

in the lower school, the candidates of the middle school who are presenting themselves for examination for junior leaving certificates, would be obliged to write on the subjects dropped off for approved schools, although the school may have been approved the year they were in the lower school. Cases of this kind have occurred. Let me cite an example: A school that was classed "approved" last year has this year been dropped off the approved list because the inspector thought that the bookkeeping and elementary science of the lower school had not received sufficient attention. As a result of this grading the candidates of that school for junior leaving certificates will, according to the regulations, be obliged to write on geography, grammar, arithmetic, etc., although it was not these subjects that were not approved in the lower school, nor was the book-keeping and elementary science graded unsatisfactory the previous year when these candidates were in the lower school. So because book-keeping and science were unsatisfactory in the lower school, candidates in the middle school must write on geography, grammar, arithmetic, etc. To make matters worse the teacher of geography, grammar and arithmetic, etc., is not the teacher of book-keeping and elementary science.

(5) Another peculiarity that works out in the application of this wonderful system is this: A Collegiate Institute or a High school may not be classed "approved" because of the unsatisfactory work done by one of its teachers, and thus all the teachers in that school will be penalized, their individual reputation suffering as the general reputation of the school suffers. Then again, the teacher that does the unsatisfactory work may leave the Collegiate Institute or High school and become principal of a Continuation school, where his work will be marked by a different inspector and here his work may be classed "approved," although he there does no better work than he did in the High school or Collegiate Institute.

(6) A school might also fail to be

marked "approved" because the trustees failed to supply the prescribed equipment, etc., and thus teachers and pupils both would be penalized for the shortcomings of the trustees.

(7) This system of supervision is too much a "one-man rule." Human nature is so constituted that it becomes arbitrary and unreasonable unless it is kept in check by the judgment of the many. It is true that the Departmental Inspector is to be assisted by the judgment of the Normal school Principals and the Deans of the Faculty of Education, but even then only a very small body of the teaching profession is represented. Moreover, these men are not likely to be totally unbiased in the judgment of pupils who come to them merely recommended. Will they not be inclined to attribute deficiencies in their own results to the deficiencies of the pupils on entering? Sir, I shall not follow the intricate details of this system and its results any further, but confine myself to the statement that the inspectors would have to be endowed with omniscience as well as invested with the omnipotent power conferred upon them by the Education Department, to be able to make a just classification from their brief yearly inspectoral visit. Taking the most charitable view of it possible the system is unjust to the teachers, the pupils and the schools. As yet, it is only in process of being tested, but I am confident that its working out will prove its own condemnation. My present criticism, however, is chiefly directed against the principle of making the will of one man supreme and thereby stifling original work and initiative in the principals and staffs of our High schools. This furnishes one more proof of the educational autocracy established by the present government. But I mistake very much the spirit and temper of the teachers of this province if they humbly submit to such injustice, not to say tyranny. I understand the Honorable Minister of Education contemplates codifying the school laws during this session, but I do not believe that the teachers of the province will allow such a