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Official Publication International Association of Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians, Inc. Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

Vol. 32	May, 1969	No. 5
Microbiological Qual D. A. A. M	ity Control in the Food Industry ossel	155
The Biggest Problem F. Oris Blac	n in Food Hygiene-People ckwell	172
Influence of 32 and Counts of Colife D. L. Malle	37 C Incubation Temperatures on orm Bacteria of Milk tt, R. T. Marshall and J. E. Edmondson _	176
Alignment of Industr Fred H. Vi	y-Oriented Sanitation Program	179
Some Recent Views Keeping Quality Sat Parkash	on Reconstitutability and of Milk Powder	183
Amendment to 3-A Plastic Materials for Dairy Equij	Sanitary Standards for Multiple-Use Used as Product Contact Surfaces oment	186
Amendment to 3-A Construction, In High-Temperatu Bevised (Effecti	Accepted Practices for the Sanitary stallation, Testing and Operation of re Short-Time Pasteurizers, ive January 22, 1967)	187
Association Affairs		193
Report of the C Laboratory Met	hods 1967-1968	
News and Events		196
Index to Advertisers		IV

Business Matters: Correspondence regarding business matters, advertising, subscriptions, orders for single copies, etc., should be ad-dressed to H. L. Thomasson (address above).

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MICROBIOLOGICAL QUALITY CONTROL IN THE FOOD INDUSTRY

D. A. A. Mossel

Laboratory of Bacteriology Central Institute for Nutrition and Food Research TNO, Zeist, The Netherlands

(Received for publication June 27, 1968)

Abstract

In quality control in the food industry in North-Western Europe, safety and keeping quality of final products are mostly maintained by preventative systems of factory surveillance, rather than by the "analytical" approach in which finished product samples are examined and measures taken later, based on the results of such an examination of samples. Methods are recommended for verifying that all preventative measures have been taken correctly.

Since microbiological examination of samples is often the sole way of checking on goods, e.g. upon importation, methods for this purpose are also recommended. It is strongly suggested that numbers of tests applied to each commodity are limited and that the groups of organisms to be determined in each instance will be chosen after careful study of the microorganisms associated with a particular food. The need for standards in evaluating the results obtained is stressed. A first attempt in streamlining, mechanization, automation, and data handling in this area, is presented.

Thorough retrospective complaint examination, i.e. a careful analysis of what may have caused rejection of consignments despite preventative quality control, is recommended as useful for avoiding repetition of the same or similar phenomena in future. Microbiological methods and chemical tests for microbial metabolites in instances where complete or partial autosterilization has occurred, are recommended.

PRINCIPLES

The purposes of microbiological quality control, whether carried out by government inspection services or industry, are mainly twofold: prevention of food-borne disease and retardation of microbial spoilage. In addition quality control must also meet general microbiological quality requirements, having no direct relationship to health or spoilage, e.g. microscopic counts of molds in canned tomato products or the enumeration of viable spores of the genus *Bacillus* in cocoa powder.

It is now generally accepted that microbiological quality control by the industry itself should be primarily of a preventative nature (158). This is much more effective than the analytical approach, i.e. inspection of the microbiological condition of the food as it leaves the factory, and subsequently taking cor-

rective measures if necessary. Authorities and buyers have also come to understand that, for statistical reasons (133), factory inspection is more effective, for their purposes too, than examination of finished samples.

Preventative microbiological quality control entails, in essence, the drafting and supervision of measures required to keep microbial counts low by reducing numbers of microorganisms contaminating the food and preventing proliferation of those microorganisms inevitably present. In this connection the following phases of contamination of, and proliferation in, foods have to be distinguished: (a) primary = microbial load of the raw materials; (b) secondary = increase in counts during processing; (c) tertiary = post-processing recontamination; (d) quaternary = contamination and/or growth during culinary preparation of the manufactured commodity.

Such control should be attained by the following measures: (a) procurement of raw materials of the best possible microbiological quality; (b) prevention of contamination of raw materials prior to processing; (c) proper processing, of whatever kind applied; (d) prevention of contamination of materials during and particularly after processing; (e) proper packaging; and (f) adequate storage, transportation, and handling of the finished product to consumption.

Obviously in this respect not all microorganisms have the same significance. Specific enteropathogenic and enterotoxinogenic bacteria, viruses, and particular helminths have to be controlled for the safety of consumers. In addition growth of molds in foods has to be kept under control since many types of fungi have been found recently to be mycotoxinogenic; cf. Table 1.

A great variety of bacteria, yeasts, and molds are typical spoilage agents for a given type of food; *vide infra*. Hence, in addition to the general precautions just outlined, special measures are often necessary to control occurrence or growth of particular microorganisms in foods (8).

Supervision and Laboratory Examination of the Factory

Microbiological quality control, in this context, in-

¹Based on a series of lectures presented to the Summer Session Course 20.53 S, Department of Nutrition and Food Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass., June 20-21, 1968.

TABLE 1. MYCOTOXINOGENIC MOLDS¹

Species	Clinical effect	Suscepti specie	ble s
From 1 Producers of we	11-defined mucotoxins	n	i di s Pigin
foup 1, 1 jourcers of we	a acjuica mgestemms		1
Alternaria tenuis	ATA	man	
Alternaria sp.	haemorrhages	mouse	
Aspergillus amstelodami	emaciation	poultry	
A. candidus	cf. P. citrinum		
A. clavatus	haemorrhages	poultry	
A. flavus	hepatic carcinoma	poultry,	man
	tremors	mouse	
	haemorrhages	swine	
A. fumigatus	perirenal oedema	swine	
A glaucus	haemorrhages &		
n guardas	diarrhoea	poultry	
A. niger	cf. A. flavus		
A ochraceus	hepatic injury	poultry	
. John acous	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	rat	
A oruzae	hepatic necrosis	various	
A octionus	of A ochraceus	, un to un	
A parasiticus	of A flamus		
A. purusuicus	of A flarus		
A torroug	of P citrinum		
A wontii	emaciation	noultry	
A. Wennu	emaciation	pounty	
Chaetomium globosum	haemorrhages &		
Graetomium Grooosum	paralysis	rat	
Cladosporium epiphyllum	ATA	man	
-5			
Fusarium culmorum	anorexia	bovine	
Fusarium nivale	emaciation &		
	gangrene	bovine	
F. roseum (Syn.	hepatic necrosis	swine	
Gibberella saubinetti)			a . "
F. sporotrichioides	ATA	man	
Cibberella reae	oestromimetic		
Choberenia seate	response	swine	
Mucor hiemalis	ATA	man	
macor memuns			8
Penicillium	АТА	man	
brevicompactum	.4		
P. citreoviride	ascending paralyses	various	
P. citrinum	haemorrhages &	poultry	
= 8°	renal damage	mouse	
P. cyclopium	tremors	mouse	
P. islandicum	hepatic atrophia	-	
na – a – na Hermann haite sussenant i site Sta	& cirrhosis	various	
P. puberulum	cf. A. flavus		
P. rubrum	haemorrhages &		
	hepatic injury	swine	
P. rugulosum	cf. P. citrinum		
P. tardum	cf. P. citrinum		
P. variabile	cf. A. flavus		
P niridicatum	renal damage	swine	rat
P. species	cf. A. ochraceus		
Pithomyces chartarum	angiocholecystitis	sheep	
	tacial oedema	bovine	
Rhizopus sp.	cr. A. flavus	harr	
Stachyobotrys atra	haemorrhages	horse	

Group 2, Producers of less well-defined orally active toxins

Aspergillus avenaceus, carneus, chevalieri, nidulans n niveus Cladosporium fragi

Fusarium moniliforme

Paecilomyces varioti (Syn. Byssochlamys fulva)

Penicillium oxalicum, piceum, purpurogenum, urticae Trichoderma lignorum

¹Data compiled from references 13, 19, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 44, 48, 51, 56, 60, 61, 72, 73, 76, 77, 78, 114, 117, 121, 127, 134, 138, 142, 144, 145, 149, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 160.

volves, first of all, frequent checks on proper processing and handling of goods throughout the plant. An important example of factory quality control is found in the heat processing of foods, the most frequently used mode of decontamination as well as preservation. In this connection, it should be realized that the net microbicidal effect of a heat treatment depends strongly on (a) the time-temperature combination applied; (b) the pH and water activity (a) of the food treated; and (c) the efficacy of measures taken to avoid postprocess recontamination. Each of these factors has to be controlled within narrow limits if heat processing is to be effective (63).

Also, regular examinations have to be carried out of the food processing machinery. This has to be dismantled and decontaminated when required by the bacteriological data obtained. Otherwise considerable build-up of often highly resistant and tenacious organisms may occur as a result of continuous culture (1, 16, 47, 113). In addition, periodical checks are to be made of premises, cleanliness of the staff, packaging materials, and the water supply. The pressing need for adequate surveillance of the air supply has been demonstrated repeatedly (16, 63, 91, 126). Finally the evaluation of any disinfectants and detergent sanitizers used forms an important part of the task of the laboratory (64, 89).

Table 2 reviews the methods which have been found useful in the author's Institute during the last 15 years. The types of organisms for which one seeks, obviously, depend greatly on whether one is interested in those that may spoil a given food, or in organisms that might render the food unsafe for consumption - that is, lead to food-borne disease eventually if not immediately. However, whatever types may be of interest, one is always concerned with their numbers per unit of surface area or weight. Qualitative results, often formulated simply on the basis of the absence or presence of a certain organism on "the" machinery or in "the" air supply, etc. are usually of lesser value, unless formulated in a semi-quantitative way, i.e. absence of the organism in a well specified quantity or surface area.

TABLE 2. VERIFICATION METHODS USED IN MICROBIOLOGICAL PLANT CONTROL

Parameter to be verified.	Recommended instrument or method	Reference
Time-temperature integrals Relative humidity or a W	thermograph; indicator strips; tests for residual enzyme activity polyelectrolyte resistance humidity elements	Stumbo (136) Ingram & Roberts (49) Ganter & Körmendy (30) Musa & Schnable (104)
Decontamination efficiency of foods, processed for safety	(a) spec. count of nat. or artific. (a) contam. sample same count of treated sample	Mossel, van Schothorst & Kampelmacher (96)
Surface decontamination efficiency of food, processing apparatus	 (b) count of spores of Bacillus total bacterial count (a) swabs (b) impression plates, agar slices, tapes or pads 	Mossel (95) Higgins (41); Thomas (143); ten Cate (10); Holt (45); Mos- sel, Kampelmacher & van Noorle Jansen (94)
Microbiological condition of water supply	 (a) total count of mesophilic and psychrotrophic bacteria (b) MPN enumeration of <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> and <i>E. coli</i> 	Mossel (95)
Microbiological condition of air supply	 (a) slit sampler technique (b) absorption in an impinger or moistened plugs of calcium alginate (c) sedimentation plates, Mossel (91) 	Bourdillon et al. (6) May (70); Richards (118); Mos- sel (91)
Sanitary condition of hands	five-finger impression counts on ETGPA ¹ and VRBG ²	de Vries & Knape (148)
Body cleanliness	VRBG, ETGPA and blood agar impression plates of predilection sites	Sarkany & Gaylarde (124); Mos- sel et al. (99)
Effectiveness of disinfectants and detergent sanitizers	 (a) Strains: S. aureus, S. typhimurium, P. aeruginosa, S. faecalis, spores of B. cereus, S. cerevisiae (b) Exposition: 5 min at c. 15 C (c) Neutralisation: Tween-blood-thiosulphate broth (d) Requirement: 5 D, except sometimes for spores 	Mossel (89)

Egg yolk tellurite glycine pyruvate agar ²Violet red bile glucose agar (88)

MICROBIOLOGICAL QUALITY CONTROL OF RAW MATERIALS

It should be stressed that it may not always be easy to procure raw materials of satisfactory bacteriological quality. This is particularly true of red meats and poultry. To obtain carcasses with a tolerable degree of *Salmonella* contamination, the meat and poultry industry has had to begin to extend control measures to the farms. This includes provision of pathogen-free young animals, bacteriological control of feed, and considerable improvement of the sanitary conditions of the animals on the farm, during transportation, and while awaiting slaughter (21, 31, 40, 106, 125). Pending these developments, initially rather tolerant specifications will have to be used, but these will gradually have to be made stricter, applying the "sliding scale" principle (35).

Even where such vast problems do not exist, the drafting of microbiological specifications for raw materials should be done very carefully and particularly with proper reference to ecological principles. This involves taking the following aspects into account: (a) the significant organisms amongst the microflora of the raw materials under study; (b) the numbers of each of these that can be allowed in the final products; (c) the desired safety margins as determined by the processing to be applied in the course of manufacture; and (d) attainability of the specifications. With respect to the latter point, considerable collaboration is often required before suppliers can consistently meet purchasers' specifications, although this is, very fortunately, not always as difficult as with carcass meats or poultry.

The microflora of minor components, e.g. spices,

may also impair the microbiological quality of manufactured foods. As to requirements for such materials, their microflora should not essentially influence the load of organisms which determine wholesomeness and/or keeping quality, that are encountered in the major component of the food. Hence, requirements for minor ingredients can be more lenient, the lower their concentration is in the final product (80).

MICROBIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF THE FINAL PRODUCT

Careful implementation of microbiological quality control at the production level, on the above basis, will usually assure adequate keeping quality and wholesomeness. In addition, one might wish to assess the microbiological condition of the food itself. Such final product analysis hence is of interest to the processer; however, to the public health official of the country importing the food products, and to the bacteriologist working on behalf of the buyers, it is often the only information available. In other words, microbiological examination of end product samples makes sense but only as a mode of *assessing* proper production, not as a means of *attaining* the required microbiological quality.

Wholesomeness

Pathogens. Various groups are relevant to the determination of the wholesomeness of foods (43). A review of these organisms and recommended methods for their enumeration are presented in Table 3. Those currently of major interest from the standpoint of outbreaks of food-borne diseases are: Salmonella, Staphylococcus aureus, and Clostridium perfringens (147) and to a lesser extent Bacillus cereus (107) and Vibrio parahaemolyticus (162). Also, as indicated before, quantitative examinations for molds should be made regularly, since so many types of fungi, according to Table 1, form orally active mycotoxins and can, therefore, not be tolerated in foods. Either viable mold spores or microscopically visible mycelia and spores have to be determined, depending on whether the majority of the molds is still viable or already dead. Suitable methods for this purpose will be recommended in the following sections.

A short remark may be in order here with regard to the use of so-called selective media in general and in microbiological quality control in the food industry in particular. Formulation, preparation, sterilization and inoculation of such media should be most carefully standardized. Selectivity and productivity of selective media depends entirely on the active concentration of one or more added inhibitory compounds. The latter is determined by (a) concentration of inhibitor added to the medium; (b) degree of inactivation during sterilization of the medium; and (c) extent of neutralization by one or more components of the food sample examined. If such details are not properly taken into account, quite unreliable and irreproducible results — leading amongst others to a complete lack of agreement between laboratories of buyers and sellers, or food processers and public health authorities — must be anticipated (116).

Moreover, selective media should always be tested for their capacity to also recover impaired cells of the types sought. Bacterial cells that have been stressed by sublethal heating, exposure to reduced a wor low pH, etc., will usually not tolerate concentrations of selective agents that are generally acceptable in media, since they are without significant inhibitory effect on non-stressed cells of the same group, genus, or species. We have confirmed many earlier observations on such an effect in impaired cells of Enterobacteriaceae with regard to triphenyl methane dyes and, to a lesser extent, bile salts (101). Along the same line we have observed that stressed populations of Lancefield group D streptococci do not tolerate concentrations of methylene blue and slightly increased pH values, that are exempt of any inhibitory effect on non-impaired populations of the same group of bacteria. Erroneously low results in the examination of heated, dried, or acid foods, as a result of missing such stressed cells resulting from direct use of many selective media, have to be anticipated. Such errors have to be avoided by previous so-called resuscitation of impaired populations. In this step dilutions of the food wherein such cells occur are cultured on rich, non-selective solid media. Subsequently colonies of the restored cells thus obtained are replicated onto the usual selective media. Obviously similar preliminary resuscitation steps in liquid media must be applied when MPN-counts, or presence or absence tests, are carried out using selective liquid media.

