

THE EIGHTY-SECOND REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSIONERS
OF
NATIONAL EDUCATION IN IRELAND,
SCHOOL YEAR, 1915-16.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.



DUBLIN:

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DUBLIN CASTLE,

10th *February*, 1917.

GENTLEMEN,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, forwarding, for submission to His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, the Eighty-second Report of the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. O'FARRELL.

The Secretaries,

Office of National Education,

Dublin.

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OF THE

COMMISSIONERS OF NATIONAL EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

SCHOOL YEAR, 1915-1916.

TO

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE IVOR
CHURCHILL, BARON WIMBORNE,

LORD LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AND GENERAL GOVERNOR OF IRELAND.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland, have the honour to submit to Your Excellency this our Eighty-second Report. In this report the statistics of attendance, numbers on the rolls, etc., in the schools, are for the year ended the 31st December, 1915, the financial statements are for the year ended the 31st March, 1916, and the general information is brought up to the 31st December, 1916.

The war conditions which have prevailed during the past two *War* years have to some extent affected the position and progress of *Condi-* National education in Ireland. The attendance of the pupils *tions.* fell away to a slight extent in 1915—the actual numbers. in average attendance show a decrease of 8,441, equal to 1·6 per cent., while the centesimal proportion of pupils in attendance to pupils enrolled—the index figure of regularity—has diminished from 72·6 in 1914 to 71·5 in 1915. The latter figure has, however, been exceeded only on three occasions in former years, and compares very favourably with the statistics of ten years ago. The decline in the attendance appears to be due principally to one or other of two causes, viz. :—elder pupils have left school in rural districts in order to assist in agricultural labour, and in certain localities the attendance has diminished owing to the removal to England of the families of soldiers and other persons employed with the army or navy at home stations in that country. Where teachers were threatened with loss of salary or position owing to the decline in the attendance we applied for Treasury sanction to enable us

B

to deal leniently with such cases, and we are pleased to state that we are now empowered to continue to pay the existing grade salaries to these teachers provided we are satisfied that the fall in the attendance arises solely from causes connected with the war. This is an extension of our former powers which applied only to cases where the attendance was reduced owing to shortage of farm labour in rural districts.

The shrinkage in the supply of male candidates for the teaching profession, which is wholly due to the war, is a somewhat more serious matter. The number of qualified teachers who have joined His Majesty's forces, amounting so far as is known to about 100, cannot be considered excessive, but on the other hand the training colleges for men students have found considerable difficulty in filling their vacant places, and in one or two colleges there is a large diminution in the number of men King's Scholars. The women students, however, show no decrease, and the number of boy monitors and pupil teachers appointed to the schools in 1915 and 1916 was in excess of previous years.

*War
Bonus
for
Tea-
chers.*

The serious increase in the cost of living due to war conditions, which pressed heavily on the national teachers in common with other classes of the community in receipt of fixed incomes, necessitated the passing of some remedial measures, and during the past autumn the Government acceded to our request for a war bonus for the teachers. It was decided to grant a bonus to principals, assistants and junior assistant mistresses on the same terms as have been given to established civil servants, with the important distinction that women teachers were to receive the same increases as the men. The bonus, which amounts to an annual payment of about £165,000, accrued from 1st July, 1916, and is payable to teachers with incomes from the State not exceeding £3 per week, at the rate of 4s. a week to those with less than £2 a week income, and 3s. to those with weekly incomes between £2 and £3. The teachers with incomes over £3 a week, who are excluded from a share in the war bonus, comprise the great majority of masters ranking in the first section of the first grade, and about one-third of the mistresses in that grade, some 500 teachers in all. The exclusion of salaries in excess of £3 a week was the regulation applied to Civil servants.

*Monthly
Pay-
ment of
Teachers'
Salaries.*

In August, 1916, the Government intimated to us that they were prepared to provide the funds necessary to introduce a system of monthly payment of teachers' salaries, and preparations were made accordingly to give effect to this decision. The teachers, particularly those in charge of schools in urban centres, had frequently pressed upon us the hardship caused by the quarterly system of payment, but hitherto the necessity of providing a large addition to the annual estimates had prevented

the adoption of monthly payments by the Treasury. The new system was inaugurated in December, 1916, and the salary orders will henceforth be transmitted to the managers at intervals of a month. The introduction of the monthly payments necessitates an addition of about £178,000 to our expenditure for the current financial year, and a permanent increase in respect of clerical assistance which is estimated to cost about £1,500 next year and may ultimately amount to £4,000 yearly.

Shortly after the Rebellion of Easter, 1916, our attention was called to statements which appeared in the public press, both in Ireland and in Great Britain, in which the writers alleged that the deplorable occurrences which then took place in Dublin and other parts of Ireland, were to some extent to be attributed to the character of the teaching given in many of the national schools. We deemed it incumbent on us to inquire fully into the truth of these statements with a view to the taking of such measures as lay in our power to prevent seditious teaching in the schools, if it were found to exist, and with this purpose we held conferences with representatives of associations of managers of the various religious denominations and with our chief inspectors and some of our senior inspectors. We also addressed particular inquiries to each of the inspectors in our service. On full consideration of the information thus obtained we issued, on the 21st July, 1916, a statement to the press of which the following is an extract :—

*The
"Sinn
Fein"
Rebel-
lion.*

“ As a result of the inquiries made two or three instances of alleged disloyal teaching have been brought under notice and these charges are being investigated, but no evidence has been adduced which would warrant the conclusion that seditious teaching in the national schools exists to any appreciable extent. On the contrary some of the inspectors stated that, even in districts where it might be supposed that disaffection would be apparent, they found many signs in the pupils' exercises that distinctly loyal ideas had been encouraged by the teachers.

“ The Commissioners have also caused a careful scrutiny to be made of the returns furnished for each school at the close of the last quarter to see how far the teachers had been identified with the recent rebellion, with the following result—two national teachers are undergoing penal servitude, fifteen others were imprisoned, of whom seven were released subsequently—no decision so far as the Commissioners are aware, having been come to in the case of the remaining eight. In addition, three other teachers were reported to the Commissioners during the past year as having belonged to the Irish Volunteers and were required to sever their connection with that body as a condition for further recognition in their positions.

“ It is to be borne in mind that there are about 5,700 men national school teachers and it would, therefore, be clearly unjust to the teaching body as a whole to found a general charge of disloyalty on the fact that a very small proportion have been either implicated in the recent rising or suspected of complicity in it.”

Since we published the above we have seen no reason to modify in any way the statements in it regarding the alleged connection of the national teachers with the rising. Our attention was, however, directed to a practice on the part of the pupils in some schools, of wearing seditious and political badges, and we reminded the managers and teachers by circular that demonstrations of this kind were forbidden by our rules. We are satisfied that the practice was of short duration and confined to a very few instances. From the very beginning of the national system of education the Commissioners have strictly forbidden national teachers to take any part in political agitation and we are glad to be able to bear witness to the general loyalty with which our injunctions have been observed by the great majority of the teachers.

In connexion with our inquiries statements were made by some of the managers of national schools that certain of the historical text-books and readers used in the schools contained passages calculated to encourage disloyalty, and in consequence we ordered that all such books already sanctioned should be re-examined by a committee of our number. This re-examination has not yet concluded, but we have found that some of the histories put on our list several years ago might on account of their general tone fairly be objected to, and we have ordered that the use of these books be discontinued. To prevent misunderstanding we may state that we do not issue text-books ourselves, nor undertake their revision when submitted by publishers for our sanction.

*School
Pro-
grammes*

During the past year we have devoted considerable attention to the question of modifying the school programmes so as to render them more suitable to the special needs of the pupils in urban and industrial centres on the one hand, and in rural districts on the other. To help us in our consideration of this question we have held several conferences with representatives of the managers and teachers, the inspectors, and principals of technical and secondary schools, and have also had the advantage of conferring with and hearing the views of representatives of the Chambers of Commerce of Dublin, Belfast, and Cork. Our inquiries are not yet concluded, but we have been so impressed with the need for securing better opportunities of education for the older pupils attending our schools that we have thought it right, even during the war, to press upon the Irish

Government and the Treasury the necessity for providing the grants, which we have in past years so often demanded, to enable us to start advanced departments or continuation classes in large schools for pupils from 12 to 16 years of age. We have also again urged the Treasury to make the small grant necessary to secure for national school pupils instruction in Woodwork at centres provided by the Technical Education Committees. We much regret that the result of our applications has been unfavourable, as we are persuaded of the urgency and absolute necessity of the grants referred to being provided, if the pupils leaving our schools are to be properly fitted for their future careers. In view of the importance of preventing waste of food and of securing economy in its preparation we have been urgent in insisting on the teaching of cookery in all schools attended by girls over 11 years of age, and the number of schools taking this subject has risen considerably this winter. The question of giving further development to scientific teaching in the national schools is another important matter at present engaging our attention, and the need of laying greater emphasis on the teaching of temperance has recently been impressed upon us by influential deputations of managers and others.

