

evolution of any useful feature new or old, even if it is not formulated on our course.

But the time is coming when we should formulate optional courses to advertise the possibilities to local authorities. Some suggestions were made in previous addresses to this Association for the expression of the opinion of members, and some have been tentatively put forth as being under consideration, in the Journal. As the expression of opinion has been very meagre, the principle of abiding by the old until the new is demonstrated to be desirable, is followed by the Council.

As it will be necessary very shortly to prepare a new Manual of School law, it is desirable that any changes to be made for a few years to come should be determined in the near future. To enable you to prepare yourselves to aid in this work I have outlined the history of the evolution of the present course, so that you may the more easily obtain detailed information respecting its origin and character. I have called attention to the principle difficulties with which we have to deal and some of the problems which we must try to solve in the most satisfactory manner possible. As this Association is the original organizer of our course of study, it is peculiarly its duty to aid in its further development. And for this purpose we should desire in this conference, and in the opinions of members sent in afterwards to the Education Department, any thoughts suggested by one's environment and experience, even should the speaker or writer have no opportunity to observe the effect of similar experiments in other countries. Those who have a wider range of knowledge can supplement such experience and opinions; and I am here to answer such questions as I can, to aid any student of these problems in our common work. But after all, the course of study is simply our ritual. It is to the teacher we must look for the living force to create the useful scholarship and character desired.