

fessional musician to organize classes for the study of various instruments of music in the larger schools after school hours. The instructor could afford to teach such a class for a nominal sum paid by each pupil who wished to take such a course, and the benefit resulting from such a training to the pupils themselves and to the public at large would well repay the cost.

Mr. F. H. Torrington, the conductor of the Philharmonic Society, has already signified his willingness to teach such classes in connection with the Public Schools, if the Board should approve of the plan suggested. I would further recommend that an annual musical festival be held under the auspices of the Board for the purpose of showing the proficiency of the pupils in this important branch.

PRIMARY READING.

There is no other subject in which such a marked improvement has been made during the past year as in primary reading. Most of the teachers in the junior divisions voluntarily attended the lessons on "How to teach Reading to beginners," given to the students attending the City Model School. Those who did so were convinced that the Phonic method of teaching the recognition of words was the most reasonable and most easily taught. The results of the change made have been eminently satisfactory. There is no class in which the method has been fairly tested in which the pupils have not made as much progress in four months as was formerly made in a year. Nor is this even its chief recommendation. The best result that follows the style of teaching that must necessarily be practised in teaching by the Phonic Method is the awakening and growth of the intelligence of the children, and the accompanying independence from the teacher in making advancement in reading as well as other subjects in the future.