FDA said the advisory committee "unanimously recommended that the tolerances be established as proposed." They were Petitioned by Stauffer Chemical (See FOOD CHEMICAL NEWS, March 4, 1968, Page 18). The tolerances for the cholinesterase-inhibiting residues of the insecticide and its oxygen analog N-(mercaptomethyl)phthalimide S-(0, 0-dimethyl phosphorothioate) are 40 p.p.m. in or on alfalfa; 10 p.p.m. in or on apples, peaches, and pears; and 0.2 p.p.m. in meat and fat of meat of cattle, goats, and sheep. The insecticide was added to FDA's list of cholinesterase-inhibiting pesticides.

Another Stauffer petition, still pending, would set tolerances for negligible residues of N-(mercaptomethyl)phthalimide S-(0, 0-dimethyl phosphorodithioate) and its oxygen analog of 0.1 p.p.m. in or on potatoes, and 0.2 p.p.m. in meat and fat of meat of cattle, goats, hogs, and sheep from application for control of ectoparasites (See FOOD CHEMICAL NEWS, Dec. 23, Page 18).

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NELSON INTRODUCES BILL TO BAN DDT USE BY MID-1970

Sen. Nelson (D-Wisc.) reintroduced legislation (S 1753) last week to ban the interstate shipment of DDT by June 30, 1970, and he cited the seizure of 28,000 pounds of coho salmon by the Food and Drug Administration as "the straw that breaks DDT's back" (See FOOD CHEMICAL NEWS, March 31, Page 18).

Nelson, who has become the Senate's Number 1 critic of the use of pesticides, also introduced April 1 another bill (S 1752), which would (1) authorize the Department of Interior to undertake wide ecological studies; (2) establish a Council on Environmental Quality to advise the President on national problems involving the environment; and (3) create a Joint House-Senate Committee on Environmental Quality to excercise oversight over all environmental problems.

In a single generation, Nelson charged in a speech the day he introduced his pair of proposals, "DDT has polluted our environment on a worldwide basis, infiltrating the atmosphere, the water and the tissues of most of the world's creatures . . ."

As a result of the coho salmon incident, Nelson said he has urged FDA Commissioner Herbert Ley to intensify his agency's inspection programs on pesticide residues for all marine life from the Great Lakes. He said the salmon problem should serve as "a warning signal" for all local, State, and Federal food monitoring agencies to closely review pesticide concentrations "in all food products susceptible to pesticide residues."

Pesticides were also blamed last spring for the death of nearly 1 million coho salmon fry, Nelson alleged, suggesting that "this finding has raised a serious question about the future of salmon reproduction in the waters of Lake Michigan." He continued:

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> "There is also growing concern among scientists that the reproduction capabilities of other fish may be harmed. This is especially the case with the lake trout, which spend 6 to 7 years in the water before sexual maturity as compared with only about 2 years for the salmon."

A companion bill (HR 9868) to ban DDT use by mid-1970 was introduced in the House April 2 by Rep. Podell (D-N.Y.) who lamented, "We shall pay the bill in full for allowing pesticides to pollute our environment," and complained:

> "We shall suffer in full for damage we are doing to wildlife, air, and water we depend on. If we ourselves, do not sicken or die, then it shall be the horrible fate of our children to do so as a result of our laxness and inability to face up to our responsibilities."

He was immediately challenged by House Minority Leader Ford (R-Mich.), who pointed out that there "is not a scintilla of valid or solid evidence" that residues of the DDT in the salmon or fish elsewhere will result in any serious effects to humans.

"I can imagine the hue and cry from people all over the United States if all fish that have any DDT residues in them were prohibited from being caught or consumed," Ford declared.

Meanwhile, FDA confirmed April 4 that it would ask the assistance of the National Academy of Sciences in an effort to set a residue limit for pesticides in fish shipped interstate.

"Up to now pesticide residues haven't presented a significant problem," FDA Commissioner Ley commented, adding, "But it's apparent that a problem has developed now with regard to this one species in Lake Michigan and we have to act to protect consumers."

Ley warned that sports fishermen taking coho salmon from Lake Michigan should also be aware of the apparent "excessive" levels of DDT residues encountered at this time.

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ARS PROPOSES STANDARD LABELING FOR PESTICIDES

The Agriculture Department on April 4 proposed a broad revision of Interpretation 18 (§325.116) which prescribes cautionary labeling for economic poisons under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.

Previously, the Interpretation included many examples of labeling required for specific products. Under the revision, kinds of hazards are defined, and standardized labeling for each class is spelled out. Portions of the ARS proposal,