

LABORATORY

OF THE

INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT

OTTAWA, CANADA

BULLETIN No. 216

GROUND COFFEE

OTTAWA, October 3, 1910.

WM. HINSWORTH, Esq.,
Acting Deputy Minister of Inland Revenue.

SIR,— I have the honour to submit you herewith a report upon samples purchased throughout Canada in June and July last, as Ground Coffee. The following is a summary statement of the results of their examination:—

	Samples.
Collected by mistake.	2
Sold unground.	9
" " as compound.	9
Found genuine.	260
" adulterated.	26
	297

Of 26 samples found adulterated, 15 contained chicory only, and in amount not exceeding 10 per cent. These samples I have thought it right to indicate as *technically adulterated*, since it is fair to assume that no intention to defraud the purchaser exists. An article offered as coffee, should undoubtedly be nothing else than coffee, but so many consumers prefer a small addition of chicory that dealers frequently add an ounce or so to the pound in order to meet a known expectation of the customer.

This does not hold where the amount of chicory present is excessive (I have drawn the limit at 10 per cent), nor does it hold where roasted grain, or other starchy material is added.

The following table shows the results of coffee inspection in Canada since the year 1888:—

Year.	Reported in Bulletin.	Total samples examined.	Found adulterated.	Found genuine.	Percentage found genuine.
1888.	3	85	41	44	52
1892.	29	140	55	51	38
1892.	31	141	39	102	72
1904.	100	75	19	45	60
1909.	172	449	45	391	87
1910.	216	297	26	260	88