WALL STREET JOURNAL, July 30, 1971

It's safe to eat chickens that were given feed contaminated by the potent industrial chemical PCB, government officials said. The Food and Drug Administration said millions of fowl may have eaten the feed since a processing plant let PCB, which is similar to DDT, leak into it. But none of the chickens examined have contained PCB residues over tolerance levels deemed safe by the FDA.

* * *

page 1

Reporting on its investigation of poultry possibly contaminated by polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCB, the department also stated that initial chemical tests showed no prohibited levels of the chemical present in chicken carcasses prepared for market. Some of the birds sampled from processing plants in 10 Southern states showed traces of PCB, but in all instances the chemical was below the ceiling of five parts per million established by the Food and Drug Administration.

The department has sent a total of 400 birds to government laboratories for analysis and also is monitoring tests of hundreds of additional birds by the poultry industry.

The PCB alert was instituted earlier this month after the department and the FDA learned that PCP had leaked into fish meal produced by a Wilmington, N.C., plant and that the meal, in turn, was blended into an estimated 800,000 tons of chicken feed.

Arkansas and Indiana have been eliminated from the list of states where chicken flocks are believed to have been given contaminated feed, but the remaining states—North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Delaware, Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia and Mississippi—are heavy poultry producers.

page 11

0048974

TOWOLDMON0055301