The early age at which pupils leave school, especially in industrial districts where juvenile labour is in demand, has long been a matter of concern to all interested in education. The inspectors have frequently pointed out to us that in Belfast only a very small percentage of the pupils complete the course for Fifth standard before going to work in the factories, and urgent representations to the same effect have recently been made to us by the Juvenile Advisory Committee in that city. In order to encourage pupils to remain at school until they have passed the sixth standard and to facilitate their entrance into technical schools, apprenticeship or employment, we instituted last April a Higher Grade Certificate for boys and girls who have attained a satisfactory proficiency in the programme of that standard. The first examination for the new certificate was held in Belfast in June, 1916, all the arrangements being conducted by a committee of principal teachers in conjunction with the Board's senior inspectors. The experiment appears to have met with considerable success owing to the hearty co-operation of the teaching staffs of the schools and the sympathy and support of the managers and many employers of labour. Pupils to the number of 615 entered for the examination, representing 66 national schools, and 499, or over 80 per cent., passed successfully. The inspectors and teachers gave their services gratuitously in conducting the examination and the rooms used as centres were lent free of charge by their owners. We have noted with much interest the success of the scheme and are confident that it will have important effects in stimulating school

attendance. Similar schemes are now in course of formation in Dublin and Cork.

School Gardens. The number of school gardens recognised in 1915-16 was 130, which is 29 more than in the previous school-year. The reports received from the inspector of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction are very encouraging and point to steady progress and improvement. The teachers' methods are better than before, they are keen and interested in the work, and the pupils are stated to show great enthusiasm in the care and management of their garden plots. We cannot too strongly urge on managers in rural districts the desirability of encouraging this branch of instruction by every means in their power. The facilities offered by the Department for the training of teachers in Rural Science continue to be fully utilised by members of the teaching staffs of the schools.

Dental Clinics. During the year ended 31st March, 1916, there were 34 approved schemes in operation for the dental examination and treatment of pupils of national schools, and the grants made by us towards the expenditure incurred in connection with these schemes amounted to £549. The grants made in the previous financial year amounted to £801. The condition attached to these grants, that half the cost of the scheme must be defrayed locally, still obtains, and, so long as this is the case, it cannot be anticipated that schemes will be established on so wide-spread a scale as to secure the privileges of free dental treatment for a substantial proportion of the school children who are known to be in need of it.

Provision of Meals Acts, 1914 and 1916. By a recent Act amending the Education (Provision of Meals) Act of 1914 the amount which, with the sanction of the Local Government Board, may be expended by a local authority under this Act in any year is increased to such a sum as would be produced by a rate of one penny in the pound in the area. The section which limited the duration of the Act has been repealed.

The necessary sanction for the adoption of the Act has been given by the Local Government Board in case of the following areas:—The County Boroughs of Cork and Dublin and the Urban Districts of Newry, Kingstown, Wexford, Listowel, Athy, Cavan, Killarney, Bray, and Kilkenny.

Promotions of Teachers During the year ended 31st March, 1916, we awarded promotion to higher grades to 225 principal teachers who had successfully complied with the ordinary conditions prescribed in our rules. Of these teachers 23 were promoted to the first section of first grade, 49 to the second section of first grade, and the remainder, 153, to the second grade.

Besides these ordinary cases of promotion we have also considered the special cases of certain principals and assistants of long service and exceptional efficiency. We have awarded special promotion to 100 principal teachers and 47 assistant teachers in the year ended 31st March, 1916. Of the principals, 14 (3 men and 11 women) were placed in first section of first grade, 32 (21 men and 11 women) in second section of first grade, and 54 (26 men and 28 women) in second grade. All the 47 assistants (14 men and 33 women) were placed in second grade. Owing to the fewness of the vacant places in the first section of first grade we have been obliged to suspend all special promotions of masters to that grade since 1st April, 1915. The three cases mentioned above were those of teachers eligible for special promotion prior to that date.

Triennial increments of good service salary were awarded to 2,213 teachers in the year ended 31st March, 1916. Increases of capitation rate were granted under the provisions of rule 117 (2) to 139 convent schools paid on the capitation system.

*Incre-
ments of
Salary
to
Teachers*

We regret to have to record in this report the death of our late colleague, Mr. Philip Ward, J.P. Mr. Ward, who was appointed to the Board in 1910, was for over forty years a principal teacher of national schools in Belfast, and his experience and judgment have been of much assistance to us in our deliberations. At our first meeting held after his demise we conveyed to his relatives an expression of our regret at his death and of appreciation of his services to education.

Mr. Denis Holland, late principal teacher of a national school at Swords, Co. Dublin, has been appointed to succeed Mr. Ward.

We now proceed to give Your Excellency detailed information under various heads.

School-houses and Teachers' Residences.

1. On the 31st December, 1915, there were 8,163 schools in operation, made up as follows :—

Ordinary Schools,	...	...	...	...	7,580
Convent "	...	...	...	...	351
Monastery "	...	...	...	...	57
Workhouse "	...	...	...	...	103
Model "	...	...	...	...	70
Fishery School,	...	...	...	...	1
Hospital School,	...	...	...	...	1*
Total, ...					8,163

This shows a decrease of 44 in the number of schools in operation when compared with the number on the 31st December, 1914. The decrease is in a considerable measure due to the amalgamation of adjoining boys' and girls' schools, or of small schools in the same locality. Owing to the buildings having been taken over by the military authorities, or to other causes, a number of workhouse national schools were not in operation.

Vested
Schools.

2. Of these schools, 3,604 were vested schools, the remainder were non-vested.

The vested schools include (a) those vested in the Commissioners, and (b) those vested in trustees, under deeds to which the Commissioners are a party, for the purpose of being maintained as National Schools.

The vested schools were distributed according to provinces as follows :—

Provinces.				Number of Vested Schools.		
				Vested in the Commissioners.	Vested in Trustees.	Total.
Ulster,	...	...	...	280	667	947
Munster,	...	...	...	296	865	1,161
Leinster,	...	...	...	60	504	564
Connaught,	...	...	...	95	837	932
Total,	...	...	...	731	2,873	3,604

Non-
Vested
Schools.

The non-vested schools include school-houses erected from funds locally provided, or, in a few instances, from loans available under the Act of 1884, 47 & 48 Vic., cap. 22, and schools formerly vested, the leases of which have expired.

* Under special authority from the Lords of His Majesty's Treasury, instruction is given each day, by a qualified national school teacher, to children (patients) in the wards of the Incorporated Orthopaedic Hospital of Ireland, Dublin.

3. The erection and improvement of vested school premises are carried out under the direction of the Board of Public Works.

On the 1st April, 1915, the amount for which that Board was Building Grants. liable in respect of grants already made by us and notified to them was £80,702 11s. 6d. In addition to this sum, we had made grants amounting to £30,616 0s. 5d., which had not been ready for notification to the Board of Works. The total liabilities, therefore, on that date amounted to £111,318 11s. 11d.

