

When the alphabet has been completed it must be placed on the board and learned in alphabetical order for future use in handling a dictionary. Instruction must also be given in the use of the Capital Letters. The word I must always be a capital letter. A sentence must always begin with a capital letter. Capital letters are used to print the names of boys and girls—of all people—of pet animals—for the days of the week, the months of the year.

ANNEX

I have frequently had parents say to me "John is coming to school next year, shall I teach him his letters? Some teachers do not want us to teach the children the name of the letters." Why not? I say. Is it not a help if a little child recognizes and names the letters? Why may a little child not be taught the alphabet as well as many other simple things in the home. He has to learn the names of everything he handles. Why not learn the names of the letters on his building blocks. A former well known minister in this city began with his little daughter when she was 2½ years old. He was trying out an experiment.

It is wise to teach as many action words as possible as early as may be, for variety in sentence making. Also the articles *a* and *an*, the adjectives *the*, *this* and *that*, *fat*, *big*, *little*. A chart of the new words is kept on the board and on paper each word being placed in its correct position according to its vowel sound. The children are told *a*, *e*, *i*, *o*, *u* are called vowels and why.

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THE NEW EUROPE

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rocks, and is separated by two longitudinal valleys from the lower bordering limestone ranges. The western part, called the Tyrol, is the most mountainous. The Alps in this region are very high and complex and their valleys have many extensive glaciers. The Brenner, in many respects the most notable pass across the Alps, cut across the Tyrol. Through the valley of the Adige this commercial highway passes up the Trentino, which was ceded to Italy, and after crossing this pass is continued to Innsbruck on the Inn River. Through many centuries this was the route by which goods passed to Germany from the Mediterranean Sea. Only in the north-east along the valley of the Danube are there fertile lowlands. The chief rivers, after sometimes following the valleys east and west for long distances, finally flow north

and south from the central range, emptying either into the Danube or the Adriatic Sea.

INDUSTRIES.—A large part of the country is unsuitable for cultivation, but along the valley of the Danube in the province of Lower Austria, and even in some of the valleys in the Alps, agriculture is carried on extensively. Wheat, rye, oats, sugar-beets, grapes, and potatoes are the chief crops, and in the rougher parts the grazing of cattle and sheep is an important industry.

The mineral wealth of the more mountainous parts is very considerable. Iron is widely distributed, lead is mined at Bleiberg, and salt around Salzburg.

The manufactures in the west are closely related to the minerals. Much iron is smelted and made into cutlery and tools. The extensive water-power of the Alps is used for the manufacturing of cotton and silk goods. In the industrial region along the Danube, brewing, milling of flour, spinning, weaving and the making of iron goods are of great importance. Vienna is the centre of the industrial life of this region.

PEOPLE.—Austria is a country without a language. Its people are for the most part German and speak the German language. The chief religion is Roman Catholicism. The homogeneity of the people has been greatly improved by the loss of territory after the Great War. Before that the number of Slavs was much greater than the number of Germans. But the loss of Czechs, Moravians and Ruthenians on the north and of the Italians, Slovenes, and Croats on the south, has made the Germans predominant in numbers as well as in political influence.

Vienna, the fourth city in population in Europe, is the capital and chief city. Its situation is excellent. It is on the Danube at the point where that river leaves the highlands for the Hungarian Plain. The March River, after flowing through a plain, empties into the Danube just below Vienna and brings it into communication with one of the most densely populated industrial parts of Europe. Besides its pivotal position on the Danube, the longest navigable river in Europe outside of Russia, it is along the line of the most important railways in Europe, one from Paris, one from Berlin, and one terminating in Trieste, the most important seaport on the Adriatic Sea.

The people of Vienna are gay, fond of dress, music and dancing. Their artistic taste shows itself in their manufactures, which consist of beautiful silk and leather goods, jewellery, and other luxury articles. Further, it has extensive manufactures of metal goods and textiles.

With Austria shrunken in size and importance the agricultural and industrial regions served by Vienna have greatly diminished in size and wealth and the future of this great city looks none too bright.