Indicator organisms. It is, in addition, often useful to enumerate so-called indicator organisms — bacteria indicating objectionable bacteriological condition of foods. The conventionally sought proof of the absence of pathogens in a representative sample of food has significance only for the consignment under investigation; however, the repeated failure to find suitably chosen types of indicator organisms in successive samples makes it unlikely that foods manufactured in the same way will ever be dangerously contaminated. This is valuable information for the trade, food inspection services, and the consumer (95, 163).

The use of indicator organisms has often been criticized (71), and not always without reason (95).

However, provided that proper ecological consideration is given to the significance of given numbers of particular organisms in a specific food, no criticism is justified against this most valuable analytical parameter. The use of *Enterobacteriaceae* as indicator organisms may be given as an example.

When foods are processed with heat to such an extent that the lethal effect on non-spore bearing bacteria is somewhere between 4 and 7 decimal reductions, the presence of Enterobacteriaceae in numbers over 1 to 10 per g cannot be accepted. The reason is that this would indicate that processing has not been completed or that an adequate decontamination treatment has been carried out, but it has been followed by post-process recontamination. Either of these conditions is highly undesirable, because it may have resulted in, or will result in the future in, the presence of enteric or other pathogens in such foods. However, for fresh foods or commodities that have only been processed at temperatures well below 50 C, where virtually no bactericidal effect can be expected, the situation is entirely different. Because the natural flora of such foods is known to include Enterobacteriaceae, the mere "presence" of these bacteria in such products is no reason for their rejection. Rather, one is interested, in this instance, in knowing more exactly what types of Enterobacteriaceae occur, since it makes a noteworthy difference whether Serratia or Enterobacter of vegetable origin are present, or Escherichia coli which might indicate a more dangerous contamination. For this purpose we have developed the differential enterobacteriogram, in which the types of Enterobacteriaceae are determined in addition to their numbers (101). There is a valid reason to reject a sample of this class only if one or more of the following deficiencies are encountered: (a) occurrence of pathogenic species of Enterobacteriaceae in aliquots of 10-20/g; (b) the presence of E. coli in an approximately 0.1 g sample; (c) the occurrence of viable Enterobacteriaceae at a level that exceeds the numbers encountered in commodities produced under sanitary manufacturing conditions (95).

Enzyme tests. Reliance is often placed on the absence of the enzymatic activity of, for example, phosphatase or amylase in heat processed products as an index of proper manufacturing (30, 33, 49, 71). No doubt, a negative result of such enzyme tests indicates that the commodities under examination have been sufficiently heat-treated to eliminate the pathogenic organisms originally present. However, enzyme tests are not sensitive enough to indicate the absence of recontamination; and this is the most frequent source of failure of pasteurization treatments (15, 50, 53, 161). Hence, the sole use of these enzyme tests seems to lead to a false sense of security (7).

However, the use of a combination of an enzyme test with an examination for, e.g. *Enterobacteriaceae*, is very profitable, since it will provide differentiation between inadequate pasteurization and post-pasteurization contamination. The food microbiologist, expected to advise on improvements in processing can then decide, guided by the two tests, whether the heat-treatment or rather the sanitation of the postpasteurization stages needs closer attention (95).

Because of their very high radiation resistance, none of those enzymes has been found to be inactivated by doses of radiation used in radiation pasteurization ("radicidation"). This makes enzyme tests unsuitable for the control of radicidation treatments (49), whereas tests for indicator organisms maintain their validity here (96).

Total counts. It may sometimes be of interest to determine the total numbers of viable aerobic and facultatively anaerobic mesophilic microorganisms per 1 g of food. The latter parameters are often called "total counts." They will show to what extent microbial contamination, but more particularly proliferation, in general has occurred. However, in studying food wholesomeness, the enumeration of the specific pathogenic or toxinogenic bacteria or suitably chosen indicator organisms has a higher priority.

Keeping quality

Direct determination of stability of shelf-stable items. Shelf life tests carried out for this purpose should be designed carefully.

Firstly, the number of samples and the degree of randomization with which these are to be taken should be determined accurately. Too small a number of samples, or inadequate randomization may lead to a false feeling of security with regard to the keeping quality of the final product, whereas too high a degree of sampling may lead to exceeding the capacity of the laboratory. A proper mathematically justified approach to optimal sampling is therefore always required (133).

With regard to the choice of the storage temperature, it is necessary to use in shelf life tests a cyclic system of incubation. The reasons for this are that: (a) changing temperatures will also occur in practice; and (b) water vapor migration effects often limit the shelf life of packaged products (100), and such effects are potentiated by the use of temperature changes during incubation. It is, therefore, our practice to incubate samples of shelf-stable foods at 25 \pm 1 C during the day time and at 15 \pm 1 C overnight.

The next point is the choice of criteria of spoilage. In order to obtain fast preliminary results, it can often be recommended that counts of significant types of spoilage organisms (vide infra) are carried FABLE 3. REVIEW OF RECOMMENDED METHODS FOR THE MICROBIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOODS WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO PUBLIC HEALTH ASPECTS

Group of organisms sought	Presumptive counting procedure	Confirmation	Completion or identification
Salmonella and Arizona	MPN-enrichment procedure with at least 20 g aliquots us- ing: (a) for general purposes: Muller (103)-Kauffmann's (55) tetrathionate broth at 43 C (Harvey & Thomson, 38; Read & Reyes, 115; Harvey & Price, 39; (b) if resuscitation is required: use of Hobbs' (42) nutrient broth or North's (109) lactose broth incubated at 30 C, followed by (a) above (Mossel & Vincentie, 101).	Plating of 0.1 ml of 10 ⁵ dilutions, simultaneously on 15 cm dia-plates of (a) special brilliant green phenol red agar (Kampelmacher, 54); (b) deoxycholate citrate agar; (c) bis- muth sulphite agar, aged according to Cook (17) eg \rightarrow BPA ²	Subsequently: (a) Kl eg $\rightarrow \beta$ Gal. eg \rightarrow P eg \rightarrow UDKAM-al; (b) agglutinations; (c) phage test (Buttiaux et al., 9; Ewing et al., 22; Le Minor & Ben Hamida, 62; Ewing & Fife, 23)
	when counts >10/g might occur: enumeration in surplice iron agar (Mossel, 83) contained in plastic pouches (Bladel & Greenberg, 5; de Waart & Smit, 150)	Subculturing black colonies onto BPA	β Gal. eg \rightarrow P \rightarrow as above
Shigella	Plating of at least 100 mg on SS-agar and Taylor's (140, 141) XLD agar in 15 cm dia-plates and incubation at 37 C	completion Salmoni	n tests as for $ella + Mo$
Enterobacteriaceae	 (a) When counts >10/g are expected: Plating in Mac Conkey ('Violet Red bile') glucose agar (Mossel et al., 88) incubated 20 hr at 37 C, unless resuscitation is required-vide supra 	OxGNi	$\begin{array}{c} \rightarrow \text{Lac.} + \rightarrow \text{C} \rightarrow \text{E} \\ \text{McC} \\ \rightarrow \text{Lac. O} \rightarrow \beta \text{ Gal.} \rightarrow \text{P} \\ \rightarrow \text{>UDKAMal} \\ \rightarrow \text{>UDKAMal} \\ \end{array}$
	 (b) When counts <10/g are expected: MPN-enrichment procedure with 0.1, 1 and 10 g, using buffered brilliant green bile glucose (EE) broth, at 30 C, unless resuscitation is required-vide supra 	Either: plating on Mac Conkey ('Violet Red bile') glucose agar (VRBG) Or: DEG = plating onto VRBG, Chapman's (12) tergitol/TTC/agar at 44 C XLD and BPA ² (Mossel & Viocentia 10)	OxGNi -> McC -> Vide supra
E. coli	MPN-enrichment procedure with 0.1, 1 and 10 g, using bril- liant green bile (BGB) broth at 44 C, unless resuscitation is	E = gas formation in BGB and pro- duction of indole at 44 C	IMVC-but hardly necessary
S. aureus	 (a) When counts >10²/g are expected: Plating on Baird Parker's (2) ETGP agar incubated for 30 hr at 37 C. 	Adequate numbers of typical egg yolk positive as well as typical, but egg yolk negative (de Waart et al., 151; Hall, 37) colonies: Co	Phage typing
	 (b) When counts <10²/g are expected: MPN-enrichment procedure with 0.1, 1 and 10 g, using Giolitti & Cantoni's (34) anaerobic tellurite glycine 	Plating on ETGP agar, etc vide supra	Co, phage typing
Lancefield group D strepto-	Plating in Packer's (112) crystal violet sodium azide blood	TMiAzLCa	Sherman characters, especially BiT. So
S. mitis and S. salivarius	Plating on Chapman's (11) TCTS-agar, incubated at 37 C	TAzBiT → AesArGLevRaSo (Co- wan & Steel, 18)	,
Clostridium sp.	Counts, in glucose free 0.05% sulphite iron polymyxin agar (83) contained in Miller-Prickett tubes or plastic pouches,	AnCaSu	MiMoNiIGSaLacGelLec (anaer.)
C. botulinum	MPN-enrichment procedure in sulphite iron polymyxin broth	Alcohol treatment (Johnston et al., $52) \rightarrow$ plating on BYCA	MoNiIClSal (Anaer.) → mouse test, FA
C. perfringens B. cereus	Counts in Marshall et al.'s (68) TSN-agar at 46 C. Plating on Mossel, Koopman & Jongerius' (98) MYP-agar incubated at 32 C	Plating on LENA at 46 C MiGXyAnNiGelVLec	<u>Mo</u>
Vibrio parahaemolyticus	MPN-enrichment procedure in infusion broth with 2% NaCl and 5 ug/ml tylosin at 37 C	Plating on 2% NaCl saccharose teepol bromo thymol blue tylosin agar of $pH = 9.2$, incubated at 37 C	K10xNiMoStI

¹Where blood is not available, the recommended medium is azide dextrose kanamycin agar (ADKA) ²For the detection of *Arizona* streaking onto brilliant green phenol red sucrose agar (heated for no more than 30 min at 100 C) is recommended and subsequently the series of biochemical tests KlUDKMalDu

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1-5 34

160

								As	sociation			
Class	pH	a W	Processing with microbicidal effect	Examples of commodities	Gram neg Non-ferm. ¹	. rods Ferm.	Catalase pos. cocci	Catalase neg. cocci	Lacto- bacil- laceae	Bacil- laceae	Molds	Yeasts
1	>4.5	>0.95	None	Fresh meats, fish, shell fish, poultry, eggs & egg products	+++	+	+	±	0	0	+	0
2	> 4.5	> 0.95	None	Vegetables	+++	\pm	0	\pm	+	+	+	0
3	> 4.5	< 0.90	None	Cereal grains, pulses	+	+	+	0	+	+	+++	+
4A B	$<\!\!4.5$	> 0.95	None	Fruits Juices	0 $+^2$	土 土	0 0	0 + +	$^{++}_{++}$	0 0	++ ±	+ ++
5	> 4.5	> 0.95	Pasteurisation	Liquid milk	土	±	土	+	+	+	0 ·	0
6	>4.5	c.0.95	Cooking	Cooked sausage, canned large size hams	0	0	±	+	+	+	0	0
7	> 4.5	c.0.95	Baking	Bread, rolls, cakes	0	0	0	0	0	+	++	\pm
8A	> 4.5	< 0.90	None	Dried vegetables, cereals & cocoa;	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0
B C	${}^{>4.5}_{<4.5}$			Marzepan, chocolate fillings Dried fruits	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	± ±	0 0	+ ++	$^{++}_{++}$
9	c.4.5	c.0.96	None	Butter and margarine	0	0	±	土	0	0	+	+
10A	>4.5	>0.95	Appertisation	Meats, vegetables and milk packed in hermetically sealed containers	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0
В	<4.5 ·	>0.95	Appertisation	Fruits and juices packed in hermetically sealed containers	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0

TABLE 4. Spoilage association of the most important classes of staple foods of good quality

Frequency scale used: +++= virtually exclusive and at all times ++= dominant += significant $\pm=$ minor or occasional 0= virtually of no importance in spoilage

¹The Pseudomonas/Acinetobacter/Achromobacter-group, unless otherwise indicated

²Acetobacter

MICROBIOLOGICAL QUALITY CONTROL

161

City

	Table 5a. Legend to tables 3 and 5	M = methyl red test
A	= agglutination with Salmonella polyvalent anti O-	Ma = dissimilation of mannitol (cf. G)
	serum	Mal = assimilation of malonate
ADKA	= azide dextrose kanamycin agar	Malt = dissimilation of maltose (cf. G)
Aes	= dissimilation of aesculin	McC = crystal violet neutral red bile lactose agar (Mac
An	= growth under anaerobic conditions	Conkey, 66)
Ar	= dissimilation of arabinose (cf. G)	Mi = microscopic examination,
Az	= azide tolerance	Mo $=$ motility test in U-tubes
β Gal.	$= \beta$ galactosidase reaction	MP $=$ mannitol peptone agar (Sellers, 128)
BGB	= brilliant green bile broth	MPN = most probable number
BHIS	=~ brain heart infusion broth with 0.1% soluble starch	MYP = mannitol egg yolk polymyxin agar (Mossel, Koop- man & Iongerius, 98)
BiT	= growth in 40% bile broth	Ni — nitrate reduction
BPA	= brilliant green phenol red lactose sucrose agar	Ov — ovidese activity (Kovacs' (59) method)
BYCA	= brain heart infusion egg yolk cystein agar	$P_{\rm respectively}$ = block activity (Rovaes (80) method) $P_{\rm respectively}$ = block activity (Rovaes (80) method)
С	= assimilation of citrate (Simmons' (130) method)	method)
Ca	= catalase activity	Ra = dissimilation of raffinose (cf. G)
Cell	= dissimilation of cellobiose (cf. G)	Sa = dissimilation of saccharose (cf. G)
Co	= coagulase activity	Sal $=$ dissimilation of salicin (cf. G)
D	= lysine decarboxylase activity (Taylor's (139)	So $=$ dissimilation of sorbitol (cf. G)
	method	SS = Salmonella Shigella agar
Du	= dissimilation of dulcitol (cf. G)	STAm = soytone trypticase yeast extract cystein agar (Mos-
Е	= Eijkman's (25) thermotolerance test, in the modi- fication of MacKenzie et al. (67); cf. Guinee	sel et al., 93)
	& Mossel (36)	St $=$ dissimilation of starch (cf. G)
EE	= Enterobacteriaceae enrichment broth (Mossel, Vis-	Su = sulfite reduction in 0.05% Na ₂ SO ₃ /FeSO ₄ -agar
ETCD	ser a Cornenssen, 90)	T = growth at 45 ± 0.1 C
EIGP	Parker, 2)	TCTS = trypan blue crystal violet tellurite sucrose agar (Chapman, 11)
$\mathbf{F}\mathbf{A}$	= fluorescent antibody stain technique	TDYM = tryptone dextrose yeast extract peptonized milk
G	= dissimilation of glucose, studied in stabbed, freshly steamed agar tubes (Mossel & Martin, 86)	agar (Mossel & Krugers Dagneaux, 84)
Gel	 dissimilation of gelatin 	\pm tryptone sum e polymyxin neomych agar (Mar- shall et al., 68)
Gl	 dissimilation of glycerol (cf. G) 	U = hydrolysis of urea (Christensen's (14) method)
I	= formation of indole from tryptophan	V = Voges-Proskauer test for acetylmethylcarbinol
ĸ	= KCN-tolerance (Buttiaux et al.'s (9) method)	VRBG = violet red bile glucose agar (Mossel et al., 88)
KECA	- kanamycin methylene blue azide agar of pH 8.0	XLD = xylose lysine deoxycholate agar (Taylor & Harris,
KI	 – hehaviour in stabled, freshly steamed tubes of 	140)
i î î	Kligler (57) iron agar	Xy = dissimilation of xylose (cf. G)
L	= tolerance of azide $+$ ethyl violet, according to	
	Litsky et al. (65)	the storage test has been in operation for say about
Lac	= dissimilation of lactose (cf. G)	a week. By comparing the counts of such organisms
Lac 10	= oxidation of lactose on 10% lactose slants (135)	in incubated samples with the counts of the same
Lec	= lecithinase activity	refrigeration, a tentative impression of the growth
LENA	= lactose egg yolk neomycin agar (Willis & Hobbs,	of potentially dangerous organisms in the food under
		examination can be obtained. Quite often such an
Lev	= tormation of levan from sucrose	merease in counts indicates madequate shelf life

0

162

CENTRAL INSTITUTE FOR NUTRITION AND FOOD RESEARCH TNO DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY.								
DESC	CRIPTION OF FOOD SAMPLE E	COLUMN NRS.	DATA PROCESS PART	SING				
DATE	OF RECEIPT				01-06			
TYPE	OF FOOD				07 - 08	i		
COMM	MODITY				09 - 35			
MANU	UFACTURER				36 - 40	5		
				11 11		<u> </u>		
CRIT	ERION USED IN	ъ.		WEIGHED				
E	VALUATION	RESULT	SPECIFICATION		11			
NR	DESCRIPTION			DEFICIENCY				
01	TOTAL AEROBIC COUNT				41 - 43		1	
02	AEROBIC SPORE COUNT				44 - 46			
03	TOTAL ANAEROBIC COUNT				47 - 49			
04	GRAM-NEG ROD-SHAPED BACT.				50 - 52			
05	SALMONELLA / ARIZONA				53 — 55			
06	ENTEROBACTERIACEAE				56 — 58			
07	DIFFERENTIAL ENTEROBACTERIOGRAM				59 — 61			
08	CATALASE POS. COCCI				62 - 64			
09	STAPH. AUREUS				65 - 67			
10	LANCEFIELD D STREPTOCOCCI				68 - 70			
11	LACTOBACILLACEAE				71 - 73			
12	SULPHITE-REDUCING CLOSTR.				74 - 76			
13					77 - 79			
14	CL. PERFRINGENS				80 - 82	l		
15	BAC.LEREUS				83 - 85			
16	MUULDSPORES				00 - 68			
10	YEASIS		-	/	89 - 91			
10					92 - 94	l		
	1	l			35 - 9/		L	
	CONCLUSION 98							

Figure 1. Front of card used to collect data on test samples.

very much earlier than organoleptic tests may do. Clearly, the greatest caution has to be exerted in interpreting the course of such counts; on no account should attention be paid to minimal increases in counts, until proper statistical treatment of the data obtained has confirmed these differences to be significant. It is our experience that a significant increase requires at least that counts have doubled and often, i.e. in more heterogeneous materials, even tripled.

