

## Toil in the Twenties

AT THE 1920 MEETING in Columbus, Ohio, President C. A. Cary urged a reappraisal of teaching methods:

Some teachers stuff the student with too many unimportant, useless facts. . . . Too many teachers believe that the whole knowledge of medicine is confined to his special subject, and then proceed to cram it all into the student.

In particular, he called for less time being spent on the anatomy of the horse and more on other species, more and better animal husbandry, and better clinical facilities, together with a requirement that vacation periods be spent in practice. Also, the curriculum should be arranged for the potential general practitioner with specialties reserved for graduate study, and "less time should be wasted on football, other games, holidays and numerous idle periods."

### A SEARCH FOR STABILITY

Regarding the Association, Dr. Cary urged revision of the constitution:

so that every member in good standing may vote on all important subjects and in the election of all important officers. . . . In addition to an all-time Secretary and Editor, we need an all-time home for this double head and heart of the organization. . . . Our frequent and sudden changes of Secretary and Editor have given us no stability or definitiveness of pur-

pose. . . . For the good of the Association we are sadly in need of a fixed, permanent home.

The latter suggestion met with approval, and the Executive Board was directed to look into the matter of location and cost of buildings. On the matter of permanency of personnel, it might be noted that since 1915 there had been three editors and four secretaries.

In a discussion of the applications of R. V. Cannon and J. G. Slade, both colored, W. H. Hoskins recalled: "For twenty years we have drawn the color line in this Association. I consider that there have been rejected on that ground several good veterinarians," to which P. A. Fish added: "The Government recognizes these men in their appointments in the Bureau, and if they can qualify in that respect it seems to me that they should be allowed to come in this." Both men were elected by a large majority.

On the subject of "Anesthetics in Veterinary Operations," R. R. Dykstra, in noting the progress in human surgery, charges:

In veterinary surgical operations we have not yet advanced to the same stage of humanness in the treatment of our patients. . . . Many veterinarians do not realize the unfavorable, or in some instances almost repulsive, impression made on the owner of a pet or valuable animal by the barbaric cruelty of surgery without anesthesia. . . . Outside of the difficulties in application, no matter from what

other angle viewed, there is no excuse for performing veterinary operations without adequate anesthesia.

The section on General Practice and Surgery included papers on veterinary medicine in France by L. A. Merillat, traumatic indigestion by D. H. Udall, swine diseases by C. H. Stange and Charles Murray, skin diseases in dogs by H. J. Milks, cryptorchidism by E. E. Wegner, and schlerostomiasis in horses by C. E. Covault. The section on Sanitary Science included several papers on brucellosis by C. M. Carpenter, I. F. Huddleson, B. T. Simms, J. P. Turner and R. A. Kelsner; on anthrax by Adolph Eichhorn, botulism by Robert Graham, and avian epithelioma by J. R. Beach.

In speaking on "The Relation of the Agricultural Press to the Veterinarian," E. S. Bayard, editor of the *National Stockman and Farmer*, noted:

The agricultural press has been criticized by veterinarians for two things. . . . First, for giving veterinary advice through its columns. . . . In our own case we have tried to make this department a work on animal husbandry rather than a prescription counter. . . . Second, the advertisements of veterinary medicines. . . . I must here plead not guilty.

He relates his suspicions of a hog cholera remedy, which he had had investigated by "leaders of veterinary research," who found it worthless.

### C. A. Cary

Charles Allen Cary was born at Millersburg, Iowa, in 1861 and taught school before graduating from Iowa State (B.S. 1885, D.V.M. 1887). After some time in practice, state work in Iowa, teaching in South Dakota, and study in Europe, in 1893 he became Professor of Veterinary Science at the Auburn Polytechnic Institute (Auburn University). In 1907 he was instrumental in having the first veterinary school in the South established at Auburn and served as its dean until 1935. Through his influence as State Veterinarian and long-time president of the Alabama Live Stock Asso-

ciation, Alabama was the first state to require health certificates for interstate shipment of animals. He was an early champion of tick eradication and of municipal food hygiene; his entire professional life was devoted to bettering livestock sanitation in his adopted state.

Dr. Cary joined the AVMA in 1890, was elected president in 1919, and was an active worker for the 45 years of his membership. Probably no other man has served on more committees than he; at the time of his death on April 23, 1935, he was a member of the Executive Board.

### 1921

In speaking on "the doctrine of unity" at the 1921 meeting in Denver, President D. S. White urged:

I cannot emphasize too much the importance of unity. While admittedly we have made progress in this regard in the last half century, nevertheless I firmly believe it would have been more rapid and fruitful had we been more firmly united through the years which have passed. . . . I think sometimes we are too apt to clique off into little, self-interested groups, each with its own leader and each at cross-purposes with the other groups. . . . Firmly united the veterinary profession is already weak enough to fight the battles it must fight in order to carry on its legitimate work.

Secretary N. S. Mayo, in noting a drop in membership — mainly through nonpayment of dues — observed:

The general economic depression that prevails has had a marked influence upon our membership, as it has on practically all associations. . . . The number of letters expressing financial stress has been much greater than usual.

In the first presentation of a paper by a Mexican veterinarian, Luis Santa Maria urged:

the need of cooperation between the United States and Mexico for the control of epizootics. . . . Contrary to what is supposed, the international interchange of livestock . . . has not been given its due importance from the sanitary point of view.

And on the Canadian side of the border, Fred Torrance noted that prior to the law of 1915 requiring the cooking of garbage, 90 per cent of the outbreaks of hog cholera in Canada could be traced to this source. Since then incidence of the disease had declined to the point that "We now have . . . so far as I know not a single case of hog cholera in the whole of Canada."

Papers presented at the meeting included those on brucellosis immunization by F. B. Hadley; red water in cattle by Edward Records and L. R. Vawter; surgical technic by H. E. Kingman, Sr.; diagnosis of poultry disease by F. R. Beaudette; tuberculosis eradication by H. R. Smith; municipal food inspection by G. H. Glover; hemorrhagic septicemia by H. P. Hoskins, and by I. E. Newsom and Floyd Cross; and control of parasitic diseases by M. C. Hall.

An important paper published in 1921 was one by A. F. Schalk and R. S. Amadon on "Gastric Motility Studies in the Goat and the Horse," in which — the first of a notable series of studies — they note:

In the field of physiological research there exist certain problems the solution of which has received but little attention, and the sum of our knowledge consists in most instances of vague theories possessing no original experimental evidence.

#### D. S. White

David Stuart White was born September 28, 1869, in Staten Island, New York, and received his veterinary degree from Ohio State University in 1890, following which he continued his studies in Europe under such men as Dieckerhoff, Möller, Fröhner, Günther, and Lungwitz. He returned to his alma mater in 1893 and became dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine in 1895, holding this position until 1929.

In October, 1917, he was commissioned a Major in the Veterinary Corps, and became Chief Veterinarian of the A.E.F. in France with the rank of Colonel — the first veterinarian to achieve this rank. He effected a transfer of the Veterinary Corps from the Quartermaster Corps, under which it was operating in France, to the Medical

Corps. He was decorated by the governments of France and England, and was made an Honorary Associate of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

Long a leader in Association and college circles, Dr. White served as president of the AVMA (1920–1921) and authored a text on *The Principle and Practice of Veterinary Medicine*. He died January 7, 1944.

#### EMBLEM OF THE ASSOCIATION

Some years earlier there had been sentiment expressed toward the desirability of having an official emblem for the Association. While the USVMA had adopted a seal figuring a centaur in 1863, there is no indication that the AVMA ever considered using this symbol; in fact, it was little used during the later years of the USVMA — perhaps because it was too "horsey." D. M. Campbell, appointed chairman of a committee on emblem in 1915, had reported the following year that there was "considerable sentiment for the blue cross," and recommended some design incorporating this symbol be adopted. Already a number of firms manufacturing veterinary supplies had been using this in one form or another.

In 1921 the committee recommended for adoption the caduceus with superimposed V as used by the Veterinary Corps. The design had been used earlier by the California VMA, and its adoption by the AVMA was urged by H. B. Wintringham of Fresno. This, of course, is the design that was officially adopted. Later, Dr. Wintringham and J. M. Arburua (the latter as late as 1960) pointed out that this was perhaps a less desirable symbol than might have been devised, i.e., the caduceus being the staff of Hermes (Mercury), this has more commercial than medical overtones.

The caduceus, of course, was as inappropriate a symbol for the veterinary profession in 1921 — or anytime — as the medical profession had decided it was earlier. The good record of the Veterinary Corps during World War I, however, undoubtedly had given it special lustre, and it should not be supposed that the decision of the Asso-

ciation was made without due consideration. However, the founding fathers had — apparently without previous consideration — adopted a classically correct symbol in 1863. Having been a matter of concern — to a few, at least — at intervals for half a century, a full discussion of the problem seems indicated.