4. The following statement shows the condition of the grants and liabilities on 1st April, 1916 :—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Unexpended Grants on 1st April, 1915, ...	111,318	11	11			
Grants to build and improve Schoolhouses, made in 1915-16, ...	9,991	1	6	121,309	13	5
Deduct—						
(a) Grants cancelled, not having been utilized	2,450	5	3			
(b) Deductions owing to omitted or defective works, ...	175	17	6			
(c) Instalments paid by Board of Works on account during year ended 31st March, 1916, ...	45,895	12	1	48,521	14	10
Total liabilities on 1st April, 1916, ...				£72,787	18	7

The grants made by us during the year ended 31st March, 1916, were apportioned as follows :—

Erection of New Vested School-houses.			Enlargement of Existing Vested School-houses.			Other improvements to existing Vested School-houses.		TOTAL GRANTS.
No. of School-houses.	No. of Pupils for which the New School-houses will afford Accommodation.	Amount of Grant.	No. of School-houses.	No. of Pupils for which Additional Accommodation will be provided.	Amount of Grant.	No. of School-houses.	Amount of Grant.	
		£ s. d.			£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
3	395	*7,040 17 6	1	19	66 13 4	324	2,874 10 8	9,991 1 6

In one case of the erection of a new school-house grants amounting in the aggregate to £132 19s. 0d. in excess of the normal grants were made, as the school is to be built in a needy and congested district. Similarly in 72 improvement cases grants in excess of the normal were sanctioned to the amount of £374 11s. 9d.

* This amount includes supplemental grants towards the building of vested school houses in 40 cases which were sanctioned in previous years.

Loans for improvement of schools.

5. We did not approve during the year of any application to the Board of Works for a loan for enlarging or otherwise improving an existing non-vested school-house.

Loans for Residences.

We approved of loans in 3 cases to provide teachers' residences, and in one case to improve an existing residence. The total amount of the loans approved for residences was £730.

Since the year 1875, when the National School Teachers' Residences (Ireland) Act came into force, 1,970 applications for loans, and 82 applications for grants, have been approved by us. In a large percentage of cases, however, the Teachers are as yet unprovided with suitable residences.

Teachers' Residences.

On the 31st December, 1915, according to returns received from the managers, teachers' residences were connected with 2,310 ordinary schools. In 1,142 of these cases the residence was free of rent to the teacher; the annual letting value of such residences being estimated at £8,794.

Local aid towards building and repairing school-houses, school prizes, &c.

6. The estimated cash expenditure on the schools from local sources for the year 1915 was as follows :—

Nature of Expenditure.	Estimated amount.
	£
New Buildings, improvements, furniture, and repairs,...	49,241
Repayment of loans for the erection or improvement of the schoolhouse or teacher's residence, payment of interest on the loan, or rent, insurance, &c., on the school buildings,	11,185
Prizes and premiums to Pupils,	9,098
Heating and cleaning,	28,670
Other expenditure,	11,680
	<u>£109,874</u>

The local aid to the salaries of the teaching staffs amounted to £17,208.

Day Schools in Operation : Attendance.

7. On the 31st of December, 1915, we had 8,163 schools in operation. During the year 1915, 96 schools were brought into operation—viz., 78 vested in the Commissioners or in trustees, and 18 non-vested. In 133 cases the grants were either suspended or withdrawn,

8. In addition to the schools in operation on the 31st December, 1915, 178 to which building grants had been made were not completely built, and 33 other schools were also inoperative for various reasons (being 7 in excess of the number inoperative in the preceding year).

Operative
and
Inopera-
tive
schools.

The following is a general summary of the operative, building, and inoperative schools, on 31st December, 1915 :—

County.	Operative Schools.	Schools Building.*	Inoperative Schools.
Antrim	651	6	2
Armagh	257	—	1
Cavan	246	9	—
Donegal	417	9	2
Down	482	7	1
Fermanagh	175	3	—
Londonderry... ..	274	6	—
Monaghan	172	3	3
Tyrone	347	7	—
Clare	248	9	3
Cork	702	17	1
Kerry	357	10	1
Limerick	251	11	2
Tipperary	307	5	2
Waterford	138	1	—
Carlow	79	2	—
Dublin	326	6	—
Kildare	97	3	2
Kilkenny	164	15	1
King's	124	2	—
Longford	101	2	—
Louth	109	4	—
Meath	156	—	—
Queen's	111	—	1
Westmeath	133	—	1
Wexford	173	2	—
Wicklow	124	1	2
Galway	409	11	2
Leitrim	187	6	1
Mayo	417	6	1
Roscommon	238	10	2
Sligo	191	5	2
Totals,	8,163	*178	33

9. From the returns we have received, it appears that in 182 School schools, fees amounting to £2,974 6s. 3d. were charged to pupils fees over 3 and under 15 years of age, and that all other schools were free to such pupils. In 119 schools, fees amounting to £241 14s. 0d. were received from pupils over 15 years of age, and in 190 schools, fees amounting to £2,139 5s. 4d. were paid by the pupils for instruction outside school hours in special subjects.

*In most cases these schools, when built, will supersede schools now operative.

Average
on Rolls,

10. (a.) The average number of pupils on the rolls of all the schools for the year was 699,172.

Average
daily
attend-
ance.

(b.) The average daily attendance of pupils for the year was 499,983.

(c.) The percentage of the average daily attendance of pupils to the average number on the rolls, was 71·5.

11. (a.) The average number of pupils over three and under fifteen years of age, the limits of age defined in the Act of 1892, sec. 18, sub-sec. (5), in daily attendance was 489,161. The total average attendance of those who were fifteen and above was 10,822, or 2·2 per cent. of the total number in average daily attendance.

Attend-
ance for
at least
75 days.

(b.) The number of pupils over six and under fourteen years of age who made at least 75 attendances in the six months ended 30th June, 1915, was 334,560; and the corresponding number for the six months, ended 31st December, 1915, was 251,247.

Attend-
ance in
each of
ten years.

12. The following table shows for the last ten years—
(a) the number of national schools in operation, (b) the average number of pupils on the rolls, (c) the average daily attendance, and (d) the percentage of the latter to the average number on the rolls:—

Year.	Number of Schools in operation.	Average number of pupils on Rolls.	Average daily Attendance.	Per-centage of Average Daily Attendance to Average Number on Rolls.
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
1906	8,602	739,009	493,558	66·8
1907	8,538	732,460	485,979	66·3
1908	8,468	708,992	494,662	69·8
1909	8,401	704,528	501,107	71·1
1910	8,337	699,945	495,962	70·8
1911	8,289	707,280	512,862	72·5
1912	8,255	699,353	499,038	71·3
1913	8,229	695,970	502,522	72·2
1914	8,207	700,265	508,424	72·6
1915	8,163	699,172	499,983	71·5

Total
number
on rolls.

13. The total number of pupils on the rolls of national schools on the 31st December, 1915, was 679,044.

MODEL SCHOOLS.

14. The number of Model school establishments in operation at the end of the year was 30. These contain 70 separate departments, each in operation with its own distinct staff and organization.

The average number of pupils on the rolls of the Model schools for the year was 8,919.

The average daily attendance of pupils at these schools for the year was 6,953.

The per-centage of the average daily attendance of day pupils for the year to the average number on the rolls was 78.0.

The staff of the Model schools on the 31st December, 1915, consisted of 70 principal teachers, 145 assistant teachers, 6 teachers of special subjects, 94 monitors, 59 pupil teachers and 4 junior assistant mistresses.

CONVENT AND MONASTERY SCHOOLS.

15. The numbers of these schools, and the attendances (excluding pupils who were paid for by the Industrial Schools Department) for the year 1915, were as follows:—

Class of School.	Paid solely by Capitation.		
	Number of Schools.	Average Number of Pupils on Rolls.	Average Daily Attendance.
Convent,	315	99,797	75,324
Monastery,	2	1,173	859
Total,	317	100,970	76,183

Class of School.	Paid by Personal Salaries, &c.		
	Number of Schools.	Average Number of Pupils on Rolls.	Average Daily Attendance.
Convent,	36	6,925	5,291
Monastery,	55	9,426	7,103
Total,	91	16,351	12,394

The teaching power in some convent and monastery schools (paid by capitation) is partly made up of lay assistants who, though not paid directly by us, are, where the Board's requirements as to grading, salary, etc., are complied with, granted valuable privileges in the matter of service, training, etc. On the 31st December, 1915, there were 610 lay assistants (of whom 441 were entitled to privileges) in 146 convent and monastery schools.

Excluding pupils paid for by the Industrial Schools Department, the average number of pupils on the rolls of the convent and monastery national schools for the year was 117,321.

The average daily attendance at these schools for the year was 88,577.

The percentage of the average daily attendance of pupils to the average number on the rolls was 75·5.

Religious
Orders.

SUMMARY OF CONVENT AND MONASTERY NATIONAL SCHOOLS ACCORDING TO RELIGIOUS ORDERS ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1915.

