THE CHEMISTRY OF BREADMAKING

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The Chemistry of Breadmaking by James Grant

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JAMES GRANT

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BY

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WITH PLATES

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THE CHEMISTRY OF BREADMAKING

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PREFACE

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THIS volume, on the application of science to the very important industry of Breadmaking, is put forward in the hope that it may fill in a gap which undoubtedly exists in the literature and text-books on this subject. It does not lay claim to any literary merit, but should rather be looked upon as an honest endeavour to assist learners who are groping in some amount of obscurity or darkness, with the dawn only just beginning to break. The majority of earnest students in breadmakingand there are many-have not the same opportunities that are enjoyed by their fellows in other industries, in most of which there is a plethora of books, many of a very excellent character. For books the breadmaking industry at the moment is dependent upon the efforts of Mr. William Jago of Brighton, and Mr. John Kirkland of the School of Baking and Confectionery in the London Borough Polytechnic, in addition, of course, to several useful trade papers. This book is not intended to be a text-book on either chemistry or physics, but rather on the application of these and the kindred science of technical mycology to the subject of Breadmaking. It is advised that all who study its contents should do so in conjunction with some simple text-books on chemistry, physics, mechanics, and the elements of biology and botany.

Recourse has been had in a few instances to chemical equations, and whenever they have been used, the names

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vi CHEMISTRY OF BREADMAKING

of all substances taking part in the reactions have been inserted immediately below. As years advance, and a scientific education is given to the members of the trade generally, such an arrangement will become as unnecessary as it is in many other technical sciences dependent on a working knowledge of chemistry.

A large number of analytical figures are included in the little volume, which are quite original, and have not before been published. In other instances the sources of the information have been acknowledged. This has been considered advisable for reference sake, as very few of such exist to assist the student in his analytical studies.

If the book merits and receives the favourable consideration of the trade and allied industries, it is hoped that in future editions any imperfections may be eradicated, whilst its scope and usefulness may be greatly enlarged.

The author's thanks are due to his colleagues, Messrs. F. G. Richards, F.C.S., and Abraham Flatters, F.R.M.S., to the former for assistance in analytical work and proofreading, and to the latter for kindly help in preparing many of the illustrations; also to his student, Mr. F. Robinson, B.Sc. Tech., for aid in the illustrations for the technical mycology portion of the work.

11

J. G.

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12

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CONTENTS

223

.

100

CHAP.											PACE	
1.	INTRODUCT	ORY	•)÷	•	8	ŝ.	•	•	•	1	
11.	THE ATMO	SPHERS.	WA	TER	•			٢	•		10	
ш.	ACIDS, ALI	KALIBS A	ND	SALTS		. :	3	353	.	3	22	
1 v .	BAKERY P	HYSICS :	THE	вмом	RTER	B, B.	AROM	eters	8, AN	D		
	CALCUL	ATIONS	35	35	5 5	*	*	181		618	30	
٧.	HEAT AND	PHYSIC.	L P	ROBLE	mə	*	2	873		2	42	
vı.	THE ORGAN	NIC CONB	TITU	ENTS	of T	HE C	EREA	LS	*	æ	55	
V 11.	THE CERE	LS AND	THE	IR CO	MPOS	ITION		250	x 0		91	
V111.	MILLING, M	CEALS, F	roui	88, X /	LTS	AND	EXTR	ACTS	8	2	102	
ι <u>x</u> .	FERMENTS,	YEASTS	, жо	ULDS,	BACT	TERIA	AND	BAR	мв		125	
x,	BREADMAE	ING PRO	CESS	ES AN	D BR	LADS		8 • 5	æ	18	153	
xı.	ANTISEPTI	CS AND	BAKE	HOUS	e nr	GIBNI	6	C.			172	
XII.	FURLS AND	O OVENS		3	8 5	*		as ¹	¥:	S.	178	
X 111.	THE ANAL	TSIS OF	CER	BAL F	oods		12	3	ŝ	S.	186	
BIBL	OGRAPHY	10	×.	34	12	9	8	1 33	S)	8	217	
INDE	x.,	š ý	2	38	2 2	88	23	2	4 2	3	219	

vii

(0)