

COST OF TEXT-BOOKS IN TORONTO, 8c. PER PUPIL.

In the City of Toronto text-books are purchased for the pupils by the School Board under what is known as the Free Text-Book System. From the Inspector's Report (see p. 16 of the Report of 1902) the following statement is taken:—

"The cost per pupil for text-books on the basis of average
 "monthly attendance, omitting kindergarten pupils,
 "was 9 4-5 cents. The cost per pupil for text-books
 "on the basis of total enrollment, omitting kinder-
 "garten pupils, was 8 cents."

RURAL SCHOOL LIBRARIES PROVIDED FOR.

The Regulations of the Education Department provide that any rural school board which provides a library of approved books for the scholars shall be entitled to a share of whatever money may be appropriated for the purpose by the Legislature. The powers, however, heretofore held by trustees to establish school libraries are not affected by the above provision, as boards have full authority under the provision of the Statute to purchase books for the school library and to make such selections as they may deem necessary. Any grant given by the Education Department, however, is based solely upon the amount expended for books as per catalogue or lists approved by the Education Department.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION

For a great many years technical education received much attention in the German schools, and subsequently in the schools of France. The progress of Germany in the arts and manufactures induced the people of England to realize that the industries of the country would be seriously handicapped if the causes of the German Empire's supremacy in many lines were overlooked. Accordingly, technical education, including manual training and household science, were added to the curriculum of the city schools in the mother land, and with most gratifying results. The Americans, alive to the importance of technical skill in the growth of its industries, have expended large sums in recent years in equipping schools of technology, including requirements for art and industrial subjects.

On several occasions many of our educationists in Ontario have urged the value of technical education in view of the necessity of preparing young persons to take a more intelligent part in the development of Canada's vast resources. The School of Practical Science in Toronto and the School of Mines in Kingston, have afforded opportunities for training in certain departments