

LABORATORY
OF THE
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COCOAS AND CHOCOLATES

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Acting Deputy Minister,
Inland Revenue,

OTTAWA, October 16, 1912.

SIR,—I beg to hand you a report upon 252 samples purchased as cocoas and chocolates in February and March of this year.

Cocoa has not been systematically inspected since September, 1900 (see Bulletin No. 72). At that time it was found that cocoa and chocolate were, as a rule, quite free from anything that could be regarded as adulteration.

The various processes of manufacture involving removal of more or less fat, addition of starch, fineness of grinding, etc., for their object the preparation of the article in digestible form, and there can be no doubt that the different brands found on the market approve themselves to the different tastes and needs of users of cocoa.

The terms cocoa and chocolate appear to be employed according to no very definite rule. It would be well to restrict the term chocolate to the sugared article, and especially to a preparation containing vanilla or other flavouring substance.

Where our inspectors have sent in considerable numbers of samples from the same manufacturers, it will be noted that such samples, when representing the same brand, give analytical results of very constant character. This indicates great care in manufacture; and it may be safely inferred from the appended tables, that cocoa and chocolate, as found on our markets, are of good quality. In one or two instances (see No. 49350 & 49351) the ash and the fat content are exceptional. Such samples are usually sold in bulk, and do not bear the manufacturer's name. They contain excess of cocoa husk.

We have not established any legal standards for these articles, and the present report may serve the purpose of a guide for future action in this direction. The federal standards of the United States of America require chocolate to contain not more than three (3%) per cent of insoluble ash, or three and a half (3.5 %) per cent of fibre or less than forty-five (45%) per cent of cocoa fat. They further limit the amount of added starch permissible to nine (9%) per cent. Cocoa is defined as