

	Entered.	Born	Left.	
(25) Margaret Macdougall	17/2/18	14/7/83 (38590)	2/8/18	Edin. 1915-17
(26) Helen M. Kintoch	24/10/18	14/8/95 (38608)	2/7/20	" 1918-17
(27) Elizabeth Jane Thompson	8/10/19	24/5/94 (37448)	2/7/20	Aber- 1918-17
(28) Barbara Franklin	24/8/20	24/3/99 (42912)	6/3/25	Edin. 1918-20
(29) Isabella Donaldson	2/8/20	9/12/00 (42828)	27/5/21	" " "
(30) Mary W. Watt	6/9/20	19/8/99 (42965)	3/2/22	" " "
(31) Elizabeth H. Bremner	7/9/21	8/10/91 (33532)	2/12/21	Aber-
(32) Mrs Christie & Whyte	12/12/21	12/5/85	19/9/22	Uncertificated
(33) Catherine McEddie Tait	4/9/22	12/6/02	13/11/25	Edin. 20. 1920-22
(34) Mary Jane Graham	4/9/22	24/3/01 (35545)	24/12/26	" " " "
(35) Fumina Ross Aird	13/11/25	16/11/89 (22015)	1/7/32	Certificated (Untr.) 1910
(36) Isabella E. Fraser	16/11/25	24/2/06	11/12/25	Edin. 20. 23-25
(37) Sarah Millar Macgarry	14/11/25	4/1/04 (25102)	2/7/30	Glasgow J.C. 22-25
(38) Jessie Macintosh Mackenzie	2/9/30	8/7/03	2/7/41	Aberdeen J.C. 22-26
(39) Isabella Ferguson Ross	30/8/32	24/7/11	24/6/39	Edin. J.C. 29-31
(40) Jessie McLeod Ross	1/9/36	12/6/13	23/2/44	Edin. J.C. 31-33
(41) Ann Helen Cuthbert	31/3/37	17/11/02	24/5/4	Edin. J.C. 21-26
(42) Margaret Mackenzie Cuthbert	9/9/39	12/11/20	13/9/35	Dornoch Academy (Untr.)
(43) Catherine C. Morrison	13/9/39	10/4/19	31/11/18	Aberdeen J.C.
(44) Christina A. Simpson	9/10/39	11/4/17	39/8/13	Edin. Univ. & Kings Coll
(45) Margaret Laidlaw	2/7/41	12/10/10		Edin. Univ. & Kings Coll
(46) Anne Gordon Holmes	20/9/43	17/6/23	12/4/48	King's Coll & 30 trained
(47) ...	12/11/41			
(48) ...	12/11/41			

Record of Change in Staff		Birth	Leaving
(1) John Mingo H.M.	app. 6/9/86	18/1/86	
(2) Mary K. Matheson H.M.	20/10/96	10/2/85	
(3) Jessie Skinner F.	4/12/99	6/10/86	11/1/01
(4) ...			
(5) ...			30/6/09
(6) ...			1/8/03
(7) Mary Donald C.A.	10/3/03		22/5/03
(8) Margaret M. Cameron C.A.	1/9/03	20/12/77	20/2/08
(9) Jas. H. Phinister H.M.	1/9/03	22/3/72	3/3/07
(10) Margaret Macpherson Cameron	7/1/08	21/5/86	2/7/08
(11) Jessie Ross Holm. C.A.	7/4/08	1/8/85	12/6/12
(12) Jessie Tallach. An. 79.	24/9/08	20/4/88	22/2/10
(13) Flora Sutherland.	7/11/09	19/2/84	24/2/11
(14) Margaret Fraser.	2/5/10	9/6/89	1/7/10
(15) Harriet Stowe Munro	20/8/10	10/1/09	27/12/10
(16) Helen Mackay	22/4/11	20/12/85	30-18-17
(17) Anna Stewart Mackenzie	26/5/12	10/2/59	2/7/15
(18) William Frazer	27/1/13	20/1/90	24/12/14
(19) Diana Mackenzie.	21/7/13	22/7/93	22/10/15
(20) Christina MacLeod.	21/8/15	1/6/96	11/1/28
(21) Catherine Munro.	23/7/15	29/10/91	24/12/15
(22) Anne Jane Macdonald	2/3/16	20/11/92	30/2/16
(23) Jessie Macdonald	24/1/16	24/6/95	24/12/19
(24) Elizabeth Catherine Munro	3/12/17	25/3/90	27/6/19

1900.