The seal of the United States Veterinary Medical Association, adopted in 1863, shows a centaur with scroll in hand, signifying that he is the one who was supposed to have transmitted a knowledge of medicine from Apollo to Aesculapius. Together with the motto: *Non Nobis Solum* — “Not for us alone,” the seal was an appropriate device to suggest the mission of the USVMA in the transmission of knowledge. In his greetings to the Association on its fiftieth anniversary in 1913, Liautard, in recalling the adoption of the seal in 1863, states that it “for years afterward was applied on the certificates that were delivered to newly elected members.” It may be doubted, however, that any of these certificates exist, for in 1869 it was considered that these were illegal, inasmuch as the Association was not chartered or incorporated. It was resolved, therefore, to call in those diplomas already issued (perhaps not more than fifty) and substitute a receipt of the initiation fee.

How extensively the seal was used is not a matter of record. Few pieces of Association literature issued prior to 1900 have been preserved, and but few of these carry any sort of emblem. The “Proceedings Book” for the fiftieth anniversary meeting has a centaur on the spine, but this is a rather juvenile characterization, not nearly so noble in face or form as that on the original seal.

With the reorganization of the Army in 1901, veterinarians of the cavalry and artillery were given insignia as described in the *Review* for 1903:

A horse's hoof has been selected as the insignia of the corps of veterinarians, the latest addition to the United States Army. . . . The prosaic hoof is given a mythological value by the addition of wings, like unto those of Mercury, in order to give the effect of motion. Veterinarians in the cavalry arm will wear the

winged horse hoof pendent from the familiar crossed sabers, and those attached to the artillery will display it under the crossed cannons symbolic of that arm.

With the establishment of the Veterinary Corps in 1916, the familiar caduceus with the superimposed V was adopted — or, rather, prescribed.

It would appear that the seal of the USVMA was never considered to be an emblem of the AVMA. A suggestion was made in 1906 that the AVMA adopt an emblem “which its members may use upon their stationery, in the same manner as Members of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons have done for many years.” To this the *Review* replied: “A special committee was appointed by the United States Veterinary Medical Association as long ago as 1892 to consider the subject,” which in 1893 reported:

Your committee would suggest the adoption of the seal of this Association, reduced to the following sizes: one of the size of a quarter of a dollar for bill-heads and letter-heads, and one the size of a dime, which may be used on visiting cards, if so desired. Your committee would recommend that the emblem be not given out until such time as a charter of incorporation of the Association be obtained.

Inasmuch as this report was adopted by a large majority at the 1893 meeting, the *Review* suggested deletion of the last clause — the Association not having been incorporated “thereby making the emblem available, in conformity with our correspondent's suggestion.” No action appears to have been taken on this suggestion; in fact it might well have been construed as being in violation of the Code of Ethics, which at the time stated: “advertising through the medium of posters, illustrated stationery, newspaper puffs, etc., will not be countenanced by this Association.”

At the 1907 meeting at Kansas City, James Law appointed a special committee on “Association Seal,” with E. L. Quitman as chairman. No indication of its purpose seems to have been recorded, and the committee was dropped in 1911, apparently without having reported any action taken.

## Red Cross — Blue Cross

In 1913 and 1914 a medical supply house advertised: "A Veterinary Red Cross on your auto or buggy will distinguish you from other medical people. It will save you extra driving."

At the AVMA meeting in 1915, D. M. Campbell was appointed chairman of a Committee on Emblem, to collect data concerning possible designs for an official emblem for the Association. In response to a request in *Veterinary Medicine*, several designs were submitted by veterinarians, most of them incorporating the blue cross in one form or another: within a large V; on a circular shield with AVMA superimposed; or within a horseshoe. At the time a number of commercial firms were already using the blue cross in one form or another, and it was also used "by a great many veterinarians throughout the United States and Canada." At the Oakland meeting in 1915 the California Association had distributed:

souvenir lapel buttons of this type, bearing the letters in gold "A.V.M.A." [which] so popularized the blue cross that there are now hundreds of veterinarians wearing these buttons and using auto emblems of similar design.

The Illinois State Society and the Illmo VMA had adopted the blue cross as an official emblem. The committee report in 1916 recommended:

the Blue Cross as an insignia for this association, the cross to be the same shape and of the same proportions as the Clara Barton Cross, either plain or set in a gray or white circular background.

By 1916 one serum company was using the blue cross with the inscription *Ne plus ultra*; another featured a rampant hog "branded" with the message: "We save 'em." One emblem company advertised the blue cross as being endorsed by L. A. Merrillat, D. R. Campbell, Joseph Hughes, D. S. White and others. In the same year, however, N. S. Mayo notes:

At Oakland a communication was received from a prominent army veterinarian, stating

that an international conference was to be held at Bern in the near future to adopt an international veterinary emblem for the protection of horses in war. The writer also stated that it was quite certain that the emblem adopted would not be a blue cross, as to most veterinarians the blue cross is the emblem of the British Society of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Mayo thus considered it advisable to defer action on adoption of an emblem pending a decision of this conference.

In 1916 the New York State Veterinary Medical Society had adopted a resolution:

that the emblem of the A.V.M.A. be a plain enameled cross, color to be the same as that designated by the United States Army Veterinarians and the same to have A.V.M.A. in plain black letters across the front.

## Concerning the Caduceus

In 1921 the AVMA Committee on Emblem recommended for adoption the caduceus and superimposed V as used by the Veterinary Corps for collar insignia, to be set on a red plate surrounded by concentric white and maroon discs. As adopted, this is identical with the present emblem, except for the substitution of a disc bearing AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION in place of the concentric discs. The design earlier had been used by the California VMA, and its adoption by the AVMA was urged by H. B. Wintringham of Fresno.

In 1932 Secretary Hoskins, in discussing the emblem at the annual meeting of the AVMA, notes:

For a time, the caduceus was used as an emblem by members of the American Medical Association, but in 1912, after considerable discussion, a change was made in the emblem and the caduceus was replaced by the true Aesculapian rod, the appearance of which is markedly different from the caduceus, or wand of Mercury. In the June, 1932, issue of the *Scientific Monthly*, an article by Dr. Stuart L. Tyson, entitled "The Caduceus," appeared, and the author pointed out the incorrectness, or the inappropriateness, of using the symbol of Mercury rather than the symbol of Asclepius in connection with medicine. As so well shown by Dr. Tyson, there is practically no connection between Mercury and the healing art. . . .

This question came up at the recent meeting of the California State Veterinary Medical Association, and the matter was referred officially to the A.V.M.A., through Dr. Joseph M. Arburua, of San Francisco. This matter will receive the attention of the Executive Board. It is quite likely that we will want to study the advisability of making some change in the design of our official emblem.

Dr. Hoskins mentions the recent advertisements of a new brand of gasoline in which:

Mercury was holding his caduceus in one hand, and probably the question arose in the minds of many veterinarians as to just what might be the connection between the official automobile emblem of the American Veterinary Medical Association and the caduceus of Mercury, as displayed in the advertisements of a new brand of gasoline. However, the connection in the latter case is perfectly plain. Mercury, as the messenger of the gods, was gifted with unusual speed.

It might be added that since then the caduceus itself has had prominent display as the symbol of a firm which advertises "mercury-made" motor oil.

The matter was considered by the House of Delegates at the 1960 meeting following a recommendation by the Executive Board that "the caduceus insignia be discontinued." Over objections by military representatives, Dr. Arburua contended:

the insignia of Hermes, or Mercury, who was the messenger of the gods, is associated with many unsavory functions, among them the god of the heavy purse, the function of taking the dead across the River to the nether land; the god of the highways, and, as Apollo once prophesied, he would be known as the lord of sheep robbers. . . . The caduceus . . . has never been associated with medicine, as far as Greek mythology is concerned. . . . It is inappropriate, in spite of the fact that the Army is using it.

The motion to discontinue the caduceus as an emblem (after a new one would be agreed upon) was tabled.

### HARD TIMES AHEAD

In his presidential address at the 1922 meeting in St. Louis, A. T. Kinsley noted:

Until about 1912, practitioners were primarily engaged in the medical or surgical relief of disease. . . . Equine practice constituted the major portion of the practitioner's routine business. . . . Diseases of cattle . . . were given little consideration . . . swine and poultry were rarely given more than a passing thought. . . . The veterinarian's services at this time are principally confined to the prevention and control of infective diseases of meat-producing animals in herd units. . . . The successful veterinarian of today is an immunologist; the successful veterinarian of twenty years ago was a surgeon. . . . This transition was too sudden and complete for the best interests of all concerned. . . . In some sections surgical operations are so rare that they are a novelty.

In recognizing the retrenchment of the profession as a result of the depression, Dr. Kinsley observes:

The future of our profession is dependent upon our attitude toward and relation with agricultural interests. . . . The veterinary profession will survive, because veterinary service alone insures the livestock industry against the ravages of disease and is indispensable in the conservation of the health of nations.

