

FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATIONS

Congress approves compromise bill to increase wheat allotment minimums

THE SENATE and House of Representatives have approved a compromise bill to increase the minimum wheat acreage for the nation from 55 million to 61 million acres. The necessity of marketing quotas for the 1953-54 wheat crop was anticipated early this year and on June 30 Secretary Benson announced that he would call for a referendum of wheat farmers on the question. Immediately following passage of the Congressional bill he announced that the farmer referendum would be held August 14.

The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 as amended provides that when the total supply of wheat in storage at the end of a crop year exceeds 120% of the normal supply marketing quotas must be proclaimed by the Secretary of Agriculture. This will be the first time that marketing quotas have been proclaimed since 1941. The final decision regarding the quotas is left up to the wheat farmers. In the referendum in August they will have to decide whether they want to accept the quotas. The quotas must be approved by two thirds of the farmers voting in the referendum before they can actually go into effect. Before the farmers vote the Department of Agriculture must tell each one what acreage he would be allowed to plant under the acreage allotments.

When it became apparent earlier this year that the wheat surplus would call

for marketing quotas several bills were introduced to increase the minimum acreage allotments above the 55 million acres which would have been proclaimed under the then existing legislation.

The marketing quotas set goals for wheat production for the nation and states. These production goals are passed on to the farmers as acreage allotments; if the farmers plant only their allotted acreage they are assured price support at 90% of parity.

In addition to the acreage allotments, however, marketing quotas provide that the sale of wheat by the farmer will be controlled. For if the marketing quotas are approved farmers who exceed their acreage allotments cannot sell their wheat without paying a fine. If the marketing quotas are not approved, the acreage allotments proclaimed by the Secretary of Agriculture will not go into effect, and government price support will drop from 90 to 50% of parity.

New Pesticide Act in Florida

FLORIDA HOUSE BILL No. 883 recently passed the legislature and has become law, known as the Florida Pesticide Act. One of the new provisions in the act is the inclusion of definitions of fumigant, plant nutrient, and plant physiologic, which are required to be listed in the statement

of ingredients. These rather unusual provisions are in line with current agricultural practices in Florida. The addition of trace element sources and in some cases nutrients to pesticide foliage sprays is a general practice in the citrus groves there.

Highly toxic poisons are required to be packaged in such materials as to be safe for shipping, storing, or handling. This is already required under ICC regulations for Class B poisons.

The registrant of an economic poison is required to file a statement at time of registration, which includes a guaranteed analysis. The federal act requires this only if, after examination of the application, the composition of the product does not appear to warrant the proposed claims for it.

Persons registered to manufacture or sell pesticides under provisions of the act may make and sell special lots of pesticides not already registered, provided that request for registration of such special lot is mailed to the commissioner on the same day the lot is made.

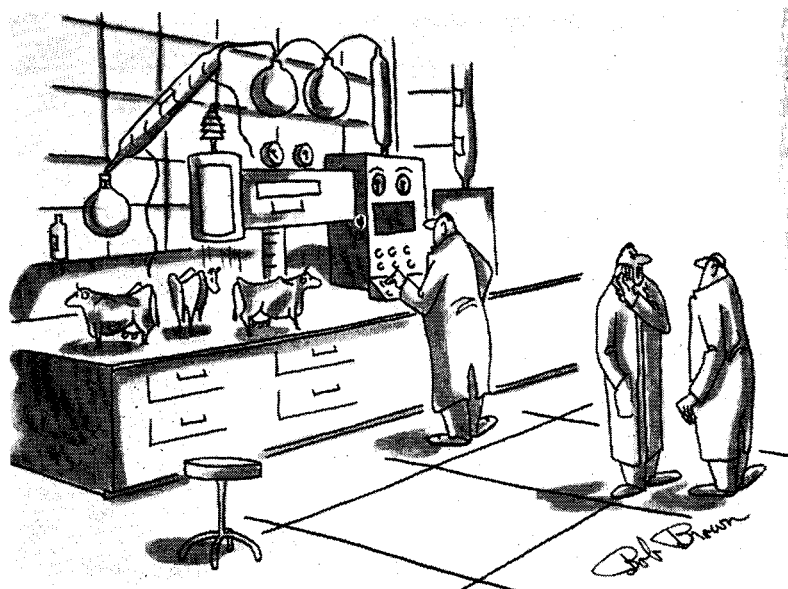
In the case of discontinuance of manufacture, the registrant is required to continue registration until no more remains on retailer shelves or not to exceed 2 years from date of discontinuance of manufacture.

Annual registration fee is \$10 for each of the first ten brands, and \$2.50 per brand thereafter. Registrants in 1953 may register all additional brands for \$2.50 each for the remainder of the year. Registration expiration date is Dec. 31.

Evidence of the efficiency of a pesticide before the product is registered may be required by the commissioner, in which case the evidence shall be examined by the technical committee, composed of the state chemist of Florida, the director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, and the director of the Florida Agricultural Extension Service.

Any registrant may propose rules and regulations to be acted upon by the technical committee within 60 days. The registrant may also file with the state chemist to receive a copy of any proposed rule or regulation at least 5 days before hearing by the technical committee, which committee will report its recommendations to the commissioner for action.

Violations of the act may be referred by the Commissioner to the circuit court for hearing. Terminology of this provision is such that a restraint could apply to a manufacturer for all of his pesticidal products rather than to a particular product.



It seems to me that Haley is approaching the synthetic milk problem the hard way