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TEACHERS' MANUAL.

The metric system, from its great simplicity, has been adopted in most civilised countries. Great Britain and her colonies, the United States and Russia are the only countries of importance in which this system has not been adopted.

Teachers should be supplied with a metre stick, a litre and a cubic centimetre.

1. When quantities are expressed in the metric system they are added, subtracted, multiplied and divided as integers and decimal fractions. This section will therefore give an excellent review of decimals. All quantities must of course be expressed in the same denominations.

2. The Greek and Roman prefixes are the key to the whole system. They should be thoroughly committed to memory, after which pupils may be asked to make the tables for themselves, the principal unit being given.

3. Writing.—Metric numbers are almost invariably written in one denomination, denominations lower than the one employed being written as a decimal fraction; thus, 5 m. 6 dm. is written 5.6 m.; 7 m. 6 cm. is written 7.05 m.; 6 m. 5 dm. 8 cm. 9 mm. is written 6.589 m.

4. Reading.—Metric numbers are generally read in one denomination only; thus, 21.45 metres is read 21 and 45 hundredths metres. If more than one denomination is required, it will be sufficient to use two, reading the integer in terms of the denomination given and the fraction in terms of one other denomination; thus, 21.45 m. may be read 21 m. 45 cm. It would be unusual to read it 21 m. 4 dm. 5 cm.; and still more unusual to read it 2 Dm. 1 m. 4 dm. 5 cm.

5. Quantities are changed from one denomination to another by simply moving the decimal point. This should be done by a mental calculation in two steps :---