In some instances the naturally occurring contamination of rather stable foods is too small or too erratic to serve as a reliable inoculum in such stability tests. Then artificial inoculation of the commodities under study has to be carried out. We have found the following mixed inoculum, at an initial density of approximately 10^2 cells/g of food quite useful: (a) spores of the mold flora of wheat bran; (b) the Lactobacillus flora of meat salads after storage for about one week at 10 C; (c) a pure culture of Saccharomyces rouxii. After suitable period of storage numbers of these organisms are determined again, unless macroscopic signs of spoilage already indicate that proliferation of the inoculum has occurred.

CIVO-TNO G 2601

Prediction of the keeping quality of perishable foods. In general the keeping quality of perishable foods is not assessed directly, but instead quantitative determinations are made of the organisms capable of spoiling the food under study — the so-called spoilage association. From such data the keeping quality can then be estimated (81).

This association depends (a) on the conditions of storage; and (b) on certain properties of the food, viz. those which determine whether or not a given organism will be able to proliferate in it. These properties are primarily the food's water activity and its pH; and the presence of antimicrobial compounds, either naturally occurring ones or those added during processing, such as salt, vinegar, smoke components, and synthetic preservatives. In Table 4 a review of the organisms which play a role in the microbial spoilage of particular foods is presented. In Table 5 the methods which have been found useful for their enumeration have been compiled.

Choice of tests

An important general aspect of final product examination is that the number of tests should be limited as much as possible. This will allow large numbers of samples to be examined, thereby satisfying statistical requirements (133). This also necessitates the use of methods of maximal simplicity and rapidity, which have been carefully standardized so that reliability will not suffer.

In this connection, again, the use of well chosen indicator organisms can be particularly valuable.

Instrumentation and automation

During the last decennium a rising load of examinations entrusted to the laboratory for food microbiology has been observed. This results from an apparently ever-increasing tendency to draft and apply microbiological specifications for food products, both by government agencies and by industry. It is obvious that this increasing demand can only be met in the future if considerable streamlining in laboratory methods is achieved.

In attempting this we have so far refrained from using new instrumental methods of sensing of some sort. Rather we have applied the replication principle, suggested by Corlett et al. (17a). First of all, spread drop counts are made on two rich infusion agars (84, 93) which are then incubated aerobically and anaerobically, respectively. From the aerobic "master plate" a representative choice of colonies is subsequently transferred to the set of media, presented in Table 6. After suitable incubation these plates are read according to the key given in the third column of that table. If required, or in case of doubt, additional tests are carried out. These include: (a) microscopic examination using a Gram stain; (b) simple biochemical tests, such as catalase, oxidase, and coagulase reactions; (c) growth tests on a rich infusion medium at the cardinal temperatures: 43 C for salmonellae, 44 C for E. coli, 45 C for

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CODING				
COL. NRS.	CRITERION	HOW TO CODE		
01-06	DATE OF RECEIPT	YEAR - MONTH - DAY		
07-08	SHELF-STABLE OR OTHER			
09-35	COMMODITY	FREE		
36-40	MANUFACTURER	FREE		
41-97	ENUMERATIONS	1. a x 10 ^b → boa 2. below limit → 999		
41-97	"WEIGHED" DEFICIENCIES	 If found enumeration = Nf and specification = Ns, evaluate Nf/Ns in terms of ≥4,≥40,≥400, etc. and attribute one deficiency to ≥4, two to ≥40, etc. Do not use this method for presence or absence (PA) tests for Salmonella, Arizona, Shigella or Clostridium botulinum. 		
98	CONCLUSION	 Add numbers of deficiencies found under 41-97 and evaluate as <1= excellent; 1= good; 2= fair; 3= slightly deficient: 4= deficient; 5= poor; 6= very poor; 7= extremely poor. If PA for 41-97,2 is +ve, evaluate as: rejected 		

Figure 2. Back of card used to collect data on test samples.

165

TABLE 5. REVIEW OF RECOMMENDED METHODS FOR THE MICROBIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOODS WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO SPOILAGE ASPECTS

Group of organisms sought	Presumptive counting procedure	Confirmation	Completion or identification
Gram-negative, rod shaped bacteria	Plating on Olson's (111) 1 ppm Crystal Violet sugar- free (gelysate/trypticase; <i>vide infra</i>) and incubation at 13 and 32 C	OxGNiKlMo	The necessary biochemical tests, including oxidation of 10% lactose and test for pigment formation on MP
Lactobacillaceae	Counts in Rogosa et al.'s (119) acetate agar at 32 C	Microscopy, Ca	TAesLacMaltSaMaSoCell
Non-Lactobacillaceae	Counts in 0.5% gelysate trypticase agar at 32 C	Microscopy, Ca	If required: biochemical confirmation tests
Aerobic bacterial count	Counts in Mossel & Krugers Dagneaux's (84) TDYM- agar at 32 C ¹ or 13 C when psychrophilic or psychro- trophic organisms have to be enumerated (Mossel & v.d. Moosdijk, 92)		
Aerobic bacterial count	Counts in STAn (Mossel et al. 93) at 32 C		
Bacterial spore counts	Counts in TDYM, or STAn, after heating the suspen- sions for 1 min at 80 C (Mossel, 95)	Microscopy	MPN counts in BHIS at 48 \pm 2 C after heating for 30 min at 110 C
Molds and yeasts	Counts in yeast extract glucose oxytetracyclin agar, ² in- cubated at 22 C (Beech & Carr, 4; Mossel, Visser & Mengerink, 87; Sainclivier & Roblot, 122; Koburger, 58)	Microscopy-but hardly necessary	
Ovolytic organisms	Plating on blood agar base with 0.5% NaCl and 2% egg yolk, and incubation at 32 C	If required: microscopy and furth examination of egg yolk clearing and/o precipitating colonies	er or
Lipolytic organisms	Counts in a thin layer of suitable agar ³ layered over an ap- propriate lipid phase (Eijkman, 24; Tuyenburg Muys & Willemse, 146)	If required: microscopy and furth examination of colonies surrounded l a precipitation zone	er)y
Osmophilic organisms	Counts in 60 wt% fructose-0.5% yeast extract agar (a $_{\rm w}=$ 0.83) at 30 C (Mossel, 79; Mossel & Bax, 97)	If required: microscopy and furth examination of colonies obtained	er

¹If food sample is high in molds add 1000 μ g/ml pimaricin (Mossel & Sand, 100)

²If food sample is high in mold spores which form copious aerial mycelia, add 1:15000 rose bengal (Smith & Dawson, 131)

 3 For bacteria, see aerobic count; for molds and yeasts see molds and yeasts above. If the food sample may contain lipases of non-microbial origin, it is recommended to correct for non-microbial lipase activity by spreading 0.1 ml of the 1:10 dilution on to plates containing oxytetracylin pimaricin agar plus the standard fat layer (Mossel & Sand, 100)

TABLE 6. REPLICATION PROCEDURES RECOMMENDED FOR THE TENTATIVE TAXONOMIC GROUPING OF COLONIES, OBTAINED ON PRIMARY PLATES OF AEROBIC, GENERAL PURPOSE AGAR

	Conditions of rep	lication subculture	ulture				
	Medium used		Incubation	8	Taxonomia group pro-		Further tests to be carried
Seria nr.	l Description	Temp. °C	Time hr	pO_2	dominantly selected by culture conditions	Colony type to be looked for	out with such colonies
012	Sugar-free agar with 0.5% NaCl and 1 ppm crystal violet	22-25	48	aer.	All Gram-negative, rod- shaped bacteria	Non pin-point colonies	Gram stain
02	Violet red bile glucose agar (88)	35-37	18-20	anaer.	Enterobacteriaceae and Aeromonadaceae	Colonies surrounded by purple halo of precipitate	Oxidase reaction Mode of attack on glucose
03	Chapman's mannitol 7.5% NaCl agar (151)	30-32	48	aer.	Catalase positive cocci	Regular, smooth, creamy colonies	Gram stain Catalase reaction
04	Baird-Parker's tellu- rite egg yolk pyruvate agar (2)	35-37	28-30	aer.	S. aureus	Anthracite black, smooth colonies, surrounded by a clear zone	Coagulase reaction
053	Azide methylene blue $10 \mu g/ml$ kanamycin agar of pH = 8	35-37	48	anaer.	Lancefield group D streptococci	Small, regular, smooth colonies, bluish or white	Gram stain of broth culture Catalase reaction Growth at 45 ± 0.1 C
06	Rogosa et al.'s acetate agar of $pH = 5.8$ (119)	30-32	48-72	anaer.	Lactobacilliaceae	Rather small, re- gular colonies	Gram stain Catalase reaction
072	Infusion agar with $10 \mu g/ml$ polymyxin B sulphate	30-32	18-20	aer.	Bacillaceae	Irregular, dull, flat colonies	Gram stain
08	Glucose infusion agar	30-32	28-30	aer.	None-but so far the only means of obtaining <i>Corynebacterium</i> , <i>Arthro-</i> <i>bacter</i> , etc.	Other than those of cocci or Bacilla- ceae; vide supra	Gram stain
09	Oxytetracylin glucose yeast extract agar (87)	22-25	48-72	aer.	Molds, yeasts, resp.	Myčelial, resp. regu- lar and glistening colonies	Alkaline methylene blue stain

¹Trypticase glucose yeast extract peptonized milk agar (84), with Tween 80 (bacteriological grade) and Mg++, Mn++ and Fe++ added.

²Media, developed for this purpose.

³Only to be used if a considerable fraction of replicated colonies will not develop on media 01-07 and 09.

166

Lancefield group D streptococci, and 46 C for C. *perfringens;* and (d) assays for tolerance of the classical selective inhibitors at the usual concentrations, e.g. azide, crystal violet, tellurite, etc.

All these tests can be carried out in large series which lend themselves to instrumentation. Similar, though somewhat modified tests are applied to the anaerobic "master plate."

In addition we have started a system of coding, storing, and retrieving the data obtained in this way. The front and back sides of cards found useful for this purpose are presented in Fig. 1 and 2.

Necessity of standards for finished products

It is a fruitless procedure to make these finished product examinations without having standards available against which the results obtained can be evaluated. Hence an essential part of microbiological quality control is the drafting of specifications.

The general principles of drafting standards have been presented in the third section of this paper. The numerical details of such an endeavor are the following. A representative number of samples of the commodity under study is taken from production lines previously checked for the absence of any technological and microbiological deficiencies. These samples are examined for the criteria for which standards have to be set up, in view of the health or spoilage record of the food under study. A tentative standard is then the figure met by over 90 or 95% of the samples subjected to this microbiological evaluation (137).

In finished product specifications, the time-temperature combination to which samples are to be exposed prior to testing also merits careful consideration. Preserved foods must obviously tolerate extensive periods of storage at temperatures up to 30-45 C, depending on their destination. But also with semi-preserved or even highly perishable foods, it is useful to store samples for some time at a suitable temperature before microbiological examination is carried out, with the purpose of being able to anticipate the bacteriological condition of the commodity as it reaches the consumer, in addition to checking the microbiological quality at the end of the manufacturing line.

RETROSPECTIVE EXAMINATIONS

There is a third and last aspect of microbiological quality control that should be mentioned. The author suggests that it be called retrospective microbiological quality control. It consists of microbiological examination of samples of consignments that have been returned to the manufacturer because of complaints, whether because of lack of microbiological stability, or because pathogenic or indicator organisms have been detected at a level not acceptable to importing countries or buyers. The examination of such products should not be considered a nuisance, but should rather be looked upon as providing a valuable source of additional information on what may happen to the food under practical conditions.

When examining sub-standard samples, the package should firstly be examined very carefully for leakage (69). In addition, microbiological data on the contents can often be of considerable help in establishing the causes of the trouble. This was, for instance, our experience when charged with the bacteriological examination of canned meats of the solid pack type following the Aberdeen typhoid fever outbreak, allegedly caused by contaminated corned beef (46, 75). To test for potential sub-standard quality Most Probable Number (MPN) counts were made of Enterobacteriaceae and catalase-positive cocci in the material taken from the center and from the peripheral areas of the packs. A comparison of such sets of counts enabled us to estimate whether postprocess recontamination of the commodity had occurred or not.

Particularly in the examination of foods preserved by other means than by heat, or not by thermal treatment exclusively, the antimicrobial parameters of the product (pH, a_ and concentration of natural or added inhibitory substances) should be checked, in order to assess whether the product might have been insufficiently preserved.

When the cause of the complaint is not detected by any of these types of examination, the microflora has to be studied in more detail. For this purpose, the methods summarized in Tables 3 and 5 can be used. When this is done in extensively spoiled samples, however, the counts found may not correspond to the amount of deterioration detected by organoleptic methods. This results from what is often called autosterilization, i.e. spontaneous dying off of part of the microflora, because of antimicrobial conditions created in the food by the initial microbial proliferation. In this event, a quantitative microscopical examination can first be attempted (20, 85).

In some instances, a large fraction of the microbial cells has lysed subsequent to death and microscopical examination does not then reveal significant abnormalities. It is our experience that a chemical search for specific microbial metabolites may then often yield the information required (82). When foods packed in hermetically sealed containers are examined, analysis of the gases found in the headspace (CO₂, H₂, and sometimes CH₄) may provide this answer (110). Generally, quantitative determination of other metabolites such as volatile aliphatic acids, lactic acid, succinic acid, acetyl methyl carbinol, and nitrogenous substances like histamine or aliphatic amines, may give useful indications of the type of spoilage that has occurred (123). Very illustrative in this respect was an "epidemic" of spoilage in salad cream and egg nog which we studied recently. In both instances *Lactobacillaceae* appeared to be the cause of the spoilage phenomena. Only rather low viable or microscopic counts of these bacteria were found in some samples; but determination of the lactic acid content definitely established the etiological role of *Lactobacillaceae* in these instances too.

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THE BIGGEST PROBLEM IN FOOD HYGIENE-PEOPLE

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Abstract

The importance of the behavior of the people who are involved in food handling is emphasized. It is through their behavior that potential health hazards are avoided and acceptable standards of cleanliness are maintained. Education is seen as the key to the modification of or the change of behavior. Food handler's training courses "as usually given" are criticized and suggestions are offered for improving the courses. The place of the sanitarian in these programs is reviewed. While health departments have usually conducted the training programs, there are certain disadvantages involved. Perhaps the responsibility in this area should rest with the food industry.