CONVENT NATIONAL SCHOOLS.

Religious Order.	Schools paid by Capitation.	Schools paid by Personal Salaries, &c.	Total.
Sisters of Mercy,	163	17	180
Presentation	59	9	68
Sisters of Charity	26	-	26
St. Louis	5	9	14
Loreto	9	-	9
St. John of God	8	-	8
Sacred Heart	7	-	7
Sisters of St. Clare... ..	4	1	5
Brigidine*	5	-	5
Cross and Passion	5	-	5
Dominican	5	-	5
Immaculate Conception	4	-	4
Ursuline	4	-	4
Sisters of Nazareth... ..	3	-	3
Carmelite	1	-	1
Faithful Companions of Jesus	2	-	2
St. Joseph	1	-	1
Marist	2	-	2
Poor Servants of the Mother of God and the Poor.	1	-	1
St. Joseph of Cluny	1	-	1
Total Convent National Schools ...	315	36	351

MONASTERY NATIONAL SCHOOLS.

Brothers of the Christian Schools ...	-	20	20
Presentation	2	12	14
Franciscan	-	10	10
Patrician	-	7	7
Marist	-	6	6
Total Monastery National Schools ...	2	55	57

WORKHOUSE SCHOOLS.

16. The number of workhouse schools in connection with our Board on 31st December, 1915, was 110, of which 103 were in operation.

The average number of pupils on the rolls of these workhouse schools during the year was 2,269, the total average daily attendance of pupils for the year was 2,029, and the average daily attendance of pupils of 3 to 15 years of age was 2,023.

ELEMENTARY EVENING SCHOOLS.

17. During the session 1915-16, 312 Elementary Evening Schools (including 18 Schools to which grants are payable under the alternative rules for Evening Schools in large urban centres) were in operation.

During the financial year payments amounting to £8,029 2s. 4d. were made in respect of Evening Schools. The average attendance of pupils at these schools (excluding the schools paid under the alternative rules) was 8,013.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL CHILDREN ATTENDING NATIONAL SCHOOLS.*

18. In addition to the Baltimore Fishery Industrial National School there were 26 National Schools, attended by children from Industrial Schools (certified under the Industrial Schools Act). The number of these pupils on the rolls on the last day of the year was 294 boys and 1,054 girls—total, 1,348; and the average daily attendance was for pupils of all ages 1,301, and for those under 15 years of age, 1,272. These industrial school children are instructed in the same manner as the ordinary day pupils of the national school; but payment for their instruction is not made by us, but by the Industrial Schools Department.

Teaching Power.

19. The teachers in our service on 31st December, 1915, receiving personal salaries were as follows:—

Principals.		Assistants.		Total.	Junior Assistant Mistresses.	Work-mistresses.
Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.			
4,435	3,293	1,303	4,440	13,471	2,300	65
7,728		5,743				
Gross Total,		...	...	15,836		

There were also in the service 1 junior literary assistant and 40 industrial teachers.

* In addition to the national schools where children from certain Industrial Schools attend daily, the officers of the Board now undertake the inspection and examination of most of the Reformatory and Industrial Schools in Ireland. These latter Schools are not, however, otherwise connected with the Board, provision being made in the institutions for the instruction of the children on the premises.

New Teachers.

20. During the year ended 31st December, 1915, there were 533 persons appointed for the first time as principal or assistant teachers. Of these 414 had been trained in Training colleges and 119 were not so trained.

ANTECEDENTS OF NEW PRINCIPAL AND ASSISTANT TEACHERS.

	Principals.			Assistants.			Total
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Trained Teachers	58	72	130	92	192	284	414
Served as Pupil Teachers or Monitors only	—	6	6	1	36	37	43
† Served as Lay Assistants	—	1	1	—	9	9	10
† Served as Junior Assistant Mistresses	—	13	13	—	27	27	40
Teachers certificated under English or Scotch Department, but who had not been trained in a Training College ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	1 §
Members of Religious Orders	—	—	—	7	2	9	9
Other persons recognised	—	14	14	1	1	2	16
Total	58	106	164	101	268	369	533

† Of these 9 had previously been Monitors or Pupil Teachers.

‡ Of these 9 " " " " " " " "

§ This teacher had previously served as a monitor.

Teachers who Died or Retired from the Service.

21. During the year 78 teachers died and 382 others appear to have left the service. The causes of retirement, so far as they can be ascertained, are given in the following table:—

Cause.	Men.		Women.		Totals.		
	Principals.	Assistants.	Principals.	Assistants.	Principals.	Assistants.	Totals.
1. Pensioned	81	6	37	34	118	40	158
2. Disablement Pension or Gratuity ...	6	2	17	17	23	19	42
3. Death	39	5	17	17	56	22	78
4. Ill-health, not pensioned	2	—	3	2	5	2	7
5. Married	—	—	22	61	22	61	83
6. Emigrated as teacher or otherwise ...	1	3	5	8	6	11	17
7. Change of profession	12	6	7	11	19	17	36
8. To teach in England or Scotland ...	1	4	2	4	3	8	11
9. To teach under other organisations ...	1	3	—	—	1	3	4
10. Dismissed by the Manager or by the Commissioners	—	2	1	1	1	3	4
11. Not known	6	1	7	6	13	7	20
Totals	149	32	118	161	267	193	460

Monitors and Pupil Teachers.

22. In the service on the 31st December, 1915:—

(a) MONITORS.

Date of Appointment.	Boys.		Girls.
	4 years Course.	3 years Course.	
1st July, 1913, ...	—	94	458
Do., 1914, ...	16	132	492
Do., 1915, ...	50	121	520
Totals, ...	66	347	1,470
413			
Total, 1,883			

(b) PUPIL TEACHERS.

Date of Appointment.				3 years Course.		2 years Course.	
				Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
1st September, 1913,	...	15	85	—	—		
Do., 1914,	...	19	115	4	30		
Do., 1915,	...	9	147	14	29		
Totals,	...	43	347	18	59		
			390		77		
			Total, 467				

Annual Examinations.

23. Pupil teachers and monitors in their final year of service, candidates for admission to the Training colleges, provisionally recognised candidates for appointment as junior assistant mistresses, junior assistant mistresses seeking recognition as assistant teachers, and provisionally recognised teachers of Island schools, &c., seeking continued recognition, are examined at Easter.

King's scholars in training, and teachers seeking Certificates of competency to teach extra branches, are examined in the month of July.

The following is a summary of the persons examined in July, 1915:—

King's Scholars at the end of their first year of Training,	566
King's Scholars at the end of their course of Training,...	598
Teachers examined for Certificates of competency to teach extra subjects,	164
Total,	1,328

The following were examined at Easter, 1916:—

Candidate Junior Assistant Mistresses,	192
First-year Monitors in Co. Kerry (for Reid Prizes), ...	11
Monitors and Pupil Teachers in their final year, provisionally recognised Teachers and Candidates for Training,	1,927
Total,	2,130

Teachers' Pensions and Gratuities.

24. On 31st December, 1915, the Pensions granted were as follows:—

		Men.		Women.		Total.	
		No.	£	No.	£	No.	£
Total payable on 31st December, 1914		1,011	47,848	1,500	55,172	2,511	103,020
Pensions granted in 1915	For Ill-health	12	414	34	921	46	1,335
	On ordinary retirement	83	4,715	70	2,767	153	7,482
Total		1,106	52,977	1,604	58,860	2,710	111,837
Pensions ceased in 1915	Through death	85	3,810	73	2,247	158	6,057
	Reduced on commutation, Supplementary Rule 19th Dec., '14	†[3]	21	†[4]	17	†[7]	38
Pensions payable on 31st December, 1915*		1,021	49,146	1,531	56,596	2,552	105,742

* Including the Supplemental Pensions under Pension Rule 21 (1897).

† These figures do not affect the number of pensioners.

The number of Teachers paying premiums in the various grades on 31st December, 1915, was:—

Grade.				Grade.			
Men,	...	1 ¹	433	Women,	...	1 ¹	300
"	...	1 ²	640	"	...	1 ²	349
"	...	2	1,706	"	...	2	1,322
"	...	3	2,957	"	...	3	5,701
Total,	...	5,736		Total	...	7,672	

N.B.—A separate I¹ Class establishment is still kept for those teachers who have rights under Pension Rule 20 (2) 1914. The numbers (150 men and 130 women) are included under their Grades above.

