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Dairymen Organize, Advocate Calf Vaccination for Control of Bang's

R. B. LeCocq Heads New Association of Farmers; Ask That Dairymen Have Choice of Slaughter to Rid Herds of Bang's or Vaccine to Build Up Immunity Among Young Stock; May Send Delegate to National Meeting

Should dairy farmers with Bang diseased cows in their herds have the option of either slaughtering reactors to the blood test or keeping them in their herds and vaccinating calves to build up immunity to the disease in the herd?

Answering a defiant "Yes" to that question, a group of northwestern dairymen met in Lynden Monday night of this week and organized the State of Washington Calf-hood Vaccination Association.

As active advocates of the vaccination method of Bang control, members of the new association will probably send a representative to the annual meeting of the U. S. Livestock Sanitary Association, in Chicago the first week in December, it was understood. At that meeting, the vaccination method of controlling the abortion disease will be discussed and dairying groups throughout the nation may file requests that the vaccine control be coupled with the "blood test and slaughter" program now being carried on by the Federal government.

Elected to head the northwestern association was R. B. LeCocq, Lynden attorney and co-proprietor of Builtzorg Ayrshire Farm, in the DeLa section of Whatcom county. Vice president is Dr. A. E. Rusco, veterinarian and dairy farmer in the Lynden district. Secretary-treasurer is Ward VanderGriend, Lynden district dairyman and Farm Security Administration supervisor in the northwestern district.

FEDERAL EXPERIMENT

Success of the vaccination method of controlling Bangs will be confirmed, the dairymen believe, when federal figures are released in January reporting results of a five-year experiment in which more than 15,000 calves from Bang reacting cows have been vaccinated

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with less than two per cent abortions among the vaccinated animals.

Reported Monday night was a meeting held recently between a number of dairymen interested in the vaccination program and Dr. Leslie J. Allen, inspector in charge of the U. S. bureau of animal industry in Oklahoma.

Present at the meeting, held in Bellingham, were Percy Hood, Ferndale banker and farm owner; Frank Carroll, Ferndale district dairy farmer; Earl Bailey, Snohomish dairyman; Bob Guitteau, of Laurel district in Whatcom county; LeCocq; Dr. F. M. Christoffer-son, in charge of a cooperative vaccination association in Snohomish county; and Dr. M. O. Barnes, assistant federal livestock supervisor in this state.

INVESTIGATED

Sent by the federal bureau of animal industry to inspect the vaccination project, Allen was reported to have been thorough and searching in his quest for information regarding calvings of vaccinated heifers. On the morning following the meeting he went to the farm of Guitteau, who owns a Tolstein herd enrolled on the fed-

eral experiment. There he carefully checked the calving record of the herd, examining individual animals.

While Allen's opinion was not asked as to the success or failure of the plan and he gave no indication of his attitude regarding the advisability of adopting vaccination into the federal control program, Carroll, Bailey and Guitteau, all of whom have herds in the federal experiment, were pleased at his thoroughness in going into the records of the vaccinated heifers. He was entirely open minded in his analysis of the experimental work, they stated.