nance and code is being assembled from the most recent Advisory Committee reports and recommendations. This phase of the project is being undertaken by the staff of the Milk and Food Program, with the very able assistance of Mr. A. W. Fuchs, who is a past president of this Association. As soon as the working draft of the new manual can be completed and reviewed by the Advisory Committee, it will be ready for distribution.

As previously indicated, it is expected that the working draft of the proposed new food establishment sanitation manual will be completed in 1959. At that time, copies will be distributed for review and comment to all States, and through the States, to a representative number of counties and municipalities. Copies will also be submitted for comment to industry, Federal agencies, and other interested organizations.

It should be emphasized that the new manual will have value to the extent that it meets the needs of the States and communities in the implementation of effective food sanitation programs. It is particularly important that it reflect the views of the official agencies and industries primarily concerned with the public health aspects of food establishment sanitation. Accordingly, it is urged that everyone concerned, who has the opportunity, carefully and critically review the working draft. Only by providing the Service and Advisory Committee with the benefit of your experience and thinking can the new manual most nearly meet the objective for which it is intended.

A STUDENT PROJECT IN COMMUNITY HEALTH

Richard Mansfield

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The problem of explaining and interpreting the functions and purposes of a public health department has been a subject of interest to the International Association of Milk and Food Sanitarians for a number of years. The feeling has been expressed, upon a number of occasions, that an appreciation and understanding of public health can best be initiated at the secondary school level. At the annual Association meeting in 1955, at Augusta, Georgia, this problem was discussed in relation to the Scholarship Fund. It was suggested that stimulation of students in high school to consider the career possibilities of public health might be helpful in attaining the ultimate objective of the Scholarship Fund.

The report which follows covers the period October-December 1955. It is based upon the experience of the writer in his work with the Clinton, Tennessee High School. It is hoped that this report will serve to demonstrate how contact can be made with school authorities, what procedures may be followed and what subject matter may be presented to better inform students of the objectives of a modern community health program.

Prior to the time this joint project was conducted, public health education had been confined to about two weeks of health study normally taken during the sophomore year. The health teacher observed that many of her students had the pre-conceived idea that a health department was a kind of welfare agency whose main function was to care for the poor and the medically indigent. With this misconception of public health in the minds of her students the teacher made inquiry at our department to learn what assistance we might render.

Mr. Richard Mansfield is a Sanitarian in the Anderson County Health Department, Clinton, Tennessee, a position which he has held for seven years. In 1951 Mr. Mansfield received his Bachelor of Science in Public Health from Indiana University. He is a past President of the Tennessee Association of Sanitarians. Although his primary work is in a generalized sanitarian program, he has carried on extensive educational programs in the public schools of Anderson County.
In addition, and just prior to the start of the project, the Women's Auxiliary of the Tennessee Medical Association announced an annual Health Project contest open to secondary school students throughout the state. The main purpose of this contest was to alert students to some of the health needs of their community and to report their findings with recommendations. This contest announcement stimulated both teacher and students to ask the question, “What can we do which will have lasting educational value to the individual student as well as prove meaningful to the community?”

A committee of students was formed to study the question and a number of possibilities were considered. The writer proposed that a sanitary survey be made of the city of Clinton. This idea appeared to offer the best opportunity for group participation. There were five health classes involved with a total of 150 students. Each student would participate in the survey and have an opportunity of going house to house, introducing himself to the occupants, describing the purpose of the call and filling out a survey sheet which listed items of public health significance. The survey form was provided by the Tennessee Department of Public Health and covered such items as sewage and garbage disposal, water supply, animals on premises, rodent and insect control and the general condition of the premises. Maps of the city were obtained from the City Recorder. Each block was given a number and these numbers recorded on maps. On the day of the survey each student was given a map and a block assignment for his survey.

After the survey had been completed, survey sheets were assembled and students tabulated results with assistance from the teacher and the writer. After each block had been given a numerical rating, the block was shaded on a large map with the appropriate color for the rating attained. Blocks scoring 95 per cent or over were left white, those scoring 85-94 were colored orange, 70-84 green and for a score below 70, red.

While the actual survey conducted by the students gave them first hand information on matters pertaining to environmental health, the follow-up was also of value to them in understanding the significance of their findings. This was accomplished through a series of classroom lectures, demonstrations and the showing of appropriate motion pictures. This gave the writer an opportunity to discuss diseases that can be controlled through hygienic measures, allowed a discussion of water supply control and sewage disposal, the place of insects and rodents in the possible transmission of disease, and gave the students a better concept of how a health department functions in protecting community health.

