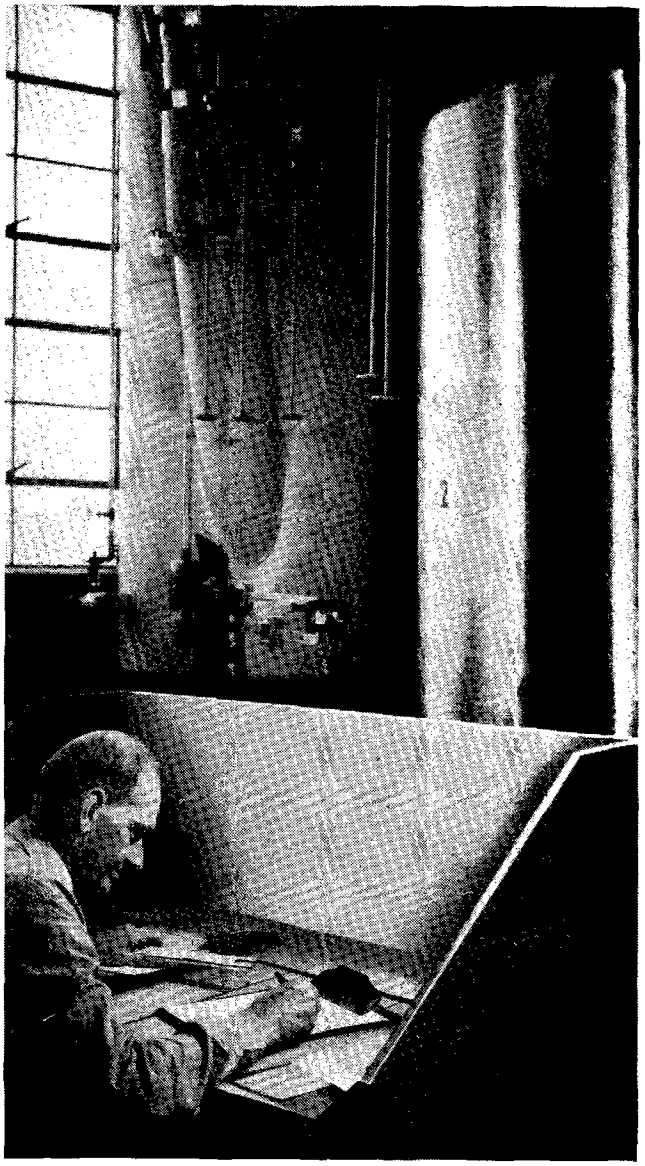

Vitamin A man

G. G. R. Smith heads our vitamin blending department and has headed it for many years. He is the master of the great tanks that receive our production of *Myvax® Vitamin A Palmitate* and *Acetate*. He supervises the valving of their contents into cans labeled "*Myvapack® Vitamin A.*" He sees that each can gets exactly what is required to fortify exactly one batch of a given customer plant's product. He knows by heart each customer's different needs, each customer's current decision on colorants, added vitamin D, other approved additives. He wants to learn your needs, too, if the opportunity has thus far been denied him.

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Discuss Sanitation

With an attendance of 24 the Technical Safety Committee met in New York during the 34th fall meeting of the American Oil Chemists' Society, with P.R. Sheffer presiding and K.W. Becker taking the minutes. There were reports from the subcommittees, a talk by T.W. McCloud on the "Value of Sanitation Control," and a report by R.L. Terrill about the June 27 meeting of the American Society for Testing Materials on food solvents.

Following a report by H. E. Marxhausen, chairman of the group studying N.F.P.A. Standard No. 36, it was recommended that Paragraph 5410 be modified to permit the use of open-type electrical control equipment in cases where this equipment is enclosed in a room protected from the possible entrance of flammable vapors. This protection may include a) pressurizing the switch room with outside air obtained from a source 10 feet above the highest possible solvent vapor exit and of sufficient volume to insure a positive flow of air from all room openings; b) location of the switch room at an elevation such that the floor of the room is 10 feet above the highest source of solvent vapor exit.

It was also recommended that the "100-feet" distance specification in all portions of the Standard be changed to 50 feet and that the words "more than 50 feet" be deleted from Paragraph 5050. (Applicable paragraphs were cited: 3010, 4010, 5020, 5040, 5050, 5052, 5310, and definition of "restricted area".)

A third recommendation was that Paragraph 4020 be modified by inserting the following ahead of the present text: "For preparation processes within 50 feet of the extraction process."

Next presented was a report by N. H. Witte, J. K. Sikes, and O.L. Brekke on results of a questionnaire on housekeeping and sanitation. As read by R.E. Beal, the Brekke report may be summarized thus. In general, the replies indicate that the processors of oil-bearing materials are concerned about the ultimate effect the Food and Drug Act will have on their operations. Of the seven replying, five have an educational program, six employ inspections, and all seven use controls. Outside talent has been used by five of the processors for educational purposes, four for inspection and control, and three for finished products approval. Two of the companies depend solely upon farmers, grain elevators, brokers, or traders; three depend upon their suppliers for information about their raw materials and manufacturing supplies. Five use purchasing agreements to control quality. Four believe they are capable of duplicating FDA inspections. All but one firm have a particular individual accompany the FDA inspectors, and their individual knows what to do. Often he is the chief chemist or the plant superintendent.

The next report was on methods for detecting residual solvent in meal. E.A. Gastrock and the Precision Scientific Company have fabricated a concentric ring cup for determination of residual solvent. (Copies of the method used by the Draeger Gas Detector of Luebeck, Germany, were distributed last June by N. Hunt Moore.) A demonstration was arranged for the Kitawaga Gas Detector for October 19. Witte compared the concentric ring test, the Draeger test, and the Kitawaga test.

W.T. Coleman commented that, in addition to the hexane potential hazard, alcohol from fermentation can contribute to the explosion hazard in the preparation area. He added that sanitation control is made difficult because about 50% of the agricultural material is contaminated by DDT and other agricultural chemicals.

Mr. McCloud of the Sanitation Control Company told how an outside company can contribute to a study on filth and injurious chemicals. He commented that FDA pressure has helped considerably to clean up the grain elevators. There must be some one of top responsibility in the company to back a program. A responsible person in the company must carry out the program. Definite goals must be set; plant-wide cooperation is essential.

Mr. Terrill said there was a need for controlled solvent specification.