

Having defined their general position, your Committee desire to say:

1. That whereas uniformity in the results is desirable, and is insisted on by the Departmental Regulations it has by no means been obtained, and that this is due not altogether nor chiefly to the various styles of marking adopted by the different High School Entrance Boards or to their regulations.
2. That they most strongly approve of the *general tendency* of the papers set at the last Entrance Examination, but that they find it impossible to resist an endorsement of at least some of the complaints made to your section and referred to us with respect to individual papers and questions. On these points they find :
 - (a) Whilst the direction to which the papers in Literature and Grammar pointed was unquestionably good, they are in the meantime too difficult.
 - (b) The History paper was decidedly too difficult.
 - (c) The Grammar paper was misleading on account of the style in which some of the questions were put.
 - (d) That two lists of isolated words (given for spelling or for pronunciation) on the Orthography and Orthoepey papers should never have been given.

Viewing then these defects chiefly as they affect the Examination in its higher relation to Public Schools, your Committee would suggest as reforms necessary to restore public confidence in the Examination :

1. That the standard as set down should not be lowered an iota, but that the questions should be kept rigidly within the prescribed limits, viz., the work set down for IV. Classes in Public Schools.
2. That the language in which these questions are clothed should (taking into consideration the nervous flurry of most children at an examination) be easily within the comprehension of an average pupil properly prepared, so that no explanations on the part of the local examiners should be rendered necessary.
3. That there should be a Board of Examiners in each county, to consist of the Inspector or Inspectors and the High School Head Master or Head Masters.
4. That in the preparation of the papers and the revision of the work two Public School Inspectors should be associated with those now composing the Board, so that the higher end of the Entrance Examination (its