AN OUTLINE OF AN UNDERGRADUATE COURSE IN GRAIN GRADING.¹

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One phase of agronomic work which has come to the attention of teachers of farm crops in the last few years is the teaching of the grading of grains according to the Federal standards established by the Grain Standards Act. As the grade requirements of the different grains have been published by the Bureau of Markets, it has been found necessary to change the system of teaching the grading of grains to conform to the requirements of the new standards. In institutions where no special attention had previously been given to market grading of grains, it has been found necessary to give consideration to this work. The use of the Federal standards in the grain markets has stimulated a desire among grain dealers and farmers to gain a knowledge of the methods of applying the standards, and this fact, together with the generally increased interest in the last few years in marketing of farm products, has greatly increased the demands made on the agricultural colleges for information on market grading of grains.

Numerous applications were addressed to the Bureau of Markets by farm crops teachers asking for information and materials to be used in instructional work. These requests finally resulted in a conference of the agricultural college men interested in grain grading and representatives of the Bureau of Markets, to furnish subject matter on the Federal standards for instructional work. This conference was held at the General Field Headquarters of Federal Grain Supervision, Chicago, Ill., September 8 to 11, 1919.

In the two years previous to the conference at Chicago, the agronomy department of the Maryland State College had been collecting the apparatus and subject matter for the teaching of grain grading according to the Federal standards, and in the year previous to the conference a 2-hour course was offered to juniors in the winter term. This year the course is being offered in the same term, but the number of hours has been increased to three, including two lectures and one 3-hour laboratory period per week. The interest of the stu-

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