

high death rate is that both were rich in corn products and low in wheat by-products. Corn is known to be poor in protein particularly, because it lacks some essential amino acids, such as tryptophane. Dr. L. Emmett Holt, Jr., of Baltimore, in an address to a scientific meeting in the spring of 1944, described the ill-effects in human beings caused by the lack of tryptophane in the diet, which included baldness, defective teeth, and female reproductive failure. In view of the fact, however, that the defective ration supplemented with poultry offal and other protein supplements was still found to be inadequate, it is the opinion of the Raritan workers that the deficiency is probably not due to the quality or quantity of the protein.

This new and somewhat incidental discovery of the differences in performance of liver extract indicates in striking fashion the need for new methods of assaying the potency of

such biologic materials used in medical treatment, and possibly the need for closer attention to the feeding and care of all animals from which by-products used for therapeutic purposes are derived. (At present such products are among the numerous important by-products of the meat-packing industry.)

The finding also serves to reinforce more strongly the frequently repeated thesis that dog food *must be assayed biologically*, to evaluate its *feeding value*, for chemical analyses give information only as to what nutrients are contained in any given food, and do not measure true nutritive value at all.

Two Foods Approved

There are two dry dog foods that currently meet the approval of the Committee on Foods of the A.V.M.A. and A.A.H.A. for acceptable rations. These are:

Friskies (Albers Milling Co., Seattle, Wash.) 25c per 2-lb. package (13c per lb.).

Gro-Pup (Kellogg Co., Battle Creek, Mich.) 22c per 25-oz. package (14c per lb.).

In the past there have been a number of brands on the list approved by the Committee on Foods of the American Veterinary Medical and Animal Hospital Associations, but wartime shortages of many important ingredients have reduced the nutritive values of some of these.

Dry dog food, if properly prepared from the right ingredients, provides the cheapest way to feed a dog adequately, since the purchaser can easily supply the liquid with which it is to be mixed, instead of paying for it at the grocery store and carrying it home in cans—as in pre-war days. Broth from vegetables cooked for the table and a little fat, preferably rendered from meat scraps or other animal material, mixed with the dry ration will provide a palatable and economical mixture for feeding of dogs and cats.



A Paint for Glass-Frosting

Sapolin, a "glass frosting" material selling at 40c a half-pint, intended to be used for giving a window a coating which will transmit light but prevent those outside from seeing in, was found on analysis to consist of petroleum naphtha, some resin and oil, and a pigment consisting of a mineral similar to clay. The material is thus apparently a grayish yellow

enamel of low pigment content so that its hiding power is low and the resulting film is translucent rather than opaque.

Of the two samples of *Sapolin* tested, the directions of one called for tapping the finish before it had set, with a lint-free cloth, to produce a stippled effect. This had the advantage of eliminating the brush marks

and producing a somewhat more opaque, and better appearing finish than was secured by following the directions on the other can, which omitted mention of this operation. Both samples produced a frosted finish that was judged satisfactory for obscuring vision, as would be desirable on windows or glass door panels of bathrooms, etc.