

Annual Report of the Committee on Sanitary Procedure, 1947*

THE Committee on Sanitary Procedure has been engaged in several closely integrated projects during the past year, although individually they have been of a rather divergent nature. They include: (a) a search for a more accurate procedure for the timing of high temperature-short time pasteurizers, (b) collaboration with the other two agencies (U.S.P.H.S. and D.I.C.) in the formulation of sanitary standards for two types of milk-plant equipment, and (c) the exploration of the possibilities for the registration of a symbol to designate equipment which conforms to the 3-A Sanitary Standards.

The 1946 Annual Report of this Committee made reference to the organization of a study of the timing of H.T.S.T. pasteurizers, in order to obtain data upon which to found a standard procedure for determining the holding time with a reproducible degree of accuracy. This involves the calibration and the precise location of all the timing and temperature measuring devices employed. The study is being financed by the National Sanitation Foundation and by manufacturers of H.T.S.T. pasteurizing equipment, including the Cherry-Burrell Corporation, the Creamery Package Manufacturing Company, and the York Company. The Dairy Department of Cornell University has accepted the grants, and the study is now under way, under the supervision of Dr. R. Holland.

The acquisition of the equipment was begun last spring, but because the delivery of certain necessary electrical

apparatus was delayed, the study did not actually begin until the latter part of August, 1947.

The sub-committee met at Cornell University on September 12, with twenty-six representatives of the dairy industry, including manufacturers of H.T.S.T. pasteurizers, pumps, thermal instruments, and timers. The University staff outlined the intent of the research, displayed the equipment, and demonstrated an experimental test run. Advantage was taken of suggestions made by the observers.

A study of this nature, when actually under way, may be considered half completed—at least with respect to the time required. Therefore, unless unforeseen difficulties arise, the sub-committee is confident that the project will have progressed sufficiently to permit the presentation of a standard method for determining high temperature-short time holding time for consideration by the membership, prior to the next annual meeting of this Association.

The main activity of the Committee has consisted of collaboration with the other two agencies in the formulation of sanitary standards for dairy industry equipment. The year achievements have already appeared in print. These are: "Sanitary Standards for Weigh Cans and Receiving Tanks for Raw Milk", which appeared in the *Journal of Milk and Food Technology*, Sept.-Oct., 1947, pp. 277-279; and "Sanitary Standards for Pumps for Milk and Milk Products", *Journal of Milk and Food Technology*, Sept.-Oct., pp. 280-281. These standards were formulated and adopted after careful study and full discussion in a two-day joint meeting with the U. S. Public

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Health Service and the Sanitary Standards Subcommittee of the Dairy Industry Committee, in Washington, on March 26 and 27, 1947, and in a one-day meeting at Buffalo, N. Y., on June 23, 1947.

The formulation of these standards is a lengthy process, involving much time and considerable travel by more than a few individuals. At the risk of repetition which may prove bothersome to some, but in the belief that it may be informative to a greater number, the evolution of standards, from inception to adoption, is outlined.

1. Upon recommendation by regulatory groups or the industry, equipment widely used in the dairy industry is taken up for study by the Sanitary Standards Subcommittee of the Dairy Industry Committee.

2. A task committee of the Sanitary Standards Subcommittee, including manufacturers or fabricators and users of the equipment, is appointed to draft tentative sanitary standards for study purposes.

3. The task committee submits its report to the Sanitary Standards Subcommittee.

4. After considering the tentative standards at a meeting, at which any modifications agreed upon are made, the Sanitary Standards Subcommittee submits the revised tentative draft to the sanitary standards or simplified practice committees of each of the industry branches. This subjects the tentative draft to review at the national level.

5. The comments received are reviewed at another meeting of the task committee with the Sanitary Standards Subcommittee, following which another tentative draft, revised to include valid suggestions, is re-submitted to the several branches of the industry.

6. Upon agreement on tentative sanitary standards for the equipment, irrespective of the number of meetings required, they are transmitted to the Dairy Industry Committee.

7. Upon approval by the Dairy Industry Committee, the tentative sanitary standards are submitted to the U. S. Public Health Service and to the Committee on Sanitary Procedure of this Association, with a sufficient number of copies for all members.

8. After a period of study by these latter two agencies, a joint meeting of the three agencies is held, at which differences in viewpoint, if any, are coordinated.

9. The standards finally agreed upon are designated to be 3-A Sanitary Standards for the equipment, and are published in the *Journal of Milk and Food Technology*, reprints being made available.

Your Committee, one of the final arbiters on these sanitary standards, has adhered to the principle that standards must provide the highest degree of sanitary construction practically attainable, without making the cost prohibitive. The standards fixed, in some instances, necessitate major revisions of design, at considerable cost in engineering effort and re-tooling.

The far-reaching effect of these sanitary standards upon manufacturers and fabricators is cited in order to emphasize the responsibility which participation by the Committee on Sanitary Procedure in their formulation and adoption places upon every member of this Association. These sanitary standards apply to equipment used in all of the six main branches of the dairy industry—butter, cheese, dry milk, evaporated and condensed milk, ice cream, as well as the fluid milk industry. Equipment manufacture is in a stage such that individual pieces reaching purchasers will shortly embody the features of design and construction prescribed in the 3-A Sanitary Standards, and sanitarians are urged to recognize conformance to these standards.