21st Sept. School open usual number of times this week.
Average 120.9. Staff in regular attendance.

25th Sept. School open usual number of times this week.
Average 126.5. Staff in regular attendance.

5th Oct. School open as usual this week. Average
126. Staff in regular attendance.

11th Oct. Visit of Compulsory Officer.

12th Oct. School open as usual this week. Average
118.6. Staff in regular attendance.

15th Oct. ——— Visited Porto School today; Caetano
at the post; registers correct. Thanks.
S. S. 11.15

1900.

Oct 29. School open usual number of times.
Average 107.4. Staff in regular attendance.

Summary of H. M. Inspector's Report.

17^a
29th

1st Oct.

"The condition of this school is not satisfactory. Doubtless there are exceptional difficulties to be contended with, but even when ample allowance is made for these, the results as brought out by oral and written examination are inferior to what must be demanded on the ground of efficiency and in the interests of the children.

"Fairly good work is done in the Infant Department (including standard I) and in standard II.

"The following notes on the written work of Standards III to VII, which are mainly under the charge of the Headmaster, show that a new organization of the classes and a re-classification of the pupils are absolutely necessary.

The third makes 17 per cent in Dictation and 28 per cent in Arithmetic.

The fourth makes 24 per cent in Dictation and 34 per cent in Arithmetic. Of the 18 pupils examined in the third, 13 are quite incapable of passing into the next standard, and of the 13 pupils examined in the fourth, 7 are unfit to pass to a higher class. Of the 10 pupils present in the fifth, not one has written a passable Composition exercise, and their Arithmetic is poor. Of the 6 pupils present in the sixth only two approached satisfactory results.

"Two girls read well in the sixth, and one boy fairly well. There are some fairly good readers in the ~~fourth~~ third, fourth and fifth, but the Reading of the School as a whole is neither fluent nor accurate. Knowledge of class-subjects as professed in the "Record of Work" is lacking in extent and intelligence. It is difficult to

elicit

elicit a correct answer in Geography. Discipline is fairly good!

In order that justice may be done to the Teachers, it is necessary to call attention to the following points :- (1) The School is not staffed on a generous scale, as it ought to be, regard being had especially to the class of children and their native language (Gaelic). Further, it is almost painful to have to state that the school was understaffed during the past year for over two months, at the expiry of which period an unqualified assistant under Article 32(C).3. was appointed in place of the (Ex) Pupil Teacher that had left.

(2) The attendance of the scholars, at least in the Senior Division, is not good. The School was open on 4/14 occasions. In the sixth the attendance of 5 of the 6 pupils range between 240 and 309. Only one of these

5 pupils is over 14 years of age. A somewhat similar though less unsatisfactory Condition of things is to be met with in the third, fourth and fifth. (3) The accomodation provided for the pupils leaves a good deal to be desired. On the occasion of the last visit, 71 pupils were present in a room, supposed to hold 61, and 67 in the main school-room, supposed to hold 62. (4) Evidently great difficulty is experienced in getting books and slates. In the Junior Department, on the 2nd March 1900, it was observed that many of the pupils had only fragments of slates, and the second set of reading books were tattered and torn. (5) The advancement of the pupils in the higher classes is necessarily dependent on the condition in which they leave the lower classes. For example, it is impossible to have good Standards

V. and VI. without adequately prepared Standards III and IV.

" While the staff may reasonably be expected to produce better results, they can scarcely be held wholly responsible for the present state of affairs. To bring the school to something like a normal Condition of efficiency, it is urgently recommended:—

(1) That a skilled Infant Mistress be appointed at an equitable salary, and that, if possible, a bilingual supernumerary Pupil Teacher be associated with her in the Infant Department.

