

method; one, according to the Oral and Manual; one according to the Oral and Combined; two according to the Manual; and, one according to the Manual Alphabet Method. In several of the Combined schools the Articulate Method also receives attention. To give a short and at the same time, complete explanation of these methods, I cannot do better than quote from the "American Annals of the Deaf," a publication under the direction of a committee of superintendents and principals of American schools for the deaf.

I. *The Manual Method.*—Signs, the manual alphabet, and writing are the chief means used in the instruction of the pupils, and the principal objects aimed at are mental development and facility in the comprehension and use of written language. The degree of relative importance given to these three means varies in different schools; but it is a difference only in degree, and the end aimed at is the same in all.

II. *The Oral Method.*—Speech and speech-reading, together with writing, are made the chief means of instruction, and facility in speech and speech-reading, as well as mental development and written language, is aimed at. There is a difference in different schools in the extent to which the use of natural signs is allowed in the early part of the course, and also in the prominence given to writing as an auxiliary to speech and speech-reading in the course of instruction; but they are differences only in degree, and the end aimed at is the same in all.

III. *The Manual Alphabet Method.*—The general instruction of the pupils in and out of school is carried on by means of the orthographic and phonetic manuals, and by writing and speech.

IV. *The Auricular Method.*—The hearing of semi-deaf pupils is developed and improved to the greatest possible extent, and, with or without the aid of artificial appliances, their education is carried on chiefly through the use of speech and hearing, together with writing. The aim of the method is to graduate its pupils as hard-of-hearing speaking people, instead of deaf-mutes.

V. *The Combined System.*—Speech and speech reading are regarded as very important, but mental development and the acquisition of language are regarded as still more important. It is believed that in many cases mental development and the acquisition of language can be best promoted by the Manual method, and, so far as circumstances permit, such method is chosen for each pupil as seems best adopted for his individual case. Speech and speech-reading are taught where the measure of success seems likely to justify the labor expended, and in some of the schools some of the pupils are taught wholly by the Oral method or by the Auricular method."

In almost every country of Europe, except in Great Britain, the state, deeming it a primary duty to care for the deaf, as well as for its other afflicted members, generously contributes to the support of institutions for their education; and, it is to be hoped that before long Great Britain moved by a philanthropic and enlightened Christian spirit, will follow the example of her sister nations, and grant the aid so long withheld. Notwithstanding the fact that they have to depend upon their own resources, there are many large and flourishing schools throughout the Kingdom, and in all of them the Manual Alphabet Method prevails, although some attention is given to