Earlier, N. S. Mayo had observed that the depression:

has affected every one, not only financially but psychologically. I do not think it has hit us harder than it did the farmer and stockman, but certainly hard enough. Quite a few veterinarians gave up their profession and entered other lines of work.

On "The Trend of Veterinary Practice," W. H. Welch notes:

the graduate of later years . . . is no longer just a "horse doctor;" but is the confidential adviser of the livestock owner concerning all the domesticated animals on the farm. . . . As a sanitarian he is no less valuable than the physician in guarding the health of his client's family. He is the leader in bacteriology, pathology and other fields of original research, while as inspector of foods his services are indispensable.

The development of immunization for hog cholera, Welch continues:

Placing as it did the swine industry on a safe financial basis, its value to the entire world can

not be estimated, while the hog, hitherto almost entirely ignored by schools and veterinarians alike, strangely enough now becomes one of the profession's greatest assets . . . and has been placed there solely by reason of the efforts of the veterinary profession. . . . That the county agent or anyone else who imagines himself capable of rendering intelligent service along this line, by exploiting vaccination in the hands of other than the veterinarian, is, in his gross ignorance, perpetrating a great injustice on the hog, the hog owner, the veterinarian, the county which employs him, as well as on the nations at large which his methods will eventually deprive of much pork, is a self-evident fact. . . . The farmer himself freely admits the superiority of the veterinarian in vaccination, but because he has been led to believe that he can successfully perform it, only time and experience will teach him the lesson that the veterinarian is the cheaper in the end. . . .

I feel that there is a future belonging to the veterinarian in the position as county livestock adviser. Who more capable than he in advising along all lines of animal husbandry, sanitary problems, and all phases of livestock production: The time is coming when throughout the entire livestock belt such a man will be employed in a majority of the counties, and he will be a wonderful asset in the improvement of livestock in his locality.

And directing an accusing finger at the veterinarian who purchases proprietary drugs instead of compounding his own, Welch points up one possible explanation of what has become an increasingly persistent problem in veterinary medicine:

The practitioner who allows himself to become addicted to this custom is fast losing out on his knowledge of medicine, instead of coming to know a drug more thoroughly in its action. He will in time become merely a mechanical automaton, and the stock owner who is able to diagnose his animals' trouble will fare equally as well by going to the drug store and purchasing over the counter the remedy that has been compounded by some other firm for that particular ailment. . . . The empiric has always treated his patients by just this process. . . . Our future is what we make it.

On the subject of "Dispensing as an Asset to the Veterinary Practitioner," C. W. Bower claims that a proper system of dispensing can account for a quarter of a

veterinarian's income, and serve to increase his clientele by catering to those who would otherwise diagnose their own problems and secure medicines from the drug-store. Further, a service can be rendered to many of these persons inasmuch as many will undoubtedly have made incorrect diagnoses. Also: "It keeps our minds keen on *materia medica*, and causes us to look up and study medicine and *materia medica* more than we ever did in college."

In urging that veterinarians adopt a positive program to deal with the problem of lay vaccination of hogs, Clarence Ousley, former Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, observes:

A veterinarian is something of a missionary, and he is warranted in doing something more than sitting on his dignity and awaiting calls from an uninformed populace. . . . A man has an "unalienable right" to let his animals die, provided he does not imperil the lives of his neighbor's animals; but no layman has a right in morals or in sound public policy to "practice" ignorance. . . . It would be quite as rational to permit laymen generally to vaccinate against smallpox.

For the first time a session was devoted entirely to small animal practice, with papers on gastroenteritis by O. V. Brumley, eye diseases by H. J. Milks, intestinal parasites by M. C. Hall, mange by R. P. Marsteller, distemper by W. E. Muldoon, and use of x-ray by G. P. Frost. In the clinic, the cesarean operation was demonstrated by W. G. Brook, with intratracheal anesthesia administered by J. G. Hardenbergh.

Dr. Hardenbergh also presented a thought-provoking discussion on: "The Value of Animal Experimentation in Veterinary Medicine," and urged veterinarians to take the lead in educating the public on this matter. Other papers included several on abortion by R. A. Kelser, Ward Giltner and I. F. Huddleson, and W. E. Cotton; several on swine diseases by Drs. Dorset, McBryde and Niles, R. R. Birch, and A. F. Schalk; sterility by W. L. Boyd; the Veterinary Corps by R. J. Foster; and the veterinary curriculum by V. A. Moore.

### H. P. Hoskins, Secretary-Editor

A decision of far-reaching importance made at the 1922 meeting was that combining the offices of secretary of the Association and editor of the *Journal*, and the appointment of H. Preston Hoskins to this post—which he was to hold for sixteen years. Many were loath to dispense with the services of J. R. Mohler—whose name on the masthead was, as put by Dr. Torrance, something like the “U.S. inspected and passed” mark on a piece of meat; but both Mohler and Mayo, who championed the combined post, declined it, inasmuch as it was to be a full-time position. There was some objection to the appointment of Dr. Hoskins, based upon his relative youthfulness and presumed inexperience. But as noted by Dr. Hoskins himself, he had held a variety of secretaryships, had been in editorial work for ten years, and had been raised in a veterinary atmosphere. It would seem as though the Executive Board had given careful thought to the matter.

With the above in mind, it is of some interest to note the tenor of editorials during Dr. Hoskins’ first months of service. On “Publicity” he notes that the Association had approved a fund for this purpose—enough for one insertion of a half-page advertisement in a leading farm magazine:

Most veterinarians agree that the one thing most sorely needed by the veterinary profession today is publicity. . . . Hearty approval is given to the proposal of a leading biological house to inaugurate a nation-wide advertising campaign in favor of the veterinarian. . . . Each will conclude with: “The livestock industry is the cornerstone of America’s agricultural wealth—and the veterinary profession is its greatest safeguard.” . . . We are indeed pleased to know that this splendid work has been undertaken.

With respect to the supposed economy of lay vaccination:

Farmers have only been “kidding” themselves in this regard, too many times. . . . [But] so far as the vaccination of hogs is concerned, unless a veterinarian can go out and do a better, cleaner and more satisfactory job than his

client can do himself, there is no particular object in the farmer employing the veterinarian to do the work.

Concerning “Our Code of Ethics,” and the matter of listing a specialty when a veterinarian’s practice is limited to that branch:

Times have changed and are changing, and it would appear that this question should be taken up and discussed now, just as well as later. It has been pointed out that members in our sister profession of medicine do not hesitate to “advertise” (we use the word with reservations) that they confine themselves to the practice of this, that or the other field of medicine or surgery, and without any apparent infraction of the code of ethics of human medicine.

Of course, if we relax, we must do so very cautiously. If some are given the proverbial inch, they will take the proverbial mile. But there is moderation in all things. We can not afford to be too straight-laced.

And on “The Function of Our Journal” Dr. Hoskins stated this is:

To establish and maintain ethical standards for American veterinary literature. . . . To serve as an accurate chronicle for current events in and pertaining to the veterinary profession. . . . To direct attention, if and when necessary, to any conditions in our own midst, which need correction. . . . To serve as a forum for the discussion, always in a scholarly and dignified way, of the problems with which the members of our profession find themselves continually confronted. . . . To provide a sufficient variety of reading matter, so that there will always be something to attract and hold the interest of every member.

### A. T. Kinsley

Albert Thomas Kinsley was born at Independence, Iowa, February 26, 1877, and received the B.S. (1899) and M.S. (1901) at Kansas State, studied pathology at the University of Chicago, and graduated from the Kansas City Veterinary College in 1904. A successful practitioner, he purchased an interest in that college in 1912, and became its president, and taught pathology, bacteriology, and parasitology. A frequent contributor to the veterinary periodicals, he pioneered a section on swine practice in *Veterinary Medicine* at a time when this



specialty was little known outside the Midwest. He was widely known as a skilled diagnostician, a manufacturer of veterinary biologicals, and as an exponent of better veterinary education. He was the author of a book on *Swine Practice* and a *Text-book of Veterinary Pathology*.

Dr. Kinsley was active in the Missouri Valley Veterinary Association and the AVMA; he served the latter in numerous capacities, including the presidency (1921–1922). He died on December 8, 1941.

## 1923

The meeting for 1923 was held in Montreal. In his presidential address, W. H. Welch credited the AVMA with being:

the influential factor in causing the various colleges to keep abreast of the times . . . but I wonder if they fully realize the demands that the future will exact of the successful veterinarian and are properly preparing him to meet that emergency?

The practitioner, Dr. Welch notes, was totally unprepared for the sudden decrease in horse practice, and the equally sudden increase of interest in the hog “a hitherto despised animal, unmentioned in any literature, save market reports.”