(2) That the present Infant Teacher—or, in the event of her receiving another appointment, a Male Certificated Teacher—be placed in charge of some of the intermediate classes.

(3) That a new classroom be erected. The ventilation of the school

school is by no means perfect and the atmosphere is at times quite sickening.

"With an increase of staff, improved discipline, better classification, more accommodation, greater concentration of effort and above all, a higher ideal of the latent educational possibilities of the naturally bright and interesting children of this fishing community, the school ought soon to be brought into line with the best elementary schools of the district."

In view of the character of H.M. Inspector's report, a reduction of the grant by $\frac{1}{10}$ has been ordered under Article 32 (b).

My Lords have agreed to recognise Miss Skinner under Article 32 (c) 3. for the past school year but this recognition will not extend beyond that date and the suggestions of H.M.

1900

H.M. Inspector with regard to staff should at once be acted upon by the Managers.

Miss K. Matheson will shortly receive her certificate.

Amount of grant Earned.

$$\begin{aligned} & \pounds 141 \text{ " } 14/- - \frac{1}{10} = \pounds 14 \text{ " } 3/- 4^2 = \\ & \pounds 127 \text{ " } 10/- 8^2. \end{aligned}$$

Less Contributions to Deferred

Annuity Fund.

$$\pounds 3 \text{ " } 15/-$$

Total amount allowed $\pounds 123 \text{ " } 15/- 8^2$.

Staff:—

John Moyes Headmaster

Miss M. K. Matheson. Infant Miss.

Miss Jessie Skinner Asst. Art 32 (c) 3.

Correspondent.

Oct. 25.

Visited the School in the afternoon and found attendance Registers correctly marked. Present. 65 Boys and 15 Girls.

William Gordon

1901.

Jan 16th Miss M.K. Matheson having been appointed Teacher in Pearquhar School left this evening to begin her new duties in Monday 20th

Jan. 24th Miss Skinner returned to day, as Interim Assistant.

Jan. 25th School open usual number of times this week. Average 124.5. Staff in regular attendance.

Jan. 28th Head Master absent in afternoon. Confined to bed by doctor's orders with Pneumonia.

Feb. 1st Head Master still confined to bed. School kept open by staff and Head Master's daughter. Average 118.9. No dinner interval given, closed correspondingly early.

Feb. 4th Head Master still in bed.

1901.

Feb. 4th

Miss Helen Strathern from Burnhill School, Beith, Dyroshire, started work here as Assistant for St. II & III this morning appointed under Act 79.

Feb. 7th

Visited the School in the afternoon and found attendance Registers correctly marked.

Wm. Rank Ch. Sch. R.

Feb. 8th

Head Master in school. Last 2 days 7th & 8th School open usual number of times this week. Average 121.5.

Feb. 13th

Visit of Comptroller, Glasgow.

Feb. 15th

School open usual number of times this week. Average 119.0

Feb. 17th

School closed.

24
1901.
Oct 4th

School open usual number of times
this week. Average 115.7.
Staff in regular attendance.

Oct. 10th Visit of Compulsory Officer

Oct 11. School open usual number of times
this week. Attendance very small
especially last two days, accounted
for by potato lifting.

Oct. 18th School open usual number of times
this week. Average 92.
Staff in regular attendance.

Summary of H. M. Inspector's Report.

17(a)
2,992.

25:9:1901.

"The recommendations which were
made in last year's report have been
for the most part carried out, and
there is evidence that all the teachers
have applied themselves with diligence

1901

25

to their work. The two new teachers
have commenced well.

"Oral answering, though still
not very well distributed, is distinctly
better than last year. Grammar is
fair. Geography and History are
in general fairly good.

"The examination in Dictation
(or Composition) and Arithmetic brought
out the following results:—

Standard III, Dictation good;
Arithmetic fairly good.
Standard IV, Dictation fairly good;
Arithmetic moderately fair.
Standard V, Arithmetic moderately fair;
Composition very weak.
Standard VI, Arithmetic (mental only)
fairly good;
Composition pretty fair.

