

LABORATORY
OF THE
INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT
OTTAWA, CANADA

BULLETIN No. 290

Coffee and Coffee Substitutes.

OTTAWA, Oct. 3, 1914.

J. U. VINCENT, Esq.,
Deputy Minister,
Inland Revenue.

SIR,—I have the honour to hand you a report upon three hundred and thirty-nine (339) samples procured throughout the Dominion by our food inspectors in November, December and January last.

These have been supplied on demand for *Coffee*, or *Coffee Substitutes*. *Coffee Substitutes* are usually compounds consisting of varying percentages of Coffee with chicory or roasted grain or peas, or mixtures of these. Thirty samples (30) sold as coffee substitutes contain no coffee. The following is the record for articles sold as Coffee Substitutes.

Consisting of Coffee and Chicory	12 samples.
“ “ “ and cereals	24 samples.
“ roasted cereals only	30 samples.
Total	66 samples.

The articles mentioned are properly sold as coffee substitutes; or by such description of each as shall inform the purchaser fully regarding the article supplied to him.

Thirteen samples (13) are so-called Extracts of Coffee. Most of these contain the soluble matter of chicory; but as this collection was specially directed to examination of the solid article, a detailed study of Coffee Extracts is left for a later report. For the same reason no work has been done upon 5 samples of so-called Condensed Coffees, which were collected through mistakes on the part of our inspectors.

One hundred and ninety-nine (199) samples, sold as coffee, are found to be true to name, and are described as genuine in this report.

There remain fifty-six (56) samples to be considered. All of these were supplied to the inspector on a demand for *Coffee*. In eight (8) cases the amount of foreign matter is so small that it is reasonable to explain its presence as accidental. Very frequently the same mill is used in grinding alternately a pure coffee and a mixture, and in this way a trace of chicory may find its way into a sample intended to be coffee only. I have marked such cases as “doubtful”.