The veterinarian of the future, Dr. Welch continued:

is going to be the most important factor in successful livestock agriculture, and his patients will include everything from the canary bird up. . . . There is a relationship between the schools and the practitioner that cannot be ignored, because the success and prosperity of the practitioner is always reflected in the attendance at our colleges. Our schools are empty today, because of the financial conditions that have confronted the practitioner, in common with the live stock agriculturalist.

The extent of the depression in veterinary medicine can be appreciated from figures cited by Dr. Welch. In 1910 there were 11,552 practitioners and 2,717 students; in 1923 there were about 8,500 practitioners and only 531 students enrolled. An estimated 500 were leaving the profession annually from all causes, and only about 180 entering it. However, the valua-

tion of farm animals had increased by 50 per cent during this period: “Therefore, be of good cheer regarding the permanency of our profession.”

A notable feature was the attendance of ten past-presidents of the AVMA: W. L. Williams (1892–1893); S. Brenton (1911–1912); J. R. Mohler (1912–1913); C. J. Marshall (1913–1915); C. E. Cotton (1916–1917); F. Torrance (1917–1918); V. A. Moore (1918–1919); C. A. Cary (1919–1920); D. S. White (1920–1921); and A. T. Kinsley (1921–1922).

## A Matter of Policy

The Executive Board presented a proposed policy for the AVMA, drafted by a committee consisting of Drs. Munce, Welch, Merillat, Udall, Jacob, Mohler, Cotton, and Hoskins. The report, which was adopted in 1924 after approval by numerous local and state associations, appears to be the first detailed blueprint of Association policy and philosophy. As stated in the preamble:

The purposes of the American Veterinary Medical Association are to promote and protect the interests of the veterinary profession; to raise the requirements of veterinary education; to procure the enactment of uniform laws and regulations governing the control of animal diseases; to carry out the enforcement of these laws and regulations [?]; to encourage public opinion through various means regarding problems of animal hygiene; and to promote good fellowship in the profession.

## On agricultural extension:

The Association should support every effort of the Agricultural Extension Service to increase the production of a better class of live stock. . . . Veterinarians affiliated with agricultural colleges and agricultural extension services should confine the instruction and advice given to agricultural students and live stock owners on veterinary subjects to: (a) The fundamental principles of live stock sanitation; (b) First aid, and (c) The value of employing competent veterinary services in the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of animal diseases.

## On veterinary education:

preliminary education in subjects directly allied to veterinary medicine must be stressed,

while membership in the various veterinary medical associations and post-graduate work for keeping up-to-date are essential. . . . Undergraduate veterinary education should be conducted only at institutions approved by the AVMA.

#### On legislation:

All ills cannot be cured by legislation; much still depends on individual effort through the rendering of efficient service, whether private or public. . . . The Association should render assistance in the enactment of all legislation affecting the public's interests.

#### On regulatory service:

This Association recognizes the right of the states and provinces to employ veterinarians for the purpose of giving free professional service for the control of communicable diseases. . . . The general use of special county, state, federal or provincial employees for the performance of routine work . . . is not a wise permanent policy.

The policy on public health was perhaps not as strong as might have been desirable:

The veterinarian should continue to render every possible service to health officials by supplying information with reference to animal diseases. . . . The veterinary profession should commit itself to the policy of promoting the use of healthy animals and healthful animal products.

#### On allied organizations:

The veterinary profession through its membership should be identified with those organizations and participate in their deliberations whenever possible . . . in an endeavor to harmonize policies and activities that may be of mutual interest and benefit.

#### On publicity:

The policy of this Association should be to promote and carry on ethical publicity, calculated to improve the service of the veterinary profession.

#### On humane measures:

This Association should support humane measures and assist in teaching and guiding

the public mind in correct methods of handling animals humanely.

#### On veterinary biologics:

It appears desirable that this Association establish, in cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Animal Industry and producers of veterinary biological products, a classification of veterinary biologics, whereby the veterinary practitioner may be guided and the live stock industry protected. . . . This Association cannot endorse any biological product until its efficacy is definitely proven.

#### On preventive medicine:

Recognizing that prevention is the essential factor in the control and eradication of disease, this Association is committed to a policy of more general use of every established prophylactic measure.

#### Up and Down the Spine

In commenting on the fact that one veterinary journal in 1923 had carried an advertisement of a chiropractic school appealing to "veterinarians who are desirous of retiring from veterinary practice," J. V. Lacroix observes:

It is to be doubted whether a successful veterinarian who had the means and the mood to retire, would care to top off his career by bursting forth as a chiropractor. . . . The intention may be to address primarily the veterinarian who simply wants to quit and seek another way of making a living. . . . If he had been an able and conscientious practitioner of veterinary medicine, he would be too strongly imbued with the more thorough principles of his science ever to feel at ease as an apostle of drugless healing. . . . His head would falter on the spinal column of his patient, and he would long to administer the forbidden pill.

The *American Journal of Clinical Medicine* for April, 1923, lampooned these advertisements with cartoons depicting some dire results of the application of chiropractic to veterinary medicine. Dr. Lacroix notes, "It seems to have occurred to the medical profession that possibly there is a sinister plan among the spine manipulators to invade the veterinary field."

## W. H. Welch

William Henry Welch was born May 7, 1871, near Bloomington, Illinois, and graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University in 1890, and with honors from the Chicago Veterinary College in 1892, following which he established a lucrative practice at Lexington, Illinois. Active in community affairs, he was mayor of Lexington two years and participated in scouting and masonic activities. He served as president of the Illinois VMA, and as its secretary for a number of years, and in 1930 was appointed chief veterinarian of the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

Dr. Welch joined the AVMA in 1917 and was elected president in 1922. At the time of his death on October 25, 1935, it was said of him:

As a practitioner, he was progressive, alert, clean and ethical. . . . As an association worker he had no peer, for he believed firmly in organized veterinary medicine. . . . His life was emblematic of the profound student, scholar, gentleman and good fellow, always calm and resolute in the defense of the right and the ruthless opponent of wrong.

## 1924

At the meeting in Des Moines, President C. H. Stange pressed for adoption of the statement of policy outlined the year before:

I cannot too strongly urge this Association . . . to focus its attention on our national problems and be less concerned with the details of our internal organization. . . . Our big work, opportunities and problems lie outside and not inside of our organization. . . . There is a lack of recognition in the profession as well as outside as to the real purpose of the profession. We believe that no country on earth is so safe for animal industry as is this continent, due very largely to the organization and efficiency of the veterinary profession. . . . These facts, however, have an economic and sociologic significance not generally understood. We need publicity which will allow these facts to become known.

The statement of policy was adopted by the Association.

Noting that 106 persons in 22 states had died of rabies in the past three years, Adolph Eichhorn urged:

The veterinary profession should now follow a well-defined policy in promoting the control of rabies by the prophylactic vaccination, in preference to any method heretofore devised. . . . Opposition against rabies vaccination can be readily met by education and sound arguments and therefore the efforts of the veterinarian should be directed to employ such means to popularize the vaccination of dogs . . . [and] to point out the erroneous stand which the anti-vivisectionists are taking in this matter.

In presenting "Some Suggestions for Financing and Promoting Veterinary Education in America," Ward Giltner observes:

Veterinary education must come to stand before the public as education at its best and truest sense, and veterinary practice as a noble and indispensable art firmly grounded in science. . . . Financing a project of advertising veterinary education might be undertaken jointly by the veterinary colleges, the AVMA, and the several state associations. . . . The federal government should also make provision for financially assisting veterinary education.

Dr. Giltner suggested reimbursement of \$1,000 per student from states without veterinary colleges, to be paid by the federal government or the states involved. Several schools have had such a plan in operation for some time.

Also presented were papers on uterine pathology by E. T. Hallman; estrus in domestic animals by H. S. Murphey, G. W. McNutt, B. A. Zupp, and W. A. Aitken; the army veterinary school by R. A. Kelsner; goose septicemia by F. R. Beaudette; sheep problems by I. E. Newsom and Floyd Cross, and by E. T. Baker; agricultural extension by T. E. Munce; foot surgery by T. H. Ferguson; and bovine abortion by F. C. Schroeder and W. E. Cotton.

With the establishment of radio station KSAC at Kansas State College in 1924, a series of regular programs on veterinary medicine was initiated in December of that year. The first programs included "The Services of the Veterinarian to the

Community" by J. H. Burt, "Animal Diseases Communicable to Man" by R. R. Dykstra, "The Importance of Early Medical Attention in Animal Diseases" by J. F. Bullard, and "Abortion Disease of Cattle" by E. J. Frick.

A similar series broadcast over station WKAR at Michigan State College in 1926 included such topics as "Veterinary Education" by Ward Giltner, "The Development of the Chick Embryo" by F. W. Chamberlain, "The Digestive Tube of Farm Animals" by H. E. Johnson, "Meat Inspection" by E. T. Hallman, "The Udder of the Cow in Health and Disease" by L. B. Sholl, "The Care of the Pleasure Horse" by J. P. Hutton, "Veterinary Practice With Small Animals" by E. K. Sales, and "Vaccination in Veterinary Practice" by I. F. Huddleson.

