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REPORT ON MAPLE PRODUCTS

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The Associate Referee on Authenticity of Maple Sirup, Arthur S. Wendt, did not submit a report for this meeting. Work on this topic has been held in abeyance so that he would be free to collaborate with the Committee on Ashing Methods. The General Referee recommends that this work be continued.

The Associate Referee on Maple Flavors and Constants, J. C. Underwood, was unable to submit a report due to the relocation of the Maple Investigations group within the Eastern Regional Research Laboratory. The General Referee recommends continued study of this topic.

The Associate referee on Maple Sirup Constants, Calixte Hebert, completed a collaborative study to improve the accuracy of the controlled distillation step 31.187, in the Official AOAC Method for the determination of formaldehyde in maple sirup. On the basis of this study, he has recommended that the use of a thermostatically controlled heat source combined with insulation of the neck of the micro-Kjeldahl flask and distillation tube with asbestos tape in place of materials used in the present method be adopted as official first action. The General Referee concurs in this recommendation and recommends that the study be continued.

The Associate Referee on Microbiological Methods, John C. Kissinger, was unable to submit a report for this meeting due to the aforementioned

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relocation of ERRL laboratory facilities. However, work has been initiated on a collaborative study of a resazurin test for estimating the bacterial count in maple sap. The General Referee recommends continued study.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that study be continued on all topics as specified in this report.