

the individual farmer concerned. We think this is the best way to do it. The plants, the processors and distributors have promised that their field men will be available in this work and will go to the actual producer who is having some difficulty with residues in his dairy products. By this means we do not attack the situation by scare headlines, but by actually getting to the man who produces the product and is having some difficulty. We show him why he is having his difficulty, and get him to realize he has a stake in this industry and that it is important high quality products be available for the consumer.

As a result we have had co-operation all down the line through the processors, the lab. technicians, and the dairy group of which I happen to be president, the Edmonton district milk producers association. Periodically we send out information in the milk checks to our members showing how important these matters are, and pointing out that we want to safeguard the health of the people using these products. We point out that even the farmer has a great scientific stake in preserving the high quality of products which go to the consumer.

In the main this is what this particular committee does. We have four of these committees in the Alberta Dairymen's Association, but this particular committee deals specifically with the matters under discussion here today.

I think, Mr. Chairman, basically that is what we are trying to do. If there are any questions, I will attempt to answer them.

Mr. WILLOUGHBY: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask how they go about selecting these samples in a large province like Alberta. Do you mean that you sample every farmer's produce regularly?

Mr. BENTLEY: So far as the whole milk is concerned, this is sampled periodically. All milk in Alberta which goes for processing for fluid purposes is picked up in bulk tanks and a sample is taken each day. Periodically this sample is tested for antibiotics, pesticides or adulterants of any kind. This is done at the plants; this is a regular procedure. Of course, the farmer does not know how often this takes place; it is a periodic sampling of his product. It is impossible to have this testing done on every pickup, but there is a sampling taken on every pickup and the farmer does not know on which day the sample actually will be tested; it is a periodic procedure.

Mr. WILLOUGHBY: Is the testing done in the central laboratory or in the creamery?

Mr. BENTLEY: They actually do this in the dairy lab in Edmonton; that is, the actual testing.

Mr. JORGENSEN: Who provided the initiative in setting up this type of organization? I am very interested in it.

Mr. BENTLEY: It was the Alberta Dairymen's Association which instituted this whole program. We feel that we, as producers, the distributors and processors all have a stake in this. We do not feel that one can correct matters by scare headlines in newspapers, or by this sort of approach. Actually we want to get to the man who produces the cream or milk who is having some difficulty, and consequently in this way get down to the root of the trouble. The processors have field men who go out to the particular farm where there is difficulty.

Mr. JORGENSEN: Is this organization making any effort to set up similar groups in other provinces?

Mr. BENTLEY: We would hope that in the other provinces they would conduct a similar program. The Alberta Dairymen's Association, of course, is an entity in itself and has no power over any other province. So far as the Canadian federation is concerned, we certainly will make every effort possible to have other provinces conduct similar programs because we think it is well worth while.