### C. H. Stange

Charles Henry Stange was born in Cedar County, Iowa, May 21, 1880. He worked on a farm for several years before deciding upon veterinary medicine as a career, and graduated from Iowa State in 1907 with the highest honors in the entire university. Becoming Assistant Professor of Veterinary Medicine that fall, his administrative abilities were recognized by his appointment to the deanship at Iowa State in 1909, the post he continued in until his death, at which time he was the ranking veterinary dean in the country. During this twenty-seven years, 79 per cent of the alumni of the Division of Veterinary Medicine had graduated (the school had been in existence twenty-seven years when Dr. Stange became dean). Already the first school to have a four-year course, under Dr. Stange Iowa State was the first to require high school graduation for matriculation (1911), and a year of pre-veterinary college work (1931).

The idea of organizing student chapters of the AVMA originated with Dr. Stange, and he lived to see chapters in all of the schools in the United States and one in Canada. He joined the AVMA in 1907, was chairman of the Executive Board for

three of the nine years he was a member of the board, and in 1923 was elected president of the Association.

At the time of his death on April 26, 1936, it was stated:

Perhaps it would be no exaggeration to say that Dean Stange had a greater influence on veterinary education in this country during the past two decades than did any other member of the veterinary profession.

### THE MAN, MERILLAT

In his presidential address at the 1925 meeting in Portland, Oregon, L. A. Merillat considered the changes "the passing of the horse" had wrought in veterinary practice:

From a business we have taken over the work of a profession. Preventive hygiene and public health problems are diverting our attention away from the mere notion of salvaging so much horsepower. The whole scheme of preventive medicine—the big idea of lessening the sum total of domestic animal and human diseases—did not perturb those of us who were general practitioners until the storm which took away our main-sail came along to jar us into the realization that other responsibilities were awaiting attention. . . .

Veterinary practice is still profitable, many veterinarians are prosperous and the average income of veterinarians in their various activities is increasing, but to the average man, with the outstanding attraction removed, it is an intangible calling and hence not thought of as a life occupation. To make the changed meaning of the word "veterinarian" more fully comprehensive is the big job at the moment.

As chairman of the first section on Small Animal Practice, E. A. Ehmer observed, "more and more men have turned to this field, until now . . . it is considered the most acceptable and progressive branch of veterinary medicine." First secretary of the section was J. C. Flynn, one of the real pioneers in small animal practice.

Concerning the nature of veterinary practice, Dean E. E. Wegner observed:

Ethically, we have tried to follow our older sister profession, and in that we have made some mistakes, because veterinary medicine is a commercial proposition and the veterinarian must show the owner a profit if his services are



Prominent figures at AVMA meetings in the 1920's included Drs. L. A. Merillat (president 1924-1925), T. A. Sigler (president 1926-1927), M. Jacob (treasurer 1918-1943), and A. H. Baker (Chicago Veterinary College). *AVMA Journal*

to be used. Why not enlighten the owner directly and show him how he can profitably use this profession to advantage? Certainly such a program of education is not a crime, when the public has such a distorted opinion of us. . . .

What the veterinarian needs is a course in legitimate, commercial salesmanship. . . . As matters stand at present, it is impossible to interest young men in the veterinary profession because the public generally does not understand or know about the present high educational standards and the many fields of usefulness to which a veterinary education can be put. Education of the public is a slow and tedious process and years will be required to make this change in public sentiment and it will have to come about by observation of the veterinarian himself, his qualifications and his activities.

Among the papers presented were those

on anthrax control by Adolph Eichhorn; canine distemper by J. G. Hardenbergh; bovine laparotomy by J. N. Frost; gonad transplantation by C. M. Haring; brucellosis control by B. T. Simms and F. W. Miller; fowl pest by J. R. Mohler, and by Evan Stubbs; diseases of the central nervous system by O. V. Brumley; and arteriosclerosis in domestic animals by S. A. Goldberg.

The elite circle of fifty-year members was initiated with J. C. Meyer, the sole survivor of his "class" of eleven admitted in 1875. To 1874, if the available records are complete, the cumulative membership had been just under fifty, and of these, only Alexandre Liautard had survived 50 years (but had returned to France after 37

years). In 1925 only eleven men had records of 40 or more years of continuous membership. In 1955 the Association numbered eighteen living fifty-year members, four of whom had sixty-year records; E. B. Ackerman, Paul Fischer, N. S. Mayo and L. A. Merillat. Two additional members joined the exclusive half-century club in 1926; Benjamin McInnes of Charleston, South Carolina, and C. W. Crowley of St. Louis:

The records show that we will not have the opportunity of marking another similar occasion for at least six years, as not one of the members who joined the Association between the years 1876 and 1882 is any longer with us.

As a matter of further interest, the Association had 201 Life Members in 1930, i.e., with 25 years of continuous membership; in 1958 the number was 210, despite the fact that the total membership was more than triple the figure for 1930. The figure for Life Members in 1958 does not include the 28 Honor Roll members, but, as noted above, the Association could not have had more than 3 fifty-year members in 1930.

### L. A. Merillat

Louis A. Merillat was born at Wooster, Ohio, March 22, 1868, and graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College in 1888. Locating in Chicago, he soon built up a large and lucrative practice, in addition to serving as Professor of Anatomy at the McKillip school (1893–1900), and Professor of Surgery at the Chicago Veterinary College (1900–1913), in which capacity he rejoined the McKillip school until it closed in 1919.

Commissioned a Major in 1917, he was Division Veterinarian of the Forty-first Division, later Executive Officer for the Franco-American Veterinary Liaison Mission in Paris, then Chief Veterinarian of the First Army. He was discharged in 1919 as Lieutenant Colonel with the Legion of Honor from the French Government. Few veterinarians in civil life have maintained the intense interest in military affairs as

did Dr. Merillat, who with D. M. Campbell wrote the remarkable two-volume *Veterinary Military History* in 1935.

A prolific writer, he contributed many articles on surgical topics and subjects of general professional interest to the several veterinary journals. A confirmed student of history, he wrote extensively on this subject during his later years, and from 1939 to 1950 was editor-in-chief of the *AVMA Journals*. His "Memoirs" in the *Journal* (1946–1947) offer a fascinating and valuable commentary from one who perhaps knew more of the history of the profession than any other individual. He was also the author of several textbooks on veterinary surgery and dentistry.

Dr. Merillat joined the AVMA in 1893, and served as vice president in 1896 and secretary in 1916. In 1917 he turned in an unprecedented 556 new members – and was unanimously re-elected, but was called to military service shortly afterward. For a number of years he was chairman of the Section on Surgery, was elected president of the Association in 1924, and at various times was a member of practically every important committee of the Association. Active until his death at the age of 87, on February 25, 1956, it can truly be said that few men have ever served a cause so faithfully for so long.

### L.A.M. on Status

Writing in *Veterinary Medicine* in answer to the question: "Is veterinary practice keeping pace with the general progress of veterinary science?" Dr. Merillat had observed in 1921:

The growing impression among practitioners that the sanitary branch is naively and intentionally crowding them into the background is silly palaver. The fact is sanitary medicine is looking after its own interests and piling up achievement after achievement while general practice is allowing itself to be overshadowed through its own weakness. . . . General practice depends for existence upon the treatment of individual animals for individual owners. It is a vocation strictly delimited by its merit as a salvage enterprise on a much smaller scale than sanitary medicine. If it saves property

below the cost of salvage it will live; if not, it will be deleted by the immutable laws of commerce. To live it must progress; to progress it must become useful, competent, efficient. . . .

The fact that human medicine is splitting up into specialities which sometimes deal with only one disease and always in a single species is often made an excuse for the shortcomings of the veterinarian who must handle every disease in so many different classes of animals. . . . There could be no greater calamity befall the veterinary profession than to allow its integrity to disintegrate into different branches. Its power will depend upon a unity of effort by all who have received veterinary degrees, the sanitarian, the teacher, the food inspector, the small animal practitioner, the general practitioner, etc.

As the obvious means for progress, Dr. Merillat pointed to the journals: "It is almost deplorable to note how many among us are non-readers"; to graduate study: "More graduate work of just the right kind will do much toward rehabilitation of the practitioner's status in the profession and among those he serves"; to association meetings: "A glance at the programs of veterinary associations, national, state and local, shows that the practitioner is losing a golden opportunity to bring out the clinical details he needs most"; and to books: "A dust-ridden library of a few antiquated volumes is an exhibition that silently announces a non-progressive practitioner." And elaborating upon "our lost orientation":

Once upon a time when the horse was the only form of individual transportation and mobile motor power, the veterinary profession had a fixed orientation—a definite status. It treated the horses of its patrons in accident and disease. In this capacity it was richly rewarded with a high respect and confidence. . . . But since fate diverted our attention from the motor to the food-producing species, these friendly relations have been jeopardized if not in many cases sacrificed. We risked a secure status in animal husbandry for a phantom in the domain of public health and in the shift lost our orientation. We drifted into a policy assuming to protect the consumer who knows us not and cares less instead of remaining faithful to the producer, our friend who pays the bills and who naturally expected our support in times of need. As a consequence we

often find ourselves back to the wall fighting against a hostility we ourselves kindled.

