

appreciated by those who need new sets of glasses, or who want spare ones. It is this: that you may get two glasses for the price of one. The whole glass is broken across the center of its unmarked area, after scratching with a glass cutter, and the two separate parts are mounted in frames. Finally, it is apparent that when the glasses are stacked during use in the colorimeter tube holder, no scratching will result when minute, undetected particles of dirt are present, since the frames separate the glasses by at least the thickness of the aluminum. In fact, these frames prevent contact of the glasses with

anything during normal handling, except when it may be necessary to wipe them clean.

### American Chemical Regional Meeting at Omaha Next Spring

Omaha chemists will be hosts to the fourteenth midwest regional meeting of the American Chemical Society next spring—April 29, 30 and May 1.

Six divisional groups are being organized: agricultural and food chemistry, biochemistry, chemical education, industrial chemistry, or-

ganic chemistry, and physical and inorganic chemistry. Several symposia are planned, among them one on "Eggs" and another on "Chemurgy." Titles of prospective papers in industrial chemistry may be sent to the secretary of the industrial division, Dr. L. B. Parsons, Cudahy Packing Co., Omaha.

It is expected that this regional meeting in Omaha will appeal particularly to midwestern chemists because the next three national meetings of the American Chemical Society will all convene outside of the Middle West (Chapel Hill, N. C., Rochester, N. Y., and Dallas, Texas).

## A REVIEW

By PROFESSOR W. E. ANDERSON.

*Nutrition and Public Health.* By Et. Burnet and W. R. Aykroyd. League of Nations. Quarterly Bulletin of the Health Organization, Vol. IV, 323-474 (1935).

In this world survey which deals with the relation of the rapidly expanding science of nutrition to public health, many topics, including the following, are considered: The place of nutrition in public health and preventive medicine; dietary and physical standards; food supply; education in nutrition; various examples of public health and nutrition work; and the problem of nutrition on a national and international scale. The roles of protein, fat, carbohydrate, mineral salts and vitamins in the diet are reviewed; and from the data compiled in the accompanying table, the distribution of calories may be calculated.

STANDARD DIETARIES PUT FORWARD BY VARIOUS AUTHORITIES AS SUITABLE FOR AVERAGE MEN

	Protein	Fat	Carbo- hydrate	Calo- ries
	(grammes)	(grammes)	(grammes)	
Voit .....	118	56	500	3,055
Rubner .....	127	52	509	3,092
Atwater .....	125	125	450	3,520
Advisory Committee (Ministry of Health)	100 <sup>1</sup>	100	400	3,000
Playfair .....	119	51	531	3,140
Tyszka .....	80-100 <sup>2</sup>	60-80	500	3,000

<sup>1</sup>Including 37 grammes of animal protein.  
<sup>2</sup>Including 40 grammes of animal protein.

Regarding the contribution of fat to the total dietary energy, it is interesting to observe various amounts recommended by students of nutrition. (In the dietaries proposed by Playfair and by Atwater fat contributes 15 per cent and 33 per cent, respectively of the total calories.)

"Standards of fat intake proposed by physiologists show wide variation, as does the actual intake of human beings in various parts of the world. The standard fat allowances of Voit, Rubner and others are about half the actual consumption of average men in Western civilization today. Fat has a high satiety value; its high caloric content reduces the bulk of food consumed; it is the vehicle of fat-soluble vitamins; infants at the breast receive about half of their calories in the shape of fat; it may yet be shown to possess some intrinsic quality of value to the organism. For these and other reasons, it seems advisable that standards of fat intake should not be too low."

In the chapter dealing with food supply, the dependence of national dietaries on a variety of factors—political, economic and agricultural—are strikingly emphasized.

The following annexes are included in the review:

General Survey of Nutrition in

the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Diet in Danish Residential Institutions.

Propaganda in Favor of the Consumption of Milk and Cheap Milk for School Children.

Scientific Society of Alimentary Hygiene (France).

Organization for Improving Nutrition in Japan.

Recommendations in Favor of an International Nutrition Institute.

Study of the Normal Functioning of the Alimentary Canal.

The authors, in concluding their stimulating report, suggest lines which seem desirable, particularly at the present juncture, for dealing with the practical problem of nutrition. They remark that "production, distribution and consumption have hitherto been considered mainly as economic phenomena without sufficient regard to their effect on public health. . . . The general problem of nutrition, as it presents itself today, is that of harmonizing economic and public health development."

(This report may be purchased at 50c per copy from the World Peace Foundation, 40 Mt. Vernon St., Boston, Mass.)