

THE "SCHOOL JOURNAL."

The *School Journal* has now completed its tenth year of issue. It is published monthly, except that there are no issues for the months of December and January, when most of the schools are closed for the summer vacation. The *School Journal* is published in three parts suited to the varying capacities of the pupils; and to public schools, to Native schools, special schools, and certain other institutions more or less under departmental control or supervision, copies are sent in sufficient numbers to provide each pupil on the roll of the standard classes with a copy of the appropriate part. To the institutions just mentioned the *School Journal* is supplied free. To a very large number of private schools it is supplied at moderate rates, altogether 10,700 copies of the three parts being purchased monthly. Of the November issue (the last for the year) the number of copies printed was—Part I, 58,100; Part II, 55,450; Part III, 44,450.

In addition to reading-matter of a general character, the *School Journal* contains special articles dealing with current events in history, geographical discovery, and other topics of outstanding interest, while special numbers treat of Empire Day and Arbor Day observance, with their importance and significance. Pupils in public schools, Native schools, and private schools highly appreciate the *School Journal*, and its educational value is recognized by teachers and parents. In many schools it is displacing the miscellaneous readers at one time so generally in use.

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

(See also E. 11, Report on Medical Inspection of Schools and School-children.)

Considerable attention was given during the year to the question of increasing the effectiveness of the work of medical inspection and physical education of school-children with what appear to be very satisfactory results.

A leading feature has been the establishment of numbers of corrective classes for children suffering from physical deformities, such as raised or stooped shoulders, spinal curvature, flat chest, &c. The pupils for such classes, which are limited in size to from ten to twenty pupils, are selected by the Medical Inspectors, and under the supervision of the physical instructors and teachers specially chosen for the purpose receive extra training in physical exercises specially adapted to their requirements. Only a small proportion of the children who would derive benefit from treatment of this kind has so far been reached, the necessity for limiting the size of the classes and for keeping them under close supervision making it impossible to do at present all that could be desired in this direction. Photographs of children taken at the beginning and at the end of a year's treatment bear ample evidence of the remarkable improvement effected in their general physique. In connection with these classes numbers of refresher courses and voluntary evening classes were held for teachers interested in the work.

Special attention was given during the year to instructing training-college students in the work of physical education, in demonstrating to them the scheme of medical inspection, and in awakening their interest in the important bearing that the physical condition of the child has on its school life. Lectures to parents and to teachers are becoming increasingly popular, and are probably the most effective means available for securing interest in the important work in hand. Circulars giving valuable hints to parents on various matters pertaining to physical fitness have also been liberally distributed. Widespread interest on the part of parents and teachers in the work is the gratifying result of these efforts on the part of the medical and physical staff, and constitutes one of the most valuable returns the scheme has produced. It is almost unnecessary to point out how infinitely much more can be accomplished for the physical well-being of the children by enlightened and interested parents and teachers than by the Medical Inspector, who sees only a small proportion of the children once during her yearly visit.