

# Brucellosis Regulation Modification Outlined

Vaccinates under 30 months of age in beef cattle, and vaccinates under 24 months of age in dairy cattle may now be removed from a herd quarantined for brucellosis in both range and dairy areas, according to an administrative order of the State Department of Agriculture.

This change in the department's regulations came as a result of conferences with cattlemen from the Klamath County area, who maintained that the former regulation, which allowed vaccinated calves under 18 months of age to

be removed, was too strict. After investigation, department experts decided that the rule could be changed without risking the effectiveness of the program.

Don Parker, assistant attorney general with the Oregon State Department of Agriculture, said that this order points up the advantages of a flexible brucellosis law. The 1957 Legislature authorized the department to adopt and issue regulations necessary for enabling the state and the various counties to become modified certified brucellosis free areas, and to maintain that status. The regulations adopted by Oregon's Department of Agriculture must be in line with minimum federal standards.

If the regulations had been a part of the state law, Parker continued, it would have been impossible to change them until the next time the Legislature meets. The attorney added that the department welcomes talks with cattlemen about their ideas for improving the program.

Another important change contained in the administrative order concerns brucellosis suspects originating from brucellosis-infected herds that are moved to or sold through a stockyard or livestock auction market. The new regulation stipulates these animals must be sold only for slaughter and moved directly to a slaughtering establishment that has federal, state or municipal meat inspection.

This section was added to Oregon's rules because the department had received reports that some out-of-state sellers are bringing brucellosis suspects into Oregon in an attempt to sell them.

The administrative order, signed January 13, also declares that owners of cattle herds must use the official veterinarian in their area for vaccination and testing for brucellosis and tuberculosis. However, with the approval of the department, the owner may use another official veterinarian of his choice, provided he pays the cost of the required testing and vaccinations.

The order states that this requirement is necessary in order to achieve the most efficient and economical use of the tax funds which have been appropriated to carry out the program in Oregon.

### DEVELOPED VACCINE

One of the first effective vaccines for protection against whooping cough was developed and standardized in Michigan State Health Department laboratories.

### LOSES RIGHTS

A convicted felon may not vote, will never get a passport or be allowed to hold public or be eligible for any civil service job, unless he gets a presidential pardon.

# Property Tax Change Urged

Gerald Detering, president of the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation, in a speech to the Linn County Farm Bureau membership meeting, said the Oregon Farm Bureau is strongly in favor of a broadened tax base to supplement the present property tax in Oregon. Said Detering, "At the time Oregon's property tax system was inaugurated it was reasonably fair. Today the property tax system penalizes those who must own property to earn a living." The Oregon Farm Bureau leader said farm people in particular bear a disproportionate share of the county property tax.

Compared to neighboring states, Oregon ranks number one in tax revenue taken through property tax. Based on full valuation, Oregon received \$1.90 per \$100 valuation while Washington draws only 63 cents from property tax on the same basis.

Making a direct comparison, a Washington farmer with a farm valued at \$50,000 would pay approximately \$315 in property taxes. The Oregon farmer, under the same conditions, would be charged \$545.

Detering pointed out that ownership of property has long since failed to indicate ability to pay. Said the farm bureau president, "efforts toward better enforcement, fairer equalization of assessments are commendable; however, it should be emphasized that no amount of legislation and administrative patch work will ever make the property tax an equitable tax. This is particularly true when it alone is the primary source of tax revenue in the county."

"The Oregon Farm Bureau Federation believes that the property tax must be replaced as the primary source of county revenue and that a broadened tax base should be adopted," Detering told the Linn County meeting.



**THE ANNUAL** meeting of the Klamath Basin Grade A Milk Producers Association was held at the fairgrounds Tuesday and reports were heard from subcommittees. Lester Adams, manager of the Oregon Milk Producers Association, reported on the activities of that group during the past year and R. Frank Tucker, manager of the Klamath County Chamber of Commerce, spoke on recent expansion in this county and what it means to the dairy industry. Shown above, left to right, are Lawrence Geraghty, president, Tucker, Adams and George Reiling who was reelected to succeed himself as a member of the board of directors for a three year term.

# Truckers Haul Molasses Now

Increased use of molasses in livestock feed in recent years has been accompanied by changes in methods of transporting it, according to a report issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Tank trucks are used more than before — to deliver molasses from railroads, from waterborne carriers, and from seaport terminals directly to users.

Rapid development of tank-truck deliveries, making molasses available in small quantities to feeders and feed mixers in the Middle West, was accompanied by almost a hundredfold expansion of molasses shipments by water up the Mississippi River from 1949 to 1954, the report shows. Much of this molasses then was delivered to the users by truck, now generally regarded as the principal method for transporting molasses for feed.

Previously, railway tank-car deliveries had necessitated shipments so large that farmers and small feed mixers usually could not afford to buy in the large quantities shipped.

Costs of transporting molasses are such that tank trucks can readily compete with railroads at distances under 250 miles, the report says. The services that tank

trucks can provide are particularly important to livestock feeders with less than 100 head of livestock and to mixed-feed mills producing less than 2,500 tons of feed a year.

Marketing researchers say that the molasses industry is confronted with problems of finding ways to service scattered users and to overcome dissatisfaction of users with present methods of measuring both quantity and quality. Tank-truck carriers must obtain return loads to reduce the cost of "deadhead returns." Another problem of the tank-truck carriers is the variation in highway weight regulations. Railroads need to find ways of improving their services to consumers, particularly by delivering smaller quantities and by better scheduling of deliveries.

This study of the transportation of molasses from 1949 to 1954 was made by the Marketing Research Division of the Agricultural Marketing Service. A copy of the report—Marketing Research Report No. 149, "Transportation in Mar-

keting Molasses for Feed"—may be obtained from the Office of Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

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**STRANGE RANGE.** A cow in search of its home range turned up strolling along the center line of the Lake Washington Floating Bridge in Seattle. The critter was one of five that fell from a cattle truck when a panel gave away. There were no cowboys around so state patrol officers held an emergency roundup to clear the bridge.

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