

Nature Study is the Public School equivalent of the natural science of secondary schools. In Baldwin's "Applied Psychology" science is placed highest, in his estimate of the relative value of different studies. The method of science is to ascertain unknown truths by experimental observation. The end of scientific investigation is to arrive at great fundamental principles. Though the genius does not necessarily observe the following progressive steps, they may be regarded as indicating the scientific method.

1. Observation of phenomena and accumulation of facts.
2. Classification of facts.
3. Induction or inference based on observed facts.
4. Deduction from inference. Is the hypothesis workable?
5. Modification, correction, or verification of hypothesis.
6. Enunciation of a theory.
7. Application of theory in subsequent investigations.
8. Unification of the theory with some Law of Nature.

"When Nature becomes the subject of study, the love of Nature its stimulus, and the order of Nature its guide, then will results in education rival the achievements of Science in the fields of its noblest triumphs." Some of the benefits to be derived are :

Independence.—The constant exercise of the power of individual investigation is the best possible preparation for practical life where success depends largely upon personal effort. School should be an integral, harmonious and indispensable part of life.

Liberality.—The habitual hesitancy to generalize on what may be insufficient data, and the consciousness of one's liability to err, tends to develop liberality in dealing with the opinions of others.

Truth.—Reality is attained not so much by learning the the dogma of another, but by continued personal investigation. Truth is not the peculiar property of the teacher, but is revealed to him who diligently seeks it. The truth seeker does not combat recently ascertained knowledge but accepts it gladly.

Unity.—The continued effort to discover unity amid apparent diversity results in mental exhilaration and intellectual satisfaction and security. One realizes that the universe is not governed by caprice, but by