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1889.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

TECHNICAL SCHOOL, HOBART:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE FOR 1888.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command.



REPORT of the Hobart Committee of Technical Education for 1888.

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1. THE Committee of Technical Instruction of Hobart have the honor to forward this, their second Report, and are able to record that satisfactory progress has been made during the past year in the Department under their supervision.

The number of members on the Committee has been increased since last Report from five to seven, as it was thought desirable to have various industries represented; Messrs. Kirk, to represent the building trade, and Kennedy, to represent the iron trade, being elected. Another change in the *personnel* of the Committee has taken place through the resignation of Mr. Laurie. The agricultural interest being unrepresented, the Committee requested Mr. H. Lamb to permit himself to be nominated for the vacancy in that interest, and his election was approved by the Minister.

Curriculum.

2. The extension of the curriculum shadowed forth in the last Report has been attended with great success. The Committee were able to secure the services of a competent teacher in Commercial Economy, and over thirty pupils have joined the class, which is held twice weekly, with an average attendance of 23, most of whom are young men engaged in commercial pursuits. On a requisition signed by forty intending students in Practical Engineering and Ironwork, the Committee took steps to procure a competent teacher, and the appointment of Mr. Middleton was confirmed by the Minister. This class has also been a very gratifying success, and is well attended by the class for whose special benefit it was organised.

3. The Committee have had frequently under their consideration the necessity of establishing other classes, but the want of room has seriously hampered them, even in making arrangements for existing classes. By the kindness of His Worship the Mayor (Alfred Crisp, Esq.), two of the classes have been carried on in the room at the Town Hall, pending the completion of the new building.

4. A class for instruction in Practical Mining is urgently required, and the Committee much regret the inevitable postponement of this and similarly useful classes.

5. The Committee are endeavouring to secure the services of the Instructress in Cookery at the Sydney Technical College for a course of lessons, during the months of December and January, in Cookery, over 60 ladies having intimated their desire to join such a class.

Examination.

6. An examination was held in June of the students attending the Technical Art Instruction, Applied Mechanics, and Commercial Economy Classes.

Technical School Exhibits.

7. A number of students exhibited their work at the Melbourne Exhibition, and made a very creditable show, which compared favourably with the work shown by technical students in the neighbouring colonies.

New Building.

8. The foundation stone of the new Technical College was laid by His Excellency on Wednesday, 11th July, and tenders have been called for its erection; so that the inconvenience and want of space now complained of should before long be a thing of the past.

Annual Grant.

9. With the enlarging scope of the Committee's operations, and the increasing number availing themselves of the facilities offered, the Committee find that the sum placed by Parliament at their disposal is inadequate for future requirements; they have therefore asked Parliament for a vote this year of £750.

Agricultural Teaching.

10. Your Committee have carefully considered the desirability of establishing, in connection with the Technical School, a school or farm for the practical teaching of those who intend to engage in farming. As an initiatory step, a resolution has been forwarded to the Minister requesting that a sum of £400 may be placed on the Estimates for that purpose, and that the Government Farm at New Town may be utilised for the practical work in connection therewith.

The Hon. the Minister of Education.

G. FITZGERALD, *Chairman.*
16th September, 1889.