The late J. L. Pomeroy is quoted as saying, "It isn't the hazard of 10 waitresses contaminating the glassware that serves 1,000 people that is the matter for concern. It is the 1,000 persons whom the waitresses have served; there is the real danger" (1). The potential for food-borne disease is very great. The actual amount of illness that is transmitted through food is not known, but The Gross Report conservatively estimates that one million cases of food poisoning occur annually in the United States (21). The million cases would not, of course, include foodborne illnesses, not classified as food poisoning, which I believe are more prevalent than generally thought to be. If a food serves as a vehicle for food poisoning, then obviously this food is also capable of carrying other diseases, because of its exposure to contamination and favorable environmental conditions. These other diseases may include those caused by the enteric viruses such as infectious hepatitis, poliomyelitis and others, some higher fungi (molds), protozoa such as Endameba hystolytica, various of the nematodes and helmenthic ova, as well as the bacterial agents both enteric, e.g. Salmonella typhimurium and the recently discovered Vibrio parahemolyticus (Sakazakia, 1963) and the respiratory group such as the hemolytic streptococci (13). Most disease agents get into food because of things done or things not done by persons responsible for some phase of food production, transportation, processing, preparation, storage, or serving.

In food sanitation programs, the traditional role of communicable disease prevention is still valid. Because the spectacular outbreaks of typhoid fever, scarlet fever, and diptheria have been eliminated, this aspect has been given, in my opinion, less importance than it deserves. It may well be, however, that even that attention which has been paid to the control of food-borne disease has been misdirected. Perhaps we should have noted with more care the words of C. V. Chapin when he commented on the conquest of acute infectious diseases in 1934.

"We have learned the true nature of infection and we have learned that the parasites which are its essence rarely propagate in filth and are seldom air-borne. We have, in the language of a distinguished American hygienist, been to a large extent 'barking up the wrong tree.' Instead of indiscriminate attack on dirt, we must learn the nature and mode of transmission of each infection, and discover its most vulnerable point of attack. Some of the most recent works on sanitation still reiterate the time-worn phrase about dirt and disease. The daily press, and even the medical press, speaks as if street cleaning, scavenging, modern plumbing, and tenement house reform were the mainstay in fighting infection and reducing the death rate. The majority of even intelligent people today believe that Havana was made healthy by municipal engineering, while it was really accomplished by scientific effort specifically directed against infections. Our medical schools are also doubtless at fault, for many of even our younger physicians look for the source of malaria, typhoid fever, and diptheria in 'unsanitary conditions' by which they usually mean defective plumbing, decaying vegetation, heaps of stable manure, or general yard rubbish. The great problem of sanitation today is how to deal with mild or recognized cases of contagious disease and with those persons who, though well, are yet infected. This problem is not likely to be solved so long as physicians trace infection to the class of things mentioned instead of to persons" (5).

To what extent have we, that is the sanitarians and the public health engineers, been "barking up the wrong tree?" Looking back to the 1943 U. S. Public Health Service *Recommended Ordinance and Code for Eating and Drinking Establishments*, we find its main emphasis was on physical elements of the environment. For example, things that could be measured: cleanability of surfaces (smoothness), foot candles, and face-velocity of air to check ventilation via hoods; not to mention the hoods themselves and the three-compartment sink. At least, if the ordinance itself did not stress "things", those who were undertaking the control of food-borne disease under the ordinance stressed "things." Sanitarians came to be known as the "floors, walls, and ceilings men." Physical things are important, but they are, I believe, considerably less important than people in the prevention of food-borne illness. The 1962 revision of the U. S. Public Health Service model ordinance has listed the sanitation items in a different order with "floors, walls and ceilings" listed in the last section F, and from the last place on the 1943 list "personnel" has moved up to section C, which is a step in the right direction (20).

CHANGES IN FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Food handlers are also the critical factor in what Lemaul Shattuck, in 1850, suggested was very important to the welfare of the population; the prevention of the intentional or unintentional addition of harmful substances to food (15). The revolution in food technology since Shattuck's time has increased a thousandfold the possibility of harmful food additives reaching large numbers of people from even one mistake. Pesticides, herbicides, and animal feed additives are examples of substances that may reach the consumer in his food (from the producer). Whenever food-stuff is processed chemical substances may be a hazard as well as disease transmission in the traditional sense. One figure that indicates the increase in the processing of food is this from the frozen food industry: the frozen food output in the U. S. in 1942 was 647.5 million pounds. In 1959 the total had risen to 6,565 million pounds (13). Practically all of the food which is consumed today in the United States has been handled by many people before it reaches the consumer. In the U.S. 78 million meals were eaten away from home each day of 1962 (19). This figure would likely be higher for 1968. The problem of the control of potential hazards in food is great and becoming greater, and methods of coping with the problem must also expand.

FOOD HANDLER'S NEED ATTENTION

I think the problem of people involved in food handling has not been given adequate attention in part because it is considerably more difficult to deal with the human element than it is to engineer and to measure (with a meter or tape that is). There have been some attempts to meet the "people-problem" in food hygiene, but often without remarkable success. One of the earliest attempts was the food handler's HEALTH CARD which was required by law and was renewed annually after a physical examination. This examination usually consisted of a chest x-ray, a Wasserman Test, and sometimes a stool examination. I believe that health cards on this basis are now generally recognized for what they are; case-finding techniques perhaps, but not valid parts of a food hygiene program. Tuberculosis and syphilis are seldom transmitted through food! Even if they were, a worker could manage to have the disease and a valid "Health Card" for about 11 months of each year. The card system had some value in that it made the food worker known to the health department and vice versa.

TRAINING OF FOOD HANDLERS

A second and more meaningful program aimed at the human element is the training of food handlers in food hygiene. The military, during World War II, developed short course training programs for their food service workers. Following the war, several state health departments and many local health departments undertook to give food handler's training. The mark of a progressive sanitation division was whether or not it conducted a food handler's training course as part of its food sanitation program. California State Health Department published a guide for conducting a food sanitation class in 1950 and a revised edition in 1956. Three communities in California, according to the above reference, have compulsory food handler's courses for all food workers in their jurisdictions, and over the years many courses have been held on a more or less voluntary attendance basis. The California guide mentions studies done in 1950 and 1951 to determine the effectiveness of food sanitation training programs. The results, they say, "indicated that the training of restaurant personnel does produce a recognizable improvement (4). There was a survey evaluation done in a community in Massachusetts where the rating score rose from 20.8% in 2 years time to 79.6% (1944-1946), (8). At the time of the first rating, the community had no food sanitation program at all, and during the interval between ratings they developed a fairly complete program which included food handler's training. I do not think that there have been any really valid evaluation of these training courses. However, there is a growing concern that the courses as given are not meeting the problem.

ARE COURSES ADEQUATE?

If they are not, we should not be surprised. The key phrase is "as usually given." As usually given, the course is between 6 and 10 hr of instruction given in 3 to 5 sessions. These sessions are broadly laced with 16 mm films that were made 15 to 20 years ago and are not very topical. The "students" are usually coerced to attend either by their employer, or more likely the health department, after a full shift of work. Those instructing the classes are handicapped by too little time in the course to do more than generalize, by having pressure of other work, and often by having no special training or aptitude for teaching adults. A critical review of the course content is beyond the scope of this paper, but one comment is appropriate. The California guide suggests seven subjects: Bacteria and Disease, Personal Hygiene and Food Service, Food Protection, Dishwashing, Good Housekeeping, Rodent and Insect Control, and Laws and Inspections (4). These subject areas are quite standard as they appear in almost every course outline. These may well be proper subjects, but are they all equally important as is usually implied and each worth only an hour? Another major weakness of the courses as they are usually given is that they seldom involve the operators and the managers. Without the "boss" giving visible moral support, without him knowing what the food worker knows, without any planned followup of instruction, change in behavior of the "trainee" is quite unlikely or at least haphazard.

Are food handler's training courses to be abandoned along with the x-rays and the Wassermans? There does not seem to be any plausible alternative way to change behavior except through education. Coercion works as long as "the gun is at the back," but lasting change is only with a change of will. It is probably in this that the food handler's courses have fallen short. It is not the failure of education per se, but rather a failure to educate.

We know that everybody does not hold health in the same high regard that we health workers do, and yet we assume that food handlers will readily accept our value judgement and will forthwith change their behavior accordingly. Perhaps this doesn't happen. There is not space to expound on this important area, but it surely must be a factor in the evaluation of any training program.

Education is a process which occurs to and within people. Education must include change; a change of attitude which leads to a change of behavior (9). Very often, I think, we equate knowledge with education. One educator has said, "(it) . . . is a gross over-simplification to assume that knowledge is sufficient to change behavior (this) is very naive" (7). Knowledge or ignorance is only one factor. Other factors are the value orientations and the habits and customs of the people seeking education. Habits and customs arise because these ways of behavior fulfill some need the individual has. These may persist because they continue to fill a need or because the ways have become expected or routine. I suspect that a large part of the food handler's activity and behavior is routine and habitual.

Food handler's are not a special breed of people with a special culture and a special set of values.

They are a fair cross section of the general population; and, I would suspect, just about as varied. They do, of course have special skills and knowledge which is relevant to food handling; some of which pertains to food hygiene. Training programs should not only take the special knowledge of the food handler into consideration, but should utilize it to the fullest extent in developing curriculum and teaching methods.

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THE TEACHER'S RESPONSIBILITY

I believe there is truth in the old saw that if the student hasn't learned, the teacher hasn't taught. This puts a great obligation on the teacher, especially if he is teaching adults. It is a risky thing for an instructor to lay down all the rules and answers. No matter how acceptable these may be to him, his adult students may not accept them. "It indicates a subtle lack of respect for other persons-for their ability to cope, for their values . . . even if he (the tutor) is right and he very well may be (6)." Exploring for solutions with the students is a reasonable way to gain student acceptance of the concepts developed. Thus the instructor may go step by step with the students in the development of the theme, improved food hygiene practice. This method would surely require more time than the 6 to 10 hr allowed. It would also require a competence that most sanitarians do not now have but could certainly acquire. The instructor must have a depth of knowledge about the actual food preparation or processing in the industry; he must have a proper perspective of the health hazards and the aesthetics involved; and, perhaps this is the most important, he must be an able teacher of adults. I think this area presents a real challenge to the sanitarian. The sanitarians are, more than any other group, in a unique position to fill this need.

CRITICAL EVALUATION OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

If health departments are going to continue to give food handler's training coures, the methods and techniques by which this training is to be accomplished must be looked at more critically than we have in the past. But perhaps the health department is not the best organization to conduct food handler's training. The health department has several disadvantages. There is a stigma of police power and legal enforcement attached to most environmental health divisions. Those instructing often lack in background or aptitude in teaching, and are not well enough versed with the food industry. One of the most serious disadvantages is that the health department is seldom in a position to follow-up the training in the on-the-job practical application. Health agencies also offer some advantages. They usually have some status or prestige in the community which adds luster to the course. Personnel of the health department have a wide range of specialities from which talent can be drawn.

An alternative to health department operated courses which is gaining acceptance is to place the responsibility for employee training in food hygiene squarely with the employers, i.e., industry. It is likely that industry will do more of this training. It is good business for a restaurant or a food industry to maintain high standards, and it is recognized by many that personnel performance is a key factor (2, 17, 18). A third possibility is that educational institutions could operate courses on a fee basis with the individual or industry paying the bill.

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INFLUENCE OF 32 AND 37 C INCUBATION TEMPERATURES ON COUNTS OF COLIFORM BACTERIA OF MILK

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Abstract

Samples of raw and pasteurized milk were plated in desoxycholate lactose agar and incubated at 32 C \pm 1.0 and 37 C \pm 1.0 for enumeration of coliform bacteria. The lower temperature produced counts comparable to those at 37 C. Pasteurized samples yielded coliform-type bacteria which had 5 different IMViC test patterns, wheras 6 patterns were found among the isolates from raw milk. The most predominant pattern was - + + + and existed among 33% of the isolates.

This study was designed to determine if incubation temperatures of 32 or 37 C were selective toward any particular type or types of coliform organisms (as characterized by the IMViC test) and whether more organisms could be recovered from raw or pasteurized milk using either incubation temperature. *Standard Methods* (1) now requires the use of 32 C.

The literature is somewhat confusing in respect to the optimum incubation temperature for coliform bacteria. Boniece and Mallman (3) reported the optimum growth temperature for Escherichia coli and Aerobacter aerogenes as in the range of 37 to 39 C and the most favorable incubation temperature for the entire coliform group as 35 C. Murry (8) found that more colonies grew on Mac Conkey's agar at 30 than at 37 C when raw and pasteurized milks were examined. However, after examining 416 samples of milk, Lawton (7) found no significant difference in the number of coliform colonies yielded at 32 and 35 C. Thomas, et al., (9) isolated bacteria of the coli-aerogenes group from 825 samples at 30 C and from 735 at 37 C. They concluded that 30 C is more selective for Aerobacter and Klebsiella species whereas 37 C is more selective for E. coli.

Geldreich, et al. (5) indicate that there are 12 common coliform IMViC types of which 1 and 2 are *E. coli* and are of fecal origin. These are designated + + - - and - + - -, respectively, in the IMViC series. The Eijkman test for production of acid and gas in MacConkey's broth at 44 C is used for detecting *E. coli* type 1 which reacts + + - - to the IMViC series (2, 6).

Results of previous research attempts may have been influenced by the type of sample selected. Some workers examined water (3, 9) whereas others used milk (7, 8).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Samples

Samples of Grade A raw milk were collected at the pasteurization plant or the producing farm. Samples origninated from the University of Missouri Holstein-Jersey and Foremost Guernsey herds, bulk delieveries from Kansas City, Missouri and from selected farms in the Columbia, Missouri milkshed.

Pasteurized milk samples were taken from University cafeteria dispensers and from retail stores. Samples were held at 4 C and plated within 8 hr of collection. *Examination of raw and pasteurized samples*

Platings, in accordance with Standard Methods for the Examination of Dairy Products (1), were made at 1:1 and 1:10 dilutions in duplicate using desoxycholate lactose med-

ium. One set of plates was placed at each test temperature. After counting, typical colonies were picked from plates

incubated at both temperatures for 17 samples of pasteurized milk and 26 samples of raw milk. Colonies were placed in lactose broth and incubated at the temperature at which they grew. Tubes were examined for gas production after 24 hr. Cultures in tubes showing no gas were discarded. Cultures of Gram-negative bacilli from tubes showing gas production were subjected to the series of IMViC tests (2). Study of six isolated strains

Two sets of lactose broth tubes were inoculated with each of six strains which represented the different IMViC reaction patterns observed. One set was incubated at 32 C and the other at 37 C for 24 hr. These were then plated in desoxycholate lactose agar at dilutions to produce 15 to 150 colonies per plate and incubated for 24 hr at the temperature of previous incubation.

To eliminate the possibility that temperature of culturing in the broth might have influenced the counts in the previous experiment, each of the six strains was inoculated into a single tube of lactose broth and incubated 24 hr at 37 C before plating and incubating at the two test temperatures.

Counts from each of these experiments were converted to logarithms, and tests were performed to determine whether there were statistically significant differences between the means (4).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Pasteurized milk

¹Contribution from the University of Missouri Experiment Station. Journal Series Number 5562. Coliform count comparisons were made on 190 samples of pasteurized milk. A distribution of counts

is shown in Table 1. No colonies grew at either temperature on plates made from 48 samples. Colonies were more numerous for 62 samples incubated at 32 C and for 52 samples incubated at 37 C. Counts were equal for 28 samples. Logarithmic mean counts differed by only .0014 in favor of the 32 C temperature. Samples which produced no growth were not included in the average. These data indicate that the lower temperature is at least as satisfactory as the higher from the standpoint of numbers of coliforms detected.

Table 1. Distribution of coliform counts of pasteurized milk samples incubated at 32 C and 37 C

	Number of samples within class				
Coliforms/ml	at 32 C	at 37 C			
Less than 1	68	67			
1 to 10	97	101			
11 to 100	22	19			
More than 100	3	3			
ж	190	190			

Twelve coliform types were cited by Geldreich, et al. (5), and five of these types were isolated from the pasteurized samples (Table 2). The IMViC reactions were + + - -, - + - -, - - + +, -+ + +, and - + - +. These were found among 34 isolates equally divided between the two temperatures, one colony having been picked from each of 17 pairs of plates. Three cultures produced no gas, two from 32 C and one from 37 C plates.