Income and Expenditure of the Pension Fund.

25. The following statement relative to the Pension Fund has been furnished to us by the Teachers' Pension Office :—

The Income and Expenditure of the Pension Fund during the year 1915, were as follows :—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Income :—						
Two half-year's Interest on £1,300,000...	39,000	0	0			
Interest on Stock	55,273	12	11			
Vote in aid,†	56,479	15	10			
Premiums paid by Teachers,	42,194	18	5			
				192,948	7	2
Expenditure —						
Interest on advances from National Debt Commissioners for conversion of Consols	4,077	18	2			
Pensions paid to Teachers,	102,999	18	9			
Premiums refunded on Disablement ...	494	12	4			
Ditto on Resignation or Death,...	6,402	1	8			
				113,974	10	11
Surplus of Income over Expenditure,				78,973	16	3
* Amount realised by sale of £542,313 18s. 1d. Stock, ...				524,614	19	5
Cash Balance on 1st January, 1915				3,015	2	4
				606,603	18	0
† Sum invested in purchase of £613,702 13s. 7d. Stock, ...				604,465	9	6
Cash Balance on 31st December, 1915,				2,138	8	6

The invested Capital of the Fund stood thus :—

	£	s.	d.
1st January, 1915, Debt of the Church Temporalities Fund, ...	1,300,000	0	0
Stock in hand	£1,412,628	4	6
Stock bought in 1915	613,702	13	7
War Stock converted from Consols ...	261,944	13	0
	2,288,275	11	1
Stock sold in 1915, £542,313 18 1 } Consols converted to War Stock ... 392,916 19 6 }	935,230	17	7
In hand 31st December, 1915, ...	£1,353,044	13	6
	£1,300,000	0	0

† NOTE.—The sum of £56,479 15s. 10d. in aid of the Teachers' Pension Fund was paid over to the Fund by the Commissioners of National Education within the year.

* Includes £481,919 3s. 5d. War Stock sold for £465,052 to repay loan of that amount from National Debt Commissioners.

† Includes £523,900 War Stock bought for conversion purposes for £524,687 10s. 11d.

Expenditure on the Schools and the Teaching Staffs for the Year 1915.

26. As far as we have been able to ascertain the expenditure on the Schools and the payments to the teaching staffs from all sources amounted approximately to £1,758,878, as shown in the following table, giving, on an average daily attendance for the year of 496,653 pupils, an average expenditure of £3 10s. 10d. for each child.

(a.) From State Grants :

I. From the grant for Primary Education :—	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Payments to the teachers	1,541,606	9	11						
Retiring gratuities ...	306	6	1						
Central Model Schools—									
School requisites ...	2	0	6						
Central Model Schools—									
Charing and Petty expenses ...	350	5	5						
Other Model Schools—									
School requisites ...	30	16	11						
Other Model Schools—									
Rents and Petty expenses ...	3,009	2	10						
Incidental expenses of schools (rents, van services, boat services, &c.)	742	1	7						
Free Stocks of school requisites to ordinary schools ...	518	8	0						
Equipment grants ...	271	19	7						
Examination Expenses; Employers' contributions for Health Insurance of Junior Assistant Mistresses, Monitors, &c. ...	2,802	13	2						
Moieties of rent charge on teachers' residences	6,890	9	3						
Grant for Heating and Cleaning Schools ...	18,616	7	3						
Dental Treatment of School Children ...	548	15	4						
							1,575,695	15	10

II. From the vote for the

Board of Public Works :—

Expenditure on building new schools, and the enlargement, improvement, and repair of existing vested schools

— 56,100 2 10

Total from State Grants

— — 1,631,795 18 8

(b.) From Local sources :

Payments to the teachers (see p. 14) ...

— 17,208 0 10

Estimated cash expenditure from local sources on building, improvements, repairs, furniture, heating, cleaning, &c., of the schools (see p. 14)...

— 109,874 0 0

Estimated total of cash payments from Local sources, 127,082 0 10

Total expenditure on the schools and teaching staffs,

1,758,877 19 6

Rate per pupil from (a) State Grants ... 3 5 9

Rate per pupil from (b) Local Sources ... 0 5 1

Rate per pupil from all Sources £3 10 10

27. The amounts paid by the State in the financial year 1915-16 to the Teaching Staffs of the *principal classes* of day National schools were as follows :—

Class of Schools (Excluding Poor Law Union, and Fishery Schools, and pupils paid for by Industrial Schools Department).	No. of Schools.	Average daily attendance.	Total State Aid to Teaching Staff.	Average pay- ment per pupil in average daily attendance.
1. Ordinary schools (in- cluding Hospital School).	7,581	401,123	£ 1,287,810	£ s. d. 3 4 2
2 Model schools, ...	70	6,953	28,646	4 2 5
3 Convent and Monastery schools (Personal Salaries, &c.) ...	91	12,394	34,710	2 16 0
4. Convent and Monastery schools (Capitation)	317	76,183	182,718	2 8 0
Total, ...	8,059	496,653	1,533,884	3 1 9

28. Table showing the numbers of Principal and Assistant Teachers in receipt of the salary of the undermentioned Grades on the 31st December, of each of the following years up to the year 1913, inclusive ; for the years 1915 and 1916 the date taken is the 31st March :—

Year.	MEN.										Total number of Mas- ters.
	PRINCIPALS.					ASSISTANTS.					
	I. Grade	I ² . Grade	II. Grade	III. Grade	Total	I. Grade	I ² . Grade	II. Grade	III. Grade	Total	
1901	241	416	1,283	2,725	4,665	13	18	25	994	1,050	5,715
1904	268	430	1,487	2,449	4,634	15	15	13	1,118	1,161	5,795
1907	313	445	1,598	2,191	4,547	16	14	7	1,183	1,220	5,767
1910	325	475	1,663	2,013	4,476	11	12	8	1,190	1,221	5,697
1911	325	476	1,695	1,991	4,487	10	10	8	1,236	1,264	5,751
1912	325	483	1,750	1,927	4,485	10	10	20	1,241	1,281	5,766
1913	383	566	1,667	1,863	4,479	8	12	25	1,249	1,294	5,773
1915	419	571	1,655	1,818	4,463	9	10	29	1,258	1,306	5,769
1916	426	586	1,682	1,711	4,405	9	11	39	1,222	1,281	5,686

[OVER.

28—continued

Year.	WOMEN..										Total number of Mistresses.
	PRINCIPALS.					ASSISTANTS.					
	I. Grade	I ² . Grade	II. Grade	III. Grade	Total	I. Grade	I ² . Grade	II. Grade	III. Grade	Total	
1901	208	282	845	2,235	3,570	11	26	29	2,546	2,612	6,182
1904	222	303	987	2,126	3,638	8	17	25	2,798	2,848	6,486
1907	224	312	1,000	2,018	3,554	10	13	32	3,329	3,384	6,938
1910	243	310	1,015	1,846	3,414	11	16	55	3,636	3,718	7,132
1911	248	312	1,001	1,803	3,364	11	15	66	3,826	3,918	7,282
1912	253	329	980	1,769	3,331	11	14	141	3,951	4,117	7,448
1913	259	327	1,024	1,711	3,321	7	16	179	4,037	4,239	7,560
1915	265	336	1,048	1,636	3,285	8	13	239	4,114	4,374	7,659
1916	276	342	1,073	1,594	3,285	10	12	285	4,133	4,440	7,725

29. AVERAGE RATES of INCOME, from State sources, of Principal and Assistant teachers (Men and Women) serving on 31st March, 1916, exclusive of grants for Special Subjects, and fees for Evening School instruction :—

		Principals.		Assistants.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Men	...	115	19 11	83	11 4
Women	...	92	13 9	70	2 3

The similar rates for each grade were as follows :—

	PRINCIPALS.								ASSISTANTS.							
	I. Grade.		I ² . Grade.		II. Grade.		III. Grade.		I. Grade.		I ² . Grade.		II. Grade.		III. Grade.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Men ...	186	17 1	146	11 2	118	13 6	85	5 1	179	12 9	144	3 8	113	4 6	81	7 4
Women	156	13 3	126	8 2	101	9 7	68	9 3	142	13 0	125	7 6	98	1 2	67	17 0

30.