"Writing is very carefully
taught. Six of the nine papers
in Composition in Standard V and
four of the eight papers in Standard VI

1901

unsatisfactory. With the introduction of initiatory lessons in this subject in the lower part of the school and with less irregularity in the attendance better work is anticipated.

"The special difficulties to be contended with in the infant room will, it is hoped, lead to the appointment of a bilingual pupil-teacher. With over 60 Gaelic speaking pupils habitually present the new teacher has pretty hard work to do.

"The three candidates presented for the Merit Certificate wrote rather short compositions. Two of them are awarded this distinction.

"Singing is good. A satisfactory start has been made in Drawing (Freehand, Brushwork and Nature Drawing). This subject is independent of the bilingual difficulty, and, when adequate

1901

provision has been made for Free-arm work, very good results are expected.

A new scheme of lessons in Nature Knowledge and in History is to be submitted.

"The special attention of the Board is called to the fact that 18 out of 32 pupils in the Senior division have made less than 50% of the possible 410 Attendance. etc."

Grant Earned £147-7/-10³

Less Int. 32(c). 6-8/-4

£140-19-6

Less Contributions to Annuity 4-1-3

£136-18-3

Staff:- John Moyes. Head-Master
 Beattie Ross C. A. Infant Mistress
 Helen Strain, Librarian, Assistant.

42-1902

Sept. 16: 1902. Mr. William R. handles took charge
of the School today.
Dm. Frank. Ch. of School Board.

Sept. 17 Visit of Compulsory Officer.

" 19 School opened usual number of times
this week. Visit from Compulsory
Officer today. Average attendance for
week i.e. Boys = 65.8 Girls = 50.8 Total = 116.6

" 26 School open usual number of times
during the week. Average attendance Boys
70.2 Girls 52 = 122.2. As the most of St. E
have not as yet got their new books St. Andrews
History Reader has been used as a Reading Book
for St. E. & VI.

" 30 Visit of Compulsory Officer.

Oct. 3 School open usual number of times this
week. Average attendance: Boys 66 Girls 51.6
Total 117.6. 134 children on the roll.

1902

43

Oct. 6: Visited the School in the forenoon and found
Attendance Registers correctly marked.
Dm. Frank. Ch. of School Board

" 10

Average attendance :- Boys 67.3 Girls 49.7 = 117
136 children on roll. Staff in regular attendance.

Summary of H. M. Inspector's Report.

"The teachers are working with much diligence
and very fair success under great difficulties,
one of which is somewhat irregular attend-
ance especially at potato lifting time.

The Board would do well to instruct their
officer to pay weekly visits to the school
at certain periods of the year.

"Attention is particularly called to the
following cases of pupils who are very
backward in their work and irregular
in their attendance viz:- Nos 162, 163,
172, 151 and 130. The pupils numbered
162 should have been kept in Standard
III for another year.

"The improvement

manifested at the end of last session continues. The percentage of accuracy in Arithmetic in St. III is 86, in Standard IV 54, and in Standard E 55. The three non-merit candidates in Standard VI, whose attendance are not very good, have however only done one sum correctly out of an aggregate of six.

Composition is fair or moderately fair, the prevailing defect being a lack of knowledge of the English Language. Answering in sentences should be practised frequently in all the classes.

"Geography is, in the main, fairly good, History rather poor. The children would & no doubt take more interest in the latter subject if the lessons were imparted to them orally and in a picturesque style. The lessons might also be used for composition purposes, and the book illustrations might be utilised in a similar manner.

Oral reproduction in the simplest language should always precede

written reproduction.

"The progress made in Drawing may be described as creditable. Observation in real things however should be cultivated more assiduously. Pretty fair provision is made for Free Drawing.

"Singing (though harsh) is well taught by Miss Strathearn. Discipline in several classes requires bracing. The pupils are inclined to talk too much during the written examination.

Simultaneous answering in the Infant Department should be discontinued. Sewing receives good attention.

"Attention is called to the advisability of appointing a Bilingual Pupil Teacher in the Infant Department."