TABLE 2. COLIFORM/ML OF PASTEURIZED MILK AND TYPES ISOLATED FROM PLATES INCUBATED AT 32 C AND 37 C.

Sample	Coliforms/ml	IMViC Reaction	Coliforms/ml	IMViC Reaction
	(32 C)		(37 C)	
1	3	- + + +	3	- + - +
2	11	- + + +	9	- + - +
3	21	- + + +	15	+ +
4	5	- + + +	9	+ +
5	23	- + + +	20	- + + +
6	136	- + + +	104	- + + +
7	9	- + + +	9	- + + +
8	20	- + + +	14	- + - +
9	30	- + + +	26	+ +
10	11	+'+	14	+ +
11	7	+ +	1	+ +
12	3	+ +	3	+ +
13	13	+ +	19	- + - +
14	3	+ +	2	+
.15	2	- +	1	- +
16	1	۵	2	+ +
17	2	۰	2	¢

"No gas produced in lactose broth; therefore, no IMViC test made.

Table 3. Distribution and means of coliform counts of raw milk samples incubated at 32 C and 37 C.

Coliforms/ml	Number of Samples	Mean Counts at 32 C	Mean Counts at 37 C	
Less than 10	26	o	٥	
10 to 100	59	30	32	
110 to 1000	21	434	439	
More than 1000	7	4380	3400	

*Not applicable

Seven pairs of plates produced organisms with the same IMViC reactions. However, nine were not the same. The type predominating reacted - + + + to the test series. There were 11 of these cultured. Three *E. coli* cultures were picked from 32 C plates and five from 37 C plates.

Raw milk

Coliform count comparisons were made on 113 samples of raw milk. No colonies grew at either temperature on plates of 1:10 dilutions of 26 samples. The 32 C temperature produced 37 higher counts, whereas 30 were higher when plates were incubated at 37 C. Counts were equal for 46 samples. The arithmetic mean counts shown in Table 3 were essentially the same for the two temperatures with the exception of the "more than 1,000" classification. However, these means were greatly influenced by two extremely high counts at 32 C. These data verify those from the pasteurized milk experiment with respect to the positive suitability of 32 C incubation.

It is interesting that 75% of the raw samples produced coliform counts of 100 or less per milliliter.

Six of the 12 coliform types, previously mentioned, were isolated from 52 colonies picked from duplicate plates of raw milk held at the two temperatures (Table 4). Five of these were the same types as isolated from the pasteurized samples. The additional type reacted + + - + to the IMViC test. Thirty-two isolates gave the IMViC reaction of - + ++. The same strain predominated in the pasteurized samples.

Twice as many isolates from raw milk grown at 32 C failed to produce gas as those grown at 37 C, 6 vs. 3. However, the numbers are probably too small to imply significance. Logarithmic mean counts differed only by 0.1048 in favor of the lower temperature.

Study of six isolated strains

When the strains representing the 6 IMViC test patterns were grown out at 32 C and 37 C in lactose broth, five of the six produced higher counts at the lower temperature. However, the average arithmetic mean difference was only 7 colonies per plate at dilutions which produced 15 to 150 colonies per TABLE 4. COLIFORMS/ML OF RAW MILK AND TYPES ISOLATED FROM PLATES INCUBATED AT 32 C AND 37 C.

5	Sample	Coliforms/ml	IMViC Reaction	Coliforms/ml	IMViC Reaction
		(32 C)		(37 C)	
	1	70	- + + +	70	+ +
	2	70	- + + +	60	- + + +
	. 3	90	- + + +	40	- + + +
	4	40	- + + +	30	- + + +
	5	670	- + + +	860	- + + + +
	6	66	- + + +	50	- + + +
	7	70	- + + +	70	- + + +
	8	2560	- + + +	2624	۵
	9	500	- + + +	500	- + + +
	10	126	-+++	32	- + + +
	11	38	- + + +	40	- + + +
	12	3	- + + +	3	- + + +
	13	50	- + + +	52	+ +
	14	11	- + + +	10	+ +
	15	5688	- + + +	5000	- + + +
	16	6312	- + + +	7232	- + + +
	17	49	+ +	45	- + + +
	18	20	- + - +	10	+ +
	19	10	+ +	0	* *
	20	1	+ + - +	0	**
	21	9	٥	9	- + + +
	22	10	o	10	- + + +
	23	364	٥	532	- + + +
	24	2	٥	1	- + + -
	25	2015	¢	2275	٥
	26	6500	٥	2340	۵

"No gas produced in lactose broth; therefore, no IMViC test made.

**No test possible.

plate, and logarithmic expression of the counts produced an average difference of only 0.088. A "t" test for differences between the logarithmic means failed to show a significant difference between the counts obtained by the two methods.

When the same six strains were grown out in lactose broth at 37 C, plated in duplicate and incubated at both 32 C and 37 C, four of the six strains produced more colonies at 32 C. Again, the mean differences were small (arithmetic mean difference = 7; logarithmic mean difference = 0.082), and the "t" test for difference between the logarithmic means failed to show significance.

These results indicate that incubation at 32 C produces counts of coliform bacteria from milk which are at least as high as those produced when 37 C is used. Only 6 of 12 common types (as determined by IMViC reaction) were tested, but both *E. coli* (14% of isolates) and *A. aerogenes* (7% of isolates) were included. The isolate most frequently encountered (IMViC reaction - + + +) was present in at least 33% of the samples.

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ALIGNMENT OF INDUSTRY-ORIENTED SANITATION PROGRAM

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Everyone will agree that there are many ways to set up an effective industry sanitation program. Therefore, I will briefly mention some of these ways, and then take a detailed look at our program. It should be pointed out from the beginning that no matter what program is followed, sanitation in a plant remains the responsibility of management. The active interest, desire, and support of top management Without this support, the sanitation is essential. program is destined to fail. A plant manager can assume the sanitation responsibility, and take complete charge of the program, or he can delegate the sanitation responsibility: (a) to the engineering division, where the Plant Engineer is given complete charge of the sanitation program, (b) to the Production Department, where the Production Superintendent is given complete charge of the sanitation program, (c) to the Sanitation Department where the Plant Sanitarian, as a department head, is given complete charge of the sanitation program, or (d) to an outside sanitation "service."

MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

The management support for our sanitation program starts at the general office level, with a general office sanitation committee. The President of the company is the chairman of the committee, and the Director of Sanitation is co-chairman. Every general office department head is an active member of this committee. This same basic organization pattern is followed for the regional and plant sanitation committes.

The general office sanitation committee's function is to establish company sanitation policy, provide direction and check performance. Through the Director of Sanitation's office, the basic program is carried forward to the plants through the assistance of the field Sanitation Supervisors. In addition, each department head works through his regional counterpart on common sanitation problems. The regional sanitation committee's function is to set up a sound regional follow-up program for sanitation, to ensure that all plants in the region are maintained at the highest level of *continuous sanitation* by following established company policy. The plant committee's

function is to carry out the sanitation program as established by company policy, and maintain the plant at the highest level of *continuous sanitation*.

PLANT SANITARIAN

In all of our plants, the responsibility of sanitation is delegated to a Plant Sanitarian who, as department head, works directly for, and answers to, the Plant Manager. I refer to our plant sanitation program as *continuous* sanitation. By this we mean the continuous preservation of clean surroundings, created by the subconscious natural or instilled quality within the individual, which demands orderliness and cleanliness.

THE SANITATION PROGRAM

The first step in our sanitation program begins with an orientation program for all new employees, which consists of a meeting with each department head. During the meeting with the Plant Sanitarian, our sanitation program is reviewed, the importance of personal cleanliness and sanitary working habits is outlined, and each individual's contribution to the sanitation effort, and the importance of cooperation from all employees, is stressed.

The next step in our sanitation program is training. Basically, this consists of on-the-job training and home study, through the use of a series of sanitation bulletins. This program is followed in training Sanitarians and Sanitors, and with slight modifications is used to give sanitation training to Managers, Sales Managers, Superintendents, Engineers and other supervisors. Visual aids, such as film strips, hand-out flyers, and bulletin board posters are also used to impart sanitation training to the rank and file. I briefly mentioned earlier, that each plant has a sanitation committee. This committee consists of each plant department head.

A brief description of the way each department cooperates to maintain a clean and orderly bakery follows: (a) the Manager gives the sanitation program proper backing, and allows sufficient budget, (b) the Sanitarian organizes and gives direction and guidance, and follows through on all sanitation activities in the plant, (c) the Shop Superintendents develop and instill clean working conditions and personal habits in their people, (d) the Plant Engineer installs sanitation aids, and maintains the physical condition

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of the equipment and buildings, (e) the Garage Superintendent maintains clean trucks, both inside and out, and a clean and orderly shop, (f) the Sales Supervisors instruct salesmen in truck, garage, personal, and sales room cleanliness, (g) the Office Manager instructs his people in clean work and personal habits regarding lunch room, locker rooms, and storage rooms; he also helps the sanitarian with proper accounting in order to control costs, (h) the Receiving Clerk inspects incoming ingredients and maintains proper storage and rotation of all stock, (i) the Personnel Manager recruits qualified personnel, and assists in our training program, and (j) the Shipping Room Supervisor instructs his people in clean working habits, and maintains a shipping schedule to minimize congestion in the plant.

INSPECTION

The committee holds a weekly meeting, after making a joint brief inspection of a preassigned area of the plant. Each individual makes notes of his inspection, and these notes are summarized for followup by the department head responsible. The plant is divided into 7 areas, so that the entire plant is covered every 2 months. On the eighth week, these inspections are reviewed and the plant sanitation committee makes a sanitation rating of the plant. The rating system used is similar to that used by the American Institute of Baking (AIB), in their inspection of our plants. These inspections will be discussed in more detail later. We feel that the committee meetings improve the cooperation between departments, and further trains the supervisors by making them aware of problems in other departments. As mentioned earlier, the responsibility for sanitation in our plants is delegated to the Plant Sanitarian. Rather than discuss in detail the many duties of the sanitarian, I will limit my comments to the key points of the program. I briefly mentioned the inspections made by the plant sanitation committee. Other inspections made by the sanitarian include a daily eye-level inspection of the entire plant. Infractions noted on this inspection are listed in the sanitarian's daily log.

This report is used by the sanitarian to keep the manager informed of the every day conditions during their daily contact period. In addition to the plant sanitation committee's inspection, and the daily eyelevel inspection, the sanitarian also makes a daily comprehensive inspection of an area of the plant. In this way, he is acting as a "resident" AIB inspector, thoroughly inspecting the entire plant every two months. The infractions noted on these inspections are recorded, and the respective department heads are informed for proper follow-up. These infractions are also used by the plant sanitation committee in

assigning the sanitation rating for the plant for the respective two month period.

The rating system is an arbitrary method of expressing the sanitation level existing within a plant # (superior-900 to 1000 points, excellent-800 to 899, satisfactory-725 to 799, passable-650 to 724, unsatisfactory-below 650). The rating is determined by appraising 5 sanitation categories, each of which has equal weight of 200 points. (Sanitation categories: (a) adequacy of sanitation program, 200 points; (b) pest control, 200 points; (c) operational methods and personnel practices, 200 points; (d) maintenance for sanitation, 200 points; and (e) cleaning methods, 200 points). It has been our experience that the infractions noted in these inspections generally follow a 5%, 5%, 30%, 30%, and 30% pattern, respectively, for these categories. The infractions noted, and their severity, take away from the numerical score for that category. The plant rating is determined by using the total point score of all categories.

If a situation exists where there is a serious breakdown in the sanitation program, whereby the finished product is likely to become contaminated, the plant may be assigned an unsatisfactory rating. If this should happen during an AIB inspection, a "reinspection" of the plant is made generally within 90 days.

The basic rating system is followed by the AIB field sanitarians that inspect our plants. I might add that the AIB inspections are an integral part of our sanitation program, and these unannounced inspections are made more or less on a yearly basis. These inspections give us an independent unbiased audit of the plant's sanitation, and they provide us with the information to determine if the individual plant's program is in compliance with company standards. The AIB inspection also serves as an educational opportunity for the plant personnel to take advantage of the field sanitarians' experience and training in finding practical answers to existing problems, and advise regarding potential problems.

The reports of each plant's AIB inspections are sent to the general office. Each report is reviewed by the Director of Sanitation, who makes appropriate comments, and forwards his comments (with copies of this report) to the regional Vice-President, then forwards copies of the inspection to the Plant Manager, asking him to make a detailed report, within 30 days, of the corrective action taken on each item as listed to the Director of Sanitation. As the AIB reports are circulated to members of the general office sanitation committee, the various department heads work through their regional counterparts on problems in their area of responsibility.

Other inspections of our plants are conducted by the Food and Drug Administration, military, state, and local authorities. The sanitarian must be thoroughly familiar with company policy regarding these inspections, and he is one of the key people who must accompany these inspectors in our plants.

LABOR COSTS IN SANITATION

Since labor represents approximately 95% of the sanitation costs, it is imperative for the sanitarian to maintain maximum control of his labor costs. This control can be accomplished through proper scheduling of each sanitor's work routine, both "daily" and "periodically." The daily work schedule is a station or area schedule which is posted in the area where the man works. This schedule includes the working hours, work to be done, and the method of cleaning.

A sanitor's duties, other than daily or periodical work, is assigned from the items noted during the various inspections, or is taken from a master work book. These duties are listed on the sanitor's special assignment sheet.

The master work book is a listing of all cleaning jobs that are not done on a daily basis. These jobs include both equipment and structural cleaning. The cleaning frequency, which may vary weekly or yearly or longer is also listed. As each job is completed, the date is noted in the appropriate space.

As our plants have become larger, the need to prevent wasting of valuable time by the sanitors, in making frequent trips to and from a central stock room, became obvious. We are now using individual sanitor carts in many of our plants. They are metal carts on wheels, provided with a lock and key, and each cart is numbered and assigned to a sanitor. Each cart is fully equipped with almost all of the tools and supplies needed to do the various cleaning jobs.

Receiving Goods

In many plants, the responsibility for receiving is under the sanitarian. In other operations, particularly our larger ones, this responsibility is given to a receiving clerk who is a department head. In either case, the control of foreign material is a very important job of the bakery sanitarian, and this control must begin with the receipt of ingredients. A visual examination of all incoming ingredients is made immediately after the delivery vehicle is opened. This examination of the outside of bags or cartons is for physical damage, and foreign substances such as grease spots or stains, as well as for evidence of insects and rodents. An ultra-violet, or so-called "black light," is used to pin-point evidence of rodent contamination. Rejection of shipments is frequently made, based on the findings of these examinations.

All finely ground materials are examined upon re-

cepit by sifting samples through 30-mesh screen. Four bags from a carload shipment are selected at random for sifting, and if any foreign material is found (such as a live or dead insect), 6 additional bags are sifted to determine the degree of contamination, and whether the lot should be considered for rejection. A record is kept of each lot examined. Foreign material may also reach the ingredients after their arrival in the plants. Therefore, our checkpoints for foreign material control must include the ingredients while in storage, and at the point of use in the shops. The last line of defense in foreign material control must be production practices, which prevent the incorparation of foreign material in the finished product. This requires departmental cooperation in the development of good working habits.

CHECK ON "TAILINGS"

The sifter of the plant flour handling system also contains a 30-mesh screen, and the "tailings" obtained are checked on a daily basis. A record is kept of these findings, and are reported weekly to the regional and general offices. Any adverse findings are brought to the attention of the purchasing department, and the flour mill that is involved.

BULK HANDLING

With the increase in bulk handling of more dry and liquid ingredients, increased sanitation responsibility in this area becomes a necessity. The use of common carriers, inspection of the delivery vehicles, use of filters, handling of the product in the plants, and the cleaning of the bulk handling equipment all require detailed study to avoid potential problems of product contamination and product quality deterioration. The use of bulk ingredients has also increased the need for inspection of these suppliers' manufacturing facilities.

