

Eastern Asks Federal Government to Help Dairying

The entire dairy industry has become demoralized in the Northeast and unless immediate and constructive action is taken by the Federal Government, a healthy dairying economy might well become a thing of the past in this part of the country, a dairy leader warned United States Senators and Congressmen this week. Speaking at a legislative breakfast in Washington, D.C. May 6, John C. York, General Manager of Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative Association, called for a congressional investigation of the milk industry in New York Fed-

eral Milk Marketing Order 2 and surrounding Orders to determine the cause and effect of certain laws and practices which are undermining the very existence of dairy farmers and milk companies in these areas. Among his remarks, York pointed out to the legislative leaders that it has been reported that certain operating cooperatives, engaged in milk distribution, are tearing down the pricing structure of milk by underselling the milk companies, which constitutes selling milk under cost, and defraying the losses through larger dues deduc-

tions from their membership. Farmers delivering directly to milk companies are at a competitive disadvantage, since these handlers can get milk at lower f o b cost by buying from operating cooperatives.

Furthermore, an increased amount of surplus milk has hit the market this year with no immediate relief in the Class II price alignment between the New York-New Jersey Order and adjoining Orders. This surplus has resulted because there is no meaningful base rating plan or other appropriate means of tailoring supply to demand.

Aggravating the surplus butterfat problem in the Northeast markets is the importation of about two million pounds of a new sugar-butterfat mixture from Germany. This low priced product, usable in ice cream manufacturing, replaces milk butterfat and provides a source of butterfat at about \$65-\$75 per pound.

Many bonds have been waived by the Commissioner of Agriculture in New York State upon request of cooperatives selling milk to particular handlers, resulting in two classes of milk companies in New York State — those who are fully bonded and those who have had their bond waived.

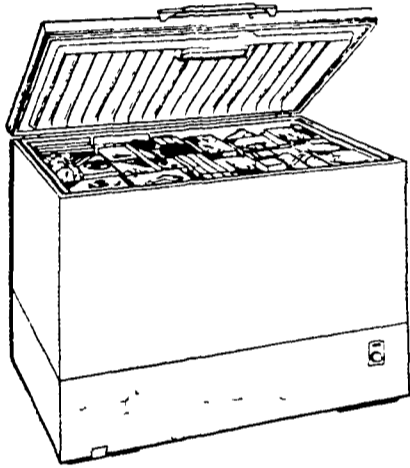
For intelligent marketing of farmers' milk, York requested that the Commissioner of Agriculture announce what milk companies have had bonds waived, and who made the request upon which the Commissioner provided such a bond waiver.

York concluded his remarks to the legislators of the Northeast by alerting them of the fact that due to these and other reasons, proprietary milk companies are going bankrupt at an alarming rate causing fewer and fewer outlets to which dairy farmers can sell their milk.

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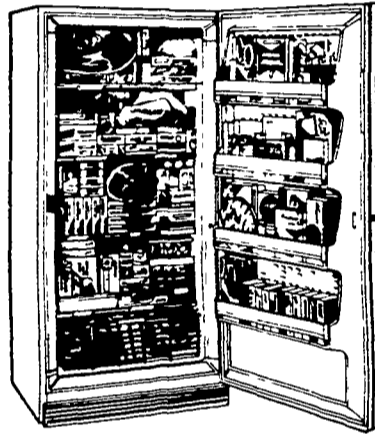
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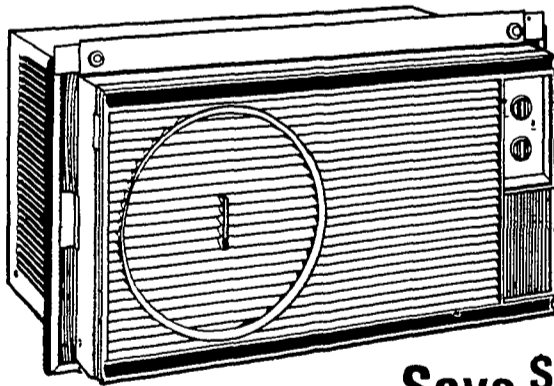


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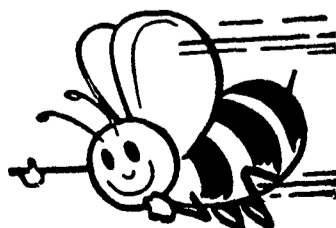
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