BOOK REVIEW

THE CHEMISTRY OF WHEAT FLOUR


"The data of cereal chemistry are widely scattered. * * * * During the several years that the author has been engaged in research in this field of specialization, an effort has been made to collect and organize these data. This monograph represents an attempt to present them in a condensed and systematic arrangement for the convenience of other workers in this field. Incidentally, an opportunity is thus afforded to collocate the results of the extensive researches along this line conducted at the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station during the past thirty years." (Introduction)

This new book by Dr. Bailey, the well-known editor of "Cereal Chemistry" and research worker in this field, is, in the opinion of the reviewer, by far the best of its kind which is available in the English scientific literature. It is a careful, concise, and critical review of existing literature in the light of the author's own extensive work in this field. Its style is clear and convincing. It cannot fail to meet a real need and a ready appreciation by both research workers and technologists in the milling and baking world.

The eleven chapters deal, respectively, with Historical; Wheat in Its Relation to Flour Composition; The Growth and Development of the Wheat Plant and Kernel; Influence of Environment on the Composition of Wheat; Defects of, and Impurities in Commercial Wheat; Storage and Handling of Wheat; Chemistry of Roller Milling; Changes in Flour Incidental to Aging; The Color of Flour and Flour Bleaching; Flour Strength and Enzyme Phenomena; and Flour Strength as Determined by the Proteins of Flour and Colloidal Behavior of Dough. Each chapter treats its particular topic in logical sub-divisions, with the author's critical summary of the literature of the subject supplemented by his own experimental results and conclusions or those of his associates at the Minnesota Station. The chapter usually closes with a paragraph or two giving the gist of the facts and phenomena discussed in it in very satisfactory form.

The book is uniform in make-up and binding with the other numbers of the series. It will be a very real addition to every research reference library. (R. W. Thatcher)

AGRONOMIC AFFAIRS

NOTES AND NEWS

R. M. Barnette, formerly Assistant Soil Chemist at the University of Tennessee, has been appointed Assistant Chemist in Soil Investigations; and Walter A. Leukel as Assistant in Grass and Forage Crop Investigations; at the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station.