

three years. I reply: "Very well, go there, but I will not attempt it in less than four." By aiming at five years I always get them to take four, and in quite a number of cases I manage to persuade their parents that the five are necessary. I have no less than four in this small school who are taking five years to Junior Matriculation and six years to Senior Matriculation. That is how I pass 94 per cent. of my candidates. We don't do any cramming whatever. Teachers are strictly forbidden to talk in their classes about examinations of any kind. We hold no examinations of our own throughout the year except in one or two subjects at Christmas, and one regular examination in June, which is forced upon us by the Department of Education. We have to send in a confidential report as to the standing of each pupil in every subject, and so one examination is necessary. In short, the unpleasant part of High School work can be avoided if the Principal of the school refuses to have anything to do with cramming for examinations. In some schools, I am told, there are examinations every week. Then comes the difficulty that the Principal may be willing to run the school on these lines and the Board may object. Of that I have no experience, and cannot say whether any Board would go so far as to dictate to the Principal how long it will take such and such a pupil to pass such and such an examination.

Supposing that your scheme of the four languages together with Science were made compulsory for all, there would be the same rush unless some very stringent regulations were laid down to prevent it. The first thing that is absolutely necessary is the abolition of the Entrance Examination in its present form. I have tried an experiment for a year. A little daughter of one of the citizens had been at a private school. She is not strong and is of average ability. The question was whether the child could stand the multiplicity of lessons she would have to take at the Public School. I advised the parents to send the girl for the forenoon only, and take whatever they taught her during that time. I also stipulated that I should be allowed to teach her Latin from 7 to 7:15 every evening. They agreed. The girl already knows as much Latin as my pupils who have been two years in the Institute, and of course knows more English grammar than most of them in her class at school. I want that little