A METHOD OF RECORDING THE RESULTS OF STUDENTS' WORK IN THE SOILS LABORATORY.

L. E. CALL.

Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kansas.

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Three factors are of the utmost importance for successful instruction in the soils laboratory: First, individual work must be done by the student; second, the exercise used must be of such a nature that definite and accurate results may be obtained; third, a simple and effective way must be employed of recording the work of the student.

The exercises first outlined for laboratory instruction in soils were practical and good considering the small number of students handled and the condition under which the work was given, but many of these exercises were of such a nature that definite results could not be obtained. When the classes in the laboratory were small in size this was not a serious defect, for while definite results were not obtained, the teacher had an opportunity to instruct each student in the particular lesson taught by the exercise. The instructor knew from individual contact with the student the carefulness with which the work had been performed and whether the student had learned the lesson that the exercise was supposed to teach.

As desirable as an intimate acquaintance is between student and instructor it becomes impossible when the number of students enrolled in the course becomes large. With a large number of students in the laboratory it becomes necessary to plan the exercises, that the student by properly doing his work will obtain definite and accurate results and when duplicate determinations are made the data obtained will be comparable. This is the only way in which the instructor handling a large number of students can possibly know the quality of