

so with advantage ; if, on the other hand, they purchase on time, it is usual to send the account at maturity for payment ; here again, as in numerous other cases already shown, the impracticability of that new plan or system is fully demonstrated.

The Public School Inspectors are at present entrusted with far higher and important duties relating to schools than those of their duties which relate to Mechanics' Institutes ; they, as a rule, perform their duties relating to schools in an admirable manner ; they report thereon to the Minister of Education, and these reports form the chief source of his information respecting Public Schools, and that high officer must necessarily be guided thereby to a considerable extent in his official acts. The Public School Inspectors, as the Inspectors of Mechanics' Institutes, stand under the charge or are accountable and have to report to that same Minister of Education ; and it would be most remarkable if that gentleman could not make those Inspectors perform their less important, less intricate and less laborious duties equally as well as their higher ones ; and that being accomplished, there is no need for any change in the inspection of books of accounts, and of all other matters devolving now upon Inspectors of Public Schools.

The recommendation, however, that a general system be established whereby the municipality where a Mechanic's Institute is established will be required to pay or contribute a certain amount for the Library, Reading Room, Museum, Evening Classes, and working expenses, is one which no doubt meets with general approval by all parties who are interested in the establishment and maintenance of Mechanics' Institutes, and many a struggling Institute will hail with delight the happy advent when such a system is declared the law of the land. It is true that some Municipal Councils have already nobly come forward by exercising the power given to them by the Municipal Act, and have liberally voted a handsome sum in aid of the Mechanics' Institute established within their municipality ; but unfortunately that number of Councils is very small ; as a rule, it has been found that the Councils are not willing to do much if anything in granting such aid ; and as they are now required by law to raise sufficient funds for Public School purposes for the education of the young generation, it would be only fair to require those bodies to provide similar aid to Mechanics' Institutes, and thereby on the one hand further to aid in the diffusion of useful knowledge within their municipality, and on the other hand to lessen evil habits which obtain among young men and young women.

By a careful perusal of that "Special Report," it becomes evident that there exists a strong desire to centralize the whole management and the whole supervision of the various and numerous Mechanics' Institutes in Ontario into one Department, from which all supervision directly issues,