

Mr. JORGENSEN: Do you think this could be applied to other crops, other than in respect of dairy production? For example, would it be possible to set up the same type of organization in respect of cereal crops, and the like?

Mr. BENTLEY: You can get residue from crops which have been treated with chemicals if they have been improperly applied. This shows up, of course, in the milk supply. This is the way you get it.

Mr. JORGENSEN: I realize this, but there are farmers who are not dairy farmers and their end product would not find its way into the dairy labs. I am thinking, for instance, of grain farmers.

Mr. BENTLEY: I expect you are thinking in terms of grain which is used, say, for beef production. Usually there is a longer term involved. In the case of forage used in dairy production, the feed contamination would show up right away. It probably would not show up so quickly in the case of feed or forage for beef cattle. There would probably be a longer period in which the residue may have an opportunity to dissipate, and probably it would not show up so quickly.

Mr. JORGENSEN: You feel there is a great danger in the field of milk production.

Mr. BENTLEY: The product is sold tomorrow or the next day; a very short period of time is involved; whereas in respect of beef or hogs, or anything of this kind, there would be a longer period. It probably would not be so serious, but it could be.

Mr. WILLOUGHBY: Have you had to take any action in the way of suspension against any producer?

Mr. BENTLEY: There have been cases where producers have been suspended.

Mr. ROXBURGH: When you take these samples from the main tank, how are you going to check back to the producer himself?

Mr. BENTLEY: An actual sample is taken in his dairy barn. Every time there is a pickup from these farms, the sample is taken in the farmer's own milkhouse, and while the milk may go into a bulk tank, there is a record of his particular sample with a number on it.

Mr. BALDWIN: In the second last paragraph of your brief on page 7 you have made a very strong suggestion. Is this based on your experience in Alberta?

Mr. BENTLEY: Yes. I certainly think that is true. It is necessary to involve producers in this process in order to make them aware of the financial stake they have in their particular industry and how important it is that they receive the continued confidence of the consuming public in the product which they are producing. I think it is essential to bring this home to the producers. We in the producers' organization are bringing this home to them; we are giving them an awareness of the financial stake they have in this industry; we tell them this is the way they can preserve their own industry.

Mr. BALDWIN: What is the make up of this body in Alberta? I think you said there was a representative from the food and drug directorate, and someone from the Alberta dairy industry.

Mr. BENTLEY: We have a representative of the plants, representatives of the producers, a representative from the dairy testing lab., and a representative from the government who is in the dairy improvement service.

Mr. BALDWIN: That would be of the provincial government?

Mr. BENTLEY: Yes.

Mr. BALDWIN: And the federal government food and drug directorate?

Mr. BENTLEY: Yes.