Training Colleges.

Name of College.	Manager.	Date from which recognised.	Number of King's Scholars for which at present licensed.	
			Men.	Women.
"Marlborough-street" (Dublin).	The Commissioners of National Education.	1834	130	165
"St. Patrick's" (Drumcondra, Dublin).	His Grace the Most Rev. W. J. Walsh, D.D., Archbishop of Dublin.	1 Sept., 1883	165	—
"Our Lady of Mercy" (Carysfort Park, Bl'rock, Co. Dublin).	Do.	1 Sept., 1883	—	200
"Church of Ireland" (Kildare Place, Dublin).	His Grace the Most Rev. J. H. Bernard D.D., Archbishop of Dublin	1 Sept., 1884	50	85
"De la Salle" (Waterford).	The Most Rev. B. Hackett, D.D., Bishop of Waterford and Lismore.	1 Sept., 1891	200	—
"St. Mary's" (Belfast)	The Most Rev. J. McRory, D.D., Bishop of Down and Connor.	1 Sept., 1900	—	100
"Mary Immaculate" (Limerick).	The Most Rev. E. T. O'Dwyer, D.D., Bishop of Limerick.	1 Sept., 1901	—	100
			545	650
			1,195	

31. The following Table shows the number of candidates for admission to training (two years' course)* in 1915 in each of the Training colleges and the antecedents of those admitted:—

	Number of Candidates.	Number admitted to Training.	ANTECEDENTS.						
			Principals.	Assistants.	Junior Assistant Mistresses.	Substitute Teachers.	Monitors.	Pupil Teachers.	Ex-Pupils.
(FOR MEN.)									
"Marlborough St.,"	53	33	—	—	—	—	8	5	20
"St. Patrick's,"	152	81	—	1	—	1	29	4	46
"Church of Ireland,"	25	12	—	—	—	—	5	1	6
"De la Salle,"	191	106	—	2	—	—	22	5	77
Total,	421	232	—	3	—	1	64	15	149
(FOR WOMEN.)									
"Marlborough St.,"	279	†111	—	13	4	9	58	15	**12
"Our Lady of Mercy,"	666	111	—	20	4	4	47	18	18
"Church of Ireland,"	107	57	2	2	4	—	29	5	15
"St. Mary's,"	249	‡58	—	8	—	—	24	14	‡7
"Mary Immaculate,"	226	50	—	8	—	—	23	9	10
Total	1,517	382	2	51	12	13	181	61	62

* The one year's course of training for teachers in the service of the Commissioners was abolished with the commencement of the Session 1910-1911.

† Includes 3 externs.
‡ Includes 2 externs.

§ Includes 1 extern.
|| Includes 1 extern.

Trained Teachers.

34. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF TRAINED TEACHERS in the Service on 31st December, 1915, was 9,889 or 73·4 per cent. of the total number of Principal and Assistant Teachers in the Service.

35. Colleges for the teaching of Irish.

A payment of £5 is made to recognised colleges for the teaching of Irish in respect of each teacher who, having attended the required number of lessons, passes the examination at the end of the course and who subsequently teaches Irish satisfactorily in a public school for one year. In order to facilitate their attendance at these courses, teachers are granted vacation to the extent of 50 days in the year in which they attend a course, provided their schools are kept open for at least 200 days in such year. Eighteen colleges have been recognised, and since they were opened, 2,175 of the students have been registered as qualified to teach Irish as an ordinary or extra subject.

The following Colleges have been recognised :—

Name.	Patron or President.	Manager or Secretary.
The Four Masters College (Letterkenny).	The Most Rev. Doctor O'Donnell, Bishop of Raphoe	Rev. M. P. Ward.
The Ulster College (Cloghaneely, Gortahork, Co. Donegal).	Dail Uladh (Ulster Gaelic Union).	E. O'Toole, Esq.
The Connacht College (Tourmakeady, Ballinrobe).	The Most Rev. Doctor Healy, Archbishop of Tuam.	Rev. B. J. Crehan, C.C.
The Munster College (Ballingeary, Macroom).	Rev. C. O'Leary, P.P., Inchigeela, Co. Cork.	Liam DeRoiste, Esq.
The Ring College (Ring, Dungarvan).	—	P. O'Kiely, Esq.
The Belfast College (Bank Street, Belfast)	—	Rev. J. K. O'Neill, P.P.
The Leinster College (25 Rutland Square, Dublin).	—	G. A. Moonan, Esq., B.A., B.L.
The Spiddal College (Spiddal, Co. Galway)	—	Rev. T. E. MacAlinney.
The Dingle College (Dingle, Co. Kerry).	—	V. Rev. P. Canon O'Leary, D.D., P.P., V.F.
The Sligo College (Sligo).	—	P. O'Donnellan, Esq.
The Ballinasloe College (Galway).	—	Rev. P. O'Conghaile, B.A.
The Castlebar College (Co. Mayo).	The Most Rev. Doctor Healy, Archbishop of Tuam.	Rev. J. W. Meehan, C.C.
The Glandore College (Co. Cork).	The Most Rev. Doctor Kelly, Bishop of Ross.	M. O'Cuilenain, Esq.
	The Countess of Desart.	
	Miss C. M. Townshend, London	
The Caherdaniel College (Co. Kerry).	—	P. O'Shea, Esq.
The Omeath College (Co. Louth).	—	Rev. M. J. Quin, P.P.
Dublin College (Kildare Street).	—	Miss Eleanor Knott.
The O'Curry College (Carrigaholt).	—	Mrs. Maire O'Donovan.
Rathlin College (Rathlin Island).	—	M. Maguigin, Esq.

The Belfast College has a recognised branch at Arinagh.

The Munster College has a recognised branch at Cork. (Winter Session).

The Leinster College has recognised branches at Mullingar, Dublin and Navan.

The Spiddal College has a recognised branch at Galway. (Winter Session).

Compulsory Attendance Provisions of the Irish Education Act, 1892.

Irish
Educa-
tion Act,
1892.

36. At the end of the year 1915, 237 School Attendance Committees existed, 94 in the County Boroughs, Urban Districts and Municipal Towns and 143 in Rural Districts. According to reports received from the Committees, the provisions of the Act were enforced, during the year, by 235 of these Committees.

Under the provisions of the Act, children over 6 and under 14 years of age, with certain exceptions, are required to attend school, and to make 75 complete attendances in each half-year ending respectively the 30th June and the 31st December.

There are 39 Urban Districts or Towns having municipal government, to which the provisions of the Act apply, but for which school attendance committees have not been appointed. There are 109 Rural Districts without school attendance committees.

Special Fees granted for extra or other branches.

37. RETURN showing the number of Schools in which special fees were paid for instruction given in certain branches, and the amount paid, for the school-year ended 30th June, 1915.

Branch.	Number of Schools in which fees were paid.	Amount paid.
		£ s. d.
Irish,	1,448	9,807 18 3
Bilingual Programme,	212	3,667 9 5
Mathematics,	944	4,818 7 4
*Cookery,	2,420	9,693 16 0
*Laundry Work,	911	3,514 16 0
*Domestic Economy,	92	724 0 0
Rural Science and Horticulture,	98	499 0 0

* Special fees, amounting to £440 12s. 6d., were also paid for instruction in Cookery, Laundry-work or Domestic Economy in 80 Technical Schools, where pupils attend from neighbouring national schools.

Bilingual Programme.

38. The number of schools in which the Bilingual Programme is in operation has increased from 36 in 1906-7 to 225 in 1914-15. Of the latter number, 212 schools earned the special fee for satisfactory instruction in this programme.

Rural Science and Horticulture.

39. In the school year 1914-15 there were 101 schools with recognised school gardens attached. Fees amounting to £499 were earned by 98 of these schools for instruction in Gardening. Equipment grants to the amount of £155 2s. 8d. were made for the year, and prizes amounting to £100 were also awarded.

Merit Certificates.

40. 226 Merit Certificates, in ordinary subjects were issued during the year to pupils over 13 years of age who had been enrolled in the Seventh Standard for one year, and who had, in

the opinion of the inspectors, attained satisfactory proficiency in English, Arithmetic, and Geography. Certificates of merit in technical subjects were awarded to 32 pupils over 14 years of age, who had been enrolled in the sixth standard for at least one year, and who had, in the opinion of the inspectors, attained to satisfactory proficiency in the technical subject as well as in ordinary subjects of the school programme

Half-time Pupils under the Factory and Workshop Acts.

