A FOUNDATION COURSE IN CHEMISTRY FOR STUDENTS OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY

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J. W. DODGSON & J. ALAN MURRAY

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A FOUNDATION COURSE IN CHEMISTRY

FOR STUDENTS OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY

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PREFACE

THE scope and purpose of this book are indicated in the title. It is intended to give the student such assistance as can be obtained from books in acquiring a knowledge of those fundamental facts and general principles of chemistry upon which the superstructure of agricultural chemistry or other technical application must necessarily rest. Though many excellent works on chemistry have been published in recent years, few, if any, have been expressly designed to meet, or are exactly suited to, the requirements of this large and increasing class of students.

In the present volume the authors have attempted to emphasise those aspects of the subject which are of special importance to such students, while others have been treated in sufficient detail to enable the general principles to be securely grasped. In order to avoid the mischievous tabulation of disconnected facts, matters of purely technical interest have been as far as possible omitted from the text; but numerous footnotes have been added, pointing out the application of the general principles to commercial and industrial processes. These notes should add to the interest of the work and, to a certain extent, give point to the students' reading.

The arrangement of the matter is perhaps somewhat unconventional. The underlying idea is to take advantage of that which the student already knows regarding the common things of life, the things with which every one is more or less familiar, to formulate this knowledge, extend it, and

incorporate the whole in a homogeneous system. The plan is based upon courses of lectures given by the authors during a period extending over many years. They believe it to be theoretically sound; and in practice it has proved efficacious.

The phraseology employed is the simplest that could be used consistently with accuracy and clearness, and all technical terms are fully explained. It is hoped that the book will prove useful to students attending "short courses" in agriculture, horticulture and dairying, as well as to those preparing for College and other diplomas, in these subjects, *e.g.* the N.D.A., N.D.D., also to those who are attending education courses in hygiene and domestic economy, and in fact to all who take up the study of chemistry as a preliminary to some technical or commercial pursuit.

At the end of the book is placed a selection of questions and problems. These of course are not exhaustive, but are intended to fix the attention of the student upon those portions of his work which are of fundamental importance.

READING
December, 1912

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