Report of the Seed and Meal Analysis Committee April, 1950

The work of the Seed and Meal Analysis Committee is currently being conducted by five subcommittees, namely, Analysis of Tung Fruit and Meal, Analysis of Copra and Copra Meal, Analysis of Flaxseed and Linseed Meal, Screen Test for Soyflour, and Sampling of Soyflour. Only the last has a report at this time.

Sampling Soyflour

The committee has reviewed tentative method Bc 1-49 for sampling soyflour and found the method to be satisfactory and adequate. The method has the acceptance of the industry, and although no canvass has been made, it is thought that the method is generally acceptable to the trade since the procedure is largely a standardization of techniques involved in sampling soyflour heretofore.

Therefore the committee recommends that the tentative method Bc 1-49 be adopted as the official method for sampling soyflour.

L. R. BROWN — T. C. SMITH
L. J. GERHART — M. W. DIPPOLD, chairman

Whereas Tentative Method Ab 4-47 for the determination of nitrogen-ammonia-protein in peanuts specified the same apparatus, reagents, procedure, and calculations as Official Method Aa 5-38 for the same determination in cottonseed, it should be made official without any further investigative or collaborative work. However the text of Section C, paragraph 1, would need changing to read "Use a portion of the sample from A.O.C.S. Official Method Ab 3-49, Section C, paragraph 2."

By unanimous vote of the committee it recommended:

a) That Tentative Method Bc 1-49 for sampling soyflour be made official, and
b) That Tentative Method Ab 4-47 for the determination of nitrogen-ammonia-protein in peanuts be made official.

E. C. AINSLIE — R. S. MCKINNEY
L. R. BROWN — V. C. MEHLENBACHER
C. H. COX — T. J. POTTS
F. R. EARLE — T. L. RETTGER
E. B. FREYER — T. C. SMITH
J. C. KONEN — T. H. HOPPER, chairman
T. C. LAW

Report of the Referee Board

FOR the year ending May 31, 1950, 33 referee chemists were appointed, two for the first time and the others on renewal applications. They represent 24 different laboratories, 20 cities, and 10 states. There are still no referee or official chemists for the grading of soybean oil in the north central states. Shortage of Lovibond glasses has continued to be an important factor in prolonging this unfortunate situation. When all the essential equipment is available, long practice is still needed to acquire the skill required of a referee chemist in carrying out such distinctive tests as are required for grading of fatty oils on refining loss and color. Even for the more conventional determinations involved in the commercial grading of oilcake and meal, an established laboratory may have to readjust its practice in order to meet the standard of accuracy expected of referee chemists in our industry.

A. S. Richardson

Aside from acting on applications, the main item of concern to the Referee Board during the past year has been clarification of its statement of policies to prospective applicants for referee certification. The prevailing system of referee and official chemists in our industry is not a simple one and has been too often misunderstood, especially by chemists outside the cotton belt. A new memorandum on the subject will be issued soon. Only one change of policy will be proposed, namely, that college training in chemistry and a college degree be hereafter required of all A.O.C.S. Referee Chemists. This has been the general rule for many years, but it has been waived in exceptional cases. The retiring Referee Board has no authority to fix future policy but suggests that the requirement of a college degree be hereinafter waived only in the case of chemists whose original application for referee certification was received prior to 1950.

G. W. AGEE
J. P. HARRIS
R. R. KING
V. C. MEHLENBACHER
A. S. RICHARDSON, chairman