For one as history-minded as Dr. Merillat was, this sounds almost as if it were taken out of context—which it is not. He might have pointed out that a period of indecision was perhaps an inevitable aftermath of anything so cataclysmic as the revolution created by the internal combustion engine. Moreover, the qualified horse practitioner earlier had to fight an uphill battle for public recognition—both for his professional competency and social respectability. It was hardly the responsibility of the consumer "who knows us not" to take the initiative.

### Public Health Pundit

That Dr. Merillat did perhaps recognize some need for orientation toward the public health aspects of veterinary medicine may be seen in a subsequent feature on "The Destiny of the Veterinarian":

The fear about our future would warrant consideration if we were any worse off than other professions. . . . Veterinary science will never have any good reason to fear its future for . . . as an insurance against loss to the live stock industry alone, veterinary science will survive and thrive. A profession exploiting a science that assures the stock owner a skillful, sensible and humane handling of his precious property, that insures the nation's greatest industry against wholesale losses, that conserves millions of the national wealth, that proffers assistance when needed to public health movements and that has proven its indispensability to the transport of armies will not die while civilization lasts. It cannot succumb to passing influences. It cannot even decline.

In noting that the horse accounted for 80 per cent of the work of about 8,000 veterinarians in 1900 compared with only 10 per cent of about 14,000 in 1920, Enos Day refused to admit that this change is due entirely to the "passing of the horse." Rather:

by keeping abreast of the scientific facts brought out by diligent research . . . the veterinary profession [has] a much broader

knowledge of the diseases of the various other animals. By this increased knowledge and power to combat disease they have gained the confidence of all concerned.

That veterinary contributions to public health were not completely hidden from the public in the early 1920's may be appreciated from an article by J. H. Beard, M. D., in *Nation's Health*. After itemizing the contributions of domestic animals to the welfare of man, Dr. Beard notes:

Yet these noble animals, when ill, have proved to be the worst enemies of man. They have destroyed him with tuberculosis, killed him with anthrax, cut him off with glanders, filled his muscles with trichinae, racked his body with Malta fever, and loaded his intestines with tapeworms. . . . That man should have some of the roses and avoid the thorns, that these best friends should feed and clothe him today and not destroy him tomorrow, is the contribution of the veterinary surgeon to public health. In his efforts to protect and save animals, the veterinarian has consciously and unsuspectingly pointed to hidden paths by which man has been able to attain an average life nearer the normal limit of three score and ten. . . . Discoveries in the field of veterinary science, with rare exceptions, have been helpful in the domain of medicine.

Dr. Merillat, however, continued to preach a restricted concept of what constituted the role of the veterinarian. As editor of *Veterinary Medicine* in 1923 he passes censure upon the USDA for its now-classic film on tuberculosis, "Out of the Shadows," and upon veterinarians for:

assuming without proof that it portrays the truth . . . we have been trying to show that cows are a menace to mankind. . . . We do not believe it is wise for the veterinary profession, in view of its purely agricultural connections, to promulgate propaganda belonging strictly to the public health service. We believe it is as unwise for the veterinarian to proclaim even the cold facts about tuberculous milk as it would be for the milkman to paint them on his milk wagon. . . . That duty belongs to someone else. . . . We have lost our professional orientation; we do not belong to the public-health service and the livestock interests are kicking us out.

And later upon the same theme:

Ever since we have turned a great share of our attention to food-producing animals, we

have made the monumental blunder of trying to place ourselves in a position of greater importance by proclaiming, sometimes quite loudly, that we are *guardians of the public health*. Indirectly we are, directly, we are not, and the sooner we get it into our heads that we are guardians of the public health only to the extent that the agricultural interests want us to be, the sooner veterinary science will be adopted as its faithful ward. . . . No veterinarian is a public health officer. . . . It is no part of his work to venture opinions as to the effect food products might have on the public health. . . . We should be telling the dairyman that his only hope lies in establishing the reputation of keeping only healthy cows and of producing wholesome milk, instead of "snitching" to the public about the matter of harmfulness. . . . The horse sometimes has glanders, and glanders can be transmitted to humans, but we do not publish the fact.

Merillat's stand undoubtedly was based upon the conviction that the veterinarian did not (and could not?) qualify as an expert on public health matters:

Veterinary science must justify its existence by its worth to agriculture, not by its worth to public health. We know nothing about the diseases of humans. . . . Ours is a knowledge of animal diseases only. . . . If we are able to supply the physician with useful information about animal diseases that he can put to good use, so much the better for us, but when we endeavor to tell the physician that certain of his patients have contracted disease from certain of our patients, we are saying something we are not in a position to prove. . . . The role of the veterinary profession as it seems to be unfolding in the United States today is that of keeping livestock healthy—the field man's function—and of handing over to the consumer food products that are pure and wholesome—the food inspector's function. Here our mission comes to an abrupt end.

An announcement of the USDA in 1923 that: "Bovine tubercle bacilli . . . are responsible for about 10% of the deaths due to tuberculosis among children under five years old," evoked the comment:

Wouldn't it be better if the promoters of agriculture put it this way: "Of all the tuberculosis among children under five years old only 10% is believed to be caused by milk from tuberculous cows? . . . [This] would do just as much good from the standpoint of justifying the eradication of bovine tuberculosis. . . .



We want to eradicate tuberculosis from animals, and we want to do it badly . . . because it's the only sensible thing to do; it pays. . . . [But] by scaring mothers from giving cow's milk to their babies, by trying to make the people believe that cow's milk is something to fear, by stating point-blank that if they drink milk they will get tuberculosis, we have actually stopped progress in many instances. . . . It is thought today that a certain amount of tuberculosis of children is of bovine origin. . . . It is known that the mad-dog gives rabies to a certain small percentage of the persons it bites; it is known that occasionally a man will contract glanders . . . anthrax . . . mange . . . [but] these dangers now, in their full aggregate, are not, nor ever have been, a great menace to mankind under ordinary conditions.

Criticism of the film, "Out of the Shadows," evoked an argument for: "A broader conception of the veterinary profession," by L. B. Ernest, of the USDA Tuberculosis Eradication Division. This criticism, Dr. Ernest contends:

is the first unfavorable comment of this film that has come to our attention. This picture was produced for the purpose of furthering the tuberculosis-eradication campaign. Before production it was submitted to and approved by the United States public health service. . . . It appears that the writer of these articles believes that any injection of veterinary service into any phase of public health is going outside of the realm of veterinary practice. . . . The editor's conception of the functions of the veterinary profession impresses many of us as being entirely too narrow and selfish and as ignoring the public spirit and the desire to serve humanity that should characterize any body of men who aspire to the dignity of being classed as a profession. . . .

The writer believes that nothing is to be gained by the profession as a whole by attempting to conceal the ill effects of unwholesome milk and the lack of proper sanitation upon the farms, or the danger from milk infected with bovine tuberculosis. The frank and open recognition of such things will become a part of veterinary practice when the best of service is being rendered. . . .

The writer takes issue with the editor's statements to the effect that the veterinarian's work in food inspection is purely for the benefit of the agricultural interests and not for the benefit of the public health. Such a conception is not justified by the facts. It is a matter of history that the principal motive back of the pas-

sage of the present Federal meat inspection law was the protection of the consumer's health. . . . The editor's philosophy, if applied to government functions generally, would mean that the public health service is designed for the advancement of the selfish interests of physicians and druggists rather than for safeguarding human health. . . . Agriculture itself, in fact, does not exist merely for the purpose of bringing profit to the farmer, but has its highest justification in providing food and comfort for the human race. . . .

And so, while the veterinarian is concerned primarily with the health of animals, his concern goes beyond the welfare of the animals themselves and the profits of their owners, and extends to the real objects for which the animals are raised—the service of mankind. . . . If the veterinary profession is to attain its highest ideals its members must not confine their knowledge or activity to the simple dispensation of drugs or the application of surgery or the control of a few animal diseases. . . . The veterinarian of the future will be the principal sanitarian of the future. This can not be avoided except through a total lack of preparedness and a refusal to assume responsibility.

In rebuttal, Dr. Merillat reiterates his contentions that the veterinarian "is an expert on the health of animals only," and the USDA film: "does not tell the truth." On the other hand:

The charge that we are narrow and selfish we take good naturedly because these are such common human faults; as common as broad-mindedness is rare. And besides, we take solace in the words of a great philosopher who said "To avoid unkind criticism, say nothing, do nothing, be nothing."

