

● **Grange Backs**

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anticipates an "orderly take-over" in the Department of Agriculture. "Programs that have proved their worth have a good chance of being retained"

Some of Hardin's expressed views on both domestic and international agricultural policy, Scott indicated, "are the same as those held by the Grange, a 600,000 - member organization made up of farm families in thirty-eight states and the Philippine Islands"

● **Consumer**

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One of these laws is the general food law which, as the name implies, covers a broad front. It defines food as "not only every article used for food by man, but also every article used for, or entering into the composition of, or intended for use as an ingredient in the preparation of food for man"

The other is known as the sausage law, a title that reflects the concern of a by-gone era with a specific product rather than the broad range of products to which it really applies. As a matter of fact, rules and regulations cover 58 categories of meat products, from bologna to wieners, and include ground meats and patties of all descriptions that are now popular with the public.

The oldest consumer protection laws administered by the Agriculture Department are the candy law of 1887 and the vinegar law of 1891. The newest is the mandatory meat and poultry inspection law of 1968.

Other consumer protection laws of the Department deal with products such as milk, eggs, bakery goods, butter, and beverages other than alcoholic drinks. Some deal with cold storage facilities, milk plants, and the quality grading of fruits and vegetables. One, dating back to 1915, involves the mixing of chicory with coffee.

Our consumer protection services also deal with such products as fertilizers, lime, seed, nursery stock, trees, shrubs and bushes.

The important point about all this work is that most of these services rendered by the State Department of Agriculture have been a regular part of our duties and responsibilities for half a century or more. These are of major importance to consumers even though they lack the popular term "consumer protection" in the text of laws, rules and regulations.

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