

LABORATORY
OF THE
INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT
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BULLETIN No. 262

LIME FRUIT JUICE

OTTAWA, July 12, 1913.

WM. HIMSWORTH, Esq.,
Acting Deputy Minister,
Inland Revenue.

SIR,—In Bulletins No. 83 (Dec., 1902) and No. 197 (Jan., 1910) were reported studies of Lime Fruit Juice, having for their object the exact definition of the article, under Sec. 26 of the Adulteration Act. This definition became law in February, 1911, by Order-in-Council of that date; and is published as Circular G. 947 by this Department. The Order-in-Council referred to, deals with the general subject of Beverages. So far as Lime Fruit Juice is concerned it contains the following:

5. LIME JUICE, LIME FRUIT JUICE, is the fresh fruit juice obtained from lime fruit (*Citrus limetta*); has a specific gravity at 20°C. not less than 1.030, and not greater than 1.040, and contains not less than ten (10) per cent of solids and not less than seven (7) per cent of free citric acid. Its optical activity (rotatory power to polarized light) lies between the limits $+ 0.5$ and $- 0.5$ of the Soleil-Ventzke scale, when observed in a tube of 200 mm. length, at 20°C.

Only five samples of the thirty herein reported fully meet the requirements of the legal Standard above, the others several approximate more or less closely to it, but at least thirty per cent of the collection gives unmistakable evidence of being reduced by addition of water; or made from a second pressing of the fruit (*Nachpresse*), which amounts to the same thing. While nothing harmful to health is introduced, it is clearly unfair to the consumer, and to the honest manufacturer, that a diluted fruit-juice should be tolerated on the market, while offered as genuine. If properly labelled, so as to declare the presence of water, no harm would be done, and Sec. 24 of the Act covers such case.

I beg to recommend the publication of this report, rather as a means of drawing public attention to the matter, than as a basis for prosecution. It deals with a very limited inspection, and is the first inspection of Lime Fruit Juice since the legal defining of the article.

An extensive collection of samples will be made in the near future with a view to enforcing the requirements of the Act.

I beg to recommend the publication of this report as Bulletin No. 262.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. MCGILL,
Chief Analyst.