Dr. Merillat undoubtedly was sincere in his convictions; he made no pretense of disguising his philosophy; "the practitioner, right or wrong will be our motto." To what extent his editorial policies shaped the thinking of veterinarians may be a moot point; it would seem a logical surmise that more might have been attracted to the public health aspects of practice, or public health work *per se* had he campaigned as vigorously for this as he did against it. It is also evident that the philosophy of many of his prominent predecessors, who had advocated the cause

of public health beginning in the 1870's has long since been vindicated.

Not all practitioners in the 1920's, of course, believed that direct service to the livestock interests was the only justification for the veterinarian's existence. Thus A. J. Magrane, Sanitary Officer of Mishawaka, Indiana, writes in 1924:

I think more veterinarians should try to get connected with boards of health in towns and cities. . . . I have lots of work; for instance, take care of all milk, meat, water and food inspection. . . . I look up all garbage, rubbish, dirty home and outhouse complaints; hang up all infectious disease signs, feed the families if necessary, fumigate homes after quarantine, take throat cultures of all diphtheria cases when time to release them, look up any and all complaints coming to the board regarding sanitation or quarantine. . . . I am called upon to trace all social diseases that are reported to the board.

It is now five years since I was appointed, after working hard for it. . . . Being a veterinarian, I knew I was better fitted for the position than a layman. I am at the hospital every day, in the laboratory. I meet all the physicians on common ground. They have the same regard for me as for other physicians; so do the Sisters who run the hospital and the nurses. I believe we could elevate our profession a great deal if more veterinarians would try for these positions for which they are fitted.

It might be added that the name of Magrane has long been a household word in Mishawaka.

Dr. D. M. Campbell, who resumed the editorship of *Veterinary Medicine* in 1924, and who was a member of the American Public Health Association, called attention to the fact that in that year only seventeen veterinarians were members of this group. He urges:

Because of the large number of veterinarians engaged in municipal meat and dairy inspection and in state and county work, having a bearing on public health, it would appear that the profession should be represented by many times this number in the national association.

### Give 'em Hell

A real problem in the 1920's was that of lay encroachment upon veterinary prac-

tice, particularly with reference to vaccination for hog cholera. While editor of *Veterinary Medicine* in 1923, Dr. Merillat waged a continuing battle on this matter, on the behalf of both the practitioner and the farmer whose hogs were ill-protected by ill-advised methods of circumventing the veterinarian. In particular, a sore point was a recent Iowa law which provided for licensing of lay vaccinators after a two-day course, a matter which roused the wrath of Hell (Henry Hell, an Iowa practitioner). Under a lead: "Make the course four days and close the colleges," Dr. Hell observes:

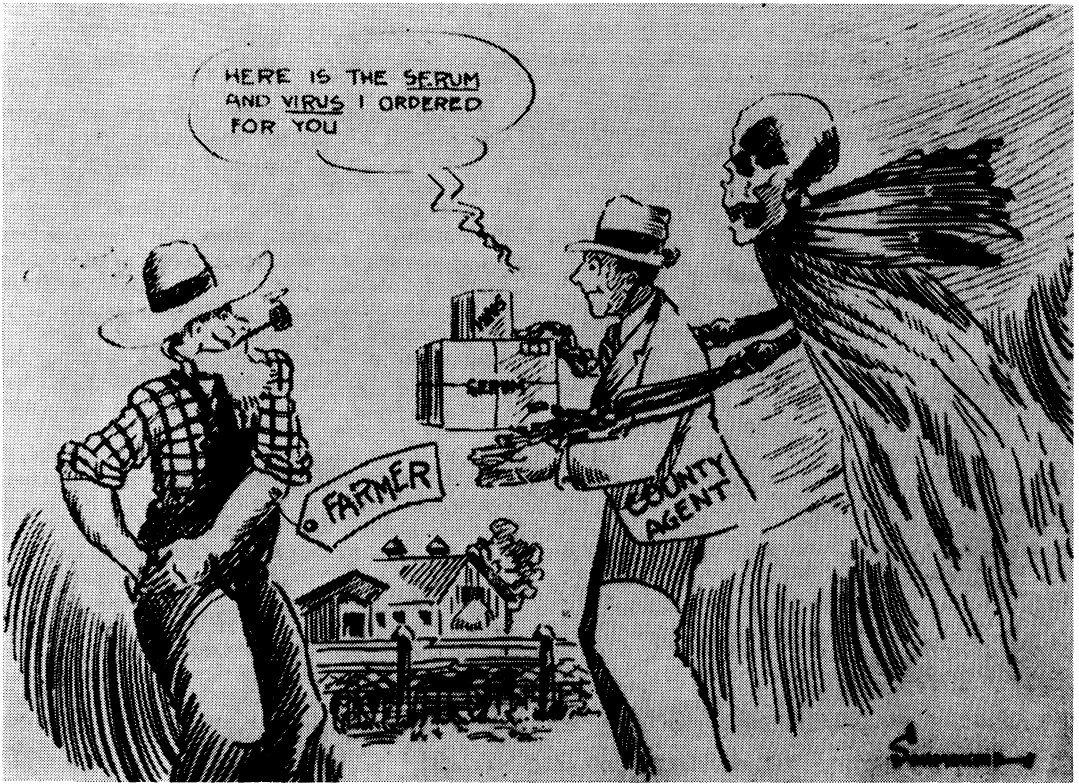
Our state legislature in its infinite wisdom has proclaimed that any farmer who has taken a 48-hour course under a veterinarian deputized by the state college or animal health commission may legitimately compete with the college graduate in 60% of his earning power. Why not give the farmer another 48-hour course and let him handle the entire veterinary practice of the state.

On this matter, Merillat notes:

Strange how silent the self-named benefactors of the veterinary practitioner are about a real menace—the menace of training farmers in the technic of hog cholera immunization; the menace of decorating them with a license; the menace of scattering a death-dealing virus to the four winds. The stock of medicine in the farm stable is not likely to harm the veterinary practitioner today any more than it harmed him in the past, but the Iowa idea is something else. It is a dragon, a real, devouring, fire-spitting dragon that does not only fill up the medicine chest, but fills it up with agents for diseases that even the most learned veterinarian knows too little about. . . .

Here is something that makes the medicine evil sink into the background as a triviality. . . . No state, no nation has the moral right to lure its sons into a vocation and then sacrifice them at such an altar. And then, there is by right not even common sense in turning over the handling of such scourges as swine diseases to unqualified persons and to do so at a time the veterinary profession might reasonably expect some appreciation for its achievements in discovering the means of controlling these very diseases.

The roots of this problem went deeper than a mere desire on the part of organizations which presumably had the best in-



Cartoon by Dr. E. A. Schmoker protesting sales of hog cholera virus to farmers in the 1930's.  
*Veterinary Medicine*

terests of the farmer in mind to save him the cost of veterinary service. It is true that in some quarters it was believed that the veterinarian was making a huge profit from vaccination — and undoubtedly there were some instances of overcharging. But it is also true that perhaps a majority of farmers were not as dissatisfied with the situation as some over zealous promoters of the idea of lay vaccination claimed. And economic conditions in the early twenties were such that the prospects of saving a dollar were not to be overlooked. However, it is also a fact that in some areas there were not enough veterinarians — in particular, not enough oriented to swine practice. Vaccination was still relatively new, and the full dangers of live virus had not been adequately realized — and still are not in many areas.

Nor should it be thought that the agri-

cultural press was entirely one-sided in the matter. Under a lead: "Farm Bureau and Veterinarians," the *Orange Judd Farmer* in 1921 states its position:

The farm bureau is the farmer's organization, created to serve him. It is entirely possible that in some counties there has been inadequate veterinary service, either by reason of lack of skilled men, overcharges or careless work. Not all counties are blessed with expert and conscientious veterinarians.

In such a case, assuming they are sure of the facts, it is manifestly the duty of the farm bureau to take the matter in hand. However, it is our opinion that such vaccinating work should be considered only a temporary recourse, pending the establishment of reliable and expert practicing veterinarians. . . . It would be unfortunate . . . to force out of business a skilled, hard working, conscientious practitioner.

And would it not react eventually against the farm bureau if cold figures should show that

the cost of vaccination, performed by the farm bureau, was greater than the cost of the same vaccinating by the practitioner, and that the percentage of unfavorable results was as great or possibly greater?