41. On the 31st December, 1915, there were 3,952 half-time pupils on the rolls of 137 schools. These schools, with the exception of one in Cork, are in the province of Ulster (Counties of Antrim, Armagh, Down, Londonderry, and Tyrone). The average number of half-time pupils on the rolls of these schools for 1915 was 3,921, and the attendances of half-time pupils represented 1,750 full-time pupils in the returns of average daily attendance. With the exception of one school the "alternate day" system was adopted in every case.

The Reid Bequest.

42. In accordance with one of the provisions of the Reid Bequest Scheme for the advancement of education in the County Kerry, the Commissioners, having considered the answering of the male monitors employed in the National Schools of that county at the annual examinations of 1915, awarded prizes as follows:—

MONITORS EXAMINED UPON FINAL YEAR PROGRAMME.

Roll No.	School.	Name of Monitor.	Prize.
2849	Kenmare Boys' ...	Gerald O'Donoghue ...	1st Prize £25
6227	Smerwick Boys' ...	John Murphy ...	2nd „ £22
11405	Faha Boys' ...	John Moriarty ...	3rd „ £20
14767	Aghacarla ...	Michael Kane ...	4th „ £18
12832	Killorglin Boys' ...	Timothy O'Reilly ...	5th „ £16
6227	Smerwick Boys' ...	Thomas Russell ...	6th „ £14

MONITORS EXAMINED UPON FIRST YEAR PROGRAMME.

Roll No.	School.	Name of Monitor.	Prize.
10182	Minard Castle ...	Michael J. Kavanagh ...	1st Prize £20
13018	Brosna Boys' ...	Aeneas J. Leahy ...	2nd „ £18
9650	Meentogues Boys' ...	Giles Cooper ...	3rd „ £16
2979	Clashmagarrane Boys' ...	Thomas Corcoran ...	4th „ £14
12832	Killorglin Boys' ...	Michael Clifford ...	5th „ £12
15844	Ballyduff ...	Thomas Greany ...	6th „ £10

43.

CARLISLE AND BLAKE PREMIUMS.

THE CARLISLE AND BLAKE PREMIUM FUND.

1. The Commissioners of National Education are empowered to allocate to the teachers of ordinary National schools the interest accruing from certain funds at their disposal in premiums, to be called "The Carlisle and Blake Premiums." Teachers of Model Schools, Convent Schools, or other special schools, are not eligible for these premiums.

2. The interest from the accumulated funds available for premiums is distributed in premiums of £5 each—one for the most deserving principal teacher in each of the circuits every year, upon the following conditions:—

- (a.) that the average attendance and the regularity of the attendance of the pupils are satisfactory;
- (b.) that a fair proportion of the pupils have passed in the higher standards;
- (c.) that, if a boys' or mixed school, taught by a master in a rural district, the elements of the sciences underlying agriculture are fairly taught to the boys of the senior standards; and, if a girls' school (rural or town), needlework is carefully attended to;
- (d.) that the state of the school has been reported during the previous two years as satisfactory in respect of efficiency, moral tone, order, cleanliness, discipline, school records, supply of requisites, and observance of the Commissioners' rules.

3. No teacher is eligible for a premium more frequently than once in five years.

CARLISLE AND BLAKE PREMIUMS for the year ended 31st December, 1915.

Circuit.	County.	Roll No. and School.		Teacher.
1	Donegal	5734	Belcruit	George W. McCaul.
2	Londonderry,	16318	St. Eugene's Boys'	John McNamara.
3	Antrim	8606	Ballymena Girls'	Miss Mary J. O'Boyle.
4	Tyrone	8245	Milltown	Patrick McDonald, B.A.
5	Fermanagh	15235	Lisnaskea (2)	Alexander McKim.
6	Armagh	14962	The Cope	Robert Callaghan.
7	Antrim	13931	St. Paul's (2)	Peter McGivern.
8	Down	2548	Mountpottinger G.	Mrs. Margt. McBratney.
9	Armagh	9420	Meighfoner Girls'	Mrs. Margt. McCreesh.
10	Sligo	12767	Cloonloo	Miss Mary Cosgrove.
11	Dublin	744	SS. Michael & John's	Timothy D. O'Brien.
12	Dublin	12952	St. Kevin's Girls'	Miss Margaret A. Josephine Mulvin
13	Mayo	13452	Canbrack Girls'	Mrs. Bridget Philbin.
14	Galway	1324	Duniry	Michael O'Connell.
15	Roscommon	16127	Gorthaganny	Martin McGetterick.
16	Westmeath	4332	Moate (1)	James Ryan.
17	Limerick	14075	Ardagh	John O'Connell.
18	Waterford	9746	Glenanore Girls'	Miss Bridget Condon.
19	Kilkenny	15161	The Rover Girls'	Mrs. Honora Kavanagh.
20	Kerry	11406	Faha Girls'	Mrs. Margaret Dennehy.
21	Cork	14108	Castletownrgehe G.	Miss Annie Lenihan.
22	Cork	15787	Gurtycloonagh	John Sullivan.

Irish Prizes to King's Scholars.

44. LIST of KING'S SCHOLARS in order of merit who passed their Final Year's Examination in July, 1915, and qualified for Certificates of Competency in Irish, and to whom Prizes of £5 each have been awarded.

The Training Colleges are indicated thus:—

C.N.E. "Marlborough-street" Dublin.
St. P. "St. Patrick's" (Drumcondra).
O.L.M. "Our Lady of Mercy" (Blackrock).

St. M. "St. Mary's" (Belfast).
M.I. "Mary Immaculate" (Limerick).
D.L.S. "De La Salle" (Waterford).

County	Roll No.	School	Name of King's Scholar.	Training College.
Mayo	14254	Kilmore, Erris	Anthony Monaghan	D.L.S.
Cork	—	Skerry's College	John P. Sweeney	D.L.S.
Galway	4219	Spiddal	Cornelius Cooney	D.L.S.
Waterford	15046	St. Stephen's Monasy.	Gerald Hurley	D.L.S.
Dublin	7182	Dalkey Convent	Catherine Sweeney	M. I.
Donegal	15241	Teelin	Patrick McShane	D.L.S.
Mayo	13957	Doolough	Anthony Donohue	St. P.
Donegal	4740	Knockastoler	Shane Gallagher	St. P.
Limerick	570	SS. Mary's & Munchin's	Bridget Power	O.L.M.
Antrim	14563	McKenna Memorial	Daniel Downey	St. P.
"	13931	St. Paul's B. (2)	John Duffin	St. P.
Galway	—	St. Joseph's, Ballinasloe	Michael Walsh	St. P.
Monaghan	359	Monaghan Convent	Mary Magee	O.L.M.
Donegal	—	(Private Study).	Mary O'Byrne	St. M.
Waterford	15046	St. Stephen's Monasy.	Eugene M. P. Gallagher	D.L.S.
Tipperary	10120	Cahir Convent	Joanna O'Sullivan	C.N.E.
Donegal	5890	Letterbrick	John Houston	St. P.
Monaghan	15402	Monaghan Convt. Inft.	Annie Boylan	St. M.
Kerry	13542	St. Joseph's, Caher-civeen.	Mary A. Corcoran	O.L.M.
Waterford	15046	St. Stephen's Monasy.	Augustine H. McCaulay	D.L.S.
Donegal	15393	Cashel (2)	James O'Donnell	St. P.
Cork	14784	St. Patrick's Monasy.	Thomas Murphy	D.L.S.
Waterford	15046	St. Stephen's Monasy.	John P. Lynch	D.L.S.
Galway	13560	Ballyroe G.	Mary E. Comer	O.L.M.
Kilkenny	13885	Kilkenny Convent	Joanna Murphy	O.L.M.
Queen's	918	Castletown Monasy.	Michael Nolan	D.L.S.
"	"	"	John Hartnett	D.L.S.
Tipperary	11872	Carrick-on-Suir Convt.	Annie Hearne	O.L.M.
Cork	4172	Lowertown	Mary J. Hegarty	O.L.M.
Queen's	918	Castletown Monasy.	Wm. M. Hayes	D.L.S.

