

It is, however, one phase of moral and intellectual wants, that those who most need such supplies are most ignorant of their need. Men must then be educated to feel this need." He thinks that the Mechanics' Institute should "begin afresh," and "ascend a wider platform. It should change its name into that of an Institution for promoting knowledge among all classes," becoming, in some measure, "the successor to [*i. e.*, continuing the work of] the Public Schools."

#### CANVASSING FOR MEMBERS.

No. 1 proposes that a canvass should be made for new members, and is confident that many members could be thereby secured.

No. 6 thinks the Directors might constitute themselves a body of voluntary canvassers, or they might appoint a paid canvasser, and should take care to have their cause well advocated in the local press.

No. 7 recommends that cards should be posted up in workshops, &c., drawing attention to the principal attractions of an Institute, stating fees, &c., so as to procure new members.

No. 13 suggests that in cities where large numbers of tradesmen and labourers may be met with in one establishment, sub-committees of Institute members should be appointed to induce their shop-mates to join. To help in this work, small printed slips, handbills, or cards, stating the terms of membership, &c., should be distributed.

#### COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS.

No. 10 suggests that Institutes might be made more popular if each member were allowed a limited number of complimentary tickets, permitting one admission to the rooms of the Institute. Many who were not members would thereby be drawn from other places of resort, who by the social intercourse of the Institute would be induced to become members.

#### READING ROOM.

No. 2 urges that the reading room "should be comfortable, spacious, and in every way attractive; such, in short, as should successfully rival bar-rooms or drinking parlours."

No. 7 recommends that the rooms be "cheery, bright, and cosily furnished."

No. 8 recommends that library and reading-room should be made "as comfortable and attractive as possible."

No. 11 thinks that enough copies of the local dailies should be in the room to prevent waste of time by members in waiting to read them.

#### LIBRARY.

No. 1 proposes that the books in the library should be railed off, so that they should not be handled by the members, but handed down by boys. There would be less rummaging of the books, and fewer stolen.

No. 5 thinks the library should contain entertaining works, such as "well-selected novels, interesting travels, voyages, and adventures, and other works which would attract the attention." He urges that "if we succeed in inducing a man to read, a great point has been gained," and that he will afterwards "pass on to books from which valuable knowledge and instruction may be derived. But the first object should be to please."

No. 6 says a good library is "one of the best methods of diffusing knowledge, and of continuing and extending that which has been done in our schools." He thinks a committee should be appointed for the purchase of books; and that great care should be exercised in the selection of works of fiction, only those of the best authors being chosen. He also thinks that, to obviate the difficulty often experienced by Institutes in getting the books they require, the Association of Mechanics' Institutes should establish an agency, whereby Institutes could have their orders filled promptly and correctly.

No. 13 recommends that the library be made attractive; maps and natural history and mechanical charts should grace the walls, and specimens of the work of the class-students in writing, drawing, and modelling should be exhibited for a time. Books should not be made to look repulsive by being put in brown paper covers. Healthy fiction, he thinks a prime necessity; and the newest popular works on scientific subjects should be got. A list of the new books purchased should be hung in the library, as often as additions are made. The selection of books should be such as "to offer some special inducement to persons of every avocation."