

AND NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

Mayonnaise Standard

W. S. Frisbie, chairman of the Food Standards Committee of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, has recently conferred with officers of the Mayonnaise Manufacturers Association regarding the existing standards of the Department for mayonnaise. In the opinion of the Food Standards Committee, the minimum limit of seventy-eight per cent for oil and egg yolk content of mayonnaise is arbitrary and unenforceable. It is expected that satisfactory revision of the existing standard will ultimately result from the discussions of the committee with representatives of the Manufacturers Association.

The survey of the mayonnaise industry for 1931 is being compiled by the Foodstuffs Division, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Department of Commerce. Questionnaires in duplicate are now being mailed to every unit of the industry. All manufacturers of mayonnaise who do not receive the questionnaire promptly are requested to apply to the Foodstuffs Division, Department of Commerce, Washington, for a copy. Prompt return of the information requested will facilitate completion of figures, similar to those which have proven of great interest and benefit to the mayonnaise industry in former years.

The Bureau announces that the value of the statistics is dependent largely upon their timeliness, and that manufacturers can aid materially in this respect by making prompt returns and by taking care to answer all inquiries complete and correctly.

The recent German emergency decree requiring a reduction of 10 per cent in the retail prices of perfumes and cosmetics has caused much uncertainty in that trade since foreign manufacturers have such a firm contractual control over the retail prices of their products.

The National Soybean Oil Manufacturers Association has recently issued revised trading rules covering transactions in soybean oil. The rules stipulate Prime and Off quality, quantity limits for tank car delivery, method of quoting price, terms, time of shipment and shipping directions, routing, weights and samples, rejection, contingencies, brokerage, arbitration, freight rates, tank car handling, unloading and Official Chemists. It is specified that Prime crude soybean oil shall not contain in excess of 1½ per cent free fatty acid, or 1/10 of 1 per cent moisture and impurities. Shipments up to 2 per cent free fatty acid and 2/10 of 1 per cent moisture and impurities shall constitute legal deliveries with an allowance to the buyer. An interesting feature of the rules provides for quotation of prices in cents per pound and decimal fractions, as, for example, 8.5, 8.6, instead with common fractions such as, 8½, 8¾, etc.

Drastic limitation of foreign paper for the payment for imported toiletries by the Austrian National Bank, in force since November last, threatens to put a stop to all such imports unless foreign exporters are prepared to deliver on credit until the present stringent measures have been removed. (*Consul General Harris, Vienna.*)

Production of naval stores in the United States was less for the season of 1930-31 than in recent years, according to the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils of the Department of Agriculture. Total rosin production was 1,986,208 barrels for the last season compared with 1,975,631 barrels for the season before. Consumption of rosin declined likewise, from 1,104,771 barrels in 1929 to 908,422 barrels in 1930. Use of rosin soap declined slightly less than 10,000 barrels, from 228,599 in 1929 to 218,967 in 1930, the latter figure being in excess of the 1927 consumption of 200,454 barrels.

F. D. Snell Absorbs Old Firm

The official testing laboratory for twenty-seven years located at 191 Franklin street, New York, has been merged with Foster D. Snell, Inc., Brooklyn firm of chemists and engineers, according to an announcement made public recently. R. O. Brooks, former State Food Inspection Chemist, of New Jersey and Pennsylvania and director of the Official Testing Laboratory since its founding in 1905, becomes a member of the technical staff of the Snell organization.

Physical assets of the laboratory consisting of equipment and apparatus will be transferred to the laboratory and experimental plant of the Snell company located in Brooklyn. Business of the Brooks laboratory will be conducted by the Snell staff with Mr. Brooks specializing on food litigation cases.

A. L. Duval D'Adrian, president Mississippi Valley Research Laboratories, St. Louis, has applied for Referee Chemist Certificate of the American Oil Chemists' Society. (First publication.)

With 25 factories of their own turning out soaps of various kinds, valued at close to \$10,000,000, South Africans still show a great liking for imported shaving creams, sticks and powders as well as fine toilet soaps, importing over half a million dollars' worth.

American soap exports to this market were \$93,000 in 1930, toilet soaps making up \$39,000 and shaving creams \$14,000 of this total. Major imports come from Great Britain, but the American share is growing.

No improvement occurred in the Italian essential oil market in February and the sudden demand for lemon oil registered at the end of January was of short duration. The general price tendency during the month was downward. The orange oil output was small owing to low prices offered by exporters and limited demand. Foreign demand for bergamot oil was slight. (Consul General Coert du Bois, Naples.)