"Attention is called to the fact that out of 46 children over 10 years of age who were on the roll of this school at the end of the last school year, only 28 were receiving instruction in the Senior Division.

The matter is one which calls for

1902

enquiry on the part of the Board.

Miss Ross will shortly receive her certificate.

Grant earned £ 142 : 7 : 6
 Less contributions to annuity 5 : 6 : 3
 £ 137 : 1 : 3

Staff :- John Moyes, Headmaster
 Bessie Ross C.A. Infant Mistress
 Helen Strathern Art (79C) Assist.
~~Maestro~~ Correspondent

Oct. 17.

School open usual number of times
 Average attendance :- Boys 66.8 Girls
 50.2 = 117. Staff in regular attendance.

" 24

School open usual number of times.
 Average attendance :- Boys 50.9 Girls 38.3
 = 89.2. A large number of the children in
 the senior standards are absent being engaged
 in potato-lifting. Staff in regular
 attendance.

" 31

Attendance is improving though a good number
 of older scholars are still absent. Average for

1902.

Week :- Boys 55.1 Girls 47.3 = 105.4 showing a
 percentage of 77.5%. Staff in regular attendance

3rd Nov.

Visited School in forenoon, examined attendance
 registers & found same correct marked

S. R. Kennedy M.S.B.

Nov. 7.

School open usual number of times.
 Attendance still increasing. Average for week.
 Boys 62.6 Girls 47.7 Total 110.3. ^{Percentage} Average present 81.7.

" 11

Visited School

Attendance satisfactory for the season of
 the year, especially in the Inf. & Lower divisions.
 Headmaster advised to coordinate History
 and Geography as much as possible and to
 select the most important & most interesting
 lessons first, not paying too much attention
 to details.

Thurston
 M.S.B.

" 12

Sacramental Holidays. School closed on
 Thursday and Friday of this week and Monday
 of the next week. Attendance has steadily fallen

Sept. 11th Attendance much improved Average for this week 115 or 86%

Sept. 16th Compulsory officer visited the school.

Sept. 21st Compulsory officer visited the school.

" 25th Attendance for the week: - Av. 119 or 89.9%.
Whooping cough has broken out.

Oct. 2nd Nearly all the pupils have now got books and the work progresses slowly. Mental arithmetic and grammar are very backwards in the senior department and extra time has to be allowed for both subjects.

Oct 7th Summary of H.M. Inspector's Report.

" By far the best part of this school is the junior division: here, thanks to an energetic and painstaking teacher, and in spite of difficult circumstances, the work is so satisfactory that it merits recognition under Article 19 B.2

" There is marked falling off in the senior division, where the work though relatively good in parts is as a whole

whole

below average merit. It is probable that irregularity of attendance contributes in no small measure to this result; and it is hoped that both the Managers and the new Headmaster will make a determined effort to bring about much needed improvement in this respect.

" Changes in the staff have interfered with steady progress in the Infant classes, and all things considered, this division is in a creditable condition."

Amount of Grant £141. 10. 3

Less contributions to annuity fund £ 1. 13. 4
£139. 16. 11

*W. Smith
Correspondent*

Staff: William R. Lardner Interim Headmaster

Jas. G. Rhimister, Town Headmaster

Margaret M. Cameron, the Infant Mistress

Helen Strathern (179c) Assistant

1912.

June 12th Miss Holm Junior Assistant left today to take duty in Nigg School Ross-shire. School closed for Sacramental Fast Days.

18th School reopened this morning. Miss Mackay conducts the Junior Division of which the highest class is transferred to the Senior Division. Upper Infant Class transferred to Junior Room.

20th Compulsory Officers visited school.

25th Messrs Wm. Sutherland and George McIntosh visited the school.

27th Compulsory Officer visited school. School Closed for Summer Holidays.

Aug. 16th School reopened this morning. Present 74. Absent 66. A number of children are still away at Wick. Twenty three boys of school age are today absent on the Dornoch Golf Course.

1914

Aug. 26th

Miss Anne Stewart Macdonald, Dunvegan Public School took duty in Junior Division in room of Miss Holm.