TESTS ON INGREDIENTS

Selected ingredients are routinely sampled and sent to our research laboratories for analysis. In cooperation with our laboratories, we make bacteriological surveys of our operations, and routinely use petri plates to make surveys of the incidence of mold spores in various areas throughout the plants. The use of hand sanitizing dip stations, and the sanitizing of equipment is a prime requisite for bacterial control, and these procedures have become an integral part of our program.

Pest Control

We utilize a self-controlled program for pest control. Therefore, our sanitarians must be thoroughly familiar with various types of cereal insects, their life cycles, habits, and other characteristics in order to understand the control measures that should be used to avoid infestation problems. Other species of insects that are of primary concern include ants, flies, and roaches. While we stress that 80% of the job of insect control is the cleanliness or housekeeping effort, there will always be the casual insect invader. Therefore, use of insecticides is necessary. The sanitarian must also be thoroughly familiar with the composition, application, precaution, and effectiveness of all company-approved insecticides.

A necessary part of our pest control program is the control of rodents. The sanitarian must be thoroughly familiar with the habits and characteristics of both rats and mice to guide him in establishing an effective control program. This program must include rodent-proofing the building, eliminating outside harborages or conditions conducive to rodents, as well as keeping traps set at all times in strategic areas.

Birds are also included in our pest control program. Such species as pigeons, sparrows, and starlings are most frequently encountered. As is true with insect and rodent control, sanitation is of prime importance in bird control. Sanitation must include their exclusion from food, roosting, resting, and nesting. Revolving lights and ultrasonic devices have not been very effective for bird control and our knowledge of chemical control is limited.

BISSC

Nearly everyone is familiar with the baking industry sanitation standards committee, commonly known as BISSC. This committee was founded nearly 20 years ago to meet the serious sanitation problems caused by uncleanable bakery equipment, inadequate consideration of sanitation requirements in the design of new equipment, and the use of unsuitable materials in bakery food processing units. Our company has been represented on, and has taken an active part in, the functions of this committee from the very beginning. It is company policy, in the purchase of new equipment, to insist on BISSC certification whenever possible. This also holds true in the manufacture and/or alteration of equipment in our plants. The sanitarian naturally is consulted in these matters.

Agencies and Depots

While I have been discussing our program primarily as it is carried out at the plant level, we also have to be concerned about our "agencies" or distribution depots. The agencies follow our same basic sanitation program under the direction of the Agency Manager. Semi-annual sanitation inspections of the agencies are conducted by the Sanitarian, Engineer and/or Manager from the plant responsible for the agency.

As I stated at the beginning of this paper, responsibility for sanitation in the plant is that of the *manager*. It is frequently stated in our company that, "a plant is as clean as a manager wants it to be." While I feel that we have an excellent basic sanitation program, it is necessary to have the desire of each manager, the department heads, and every employee to make the program work with maximum efficiency to produce the highest quality products in kitchen clean surroundings at a profit.

SOME RECENT VIEWS ON RECONSTITUTABILITY AND KEEPING QUALITY OF MILK POWDER

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The chemical and physical properties of milk powder are influenced by several factors, including its composition, method of manufacture, storage conditions, and the reconstitution procedures (18). The predominant use of milk powder has been in human nutrition. The complex nature of milk powder poses several problems for its evaluation. For example, the physical state of casein is a factor limiting the rate of dispersion of dried milk (4), and in the manufacture of milk powder, if condensing of preheated milk is omitted, wettability is poor but any additional heat treatment after condensing the milk produces an adverse effect. With the introduction of a recombination process, which involves reconstitution of skim milk powder and emulsification of milk fat into skim milk, the study of the physico-chemical aspects of milk powder is becoming of greater interest. This article deals with reconstitutability and keeping quality of milk powder and their relation to dairy problems.

Of the various processes that are used to dry milk, spray drying is by far the most popular. Lesser quantities of milk and other dairy products are roller dried.

Reconstitutability

In recent years a considerable emphasis has been placed on the problem of manufacturing very readily soluble skim milk powders, often called "instant" powders. Since 1954, the production of instant nonfat dry milk has increased rapidly. Practically all nonfat dry milk for home use is now instantized.

Instant nonfat dry milk may be made by any one of the three general methods viz. (a) single-pass instant, (b) agglomerated instant, and (c) puff instant. In most commercial manufacturing methods, agglomeration of powder particles is accompanied by surface wetting, clumping, then redrying. Among the factors affecting instantizing (or agglomeration) moisture content and particle size are quite important. A mimimum of fine particles, less than 20μ in diameter is desired with the preferred particle range of 25 to 50μ .

The problems in manufacturing a satisfactory instant dry whole milk, have been more difficult largely because of the presence of milk, fat in the system. Disperisibility of dry whole milk (26% fat) is the lowest (31.9 g) compared to products with lower fat contents (21). There is presently some commercial production of foamed spray dried nonfat dry milk as well as dry whole milk. The foam-dried whole milk although little different in wettability from the normal spray dried particles, disintegrates rapidly once contacted by water.

A perusal of the literature shows that increasing attention is being paid to the reconstitution of dried milk (18), although the reconstitutability of milk powder is a poorly defined and complicated concept. The subject has been quite extensively reviewed by Coulter and Jenness (12). The task of describing a method which includes all properties and definitions involved and which applies to different local conditions therefore, is difficult.

The first stage in reconstitution after the initial contact of water is the wetting of particle surfaces (16, 20), which is followed by water absorption and swelling of proteins and solution of soluble constituents (7, 22). However, smooth progress of the reconstitution process and properties of the product obtained depend upon manufacturing and storage conditions, which affect the nature of the powder particle.

Part of the difficulty of rapidly reconstituting milk powders in water lies in the number of different reactions which occur when milk powder and water are brought into contact with each other. Wettability, dispersibility, and solubility appear to cover most of the reactions involved and are suggested as a basis for discussion by Abbot and Waite (2). These workers define them as:

Wettability: the rate at which a mass of milk powder is penetrated by, or sinks into, quiescent water.

Solubility: the degree to which the constituents

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Dispersibility: the degree of separation of wetted powder particles in water.

of milk powder can be brought into solution or stable suspensions.

Experiments of Abbot and Waite (2) demonstrate that in characterizing the reconstitutability of milk powders, particularly in relation to domestic use of "instant" milk powders, the test method should take into account all three characteristics of wettability, dispersibility, and solubility rather than of any single characteristic. However, for day-to-day factory control, a wettability test coupled with a solubility measurement, both providing results quickly, would provide useful information. The surface of the individual particles of skim milk powder is readily wettable. However, wettability decreases with an increase in the fat content (21, 24).

Rate of dispersion of milk powder during reconstitution is also considered as one of the factors by which a powder is judged. The first stage of the dispersion of any powdered material is the wetting of the solid particles by the solvent. Milk powders have a very wide range of wettability. Some samples sink readily upon coming in contact with the solvent, whereas others remain floating on the surface. Several methods for the estimation of wettability are already in use (5, 6). Muers and House (22) have proposed a simple method for comparing the wettability of "instant" spray dried separated milk powders. According to this method a layer of powder, spread evenly over a defined area of a piece of easily permeable cloth, is caused to float on the almost quiescent surface of water rising through the cloth. The time taken for the sample to be wetted is recorded. Wetting times vary from a few seconds for good "instant" powders, to several minutes for ordinary spray dried powders. Muers and House (22) have also demonstrated that particle size is the most important factor controlling ease of wetting. As rightly pointed out by Coulter and Jenness (12) the situation of dispersibility with dry whole milk is somewhat confused. Rapid cooling of the powder and coating with a surface active material (e.g. lecithin) are suggested for improved wettability (24, 26, 31).

According to Samkammer (25) wettability of whole milk powder depends upon the amount of free fat only to a certain degree, and solubility of "instant" powders is somewhat decreased after extracting the fat. The reason for this is supposed to be an impairment of the capillary active effect of the spaces between the agglomerated particles. Ultimate solution of any powder, is dependent upon the extent of casein destabilization. Reduction of the hydrophilic properties of the milk protein has been claimed by Kennedy and Spence (15) to improve the reconstituability of dry milk.

Numerous methods for determination of the solu-

bility of milk powder have been devised. Broadly they may be divided into two groups: (a) those which may claim to a more exact determination and (b) those which give a more or less conjectural figure. The more exact methods are too elaborate to be of any practical importance to industry. A simple and fairly accurate method has been proposed by the American Dry Milk Institute (8). Both Falkenhahn (13) and Cone and Ashworth (9) also find a certain correlation between the more exact methods and the American Dry Milk Institute (ADMI) method. Steen (27) is of the opinion that better results for the solubility of milk powder can be obtained if a more gentle mixing is used in the ADMI method.

KEEPING QUALITY

The keeping quality of milk powder is limited by bacteriological and chemical processes. Decomposition of milk solids by bacteriological transformations can be effectively checked by reduction of moisture contents to a level below the minimum required for their growth (14) because the stability of dry milk during storage is critically affected by the moisture content and storage temperature. High moisture levels, resulting from inadequate dehydration or reabsorption of atmospheric moisture promote insolubilization at relatively mild storage temperatures. The rate of solubility loss is a function of both concentration and temperature (10).

A number of other significant changes also occur in high moisture milk powder in addition to loss of solubility. For example, (a) the lactose is gradually bound by the protein, (b) the pH decreases steadily, and (c) characteristic changes associated with the Maillard reaction between sugars and amino nitrogen become apparent including development of brown discoloration and production of carbon dioxide (30). The loss of protein solubility in dry milk is generally attributed to the sugar-protein interaction. Changes in the stability of the caseinate-phosphate complex are also responsible for the loss of solubility. According to Manus and Ashworth (19), the solubility of spray-dried powder is unaffected by preheat treatments of fluid milk that cause serum protein denaturation. The influence that forewarming of milk exerts on stability of the evaporated product to sterilization temperatures indicates that proteins of milk interact in a way which interferes with and reduces heat denaturation of the proteins when they are subsequently given a high temperature treatment. Heat-induced reactions, which have been shown to increase the stability of milk proteins include a casein- β lactoglobulin interaction and protein-lactose binding. Addition of stablizers is used mainly in commercial practice to ensure a fluid finished product. Stabilizers are soluble salts whose anions complex or precipitate calcium, and as the casein in heated milk is more sensitive to calcium than it is in unheated milk, stabilizers are considered to exert their protecting influence by removing calcium which might otherwise form an interpolymer link between altered casein molecules causing them to aggregate and precipitate.

According to King (17) the dry milk particle has a primary physical structure comprised of the milk solids in which is dispersed the moisture and air cells. The physical mass of the particle (nonfat dry milk and dry whole milk) is dominated by lactose presumably in which the proteins, fat, and minerals are more or less dispersed. Lactose in dry milk may be in the amorphous or glass (non crystalline) form and as α monohydrate crystals and β anhydride crystals. In the amorphous state lactose is very hygroscopic and as sorption occurs, the lactose becomes sticky and this initiates adherence of the milk particles to each other. With sufficient moisture and time a solid mass is formed through continued crystallization of lactose. The instantizing process for producing readily soluble powder is somewhat similar. The surfaces of milk powder particles are humidified or partially dried so as to facilitate partial crystallization before the particles are redried (23). This produces a clustering of the particles in loose, spongy aggregates which are readily dispersible in water. Careful control of conditions of rehydrating, holding to allow agglomeration, and redrying are very important to preserve the solubility of the powder. Unfortunately little technical information is available on the process.

Spray process dry whole milk is normally prepared from milk which has been preheated to a temperature sufficient to denature essentially all of the whey proteins. The effect of heat treatment of the fluid milk in stabilizing against oxidation of the fat in the dry product has long been recognized. Assuming average conditions of milk quality and processing, oxidation off flavors become noticeable in about three months when dry whole milk is held at 70 to 75 F (air packed). Among the many factors influencing the rate of milk fat oxidation, metallic contamination from copper and iron is one of the most important. Attempts have been made by several workers to use antioxidants to avoid high heat treatment of the milk but, unfortunately, none of the antioxidant has been claimed to be more effective than heating the fluid milk (1, 28).

Milk powder in hermetically sealed packings is safe against reabsorption of moisture under unfavorable conditions and therefore, any deterioration of the quality of the powder is seldom of a bacteriological nature. The chemical processes in whole milk

powder are very difficult to stop completely. The most common defect in whole milk powder is the tallowy flavor caused by the oxidation of the butter (14). Aceto et al. (3) have reported on some storage aspects of continuous vacuum foam dried whole milk made, handled, and packaged with virtually no contact with oxygen. Difficulties encountered in producing low oxygen content packs apparently relate to milk powder particle structure (29).

Keeping quality of milk powder has become increasingly important in recent years particularly in view of shipping dry milk to developing nations of the world having widely ranging weather conditions and lack of other facilities.

Browning as such is not a primary problem in dry milks. Milks dried to moisture levels below 5% show essentially no change in color even during a 2-year storage at 37 C. However, because of the very hygroscopic nature of milk powder, initial satisfactory moisture levels are no guarantee against browning. The subjects of browning and related changes in dry milk systems have been reviewed quite extensively by Coulter et al. (11).

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AMENDMENT TO 3-A SANITARY STANDARDS FOR MULTIPLE-USE PLASTIC MATERIALS USED AS PRODUCT CONTACT SURFACES FOR DAIRY EQUIPMENT

Serial #2003

Formulated by International Association of Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians United States Public Health Service The Dairy Industry Committee

The "3-A Sanitary Standards for Multiple-Use Plastic Materials Used as Product Contact Surfaces for Dairy Equipment, Serial #2000," are hereby amended as indicated in the following:

Section I. Standards for Acceptability, Sub-paragraph (2): Add the following material to the list of Generic Classes of Plastics: Reinforced Epoxy, molded, .20 .25 .35 natural (no color added), and black. This amendment shall become effective Aug. 28, 1969.

AMENDMENT TO 3-A ACCEPTED PRACTICES FOR THE SANITARY CONSTRUCTION, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND OPERATION OF HIGH-TEMPERATURE SHORT-TIME PASTEURIZERS, REVISED (EFFECTIVE JANUARY 22, 1967)

Formulated by

International Association of Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians United States Public Health Service The Dairy Industry Committee

The "3-A Accepted Practices for the Sanitary Construction, Installation, Testing and Operation of High-Temperature Short-Time Pasteurizers, Revised," effective January 22, 1967, are hereby amended in the sections indicated below and an additional drawing, Figure 21, is added:

Add the following to definition B.1 after the words "frozen dessert mix":

or a concentrated milk product

In the fourth line of E.5.8, replace the comma after the word "end" with a period, delete the words "and provisions" and add the following before the word "made":

When the salt conductivity test is to be used to determine holding time, provision shall be

Substitute the following for the present E.5.8.2:

E.5.8.2

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When a timing electrode connection is provided at the inlet end, it shall be adjacent to and upstream from the inlet end of the holding tube.

Add the following subsections:

E.6.8

When the timing pump is to be located as provided for in F.3.2, the flow diversion device shall have an auxiliary temperature sensor-controller and a time delay relay to accomplish the requirements of F.5.2.1. (Note: The auxiliary temperature sensorcontroller and/or the time delay relay do not have to be in the same case with the recorder-controller but they shall comply with the applicable provisions of this subsection, E.6).

E.6.8.1

The auxiliary temperature sensor-controller shall have a control mechanism for setting the temperature at which forward flow can occur and a means of indicating when the product temperature at the temperature sensor of the auxiliary temperature sensor-controller is at or above the temperature at which the control mechanism is set. The means of indicating may be a pilot light or other suitable means.

E.6.8.2

The flow diversion device shall be actuated by the auxiliary temperature sensor-controller and the time delay relay as required in F.5.2.1 as well as the temperature sensor that actuates the product temperature recorder as required in E.6.2.4.

E.6.8.3

The temperature accuracy of the auxiliary temperature sensor-controller shall be that required for the recorder-controller in E.6.7.3.

E.6.8.4

The thermometric response of the auxiliary temperature sensor-controller shall be that required for the recorder-controller in E.6.7.16.

E.6.8.5

The auxiliary temperature sensor-controller and the time delay relay shall be provided with a simple means of sealing that will prevent, unless the seal is broken, the changing or manipulating of (1)the control mechanism for setting the temperature at which forward flow can occur and (2) the mechanism for setting the length of time delay.

Substitute the following for the present E.8.1:

E.8.1

Hot Products Thermometers (Required)

One hot product thermometer complying with the criteria of this section is required for all HTST pasteurizers. A second hot product thermometer

is required for HTST pasteurizers when the timing pump is located as provided for in F.3.2.