The project did not end, however, at this point and the teacher found a continuing interest in sanitation on the part of her students. Further exploration into other areas which had not been covered, were proposed. As a result, three additional days were scheduled for a study of milk and food sanitation. The phosphatase test, standard plate count and certain field tests were demonstrated. In addition, significant items of sanitation included on standard dairy and food inspection forms were discussed to explain further the many points which bear upon the sanitary quality of milk and food.

The influence of this project extended beyond the limits of the classroom. The Clinton-Courier News carried a number of articles describing the project and the sanitary survey. A summary of the results compiled by students through their house to house canvas was also published in the local press. One of the students was elected spokesman and he publicly presented the survey report before the Board of Aldermen. A highly complimentary letter was addressed to the teacher and students from the Mayor and City Recorder, commending them for their efforts in this connection. The Clinton Chamber of Commerce formed a, “City Beautiful Commission”, and members of the county health department and city high school were appointed to membership.

It is of course, somewhat difficult to measure objectively the lasting value of a project of this nature but there are some tangible conclusions that can be drawn. The project developed a fine working relationship between faculty and students of the high school and the department of health. Each learned to integrate common interests and develop a project that was mutually advantageous. The students who participated learned by doing and their calls at households were meaningful when supplemented by lectures and class discussions of the place and importance of environmental health on community living. Certainly the health department benefitted in that some 150 sophomore students in the health class were given an insight into the aims and purposes of a modern public health program and its approach to the promotion of man’s health through control of his environment.

It is the opinion of the writer that teachers and school authorities welcome guidance and assistance from local health department personnel when the approach is made from the advisory viewpoint. The experience at the Clinton High School has demonstrated that a worthwhile community project can be developed which will be enthusiastically received by health teachers and students alike. If such a plan is followed, the high school student will be better in-
formed about a community service which, in too many instances is looked upon as aid to the poor or related mainly to street cleaning and garbage collection. Public health sanitarians have much to contribute and are well equipped to assist in public health education of high school students at the secondary level.

THE INFLUENCE OF VARIOUS PRACTICES USED IN SAMPLING FOR THE A. B. R. TEST ON THE FAT TEST OF COMPOSITE SAMPLES OF MILK

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In 1951 Wisconsin adopted the ring test as an integral part of its Brucellosis control program.

The first round of ring testing disclosed 41.4% suspicious herds. Today, after seven years and 14 rounds of ring testing, only 3.0% of Wisconsin herds are ring test suspicious according to the reports of the Livestock Sanitation Division of the Wisconsin State Department of Agriculture.

As the percent of suspicious ring test herds decreased, the problem of false suspicious herds increased until better than 80% of all suspicious ring reactions were false — that is, no reactors were disclosed upon blood test of the herd; only suspects or negative animals.

In searching for a way to reduce the false suspicious reactions, a study survey was conducted during the 12th round of ring testing to determine the feasibility of testing a 1-ml aliquot sample of milk taken from the dairy plant's patron composite milk sample.

This method of testing not only proved to be reliable but reduced the number of false suspicious reactions by 50%. As this method of testing seemed to offer definite advantages, the Wisconsin State Department of Agriculture requested the Dairy and Food Industries Department of the University of Wisconsin to conduct a series of studies to determine the effect on the fat test of the composite sample of milk of removing a 1-ml aliquot sample of milk from the composite sample. Not only did it seem desirable to determine if the removal of this 1-ml portion would have any significant effect on the fat test of the composite, but it also seemed desirable to determine whether or not the method of shaking the composite prior to removal of the 1-ml portion would have any influence on the fat test of the composite sample.

To attempt to answer these questions, the following experiment was devised. The design of this experiment resulted from a series of conferences between representatives of the Livestock Sanitation Division and the Dairy and Food Division of the Wisconsin State Department of Agriculture and representatives of the Dairy and Food Industries Department of the University of Wisconsin.

1 Published with the approval of the Director of the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station.
2 The costs of performing the fat tests involved in this study were defrayed by the Wisconsin State Department of Agriculture.

Professor Harold E. Calbert has been interested in dairy and food sanitation for a number of years. In addition to a course in Dairy and Food Plant Sanitation, he also teaches courses in Dairy and Food Chemistry, Food Ingredients, and Fluid Milk Processing. His research work has been in the fields of milk and food sanitation, bulk milk handling, and milk product research and development. Dr. Calbert is a Past-President of the Wisconsin Association of Milk and Food Sanitarians.