

# Poultry industry feels 'hatchet job'

By DIETER KRIEG  
LANCASTER - The poultry industry is in trouble, according to many of its top leaders, and poultrymen everywhere are being encouraged to write letters to senators who are responsible for their present woes.

A government publication released earlier this year, entitled "Dietary Goals for the United States" is causing the dismay and is said to have the potential of having a devastating effect on the egg, dairy and beef industries.

The issue at stake is that the government has issued dietary guidelines for Americans. While the controversial publication isn't officially designated as such by officials in the nation's capital, that's what many agricultural leaders consider it to be. Many consumers who read the pamphlet, which is presently going out at a faster rate than any other government publication, will buy the contents as gospel truth and therefore be influenced by it when they go to the supermarket, say objectors to the "Dietary Goals" booklet.

The publication is the work of the Senate Select Com-

mittee on Nutrition and Human Needs, chaired by Democratic Senator George McGovern from South Dakota. (See related story beginning on page 1).

In the words of Hank Simpson, president of the Northeast Egg Marketing Council, the egg industry is the victim of a "hatchet job" as a result of the report on dietary recommendations made by the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs.

What burns the egg people up even worse is that as of this writing they have not been granted the chance to be heard. That's why they're pushing the letter writing campaign.

"The meat industry had its chance to be heard—we want our turn too!" declares Simpson. "They (The Select Committee) have made their recommendations and to my way of thinking have dealt a severe blow to the meat, dairy and egg industries," Simpson says in a NEMA newsletter.

The egg marketing association executive goes on to say in his Spring newsletter: "If there had been an opportunity for our industry to offer its input of scientific evidence before the recommendations were

offered—that would be one thing. No opportunity was offered. Now that the damage is done, the Committee shows no disposition to hear oral testimony from the United Egg Producers (UEP) and the egg industry taking issue with their findings." He urges that messages be sent to any of the eight senators who serve on the Committee. Aside from McGovern, they are: Edward Kennedy, (Massachusetts); Patrick Leahy (Vermont); Robert Dole, (Kansas); Richard Schweiker, (Pennsylvania); Hubert Humphrey, (Minnesota); Edward Zorinsky, (Nebraska); and Charles Percy, (Illinois). Any senator can be addressed at the Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.

Hendrik Wentink, chairman of the National Commission on Egg Nutrition, a non-profit truth-finding concern, says he's grateful that petty differences have been put aside by many agricultural groups and that a unison effort may be exerted. "It's a tremendous step in the right direction," he remarked. Cattlemen, farm organizations and poultry groups have cooperated well so far in the drive to have the

Senate Committee listen to them.

A letter which NEMA executives Homer Simpson Jr. and William S. Rent sent to senators in behalf of Northeastern egg producers says in part:

"To say that the nation's egg industry is very disturbed over the Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs (Dietary Goals for the United States) recommendations is a gross understatement of our concern.

"To recommend that Americans should decrease consumption of eggs and other high cholesterol food gives Congressional validity to the very controversy the egg industry has spent countless time and money in combating.

"It ignores the mass of testimony which has been presented before the Federal Trade Commission during this past year, both on FTC proposed regulations on food advertising and the FTC judicial proceeding against the National Commission on Egg Nutrition. The report tends to tell Americans that there is no question but that reducing dietary cholesterol will reduce one's chances of developing coronary heart."

According to spokesmen at the office of the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs, critics have overreacted to the government publication. It's also emphasized that the studies and investigations on nutrition will continue — thereby implying that the "door hasn't been closed on anyone." The report released earlier this year is not to be viewed as final. The fact remains, however, that by publishing the report, a degree of finality is implied.

One of the reasons cited for the study in the first place is to reduce health care costs through preventive

measures. It's widely believed that diets are influential in health problems.

Spokesmen at the Nutrition Committee's office openly acknowledge that the report contains numerous weaknesses and that they will be looked into. At least one of them concerns the egg industry.

No definite hearing date to receive testimony from the egg industry has been decided upon, nor has it been definitely acknowledged that poultrymen will be heard. It's reported that Senator McGovern will have the closing word on that.

## Airplanes on display

DOVER, DEL.—Dover Air Force Base will host an Open House on Saturday, May 14 in observance of Armed Forces Day and honoring the 200th anniversary of Dover as the capital of Delaware.

Taking part in the community appreciation day will be the Thunderbirds, the Air Force's aerial demonstration team.

The Open House will start at 10 a.m. with a variety of aircraft open to the public to walk through and inspect. In

addition to the numerous aircraft on display, units assigned to Dover AFB will have displays showing their role in the Air Force. The day's program will end at 5 p.m.

The Thunderbirds fly the Northrop T-38 Talon. This supersonic aircraft is used as a jet trainer in the advanced portion of Air Force pilot training. Since their inception in 1954, the Thunderbirds have performed in over 80 nations around the world.

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Bio Layena 107	60-70°F	23.4 to 25.0
Bio Layena 114	70-80°F	21.7 to 23.3
Bio Layena 121	80-90°F	20.0 to 21.6
Bio Layena 128	Above 90°F	Under 20.0 lbs.

<sup>1</sup> The numbers after the Bio Layena rations indicate the Purina Bio-Rating. Each subsequent ration contains 7 per cent extra amino acid, vitamin and mineral fortification over the previous one. For example, Bio Layena 114 contains 7 per cent more fortification than Bio Layena 107 and 14 per cent more than Bio Layena 100.

<sup>2</sup> Values are guides only since feed use varies due to wastage, strains, etc. Use local judgment as when to change rations.

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