The Clerk to School Board and Compulsory Officer visited the school.

Form 67(a) - duplicate - was received from the clerk in respect of recent presentation for Qualifying Exam. It was discovered that the name of Marion Ross had been omitted from the form although she was regular in attendance in Qualifying Class and was present at the Examination conducted by the Registry's Inspector on June 5th to overlook in copying the names into Form 67(a) must have brought about the unfortunate omission.

Received Inspector's Report dated 31st July.

Copy: -

Four main points in connection with Ennis Public School which were discussed at a recent meeting between the Board and the Inspector for the district are here formally recorded and submitted to the Board with a view to their deciding on the course.

early and effective consideration.

1. " The present school house is much too small to be a suitable dwelling for the Headmaster and his family.

This, however, appears to be recognised by members themselves and it is fully understood that it is their intention to move in the matter without delay by building a new house or by altering and enlarging in a suitable manner the existing house.

2. " The state of the school offices was referred to in last year's report when it was hoped that by another year the Board would have fixed on some satisfactory way of dealing with the matter. After so much postponement it is time the question was now taken up and definitely settled one way or the other. A most important con-

sideration, however, for the Board in deciding what to do is that the matter is obviously furnished by the Government of the school teachers,

in the school

3. " The existing accommodation should be extended without delay so as to provide the extra school places

necessary to relieve the pressure on the Infant and Junior Division Rooms

4. " Finally, the question of providing the special accommodation required for the instruction of the older boys and girls in indispensable practical subjects is one which demands the immediate and serious consideration of the Board. Apart from the exceptional utility of such instruction in the circumstances of the district it may be pointed out that the cost of providing for it at this school would probably be more than defrayed by the extra amount earned in summer grants "

Aug. 24. Committee of the Board.

May 14th Illness has interrupted attendance greatly during the past week.

" 21st Geo. McIntosh Esq. M.S. Co. supervised the Control Examination here today
Compulsory Officer visited school.

" 27th H. M. I. S. Report.

"The staff has changed so frequently in the past few years that it has been impossible to maintain a proper continuity of instruction; it is beyond doubt that the numerous changes have been greatly prejudicial to the classes now in the senior division. As this is a school in which special local circumstances make it difficult in any event to secure normal progress, it is hoped that the Authority will do their utmost to maintain stable conditions of staffing.

"The Teacher of the infant section is to be warmly congratulated on the state of her classes. Progress to a degree

without precedent in this school, at least within recent years, has been made in the principal subjects; with this solid foundation of work to build on there is hope of the attainment of a better standard in the higher classes in the future. Of the two classes in the next section one was rather weak, the other generally satisfactory; the young teacher in charge of these classes has made a promising start in her profession. The next two classes were mostly seen early in the session; the lower of the two was somewhat mediocre; the upper was, as a whole, good in a Spelling Test, and in "meanings" answered with reasonable readiness. In the Headmaster's section the lower of the two senior classes is a rather poor class; the upper appeared to advantage in "meanings" and in other subjects was, on the whole, satisfactory under oral examination. Writing and figuring were read; in written composition a reasonable level is attained, and a fairly easy test in Arithmetic

yielded in the case of 8 pupils out of 12 a good result. In the post-qualifying class the two remaining pupils were generally satisfactory in Composition and Arithmetic, and shewed some knowledge of the book the professed.

June 2nd Illness continues to interrupt attendance very badly.

" 9th Compulsory Officer visited school

" 11th The Rev. Dr. Cameron, Inverness examined the pupils in Bible Knowledge

" 17th School closed for half yearly Fest Day.

" 24th Compulsory Officer visited school.

July 2nd School closed for summer holidays

Aug. 31st School reopened this morning.

Sept. 2nd Compulsory Officer visited school.

1926
Sept. 2nd Dr. MacLachlan and D. F. MacLeod Esq. Dornoch visited the school this afternoon and presented the Burns Club Prize won by James Grant.

" 3rd A good reopening was made with an average for the first week of 94.3%.

" 10th Rev. Dr. Bentinck M.A. and John Mackay Esq. Hereford visited the school this forenoon.

