

attainment and irrational methods, a careful study of various educational systems will reveal that there has been a steadily increasing public demand for a fair amount of Nature Study in elementary schools.

In England there are definite courses outlined for the various grades of the Board schools. The care and attention bestowed on the work is well exemplified in the Murché series of science readers and corresponding object lesson books, which contain a carefully elaborated sequence adapted to the respective grades.

Those who investigated the educational exhibits at the World's Fair expositions in Paris in 1890 and 1900 must have noted (as the writer did) the great improvement in the content and form of Nature Study in public schools in France and elsewhere during the intervening ten years.

The recommendation of the Committee of Ten quoted above shows the view held by the largest and most representative body of educators in the United States in 1892, and there is no general evidence of a disposition to reverse this decision.

At the Ontario Educational Association meeting held in Toronto last Easter, the course of Nature Study outlined in Paper No. 18 of THE OTTAWA NATURALIST for October, '04, was *unanimously* adopted. This association is composed of representatives from every department of educational work in Ontario.

NATURE STUDY REINFORCES OTHER STUDIES.

It will be found that one hour per week occupied in Nature Study is not really taken from other subjects if the work be properly correlated. For example, in objective drawing, the first step is to gain an accurate knowledge of the object to be drawn, and the time usually occupied in doing this is saved if the object has already been investigated in Nature Study lessons, and experience shows that children prefer to draw such objects rather than those with no previous interest.

In conclusion it may be said that there is good reason for the assertion that all things being equal a class which devotes an hour per week to Nature Study will do better work in other subjects and make more rapid progress than if they devoted their entire time to these subjects.