results.

EXAMINATIONS.

At the August examinations for the handicraft teachers' certificate there were thirty-two candidates, of whom one passed the final examination for the certificate, sixteen passed in Section I of the examination, and one in Section II, while ten were successful in improving their status by partial passes, three of these being included in the numbers successful in completing a section of the examination. Eight candidates failed to improve their position.