

officials and farm organizations whose members are primarily interested in the production and transportation of agricultural products. We are particularly gratified that over a long period of years there has been, so far as we know, no substantial difference of opinion among farm groups regarding the agricultural exemption. This unanimity of opinion is also evidenced in the support of the bill now before this Committee.

We urge that S. 752 be approved as expeditiously as possible. It is particularly important that action be taken since the other body has already approved a companion bill. We feel that the compromise which has been developed to a large extent by Mr. Harmonson of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, represents a step forward in the administration of the agricultural exemption. Passage of the bill will possibly make unnecessary costly and time consuming litigation.

Mr. FRIEDEL. Thank you.

Are there questions?

Now we will hear from the opposition, and I would like to make an oral statement.

We would like to hear one statement and ask the rest to file their statements in the record. But we are going to finish this meeting today.

The first witness is Mr. Olson.

Mr. OLSON. Sir, I think we have all come a long way. It is very important to our portion of the industry that we each be heard.

Mr. FRIEDEL. Mr. O. A. Olson, manager of the All Star Dairy, Lawrence, Kans.

STATEMENT OF O. A. OLSON, GENERAL MANAGER, MILK PRODUCERS MARKETING CO., LAWRENCE, KANS.

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, my name is O. A. Olson. I am general manager of Milk Producers Marketing Co., a cooperative corporation with home offices and plant located at Lawrence, Kans., and I am appearing on behalf of that company in opposition to S. 752.

I have with me today on my right Mr. Jenkins, our division manager. On my left, our attorneys, Mr. Bingham and Mr. Sapp, both of Kansas City.

Milk Producers was organized in 1932 under the Agricultural Marketing Act and has been in continuous operation ever since; in each year of operation it has been certified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture as a qualified cooperative association under section 1141j of title 12 of the United States Code, including 1968.

Our company's opposition to the bill is based upon our entry into the transportation field in 1965, as an economic necessity for our survival. We institute these operations only after careful scrutiny and upon the studied advice of counsel.

A brief background on our company may be somewhat helpful to the committee in understanding why we are forced into the activities, and why we feel it is necessary to oppose this legislation.

Milk Producers was organized to provide the dairy farmer in Kansas and Missouri with a production and marketing outlet for their products. Its only stockholders are member-patrons who are actively engaged in the production of milk, or who have in the past been so engaged.

Retired or other farm members not actively engaged in milk production are permitted to retain their stock and receive dividends, but