

experience of many countries has been condensed, digested and sifted, the one undisputed conclusion arrived at being that no municipal council elected for short terms is competent to manage industries, and that not many such are competent to manage the simpler municipal duties which devolve upon them.

ONE YEAR ALDERMEN.

The members of the House of Commons are elected every five years, and of the various Legislatures every four years. There are neither duties nor conditions connected with municipal affairs to warrant the yearly expense and turmoil of an election to produce or reproduce a councillor. At one time it was regarded as "an aid to immigration" to make the enfranchisement of the immigrant an attractive feature, and to keep the fact that he had a vote or might have one always in sight. This is no longer a taking bait. In the British Isles and many European countries universal suffrage has become practically the rule.

LONG TERMS NEEDED.

Long terms of office attract the better men. We now too frequently have a conglomeration of men airing a fad, neglecting important muni-