

other educational institutions of the country may sit the best men from those excellent and popular Colleges already alluded to.

The provision contained in clause 19, whereby "Interim Committees" of the Council may be vested with all the powers of the Council itself, we believe to, be open to objection. We think it is not wise for any representative body to delegate its powers to a Committee. If regular quarterly meetings of the Council were held, we see no reason why the business could not be so fully advanced as to render this provision of the Bill unnecessary. All that any Committee should be entrusted with is to investigate into any matter referred to it—final action to be always in the hands of the Council.

The time fixed upon for holding the first election we do not consider as quite convenient. The first Tuesday of August falls within the summer holidays. Many teachers are absent from their usual homes, and ballots sent to their regular address would in a great many instances fail to reach them. The first Tuesday of September would certainly be a better time, as it would obviate the difficulty already named.

In the matter of High School Grants we are glad to see that the new Bill requires County Councils to provide a sum at least equal to the Government Grant. This provision will distribute more equally over the whole country the cost of High School maintenance. It has been too much the case heretofore, that the municipality in which the High School was situated had to bear an undue share of the burden.

Clause 25, which provides for the establishment of preparatory schools, we believe to be entirely unnecessary. The High School programme of studies begins with the Fourth Form of the Public School programme. Why it is presumed that our Public Schools are not able to secure a sufficient degree of efficiency to enable pupils to enter the High School,—the

standard of entrance being, as it is, within the reach of those of very average attainments, we fail to see. Any Public School that cannot prepare pupils for admission to the High School, must certainly be very badly conducted. The remedy for this state of things is already in the hands of the Trustees, and the employment of a good teacher would very soon remove all difficulty on this score.

We heartily endorse the plan of uniform entrance to High Schools, and trust under this system they will soon attain a very high degree of efficiency.

Among the other valuable provisions of the new Bill we are exceedingly glad to find one introducing the monitorial system into our Public Schools. Our readers are already familiar with the reasons urged for the adoption of this system. It will prove a source of great relief to many teachers and trustees, and will, we have no doubt, materially aid in the advancement of many schools now temporarily over crowded.

A great deal of acrimonious discussion is now going on with reference to the Educational Book Depository. It is urged that it is a source of detriment to the Book trade generally, and a source of considerable expense to the country. We think it would be well to have a thorough investigation into this branch of the Educational Department, and let the public know the expense connected with the management of the Depository—the amount expended on the purchase of books since it was established—the stock now on hand, &c., &c. So far as the usefulness of such a Depository is concerned we have no doubt. It has done a good work, and we would be sorry to see all checks upon the circulation of literature among the young people of the country removed. We believe also that the inducements offered for the establishment of Libraries and the distribution of Prizes, have done good service to the cause of education. The Map and Apparatu