

agent and the farmer have, hand in hand, advanced relentlessly over the past century and subdued, one by one, the most baffling problems and scourges that have beset and plagued mankind since the dawn of history. It has been the work of many people and each has been as important and significant as the other. Great names in agricultural science have come and gone and are revered among us, but no one can assume credit for more than a minute fraction of this great achievement. It has been perhaps the most resounding victory democracy has won.

This is a victory we cannot and must not allow to slip away. It is our margin of security in the modern world. Yet this is precisely what can happen if certain forces currently abroad are allowed to range unchecked and unchallenged. I refer to recent developments in the pesticide and Food Additive Laws, to the administrative interpretation of these laws, and particularly to the wild and fearful publicity which has been made of these laws and their relationship to the use of agricultural chemicals and feed additives on the farm and to the health of our people.

THE "DELANEY CLAUSE"

No one questions the validity and necessity of Federal and State laws designed and administered to protect the health of the consumer of farm products; and every responsible worker in agricultural research, extension and industry recognizes the necessity to establish the safety, as well as the efficacy, of every new chemical to be used in or on edible crops and foodstuffs, *before* such a compound is released for general use. The recent amendment which centered the responsibility for such prior proof of safety upon the manufacturer is just and certainly acceptable to industry. However, attached to the amendment at the last moment was a clause, known as the "Delaney Clause," which, in a few words, if administered literally would reduce the whole agricultural chemical industry and, more important, its function on the farm to a veritable shambles. This circumstance can stop the rapid advances of agricultural science completely, for it will discourage the chemical industry from searching further for new compounds with which to combat the unresolved scourges of the farmer, and it will inevitably leave the grower at the mercy of a thousand pests which will boil back with both relish and alacrity once the pressure of control is removed. The impact of this will be, of course, not only a rapid decline in the volume and variety of the bright array of foodstuffs to which we have so happily become accustomed, but more significantly it will result in a sharp rise in its price—by perhaps a factor of as much as tenfold.

LACK OF DEFINITION

The Delaney Clause states that no residue tolerance is allowable on any chemical used in or on a food or feed product if it is "found to induce can-