Add the following subsection:

E.9.5

When the timing pump is to be located as provided for in F.3.2, a fitting(s) for installing an indicating thermometer and the temperature sensor of the auxiliary temperature sensor-controller shall be provided in the product constant level tank outlet line between the tank outlet connection and the first connection downstream.

Add the following subsection:

E.9.6

When the timing pump is located as provided for in F.3.2, automatic means shall be provided to prevent negative pressure at the downstream side of the forward flow port of the flow diversion device during diverted flow.

The automatic means shall be one of the following or other acceptable means.

E.9.6.1

A flow diversion device incorporating two valves (one a divert valve and the other a leak escape valve) with the leak escape opening having a total effective area at least as great as the area of the forward flow opening. The leak escape opening of the leak escape valve shall be provided with a discharge line which shall discharge to either (1) the atmosphere and be protected from back siphonage of vapors or liquids or (2) the product constant level tank. In the latter case, a vacuum breaker shall be installed in the line between the leak escape valve and the product constant level tank.

E.9.6.2

An automatic shut off valve downstream from an effective vacuum breaker of sanitary construction having enough air admitting capacity to prevent negative pressure. The shut off valve must automatically assume the stop position when the air supply to the flow diversion device is interrupted causing it to assume the diverted flow position.

Substitute the following for the present F.3.1:

F.3.1

The timing pump driving motor and starter shall be interwired with all components as prescribed in F.5 and the timing pump or device, except as provided in F.3.2, shall be installed upstream of the holder.

Add the following subsection:

F.3.2

When the HTST pasteurizer is to be used to re-

pasteurize a concentrated milk product for drying in a process in which the product pressure required for drying is at least 300 pounds per square inch, the timing pump may be located downstream from the flow diversion device provided the requirements of E.6.8, F.5.2.1 and all other applicable requirements found in these practices are met. In this application the timing pump must be a high pressure pump of the plunger type.

In F.4.2, add the following between the words "fitting" and "at": , when provided,

Add the following subsection:

F.5.1.1

The temperature sensor of the auxiliary temperature sensor-controller required in E.6.8 shall be installed in the fitting described in E.9.5.

Substitute the following for the present subsection F.5.2. and add subsections F.5.2.1 and F.5.2.2.

F.5.2

Except as provided for in F.5.2.1, and F.5.2.3, the flow-diversion device shall be so inter-wired with the controller of the recorder-controller that when the product temperature at its temperature sensor is at sub-legal and legal temperature the flow diversion device will automatically assume the diverted and forward flow positions respectively.

F.5.2.1

When the timing pump is located as provided for in F.3.2, except as provided for in F.5.2.3, the controllers of recorder-controller, the auxiliary temperature sensor-controller and the time delay relay are to be so inter-wired that the flow-diversion device (1) will assume the diverted flow position when the product temperature at the temperature sensor of the recorder-controller is at sub-legal temperature and (2) will assume the forward flow position when the product temperature at both temperature sensors is at or above legal temperature for at least legal holding time. The interwiring shall be such that when the flow diversion device is in the forward flow position, the controller of the auxiliary temperature sensor-controller will not cause the flow diversion device to move to the diverted flow position when the temperature of the product at its temperature sensor is sub-legal.

If the flow diversion device and/or recorder-controller has a manual means of causing the flow diversion device to assume the diverted flow position, the controllers of the recorder-controller and the auxiliary temperature sensor-controller are to be so inter-wired that after the flow diversion device has assumed the diverted flow position due



to operation of the manual means, the flow diversion device will not assume the forward flow position until the product temperature at both temperature sensors is at or above legal temperature for at least legal holding time.

F.5.2.2

During circulating cleaning the flow-diversion device may assume the forward flow position or be cycled at sub-legal temperature provided the control required to do this is a programmed control that is fail safe and is inter-wired with the timing pump so that the timing pump cannot run under this condition.

Substitute the following for the present F.7.1 and F.7.1.1:

F.7.1

Indicating Thermometers-Hot Product

F.7.1.1

One thermometer shall be installed in the fitting at the outlet of the holding tube, as described in E.5.8. and E.5.8.1. When the timing pump is located as provided for in F.3.2 a second thermometer shall be installed in the fitting described in E.9.5.

Add the following subsection:

E.9.7

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In a HTST pasteurizing system supplying repasteurized product to a drier with the timing pump located as provided for in F.3.2, having a potable water line connected to a product line in which the product may be under vacuum, the potable water line must be installed in conformance with local plumbing codes for water flowing into a vacuum and shall have a check valve adjacent to its connection to the product line to prevent back flow of product into the potable water line. The check valve shall be of sanitary design that complies with the criteria set forth in the "Amendment to Supplement No. 3 to the 3-A Sanitary Standards For Fittings Used On Milk And Milk Products Equipment and Used on Sanitary Lines Conducting Milk and Milk Products, Serial #0803A" and the piping between the check valve and the product line shall be of sanitary construction; that is, it shall conform to E.9.1 and F.8.1.

Add the following to subsection F.13.1:

Note: The applicable provisions of this subsection apply to timing pumps of the high pressure plunger type.

Add the following subsection:

F.19.3

In a HTST pasteurizing system supplying repas-

teurized product to a drier with the timing pump located as provided for in F.3.2, an auxiliary pump is required in order that there will be product circulation during diverted flow and to assure positive product pressure at the timing pump inlet during forward flow. If the auxiliary pump is of greater capacity than the timing pump it becomes a circulating pump and a sanitary recirculating line between the outlet of the heater and the inlet of the circulating pump shall be provided. The product pressure at the inlet of the flow diversion device shall be less than the maximum product pressure at which the flow diversion device will move from the forward flow position to the diverted flow position. This may be accomplished by one of the following:

F.19.3.1

Use of a circulating pump having a maximum output pressure of less than the maximum product pressure at which the flow diversion device will move from the forward flow position to the diverted flow position.

F.19.3.2

Installation of a pressure control valve in the recirculating line which will be set and sealed at a pressure less than the maximum product pressure at which the flow diversion device will move from the forward flow position to the diverted flow position.

F.19.3.3

Altering or rebuilding the flow diversion device so that the maximum product pressure at which it will move from the forward flow position to the diverted flow position is greater than the maximum output pressure of the circulating pump.

Substitute the following for subsection 5 of F.21.1.1 Tests:

- 5. Continuous Flow Holders
 - A. Holding time of HTST pasteurizers used to repasteurize a concentrated milk product for drying in a process in which the product pressure required for drying is at least 300 pounds per square inch shall conform with the "Determination of Holding Time (Calculated Method)" See Section L. of these Practices.
 - B. Holding time of all other HTST pasteurizers (Test No. 11, page 23 of PHS Publication No. 731)

Note: The holding time test shall conform with the "Determination of Holding Time (Salt Conductivity Test). See Section I. of these Practices.

C. Before starting the holding time test, water should be circulated thru the pasteurizer until all air is expelled.

Add the following to section F.21.1.1 Tests:

8. The following are modifications of and an additional test for the recorder-controller, the auxiliary temperature sensor-controller and the time delay relay incorporated in a HTST pasteurization system supplying repasteurized product to a drier with the timing pump located as provided for in F.3.2.

8.1 Recorder-Controller

Cut-In and Cut-Out

The procedure of Test No. 10, page 11 is to be modified for the cut-in test by observing when the temperature of the water of the product surrounding the temperature sensor of the recorder-controller reaches the temperature at which the control mechanism is set instead of observing the temperature at which forward flow begins.

8.2 Auxiliary Temperature Sensor-Controller

The following are modifications of the procedures in the Public Health Service Publication No. 731 "Procedures for Testing Pasteurization Equipment" and are for use in testing an auxiliary temperature sensor-controller that does not have an element that indicates or records the temperature at the temperature sensor. If the temperature sensor of the auxiliary temperature sensor-controller does actuate either a recording or indicating thermometer, the procedures in Publication No. 731, possibly with slight modifications, shall be followed.

Temperature accuracy. The procedure of Test No. 2, page 9 is to be modified by using the cut-out temperature as the means of determining whether or not the controller will return to within 1F of its setting after the sensor bulb has been exposed to boiling water and melted ice. A second modification is to use the pasteurization temperature of 175 F instead of 161 F.

Thermometric response. The procedure of Test No. 8, page 12 is to be modified by using a second water bath maintained at 12 F below the cut-in temperature. The water in the second water bath is to be vigorously agitated while performing the test. The procedure is to (1) determine the cut-in temperature, (2) immerse the sensor bulb in the water bath maintained at 12 F below the cut-in temperature for five minutes (3) remove the sensor bulb from the one maintained at 12 F below the cut-in temperature and immediately immerse it in the water bath maintained 7 F above the cut-in temperature and (4) measure the time from the instant the sensor bulb is immersed in the second water bath until cut-in occurs.

Cut-in and Cut-out. The procedure of Test No. 10, page 11 is to be modified by observing the pilot light (or other means provided to comply with E.6.8.1) instead of observing when forward flow begins or stops.

8.3 Time Delay Relay Provided to Comply With E.6.8

Operate the HTST unit in diverted flow with the heating medium two or three degrees below the temperature normally required to establish forward flow. Gradually increase the product temperature at a rate not exceeding 1F every 30 seconds. By use of a stop watch, determine the time between the moment the temperature sensors of both the auxiliary temperature sensor controller and the recordercontroller are at or above the temperature their control mechanisms are set and the moment forward flow begins.

Add a new section L., to follow section K., as follows:

L.

Determination of Holding Time

(Calculated Method)

L.1 Method

L.1.1

Fully developed laminar flow is assumed, and holding-tube length is calculated. An experimental determination of pumping rate is required; this is accomplished by determining the time required for the pasteurizer to fill a vessel of known volume with water, converting these data by division to obtain flow rate in gallons per minute, and multiplying this value by the proper number in Table 1 in L.4 to obtain the required length of holding tube.

L.2

Test Procedure

L.2.1

Examine the entire system to ensure that all flowpromoting equipment is operating at maximum capacity and all flow-impeding equipment is so adjusted or bypassed to provide the minimum of resistance to the flow. This means that in-line filters must be removed, booster pumps must be in operation, and vacuum equipment in the system must be operating at maximum vacuum. Also, before the tests are begun, the pasteurizer should be operated at maximum flow for a sufficient time to purge air from the system (about 15 minutes) and pipe connections on the suction side of the timing pump should be made tight enough to exclude entrance of air. With the pasteurizer operating with water, adjust the timing pump to its maximum capacity (preferably with a new belt.) Determine that no flow exists in the diverted flow line.

L.2.2

Measure the time required to deliver a known volume of water at the pasteurized product outlet. Repeat the test at least once to determine that the measurements are consistent.

L.2.3

Repeat the above step in diverted flow by measuring the time required to deliver a known volume of water at the discharge of the diverted flow line.

L.2.4

Select the greatest flow rate (shortest delivery time for the known volume) and calculate the flow rate in gallons per minute by dividing the known volume by the time required to collect the known volume; thus, if 2 minutes are required to fill a 10-gallon can, then flow rate is 5 gallons per minute. Multiply this value with the appropriate value in Table 1 in L.4 to determine the required holding-tube length.

L.2.5

-20

For pasteurizers of large capacity, the method of measuring the flow rate at the pasteurized product outlet and at the discharge of the diverted flow line is inconvenient and the following alternate procedure may be used. Prevent any water from being added to the raw product constant level tank while determining the flow rate. Suspend a dip stick in the raw product constant level tank, and operate the pasteurizer at maximum capacity. Record the time required for the water level to move from one graduation to a lower graduation on the dip stick. The volume of water removed is calculated from the dimensions of the raw product constant level tank and the drop in water level. Flow rate is determined as follows: divide the volume of water removed from the raw product constant level tank by the time required to remove it.

L.2.6

Determine the number and type of fittings in the holding tube and convert these to equivalent lengths of straight pipe with the use of Table 2 in L.5. Determine the total length of the holding tube by adding the equivalent length of the fittings to the measured straight lengths of pipe.

L.2.7

Record the number and type of fittings, the number and length of straight pipes, and the holdingtube configuration.

L.3

Corrective Action

L.3.1

If the length of the holding tube is shorter than the calculated length, reseal the metering pump at a slower maximum capacity or lengthen the holding tube, or both, and repeat the above determination.

L.4

TABLE 1. HOLDING TUBE LENGTHS IN INCHES FOR HTST PASTEURIZATION WITH A PUMPING RATE OF 1 GALLON PER MINUTE

Holding	Tub	oing Size	(Outside Diar	neter), Inch	nes
Seconds	1	1-1/2	2	2-1/2	3
15.0	180.75	74.82	42.06	26.18	17.86
25.0	301.25	124.69	70.09	43.63	29.76

L.5

Table 2. Centerline distances in inches of 3-A sanitary fittings $^{\rm a}$

		Fitting	Size, Inch	es	
3-A Designation	1	1 - 1/2	2	2-1/2	3
2 C 90° bend ^b	3.4	4.8	6.2	8.0	9.7
2 CG 90° bend ^b	3.1	4.5	5.8	7.6	9.3
2 F 90° bend	3.4	4.8	6.2	8.0	9.7
2 FG 90° bend	3.1	4.5	5.8	7.6	9.3
2 E 90° bend	3.4	4.8	6.2	8.0	9.7
2 EG 90° bend	3.2	4.6	6.0	7.7	9.4

"3-A "Sanitary Standards for Fittings Used on Milk and Milk Products Equipment and Used on Sanitary Lines Conducting Milk and Milk Products," Serial No. 0800 and Supplements thereto.

^bThe designation 2 C identifies a bevel seat fitting; 2 CG identifies a gasket seat fitting.

NOTE:

The material in this Section L is a portion of "Performance Tests for Plate Heat Exchangers Used for Ultra High Temperature Pasteurization Processes"— Public Health Service Publication No. 999-UIH-12-1968 which has been revised slightly to adapt it to these HTST Practices.

This Amendment shall become effective June 7, 1969.

Amendment To HTST

Figure 21. HTST pasteurizer used to repasteurize a concentrated milk product for drying in a process in which the product pressure required for drying is at least 300 pounds per square inch. (Timing pump located downstream of the flow diversion device.)



- ¹Potable water line is optional. To prevent damage to the timing pump, it is strongly recommended that the potable water line be provided and that the solenoid valve be inter-wired with the recorder-controller and flow diversion device so that when the latter assumes the diverted flow position the solenoid valve will open.
- ²The recorder-controller shown here includes the controller of the auxiliary temperature sensor-controller and the time delay relay required in E.6.8.
- ³Temperature sensor of the auxiliary temperature sensor-controller required in E.6.8, located as required in E.9.5.
- ⁴Pressure control valve to assure positive product pressure at the high pressure plunger type pump inlet. The pressure setting device of the valve is to be set at a product pressure less than the product pressure at which the flow diversion valve will move from the forward flow position to the diverted flow position.
- ⁵In many high pressure plunger type pumps this valve is a part of the pump.
- ⁶By-pass line is optional for rinsing, cleaning and sanitizing. Line may discharge to waste.
- ⁷Vacuum breaker. See E.9.6.2 for requirements.
 - Any other combination or modifications which are installed and operated in accordance with the above, and with the detailed provisions of the Practices may be utilized.

192

ASSOCIATION AFFAIRS

ANNUAL MEETING VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF SANITARIANS AND DAIRY FIELDMEN MARCH 6 AND 7, 1969

The Annual Meeting of the Virginia Association of Sanitarians and Dairy Plant Fieldmen was held at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Virginia, March 6 and 7. An outstanding program was presented.

The attendance at the meeting was excellent and some of the high lights of the program were: Importance of Milk and Milk Products in Children's Diets, Dr. R. P. Abernathy, Associate Professor, V. P. I.; Anaerobic Bacteria in Foods, Dr. Louis Smith, Pro-



New officers Virginia Association of Sanitarians and Dairy Fieldmen. L. to R. R. J. Schutrumpf, 2nd Vice Pres., F. S. Shockey, President, J. H. McGavock, 1st Vice Pres. and W. H. Gill, Secretary-Treasurer.