In addition to the above, the undermentioned King's Scholars also passed the examination, but, being already certificated in Irish, were ineligible for the award of a prize:—

Kate Sugrue (O.L.M.), Masterguihy N.S., Co. Kerry, Roll No. 4463.

Richard P. J. Batterberry (D.L.S.), St. Stephen's Mony. N.S., Co. Waterford, Roll No. 15046.

Mary Deeny (St.M.), Cineil Conaill N.S. Co. Donegal, Roll No. 15271.

Katie A. Kenny (O.L.M.), Clonkeenkerrill N.S., Co. Galway, Roll No. 15429.

45. SCIENCE EQUIPMENT GRANTS MADE IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1915-16.

Elementary Science Equipment Grants were made to 36 schools during the year ended 31st March, 1916.

46. Attached hereto is our financial statement for the year ended the 31st March, 1916.

47. We submit this, as our Report for the year 1915-16, to Your Excellency, and in testimony thereof have caused our seal to be hereunto affixed this 5th day of February, 1917.



W. J. DILWORTH,
A. N. BONAPARTE WYSE, } *Secretaries.*

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

FROM

1ST APRIL, 1915, TO 31ST MARCH, 1916,

SHOWING THE FUNDS AT THE DISPOSAL

OF

THE COMMISSIONERS

OF

NATIONAL EDUCATION, IRELAND

AND HOW THESE FUNDS HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED.

D. FRIZZELL,

Accountant.

The following STATEMENT of ACCOUNT will show the FUNDS at
have been

CHARGE.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
The Balance on 1st April, 1915, ...	—			2,720	12	3
PARLIAMENTARY GRANT.						
Ordinary Grant, 1915-1916, ...	1,501,119	0	0			
Special Grant in aid of Teachers' Pension Fund ...	56,800	0	0			
School Grant, ...	248,000	0	0			
				1,805,919	0	0
<i>Grant from Ireland Development Fund ...</i>				48	0	0
APPROPRIATIONS IN AID.						
Miscellaneous Receipts in aid of the Vote for 1915-1916 ...				671	16	3
MISCELLANEOUS.						
Private Contribution Fund :—						
Dividends on Legacies and Donations (private contributions) invested in Government Securities, ...				546	15	7
School Fees received from Pupils attending Model Schools				1,435	0	11
Sundry repayments of moneys due to the account of the Vote of previous year, ...				127	11	8
Income Tax deductions, payable to Inland Revenue Department, ...				3,405	16	3
Stoppages from Quarterly Salaries of Teachers of one-fourth Premiums for Pensions under Act 42 & 43 Vic., c. 74, 1879				48,036	13	3
Premiums of Insurance of Sundry Officers in Service of Board (North British and Mercantile Insurance Company),				1,507	11	3
Recoveries account credit for 1913-1914, being refund of amount disallowed on audit of account for 1913-1914					1	15 0
Treasury War Loan Club subscriptions ...				734	4	7
Carried forward ...				1,865,154	17	0

the disposal of the COMMISSIONERS in 1915-1916, and how they distributed :—

DISCHARGE.			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Office in Dublin :								
Salaries and Wages, ...	...	...	26,909	8	10			
Travelling Expenses, ...	...	...	885	11	11			
Legal Expenses, ...	...	...	684	15	3			
Rent, ...	...	...	115	7	7			
Incidental Expenses, ...	...	...	359	2	6			
						28,954	6	1
Inspection :								
Salaries, ...	...	...	33,089	7	1			
Travelling and Personal Allowances, ...	...	...	15,118	6	5			
						48,207	13	6
Training :								
Marlborough Street Training College, ...	...	...	13,210	13	4			
Training Colleges, under local management (a) ...	...	...	50,684	16	11			
Prizes to King's Scholars for Irish, &c., ...	...	...	1,831	10	0			
						65,727	0	3
Model Schools (Special Expenditure—Maintenance, and Special Teachers, &c.), ...	...	...				3,739	4	3
National Schools Generally :								
Salaries and Capitation payments in Ordinary and Model Schools, Day and Evening, of Principal and Assistant Teachers, Junior Assistant Mistresses, Workmistresses, and Monitors; also fees for Special Subjects.			1,542,827	1	9			
Retiring Gratuities, ...	...	...	306	6	1			
Incidental Expenditure, ...	...	...	742	1	7			
Free Grants of Books and School Requisites (b) ...	...	...	518	8	0			
School Fees paid to Model School Teachers, ...	...	...	1,433	7	6			
Heating and cleansing of Schools, ...	...	...	18,616	7	3			
Dental treatment of School children, ...	...	...	548	15	4			
						1,564,992	7	6
Miscellaneous :								
Easter and July Examination Expenses, ...	...	...	477	2	0			
Organizing Teachers, ...	...	...	750	15	4			
						1,227	17	4
Carried forward, ...	...	...	£1,712,848	8	11			

(a) Includes £48 0s. 0d. paid out of Grant from Ireland Development Fund towards cost of additional King's Scholars in "Our Lady of Mercy" Training College.

(b) The total Free Stocks granted in 1915-16 amounted to £551 5s. 5d. as follows :—Ordinary National Schools, £518 8s. 0d.; Model Schools, £32 17s. 5d.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT—continued.

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward, ...	£1,865,154	17	0
<hr/>			
Total, ...	£1,865,154	17	0

EXPENDITURE during the Year—continued.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward ...	—			1,712,848	8	11
Manual and Practical Instruction						
Salaries, Travelling, &c., ...	10,194	12	9			
Equipment Grants, ...	271	19	7			
				10,466	12	4
Moieties of Rentcharge of Teachers' Residences repaid by Commissioners, ...	—			6,890	9	3
Private Contribution Fund, Payment to Schools from, ...	—			420	2	6
Grant in aid of Teachers' Pension Fund, paid over to Teachers' Pension Office, ...	—			56,479	15	10
Income Tax :						
Payments to Inland Revenue Department of deductions for Income Tax, ...	—			2,799	10	7
Payment to Pensions Fund of amounts stopped from Quarterly Salaries of Teachers, under the Act 42 & 43 Vic., c. 74, 1879, ...	—			48,036	13	3
Insurance Premiums paid over to North British and Mercantile Insurance Co.,...	—			1,507	11	3
Treasury War Loan Club ...	—			1,021	11	8
Balance of Parliamentary Vote of 1914-1915 surrendered, ...	—			1,157	11	1
Balance on 31st March, 1916 ...				23,526	10	4
Total ...				£1,865,154	17	0

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONERS
 OF
 NATIONAL EDUCATION IN IRELAND
On June 30th, 1916.

ACCORDING TO THE DATES OF THEIR RESPECTIVE APPOINTMENTS.

	YEAR OF APPOINTMENT.
Sir HENRY BELLINGHAM, Bart., M.A., LL.D., H.M. Lieutenant	1890
Rev. HENRY EVANS, D.D.,	1890
Sir STANLEY HARRINGTON, B.A., R.U.I., J.P., ...	1895
Right Hon. WILLIAM JOSEPH MYLES STARKIE, M.A., LITT.D., LL.D. (<i>Resident Commissioner</i>), ...	1899
Right Hon. LORD FREDERICK FITZGERALD, ...	1902
Rev. DAVID A. TAYLOR, M.A., D.D.,	1902
Right Hon. LORD KILLANIN, LL.D.,	1904
Most Rev. PATRICK FOLEY, D.D., Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin,	1905
GERALD DEASE, Esq., D.L.,	1905
Right Hon. Mr. JUSTICE ROSS, LL.D.,	1905
RICHARD BAGWELL, Esq., M.A., LITT.D., D.L., ...	1905
Rev. JOHN C. CLARKE, D.D., Ex-Moderator of the General Assembly,	1908
Right Hon. LAURENCE AMBROSE WALDRON, ...	1909
DAVID M. MORIARTY, Esq., B.A.,	1910
JOHN A. MCCLELLAND, Esq., M.A. D.SC., F.R.S., ...	1910
PHILIP WARD, Esq., J.P.,	1910
Right Rev. MAURICE DAY, D.D., Bishop of Clogher,...	1911
Rev. ROBERT MILLER, M.A.,	1913
ROBERT DONOVAN, Esq., B.A.,	1915
WILLIAM E. THRIFT, Esq., M.A., F.T.C.D.	1915