

# SCIENCE

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MSs. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to the Editor of SCIENCE, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y., or during the present summer to Wood's Hole, Mass.

## THE TEACHING OF MATHEMATICS<sup>1</sup>

As mathematical pedagogy is receiving increasingly marked attention in this country, a brief account of the reforms recently proposed by Professor Felix Klein, of Germany, may be of general interest.<sup>2</sup>

The three types of German higher schools leading up to the university are the Gymnasium, the Real Gymnasium and the Ober Real Schule, corresponding roughly to the classical, Latin scientific and scientific courses in American high schools. Until recently, the university could only be entered through the portals of the gymnasium. This exclusive privilege might be termed the gymnasial monopoly, and even yet the gymnasium is the school of the aristocrat.

However, as a result of the Berlin Conference of 1900 and the emperor's decree of the same year, the three schools were placed on an equal footing and each per-

<sup>1</sup> Prepared by the author in connection with a course on the History and Teaching of Mathematics, given by Professor S. E. Slocum at the University of Cincinnati. For reports prepared by other members of the class see article soon to appear in the *Educational Review*.

<sup>2</sup> "Über eine zeitgemässe Umgestaltung des mathematischen Unterrichts an den höheren Schulen," F. Klein. "Bermerkungen im Anschluss an die Schulkonferenz von 1900," F. Klein. "Hundert Jahre mathematischer Unterricht an den höheren preussischen Schulen," F. Klein. "Über das Lehrziel im mathematischen Unterricht der höheren Lehranstalten," E. Götting. Collected in "Neue Beiträge zur Frage des mathematischen und physikalischen Unterrichts an den Höheren Schulen," Klein u. Riecke, Teubner, 1904.