HINTS ON TEACHING.

Oral Addition and Subtraction ought to be taught simultaneously. This is done if the Addition and Subtraction tables are taught properly. When children learn that 2 and 2 are 4, they might learn conversely that 2 from 4 leaves 2. A thorough drill this way is the best method of teaching the Addition and Subtraction tables. The children who do not learn these tables usually never become expert in calculation. These exercises should not be confined to abstract numbers. The Arithmometer is a powerful auxiliary in teaching Oral Addition and Subtraction, and it should not be dispensed with.

The following exercise has been found very useful in teaching Oral Addition and Subtraction :

Write two columns of figures on the blackboard I I I as indicated in the margin. Call the first column 2 2 additive, and the second subtractive. Indicate the 3 3 number with the pointer, the operation being 4 4 indicated by the + or - at the head of the column. 5 When a number in the left is indicated, addition is 6 6 required, but when a figure in the right column is 7 7 indicated, the pupils will subtract it from the result 8 8 which has been previously obtained. 9 9

This exercise may be conducted sometimes in *concert*, and sometimes *singly*. While one is adding or subtracting, let the others keep careful watch for errors, and thus may be excited a great degree of interest.

Work on slate or paper, and blackboard, should go hand-in-hand with learning to add and subtract mentally. These exercises should at first extend as far as the *elementary sums*, that is, to about 12 and 12 are 24, 12 from 24 leaves 12. So far, Written Addition and Subtraction should go together with the mental exercises, but subsequently it is more convenient to separate them, teaching first Addition and then Subtraction.

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