

makes a model school scholar cost more than seven times as much as a scholar in the public schools.

There is a great unanimity in the Public School Inspectors' reports upon the good results that have followed the establishment of County Teachers' Associations, and County Model Schools; upon the evils of irregular attendance; and the frequent change of teachers. A very decided opinion is expressed in favour of Township Boards, and in the thoroughly business-like conference of Inspectors upon the establishment of schools in outlying districts, presided over by the Deputy Minister, Dr. Hodgins, at Belleville, these gentlemen took time by the forelock and made "a strong recommendation in favour of the establishment of Township Boards in the Townships of unorganized districts"—a wise and timely recommendation.

In no inspectorate do we find that the modicum of four months' compulsory attendance at school, as provided for by the law, is enforced. This is a piece of fancy legislation of which we have too much on our statute book. Yet in several of the Inspectors' reports attention is called to the number of children who would be benefitted by a wholesome system of compulsion.

The intelligence, public spirit, and unselfish interest manifested by the Inspectors in these reports warmly commend them to trustees and to the public, both of whom, we fear, are but too little aware of the arduous and disinterested character of their work.

The report of the Sub-examiners on the intermediate examination of July last, is valuable, and did our space permit we could not serve High and Public School Teachers better than by giving it *in extenso* in our columns. They state that Arithmetic and Grammar showed the best results, English Composition, we regret to say, the worst. Attention is called to the necessity of using throughout a proposition of Euclid letters corresponding with those in the diagram. The employment of Roman capitals in the diagrams is recommended, and that of numerals deprecated. It is recommended to begin the statement, construction, and demon-

stration as new paragraphs. They ask "Should any corrections made by the candidate on the spelling paper be allowed?" They report that too little attention is paid to the *kind* and *connection* of the clauses in grammatical analysis—"a branch of the subject which affords by far the greatest mental discipline;" and they might have added—Culture.

In the business-like report on the County Model Schools, we observe that a number of these schools are yet in charge of Principals whose qualifications are below those required by the Regulations. This is inevitable owing to the circumstances attending their inception. It is properly pointed out that the great aim of these schools is "to enable the students to obtain practical knowledge of the art of teaching, and of the ability to govern a school." We regret exceedingly to find that the most prevalent faults on the part of the Teachers-in-training, are neglect in preparing the lessons they have to teach, and sluggishness in conducting them. These are at the root of most of the bad teaching throughout the Province, and we trust that no effort will be spared on the part of both the Inspector and Principals of these schools by both precept and example to eradicate them. A difficulty has been found by the Principals in securing sufficient time to devote to the special instruction of the students. This can only be successfully overcome by leaving them free to give their attention not to a single class, but to all the classes in the school, and the technical training of these young people can then be easily sandwiched in.

We have thus put before our readers, in such detail as our space would allow, the most interesting items of the Minister's Report. They show conclusively the importance the people of Ontario attach to the education of the youth of the country. When we look back we cannot but admire the wise forethought and executive ability of him who made it possible to accomplish the results shown by this Report—the venerable Chief Superintendent who was so long at the head of the Department. When we look forward, we can as little refrain from echoing the Hon.