This collaborative program has no limitations. Standards for milk transportation tanks, homogenizer and high pressure pumps, gauges for storage tanks, dairyware (milk pails and strainers), milking machine, and can-washers are already in the tentative stages. The formulation of sanitary standards for other types of equipment is being considered. The range and extent of the program provide an index of its potentialities for benefit: to milk sanitarians, because of design and the use of structural materials which facilitate effective sanitization; to manufacturers, by providing a universal pattern for design and by making it possible to eliminate obsolete lines and styles; and to users, because of assurance that purchases predicated upon conformance with 3-A Sanitary Standards will meet with approval by

milk sanitarians when installed. However, we—as milk sanitarians—can benefit from this program only to the extent that we cooperate in making it effective.

Dr. E. H. Parfitt, chairman of the Sanitary Standards Subcommittee of the Dairy Industry Committee, in a paper delivered at the 1946 Annual Meeting of the New York State Association of Milk Sanitarians, named the following three types of support upon which the success of this program is dependent:

1. The backing given published sanitary standards by the individual milk sanitarian, exemplified by his insistence upon conformance of newly installed equipment with these standards and his readiness to approve equipment conforming to them, rather than insistence upon modifications in design or construction to meet personally devised amendments.
2. The degree of publicity given these standards, so that buyers of equipment for which standards have been developed will be cognizant of them, and will specify that it conform to them.
3. The degree of support exercised by regulatory groups to assure that only equipment which conforms to the fixed standards is labelled, or stamped, or offered with the understanding that it conforms to 3-A Sanitary Standards.

This report has already elaborated upon the first of these types of support. Those who have amendments to propose are invited to communicate with the chairman of the committee.

It is with respect to publicity—the spreading of the gospel of sanitary standardization—that the Committee on Sanitary Procedure and the Association have not yet attained their full stature. Planographs of drawings and dimensions of fittings have been made, reprints of the Sanitary Standards for Storage Tanks have been purchased and widely distributed, and reprints of the standards recently published have been ordered, by the Dairy Industry Committee. The milk sanitarians have acquiesced in this manner of making the standards known, and have in

numbers of instances applied to the Dairy Industry Committee for reprints. There is no valid basis for serious criticism of the manner in which these standards have been made known. The Association has had little experience in publicizing a policy or program. Nevertheless, we, as the association of those who are largely responsible for the ultimate acceptance and requirement of these sanitary standards, should take an active interest in the dissemination of knowledge of them, and should be participating more actively in that dissemination.

A presentation or discussion of sanitary standards for milk-handling equipment used on farms, for its transportation, and for its processing, should be a standard part of the program of every annual meeting of milk sanitarians, of meetings of dairy products associations, of short courses, and of conferences of fieldmen, for the next several years, or until it is felt that audiences have been completely saturated with the concept of the program. Members of the Committee on Sanitary Procedure could well become apostles of this campaign of information among milk sanitarians in their respective parts of the nation, as members of the Sanitary Standards Subcommittee are preaching the gospel at meetings of the several branches of the industry. It is suggested they be invited to address your local or State meetings.

Concerning reprints of published sanitary standards, it is most desirable—in the interest of Association prestige—that a milk sanitarian who needs a copy of the sanitary standards for a specific type of equipment be able to obtain it from the Association; that is, from the office of the Secretary-Treasurer. To this end, the Association should also order and have available reprints of the standards thus far published.

It appears to be appropriate and

desirable that the Association should send reprints to the Health Departments of States and large cities and should be able to provide, for those who at any time wish to secure a complete file of sanitary standards, a folder or binder containing all the standards which have been published, to which may be added others as reprints become available. It is not implied that such a service should be free to all who request it. But, binders and single reprints might be made available at cost, plus a nominal fee for assembly and mailing.

Having recognized the need for the third type of support listed by Dr. Parfitt—that is, the control of misrepresentation regarding conformance of specific equipment to sanitary standards—the Executive Board of the Association has explored the possibilities for registering the 3-A symbol, in accordance with the provisions of a resolution adopted by the Association at the Atlantic City Meeting, in 1946.

As a result of the waiving of proprietary rights in a trade-mark in which the capital letter "A" was a prominent feature, the DeLaval Separator Company has made it possible for the Association to register the



symbol 3-A, when it has been demonstrated to be in actual use, in the manner and under conditions such as are proposed in the application for

registration. When registered, the Association acquires the right to use the symbol, or to delegate its use.

The details of an organized system for the use of the registered symbol have not been fully developed; development should necessarily proceed slowly and cautiously. Assurance has been given that the steps necessary to fulfil the legal requirements for registration of the symbol will be taken. When fully developed and ready for applica-

tion, the system adopted will be made known in the Journal.

Several years ago, Mr. Russell R. Palmer, then President of the Association, suggested that records and data pertaining to adopted sanitary standards be deposited with the Secretary of the Association, so that reference might be made to original sources in event the chronology or intent of any action were questioned. Accordingly, there are herewith presented complete files of correspondence, and the several steps in the development of:

Sanitary Standards for Storage Tanks for Milk and Milk Products.

Sanitary Standards for Weigh Cans and Receiving Tanks for Raw Milk (except a reprint).

Sanitary Standards for Pumps for Milk and Milk Products (except a reprint). Also a partial file, since June, 1945, on Standards for Sanitary Fittings and Valves for Milk Piping. It is recommended that these records be made a part of the archives of the Association.

It is with sincere regret that the resignations of Ralph Irwin, of Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, and of Sol Pincus, of New York, from this Committee are announced. Mr. Irwin has not been connected actively with milk control for several years, and plans henceforth to enjoy complete leisure. Mr. Pincus retired from his connection with the New York City Health Department early this month, and also plans to indulge in work only as a reflex from boredom. Both have served the Association and the Committee well.

Respectfully submitted

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