

although they come under the control of the Minister of Instruction.

The subjects taught in the primary schools are religion, language, reading, writing, arithmetic, history or geography, object lessons, natural history, geometry, physics, drawing, singing and gymnastics. Of these, reading, writing, arithmetic and drawing are taught during the whole course; object lessons, during the first three years; natural history, singing and gymnastics, during the last five years; geometry and physics, during the last two years. Instruction in religion is given throughout the whole eight years and this includes instruction in the history, literature and moral truths of the Bible. As might be expected, the Germans lay more stress upon the thought of any literary selection than upon either the language employed or the vocal rendering of the selection. They pay great attention to their literature, especially with regard to the selections found in their textbooks, which are taken from the best authors and do not consist, as a rule, of nursery tales. Children soon tire of the latter and it always seems a mystery to me why they are, or rather have been, inserted in textbooks, instead of something more substantial which demands some mental exertion and leaves some lasting impression. The chief aim of German education is to get the pupils to think and not to amuse them, but whether the thinking is rational or not I am not in a position to say. In both history and geography, textbooks are used but very little. The study in these subjects begins with the child's immediate surroundings and is extended gradually to the whole of Germany of which a very careful study is made. Much might be said regarding the study of science, in its various branches, in Germany. Usually, it is begun in the form of language and object lessons as soon as the child enters the school and is continued in some form or other during the whole of his course. At

first it is confined to the observation and description, in a very general way, of familiar objects. From this the pupil passes at about the end of his third year, to a more minute study of plants and animals and to a somewhat systematic study of physics. In all this study the ethical side is not lost sight of and especially are pupils taught to be kind to all dumb animals. The proficiency of the Germans in music and military drill is a well known fact and I need only add that the foundation is laid in the primary schools where the pupils are prepared for the latter by means of a very elaborate system of gymnastics.

I have said nothing regarding the amusements of the children in the primary schools but we have no reason to believe that their lives are unhappy. Efforts are being made at the present time to bring about a closer relationship between the parents and the teachers, between the homes and the schools, and organizations have been founded which have for their object the providing of more suitable play-grounds for the children. The Germans have taken a very active interest in all educational matters in the past and it is highly improbable that they will be found wanting in this respect in the future.

L. B.

### The New Psychology of the New Woman.

I AM a great inventor. My latest is a little machine on the X-ray plan which lays bare not the physical structure of the human body, but the workings of the spirit. Psychology is already revolutionized. My machine has only to be applied for a moment to the cranium, and directly the intellectual processes going on are registered by the sensitive needle. Some day when I have time I may explain to you how I came to discover the true nature of *Aurora Borealis*, and then easily proceeded to the construction of the psychograph. So far my machine