

PASTEURIZATION BILL GIVEN LONG HEARING

Doctors Urge Plan, Opposed by Small Producers

A lengthy hearing was held yesterday before the Legislative Committees on Agriculture and Public Health, sitting jointly, on proposed legislation, the passage of which would mean that eventually the only milk sold in Massachusetts would be that which had been pasteurized or taken from tuberculin-tested cows.

Physicians and others urged favorable action on the petition of the State Department of Public Health and the recommendations of Gov Alvan T. Fuller, taken from his inaugural address, both of which were before the committee.

The opponents, headed by Representative John S. Derham of Uxbridge, declared that the passage of such legislation would drive out the small dairy farmer and milk dealer and help the large dealers from the other States who pay no taxes in Massachusetts. He further said that farmers would not oppose the legislation if the State would adequately compensate the owners for the loss of condemned cows. Others heard in opposition were Representative Andrew C. Warner of Sunderland and Mrs Jessica Henderson of Wayland.

Dr E. A. Crossman of the United States Department of Agriculture, speaking for the legislation, said, "I don't know what is wrong in Massachusetts, but there is a tremendous amount of tuberculosis here. And Massachusetts is one of three States in the Union where the per capita consumption of milk is not increasing. Perhaps it is because physicians don't want to advise their clients to drink raw milk."

Others who spoke for the bill are Dr George H. Bigelow, State Health Commissioner; Dr Henry D. Chadwick of the State Division of Tuberculosis, Dr Richard Smith of the Boston Children's Hospital, Dr Arthur W. Gilbert, Massachusetts Commissioner of Agriculture; Dr M. J. Rosenau of the Harvard Medical School, Dr Maynard Ladd of the Boston Dispensary, Dr F. H. Dunbar of Tufts Medical School, Morris Deneen, Winchester milk inspector, representing the Massachusetts Association of Inspectors of Milk; Howard S. Russell of Wayland, representing the Massachusetts Farm Bureau; Raymond L. Clapp, representing the Middlesex County Farm Bureau; Mrs John H. Kimball, chairman

of the Legislative Committee of the Massachusetts Federation of Women's Clubs; James E. Harper, field secretary of the Massachusetts Guernsey Breeders' Association; C. B. Jordan of the Worcester County Farm Bureau and Peter I. Adams of Stockbridge. Prof J. H. Frandsen of Massachusetts Agricultural College sent a telegram to favor the legislation.

About 50 percent of non-pulmonary tuberculosis is of bovine sources, said Dr Bigelow. The State is paying annually almost \$500,000 a year to care for children suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis. The larger communities more adequately protect their milk than the small ones, he added. Sixty percent of the population of Massachusetts already has the protection which this bill would afford the remainder, continued Dr Bigelow. He said the cost would vary from one-half to one cent a gallon to pasteurize milk.

The legislation will work a hardship on the small, independent distributor and producer of milk, Dr Gilbert admitted, but the public is demanding a higher grade of milk, and uniform standards would be better for the farmer than diversified local standards.