Milk Break-Dr. Baldwin, Jay Taylor, G. I. Morgan.

fessor Bacteriology, V.P.I.; 3-A Sanitary Standards for Milking Machines, James B. Smathers, Director of Field Services, Maryland-Virginia Milk Producters Association, Arlington, Va.; Identifying Abnormal Milk, Dr. J. W. Smith, Animal Husbandry Research Center, U.S.D.A., Beltsville, Md.; Producing High Quality Milk Raw Milk, a panel discussion by Frank Overstreet, Maryland-Virginia Milk Producers Association, James W. Sink, Dept. of Agric. and Comm., Carl Bussey, Sealtest Foods; Laboratory Activities Panel, Dr. E. N. Boyd moderator, W. L. Arledge, Lab Director, Dairymen, Inc., Bristol, Va., Charles Sumpter, Lynchburg Laboratory, Lynchburg, Va. and J. W. Smith, V.P.I.; Field Activities Panel, Dr. Joseph A. Lineweaver, Moderator, Dairy Science Dept., V.P.I., N. L. Franklin, Chief, Dairy Records and Testing, Dept. of Agric., Richmond, Va., Archie C. Holiday, President, Virginia Association of Sanitarians and Dairy Fieldmen, Richmond, Va.; Trends in Cooperative Marketing of Milk, Judd Mason, National Milk Producers Federation, Washington, D. C.; Increasing Shelf Life of Perishable Food, Dr. Marvin Speck, Professor, Food Science Dept., N. C. State Univ., Raleigh, N. C.

NEWS FROM ONTARIO MILK AND FOOD SANITARIANS ASSOCIATION

Ontario Association's Annual Golf Tournament

The annual Golf Tournament will be held on Wednesday, June 4th, 1969, at Hilltop Lodge and Country Club, Erin, Ontario, at 12 o'clock noon, to 5 p.m. Banquet will follow.

Annual Meeting, 1970

The annual meeting of the Ontario Milk and Food Sanitarians Association will be held on January 28th, 1970, at the Holiday Inn, Highway 27, northwest of Toronto.

Directors' Meeting

A meeting of the Directors of the Association was held on Monday, April 7th. Activities for the year were planned and a program designed to broaden the interest in conformity with the addition of "Food" in the association's name, was discussed at length. Committees were appointed to investigate the possibility of cooperation and the securing of speakers on several phases of work in the wider field, Herman Cauthers was appointed Ambassador at Large, and ex-Officio member of the Board.

Dairy Plant Fieldmen's Conference

A conference of Dairy Plant Fieldmen was held at Guelph University on April 2nd. Among the speakers were a number of our members. Past President, Ray Bowles discussed the value of in-line saniquard screen filters at the bulk tank outlet. (Association members who attended the annual meeting will recall the display of these filters which attracted so much interest and evoked considerable surprise.)

Dr. A. N. Myhr reviewed a study of cooling performances and temperature stratification in farm bulk milk cooling tanks. Professor A. G. Leggatt projected what the change from resazurin test to the plate count would mean to producers. W. G. Johnson, Area Fieldman of the Ontario Milk Commission analysed the comparative quality test results on milk produced by fluid versus manufacturing milk shippers. Dr. F. C. Nelson, Vet. Services, discussed the value of the Gel test as a measure of mastitis in the dairy herd. Dr. D. A. Barnum, O.V.C., talked on the public health significance of staphylococcol mastitis, and can this form of the disease be cured? Dr. K. A. McEwan, Vet. Services, offered an evaluation of the Ontario Mastitis control program-its successes and failures.

NOTE: Due to the date, it was impossible to give more than the topic matter of the papers presented at Dairy Plant Fieldman's conference. However, because of the apparent general interest to milk sanitarians, particularly, an effort will be made to secure copies of the papers and digests, at least, can be offered in future issues.—Editor.)

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ANNUAL MEETING OF FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF MILK, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENTAL SANITARIANS, INC. AND MILK LABORATORY TECHNICIANS APRIL 22-24, 1969

The Florida Association and Milk Laboratory Technicians held their annual meeting at the Ramada Inn, Gainesville with well over 100 in attendance. Jay Boosinger, Secretary-Treasurer and the Membership Committee reported that the Florida Association has doubled the membership this past year. Certainly a most outstanding accomplishment and the program committee presented a most interesting program. Some of the topics presented in brief are: Sources of High Counts in Raw Milk, Dr. C. K. Johns; Citrus Processing, Handling and Packaging; The Causes and Detection of Pathogens in Milk, Dr. Kenneth L. Smith; Certification Process for Abnormal Milk, Edwin H. Connell; Freeze Dried Convenience Food Processing Sanitation Standards, Dr. Richard Matthews; Cleaned-in-Place Lines and Equipment,

Robert Griffin; Beverage Bottling Sanitation, E. A. Baker, Manager Quality Control, Coco-Cola Co., Atlanta, Ga.; Shrimp, the People Who Process it and the Sanitation Problems They are Attempting to Solve, Donald J. Toloday, Quality Control Director, Singleton Packing Co.

REPORT ON THE COMMITTEE ON APPLIED LABORATORY METHODS, 1967-1968

During the past 2 years, the Committee on Applied Laboratory Methods has actively provided assistance and consultation in the following areas: (a) Preparation and publication of the 12th edition of Standard Methods for the Examination of Dairy Products (SMEDP). Eleven members served on the American Public Health Association (APHA) Subcommittee responsible for the publication of this manual. (b) Provided assistance to a Subcommittee of the Public Health Committee of the American Dairy Science Association, which has recommended that methods contained in future editions of SMEDP be subjected to an organized continuing activity for their development and evaluation. (c) Developed a continuing program for evaluation of methods included in the 12th edition of SMEDP, which should be useful in the preparation of the next edition. (d) Assisted in collaborative studies concerned with established, defined, and accepted methods for the examination of various foods. (e) Encouraged certification of media in all disciplines concerned with proficiency testing of laboratory methods. The need for certification of all media and reagents used in biological laboratories for the examination of human, animal, water, and food specimens has not been successfully stressed. Various lots (batches) of selective and differential media sold by media manufacturers should have approximately the same productivity and recovery levels when typical, atypical, or attenuated strains of pathogenic or "indicator" microorganisms are present. This problem is of international as well as national importance. The development of microbiological standards for food can be stymied by irregular results from media of unknown productivity. The interim report of this committee (Journal of Milk and Food Technology, March, 1966) showed 4 goals; the most important goal then, and now, is the need for certification of all media and reagents used in sanitation, diagnostic, and clinical laboratories. The committee believes that all laboratory administrators and research workers in microbiological disciplines should be cognizant of potential variations in results when non-standardized media and/or reagents are used. A recent paper by Read and Reyes "Variation in Plating Efficiency of Salmonellae on Eight Lots of Brilliant Green Agar" (Applied Microbiology, May, 1968) has alerted laboratory administrators to this problem. The authors state: "Productivity problems with individual lots of this medium may also account for the inability of people in one laboratory to use successfully a method found to be excellent in another." The committee hopes that laboratory workers experiencing similar difficulties with different lots of media and/or reagents will publish their data to further emphasize the need for such standardization.

In general, the Subcommittees on Laboratory Methods for the Examination of Milk and Milk Products; Water and Other Environmental Samples; and Foods have been handicapped by lack of either sufficient personnel to assist in committee contributions or funds to conduct studies to provide valuable and useful data in the evaluation of new and old laboratory methods. The latter problem is particularly applicable to many of the committee members who are affiliated with universities or colleges and who have applied for federal research grants and/or contracts. Although most of these applications have been approved, monies have not been allocated to fund the research projects at their educational institutions. A few members of one or two of the subcommittee are dependent on additional avenues for funds to fulfill committee responsibilities; however, the Chairman believes that future commitments of the Applied Laboratory Methods Committee may have to be limited unless more committee members have monies and personnel available for projects.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABORATORY METHODS FOR THE EXamination of Milk and Milk Products

Activities. Inasmuch as the 12th edition of SMEDP is now a reality, this committee is presently aligning its activities to assist in preparation of the 13th edition. Upon recommendation of the American Dairy Science Association (Journal of Dairy Science, January, 1968) and the International Association of Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians (ALM Interim Report-1966-1968, Journal of Milk and Food Technology, November, 1967) a change in policy has been effected for publication of the 13th edition. On June 28, 1968, APHA entered into a 3-year contract with the Public Health Service for "Development, Evaluation, and Publication of Standard Methods for the Examination of Dairy Products." Under the terms of the contract, the APHA shall establish a Council composed of persons with recognized ability in the field of dairy products laboratory examinations. "The members of this Council shall represent interested professional organizations and the Public Health Service." The International Association of Milk, Food, and Environmental Sanitarians will be contacted to select a representatitve for the Council. In addition to providing an administrative base for this council, the APHA shall be responsible for: (a) Continuing review and evaluation of methods in the 12th edition of SMEDP, including modifying or discontinuing methods when warranted. (b) Arranging, through the Council, for collaborative studies on methods that merit consideration or reconsideration as candidate standard methods. A method that shows promise of acceptance shall be designated as a Provisional Standard Method when published in an appropriate journal. Normally, 1 year after collaborative studies on each method have been conducted and the value of the method has been conclusively established, a majority vote by the Council shall be necessary to determine whether the method being considered is suitable as a standard method. (c) Establishing a mechanism for the addition, modification, or deletion of a standard method between publication of successive editions of SMEDP. (d) Appropriately recognizing all contributing groups in all new editions of SMEDP. (e) Assisting researchers in obtaining financial support for research directed toward the development of microbiological analytical methods applicable to SMEDP.

During the past 1.5 years, Dr. Levowitz (now deceased) and Dr. Brazis were active on the National Mastitis Council (NMC) Subcommittee on Screening Tests. This subcommittee, chaired by Dr. Brazis, has 2 charges, the first of which has been completed: (a) evaluation and standardization of the Direct Microscopic Leukocyte Count, and (b) evaluation

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and assessment of proposals for the examination of gel, leukocyte, and somatic cell methods for bulk milk samples. A direct microscopic procedure using a modified strip method has been standardized and shows considerable promise because of its precision. Three papers associated with development of this method shall be submitted to the *Journal of Milk and Food Technology* for immediate publication, if accepted. The titles of these papers are: (a) "Direct Microscopic Somatic Cell Count in Milk," (b) "The Design of An Eyepiece Reticle for Use in the Direct Microscopic Somatic Cell Count Method," and (c) "Development and Evaluation of the Direct Microscopic Somatic Cell Count (DMSCC) in Milk." The NMC Subcommittee hope to have all three papers published in the same issue of the Journal.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABORATORY METHODS FOR THE EXAMINATION ON WATER AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

The progress of this subcommittee has been Activities. slow, but studies are proceeding on the growth pattern of coliforms that show small and/or slow lactose fermentation in lactose and lauryl sulfate tryptose broths. These organisms are now being found in increasing numbers in waters, food, feces, etc.; although they show little or no growth in lactose broth in 48 hr, various amounts of gas are produced after 3 to 5 days. These same microorganisms when inoculated from positive lactose broth tubes into brilliant green bile lactose broth (BGBLB) frequently confirm in 24 to 48 hr. Although little has been published on the growth pattern of these microorganisms, it is anticipated that lauryl tryptose broth may increase generation times of these cells. Unpublished data (Brazis, 1967) from studies in which these groups of microorganisms were used indicated that with some lots of lactose broth small amounts of gas were observed in 48 hr; other lots of lactose broth showed no gas, although growth was evident; in all instances, small amounts of gas were observed in BGBLB in 24-48 hr, even when inocula from lactose tubes not showing gas were inoculated into BGBLB. Similar studies were also conducted with different lots of lauryl sulfate tryptose broth (LST); most of the lots of LST broth showed gas in 24-48 hr and confirmed in BGBLB in 24-48 hr. Because of the importance of this group of coliform organisms, additional studies are necessary. Media used by all participating laboratories should be standardized.

Subcommittee on Laboratory Methods for the Examination of Foods

The progress of activities of this subcommittee Activities. appears slow because many requirements limit processing of methods, and the task of achieving acceptance of methods is cumbersome. The National Academy of Sciences National Research Council (NAS-NRC) is expected to publish methods soon for the detection of Clostridium botulinum and its toxins, aflatoxins, total mesophilic counts, coliform counts, and salmonellae. Under the auspices of the Association of Official Analytical Chemists (AOAC), a collaborative study, under the direction of Dr. Hall, on methods for the detection and quantification of Clostridium perfringens in food has been completed, and publication of the results is anticipated in the near future. As indicated previously in the interim report of this subcommittee (Journal of Milk and Food Technology, December, 1966), much of its activities should be in the form of assistance to the AOAC rather than to conduct separate subcommittee studies. The AOAC has recently published a paper on detection of salmonellae in eggs; a collaborative study on *Clostridium perfringens* is finished but the results have not been published; another collaborative study by AOAC is now being conducted on the isolation of salmonllae from dry milk.

Currently, at least 3 groups concerned with food microbiology are working independently towards a common goal. It is anticipated that reference procedures will be developed for the important food pathogens and toxins, indicator organisms, and total mesophilic counts. It is not known, however, when these procedures will be published in a format suitable for use by food microbiologists. A report prepared by Dr. F. S. Thatcher, Chairman, International Committee on Microbiological Specifications for Foods, is expected to be published in the Fall of 1968.

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NEWS AND EVENTS

REVISIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO 3-A SANITARY STANDARDS ADOPTED

Two major revisions to published standards were adopted as final; two important, though brief, amendments were concluded; a new tentative accepted practices, and two tentative standards were also reviewed at the semi-annual meeting of the 3-A Sanitary Standards Committees for d a iry processing equipment, March 11-13, 1969, Palm Springs, California. Nearly 80 users, sanitarians, and equipment fabricators attended the three-day sessions planned around a heavy agenda relating to dairy foods equipment.

The revisions adopted were complete rewrites and up-dating of old 3-A Standards for Sanitary Fittings, and for Evaporators. Amendments concluded were those for two compartment truck tanks, and leak protector valves for pasteurizers with vertical outlets. Completion of these projects reflects the organization's philosophy of technological up-dating of existing standards and practices. This series of amendments and revisions will be prepared for signing and publication in the Journal of Milk and Food Technology later in the year. Effective dates will be announced at that time.

In addition to the completed projects, the 3-A Committees reviewed new tentative accepted practices for spray drying systems, for instantizers for dry milk, and for sanitary meters. These were referred back to the respective task committees for further changes and re-drafting.

Reinforced epoxy resins have been added to the established generic classes of plastics used for dairy equipment by an amendment signed April 28. Amendment #2003 is the third for the purpose of adding a new generic class of resins to "3-A Sanitary StandNEWS AND EVENTS

ards for Multiple-Use Plastic Materials Used as Product Contact Surfaces for Dairy Equipment," Serial #2000. The Standard provides criteria for evaluating cleanability and re-use for a large group of plastics previously cleared for safety under the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

AFDOUS CONFERENCE MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA JUNE 15-19, '69

"Our program is complete and it looks like the 1969 conference of the Association of Food and Drug Officials of the United States will be the best ever," according to Eaton E. Smith, association president. Joining Dr. Herbert L. Ley, Jr., commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, Dr. Charles G. Moertel of the Mayo Clinic, Dr. Bernard Oser, Institute of Food Technologists president, and Parke C. Brinkley of the National Agricultural Chemicals Association, as speakers will be twenty others.

Food technology, agricultural chemicals, a universal drug identification system and the current and future role of the Food and Drug Administration are but a few of the topics to be discussed. A panel discussion "Filled and Imitation Dairy Products" will feature Clifton Ward, assistant commissioner for the Georgia Department of Agriculture, Charles M. Fistere, an attorney from Washington, D. C., and Donald Daffron, administrative assistant with the Memphis-Shelby County Health Department, on the Southern Association's meeting June 17. Moderator will be Dr. Joe Cardwell, president of the Association, Southern States.

This will be followed by a report from the Southern states on current food and drug problems. Speakers will be Dr. Sam Cox, director of the Mississippi Meat Inspection Division, who will discuss "Meat and Meat Products"; Raymond Summerlin, director of the Georgia Department of Agriculture's consumer protection division, "Inspection, Sampling and Administrative Procedures on Bakery Products," joined by Eugene H. Holeman, director and state chemist for the Tennessee Department of Agriculture's food and drug division; and Doyle C. Golden, chief of the Florida Department of Agriculture's pesticide residue section, who will talk about "The Use of Pesticides and the Control of Pesticides in Foods."





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