" 17th Attendance for past week 96%.

" 22nd Compulsory Officer visited school.

" 24th Attendance for past week 97%.

Oct 1st Attendance for past week 95%.

" 8th Compulsory Officer visited school.
Geo. McIntosh Esq. M.A. visited school and attested the registration.

" 15th Attendance for past week 92.8%.

1929
Oct. 17th

Report on Religious Knowledge Examination.
 "In Embo, Balorsaid, Dornoch (Elementary) Skibo and Torboll Schools excellent work has been done by teachers and pupils. The pupils in all these schools showed a very intelligent interest in their work, and gave every indication that Religious Knowledge is carefully and sympathetically taught by the teachers. The examiners strongly recommend that the pupils in Embo School where the children come from homes in which the Scriptures in Gaelic are used, be supplied with English Bibles by the Authority. This would greatly facilitate the work of the teachers in this school."

- " 24th Work goes forward very slowly.
- " 29th Compulsory Officer visited school.
- " 30th Nurse Macpherson visited school.

1929

Nov. 12th

Miss Macintosh, Superintendent of the Sutherland Nursing Association with Miss Macpherson, Local Nurse, visited the school.

- " 8th Attendance for past week 96.7%.
- " 11th Two minutes silence observed in class rooms at 11 am.
- " 13th School closed for two days owing to the Half-yearly Communion.
- " 18th School reopened this morning.
- " 19th Nurse Macpherson visited school.
- " 20th Miss Jamieson was a few minutes late this morning, having to attend the doctor for a dressing.
- " " Rev. William MacLeod visited school and attended registration.

328
1931

treatment during the week.

May 22nd K. Barron Esq. M.C., H.M.I.S. visited the school and examined some of the work of the Senior and Advanced Division Pupils.

" 29th Attendance very good and progress, especially in the lower classes very satisfactory.

June 3rd Compulsory Officer visited school.

" 8th Two boys have gone from the Infant Room for the period of the herring fishing.

" 11th Compulsory Officer visited school.

" 12th Headmaster absent this afternoon at Board of Assessors meeting at Lairg.

" 18th School closed today and tomorrow for the half yearly ¹⁷Fast Days.

329

1931
June 25th Nurse Macpherson visited school.

" 26th Compulsory Officer visited school.

" 29th Copy Report by H.M.I.S.

" The roll stands at ninety five, the staff consists of the headmaster and three assistants, while an itinerant teacher gives her services for one day a week.

The infant classes are well taught, and progress in most subjects is good. It is satisfactory to find that training in speech is successful, and that several forms of handwork are practised. The teacher of the junior classes has worked well since her transference and ~~has effected~~ ^{has effected} a great improvement at this stage. Reading is more correct, the handwriting of all is neat and careful and, in a few cases even graceful. Oral answering was keenly taken up and showed good understanding of what was read. Spelling was satisfactory; arithmetic

arithmetic was well advanced, but it is desirable to have even greater accuracy in the elementary rules. Of classes senior II and III, the former is the better. Senior III was found to be rather backward last year when it was junior I, and while it may have progressed, it has done so slowly. Senior II is in a better condition, displaying more interest and greater intelligence. The pupils showed a satisfactory knowledge of what they read and answered readily, while a simple test in arithmetic was well done. Writing and spelling are fairly good. A test in written composition revealed a good deal of faulty expression and incorrect idiom: much of this may be eliminated by regular oral practice in habits of careful speech. The headmaster has the direct charge of class senior I and the post primary pupils. A most satisfactory feature here was the readiness and intelligence shown by a large number in the discussion

of prose passages read with them. A good fund of general information, too, was found to exist. In written composition and arithmetic the work was satisfactory, spelling in some cases showed weakness and handwriting might be better.

"In all the rooms there was evidence of painstaking teaching. It was very satisfactory to find that in all the classes the majority of the pupils displayed interest and possessed a good understanding of their reading books, along with a readiness and ability to discuss what they had read. No part of school work is more important than this.

