

and often, too, on leased land, but treat the abattoir the same as any respectable and important municipal utility—issue the owners a permit to build within the city or town, so that they can get safe and proper sewer connection and within reach of the city water line, both of which are indispensable—then require them to keep the establishment and surroundings clean. Our records show that the rural slaughter houses are, as a whole, more unsanitary than those located in the cities and borough; the reason being as stated above—lack of proper facilities for keeping them clean. By all means be consistent in the matter and do not expect or demand from the butcher a wholesome product which he has been forced to prepare under unfavorable conditions.

In order to give those of you who are not familiar with what the cities of other countries are doing in regard to municipal slaughter houses, I quote, in part, from a report from Amsterdam, Holland: Consul F. M. Mahin says that a municipal abattoir is not only feasible, but absolutely necessary, and that the city abattoir is one of the largest and most important enterprises. The buildings comprise two slaughter houses for cattle, a slaughter house for hogs and one for horses, three stables for cattle and three each for hogs and horses. There are other buildings also for the treatment of waste and hog hair, blood drying, tripe boiling, a forge, the sterilization of meat, a laboratory for microscopic examination and an administration office. In addition to the above, a space is provided for a cattle market, cafe and stables for horses and vehicles. The latter would not be regarded as necessary in this country and could be dispensed with. The total surface covered by the buildings and cattle market exceeds 100,000 square yards. All the slaughtering of animals for food in Amsterdam must be done there. Some meat slaughtered elsewhere is brought to the city, but it must be examined at the city slaughter house and be stamped the same as meat slaughtered there. All condemned meat is rendered into fertilizer, as is required in this country. The slaughtering is not done by the city, but by the livestock owners, who pay for the use of the abattoir sixty-four (64) cents for each steer, cow or horse; thirty-four (34) cents for each fat calf or hog, and ten (10)

cents for each sheep, young calf or goat. A charge is made of about one-fifth ($1/5$) of a cent a pound for beef and pork not slaughtered there and about one-tenth ($1/10$) of a cent a pound for other meat. The meat is carried from the abattoir to the shops in specially arranged wagons. About 151,000 animals are slaughtered annually. The capital invested in the grounds and buildings of this abattoir is \$1,200,000. The operating expenses were about \$50,000 and the total receipts about \$89,000—a profit of \$39,000.

Berne, Switzerland, last summer decided to build a new municipal abattoir to cost several hundred thousand dollars, advertising for bids. This shows what faith the people of that city have in such an enterprise.

Passing eastward, we find ourselves placed in an even more ridiculous predicament, when we learn of the municipal abattoir at Shanghai, China, with its concrete floors and brick walls, and which is kept scrupulously clean at all times. The cost of slaughtering here is: Ox, eighty-five (85) cents; sheep, ten (10) cents; calf, twenty-five (25) cents, and pig, twenty (20) cents, with an additional charge from five to twenty cents if killed inside of regular hours.

Jumping from China to South America, we find Uruguay proposes passing a law authorizing the issuing of bonds to build and operate a state abattoir. Working homeward, we next hear that the health officials of Toronto, Canada, are agitating the erection of a municipal abattoir, so that the slaughtering may be centralized. The Board of Health of Berlin, Ontario, Canada, has taken steps to have erected a public abattoir and to require all meats to be inspected. If time would permit, I might cite many more cities in other countries that have adopted this plan as the only feasible solution for handling this important question.

I am delighted to be able to say here today that a few of what certainly must be regarded as more progressive towns and cities of our own country have come to realize that to continue to permit the slaughter of animals under unfavorable conditions, such as is being done in many places in every State in the Union, is to sanction a system that is considered obsolete in most foreign countries, and at the