"There is a tendency to hold too rigidly to the 'class' idea - that well defined groups of pupils must all work at the same stage in every subject. The numbers in the charge of each teacher are not so large as to preclude the formation of groups for work in different subjects, as is

is frequently done elsewhere. For instance in the two intermediate rooms all pupils in each room use the same reader, with the result that the last promoted class, which is naturally less advanced, finds itself 'swamped' by the older occupants of the room, both in reading and discussion. In arithmetic, too, several modifications should be made: not only might several groups at different stages of advancement be made, but the difficulty of examples worked might be graded to suit varying abilities. Further, in each rule examples should generally be easy. The aim should be to secure greater speed and accuracy in easy practical examples of every kind from all pupils, and to confine difficult and intricate examples to the best pupils mainly. Each class contains a number of pupils very much older than is usual for that stage

of advancement. Such a system as indicated would do something to help their progress. It is both desirable and possible that more pupils should reach the qualifying class and post-primary stage at an earlier age.

"There is a large number of pupils beyond the primary classes, and even over fourteen years of age. Suitable provision for practical work, both for boys and girls, has already been made. It should, therefore, be an easy matter to frame a two years' scheme of work for an advanced division course leading to presentation for the day school certificate (lower). It is hoped that it may be found possible to do this by the beginning of the new school year.

"The quality of the needlework is not satisfactory. Stitchery and the preparation of seams should be better in all. At present insufficient time is a for this subject. Two periods of at least forty five minutes or of one hour each

each

should be given for needlework each week.

New time tables for the school showing this apportionment should be submitted for approval with the scheme for an advanced division course. "

June 29th Miss Aird, Infant Mistress is absent from duty this week attending a vacation course in Domestic Science in Glasgow. Her classes are conducted by Miss Ella Phinister.

July 3rd School closed for summer holidays.

Sept. 1st School reopened this morning. all members of staff on duty.

" 7th Seven pupils over fourteen years of age have not returned to school.

" 9th Compulsory Officer visited school.

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Sept. 14th The second year boys of the Advanced Division have not yet returned to school.

" 20th The highest class is at last made up. Work in the Qualifying and lower classes has made a good start.

" 28th Representative of Dumas Lts. called to inspect cleansing results.

" 30th Miss Jamieson, Teacher of Domestic Science intimated that she would not return next week as she was required at Dornoch Academy an extra day per week. Miss Aird will take the work.

Oct. 5th Compulsory Officer visited school.

" 7th Mr Sutherland of the Scottish Band of Hope delivered a lesson on Temperance this morning.

" 12th R. Barron Esq. M.B., A.M.D.S. visited school.

Feb 3rd

Sent Miss Morrison home this morning as she was obviously ill. Put one of the senior girls in charge of her class. Miss Morrison returned in the afternoon and remained until 3 p.m. when I dismissed the Infant classes.

Feb 4th

Attendance in Advanced Division very poor as most of the pupils are absent attending a wedding of local interest. Miss Morrison on duty this morning although not feeling very fit.

Feb 14th

Attendance for the week 88.8%
Miss Ramsey Ewan visited the school today and examined the Infants and Primary IV & V and also D & II.

Her previous visit took place on Feb. 12th when she examined work done in Primary I, II & III.

25th Feb.

Mr. P. J. Howie, school District visited the school and examined all pupils.

28th Feb.

Attendance for week 95.2%.

7 March.

Attendance for the week 94.5%
Received preliminary notice of medical examination to be held on Thursday 14th March.

The following extract of minute of Meeting of School Management Committee held on 4th inst. "Submitted letter dated 3rd ult. from the Director of Education enclosing copy letter 31/1/41 from the Secretaries to the Agricultural Executive Committee for Scotland re employment of School Children in Agriculture during Spring and Autumn. It was agreed that all boys over 12 years of age be available for agricultural work if they are willing, and they will be exempted from attendance at school for this work provided that farmers or crofters desiring their services notify the Head Teachers concerned."

13th March.

Dr. H. A. Macne M.O.H visited the school today and examined all the children in certain age groups.

Received notice that Miss J. A. Macne will not be in attendance next Wednesday as usual as she has to be in some way to