### Lacroix's Lament

At the same time L. A. Merillat editorialized in *Veterinary Medicine* against veterinarians serving anything but the agricultural interests, J. V. Lacroix, in *North American Veterinarian*, was taking quite the opposite stand regarding: "Veterinarians and Public Health." Thus in 1923 he editorializes:

It is regrettable that some veterinarians in this country should advocate a pussyfoot policy in discussing animal diseases that may be transmitted to human beings. Their excuse for such an attitude seems to be a belief that the circulation of knowledge regarding the danger of animal diseases may lead to the curtailment of the use of animal products by the public. This would lessen the quantity of livestock produced and incidentally the need for veterinary services. Therefore, according to this line of reasoning, it is better for the profession to disregard the question of public health, since it is incompatible with the best monetary return from practice. Thus, with malice aforethought, we are to condone the sale of tuberculous milk for human consumption, rather than to apprise the public of the danger from such food and insist upon measures for overcoming this menace to health! . . .

No science worthy of the name can prosper by its adherents dodging the facts. The truth must be faced and recognized as such, if one's science is to have an enduring worth and not be merely an excuse for living off the community. . . . While specifically the aim of the science may be said to serve most immediately the interests of animal industry, yet it is certainly a mistaken zeal that would place such interests above human interests. . . . Is it not better for veterinarians to insist that the people's food from animal sources should be free from disease and to interest the public in establishing such conditions? In the long run such a course can lead only to a greater consumption of animal products. . . . Furthermore, it will mean a wider recognition of the profession as the agency working for this greater security of life and health. Not only will such service bring to those who render it their need of material reward, but, of higher value, there will be in their minds the comforting sense of helpfulness — the satisfaction of viewing a world made better because of their efforts.

In expanding upon the subject later the same year, Dr. Lacroix observes that the "public" includes the farmer:

And the farmer is interested in his own health and that of his family, even more than he is concerned with the health of his livestock. This being so, silence on the part of those who should know regarding diseases of animals communicable to man, cannot be construed as a friendly act toward the livestock owner. The farmer is interested in public health, and if the veterinarian has nothing to say on the subject, others will step in and say a mouthful — perhaps even to the extent of discrediting the veterinarian as an authority on animal diseases.

There is also the further fact to be considered that no science, no profession, no social activity, can place itself in a watertight compartment and have nothing to do with other sciences, other professions and other activities. . . . A hermit-like aloofness from contact with allied branches of thought, spells decay and eventual extinction of those who adopt such an attitude. The medical profession has pointed out that the cooperation of human and veterinary medicine is necessary for the best results in both fields. We may expect to see a greater realization of this ideal in the future. . . . The stock owner is not to be likened to Robinson Crusoe, with the veterinarian as his man Friday, all alone on a desert island.

Concerning the desirability of interprofessional cooperation, J. H. Beard, M.D., writing in NAV on "The relation of animal diseases to public health" urges:

The versatility of bacteria in passing the barriers of species, the co-operation of animals and man in the preservation of parasites by mutually contributing to their life cycle, the role of insects in conveying organisms from diseased animal reservoirs to man, and the effect of the nutrition and the poisoning of animals upon their milk and meat are conditions that demand the united efforts of veterinary and human medicine in the comparative study of disease and in the preservation of public health.

### Campbell's Coming

*Veterinary Medicine* had been practically silent on the subject of public health for nearly two years after D. M. Campbell resumed its editorship — after L. A. Merillat had so strongly discounted the value of veterinary participation in this area. In

late 1926 this journal reprinted an article by the eminent British veterinarian Frederick Hobday on "the value of the veterinary profession in the preservation of public health." Dr. Hobday, later Sir Frederick, observes that in Britain — as obviously was the case in America:

The general public as a body have no conception of the part played by the members of the veterinary profession in the preservation of public health . . . of the diseases for the prevention of which it is necessary, in the interests of the public health, for the medical man to seek the aid of his veterinary confrere.

In 1927 *Veterinary Medicine* carried one article overtly titled: "Veterinary Science and its Relation to Public Health," in which the state health commissioner of Oklahoma reported that the state had decided to discontinue free Pasteur treatment of humans and concentrate on vaccination of dogs. In a lengthy review of "Veterinary Medicine in 1927," the only mention of public health is the endorsement of pasteurization of milk by "a considerable group of veterinarians engaged in public health work" in this country, and the doubts of "a substantial body of veterinarians in Great Britain" on the same subject.

In a similar review in 1928, however, six pages carry a "Public Health" lead in bold print, although it is noted:

The interest of the veterinary profession in its problems having a bearing on public health cannot be said to have either increased or lagged materially during the year. . . . The discovery that undulant fever in man as a result of infection from milk is more prevalent than was formerly supposed, aroused no particular interest among veterinarians, although it occasioned much discussion among public health officers.

As further evidence for his contention that veterinarians had displayed little interest, Dr. Campbell continues:

In the matter of participation in the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, veterinarians appear to have been

remiss; but few veterinarians attended this great convention and only one, C. M. Carpenter of the New York State Veterinary College, presented a paper, although altogether 17 papers were presented at the meeting on subjects of particular interest to veterinarians, and on which they have special knowledge.

Of eight papers on public health topics reviewed as being of interest to veterinarians, only one came from a veterinary journal. In asking, "Is canine distemper a danger to children?" A. H. Bryan reports four cases in which distemper in dogs was followed by nine cases of colds, influenza, bronchitis, or pneumonia in children who played with the dogs. He concludes:

The human physician or veterinary surgeon upon diagnosing a case of canine distemper where children are liable to infection, is justified in observing prophylactic measures to the extent of insisting that the children be kept away from the dog entirely, and from any portion of the premises that the dog might have infected, until thorough disinfection. . . . The small animal practitioner can do more than any other group of professional men to throw light on this problem . . . and once again place the veterinarian in the role as essential to the health of a community.

Dr. Bryan concedes that his findings may have been pure coincidence, and that more research would be needed to establish a causal relationship.

The fact that claims for a causal relationship between canine distemper and various respiratory infections in man were later refuted is, perhaps, beside the point. In a discussion of reaction to his paper, Dr. Bryan notes:

One well known veterinarian seemed to consider that anything seeking to relate canine distemper to human infection had a tendency to hurt the canine industry, and possibly the canine practitioner.

This attitude, of course, is in the same category as the refusal to publicize the fact that milk from tuberculous cows may spread tuberculosis in man on the basis that this would hurt the dairyman, and thus the cattle practitioner. Dr. Bryan notes:

Research workers at Johns Hopkins Medical School, who are engaged in a study of cold and influenza problems, confirmed the clinical observations of the writer, stating that organisms present in canine distemper are transmissible to the human.

And after mentioning clinical confirmation by other physicians, he concludes:

The veterinary profession will assume still greater importance from a public servant, in proportion to the service it renders in controlling human, as well as animal diseases. One of the greatest surprises to the veterinarian is the impetus accorded the dairy farm industry, following the war on tuberculosis. The veterinary practitioner has gained prestige, as well as added practice, due to his necessary service in controlling the disease, because he is serving the public from a health standpoint.

Of some interest in connection with the suspected relationship of canine distemper to human respiratory infections is a statement in 1935 by D. J. Davis, Dean of the University of Illinois College of Medicine, concerning the cyclic nature of influenza:

We may be reasonably sure that within the next 10 to 15 years, we will be visited with another pandemic of influenza and for the first time in all history, the prospect contains elements of encouragement owing to the research of Laidlaw and Dunkin on distemper in the dog.

### Fowl Play

The May, 1925, issue of the *Journal* was devoted entirely to avian diseases "as an indication of the importance we attach to this particular field." Michigan had recently redefined its livestock laws to include poultry, and New Jersey to add "or poultry." And:

The sooner the public at large appreciates the fact that the study, diagnosis, treatment and control of diseases of poultry is a purely veterinary problem, the better off our poultry industry will be. During the past six months we have witnessed just about enough dabbling in the control of a serious poultry disease, by those without any training in animal disease control, to make us thoroughly disgusted.

The situation alluded to was a serious outbreak of European fowl pest. A laboratory

investigator had imported some of the virus from the Pasteur Institute in the summer of 1923:

The introduction of this virus — of a disease which, by the way, had not previously existed in this country — was not only a violation of a federal law, but it was one of the most thoughtless acts upon the part of a supposedly intelligent person that has ever been called to our attention. It is almost beyond belief.

Not only had this investigator used the virus carelessly, and had shipped it to other supposedly qualified investigators, but it was reputed that he permitted an assistant to inoculate some fowls on his father's farm:

It very strongly indicates that this criminal carelessness was the origin of the recent epizootic of fowlpest, which was not brought under control until it had spread to at least eight states.

More than a half million chickens died in the New York City markets during the six months ending in December, 1924:

a loss that was probably the largest ever sustained by the poultry industry of America . . . the poultry industry of New York City was in a demoralized state.

Other states reporting outbreaks were New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and Ohio.

### CURTAILMENT OF THE COLLEGES

In speaking of the mission of the veterinary profession at the 1926 meeting in Lexington, Kentucky, President J. W. Adams observes:

The work of the physician has always been held in high esteem, because it deals with man, and human life. This is the popular conception, and it follows that the veterinarian's work is held to be utilitarian and not humanitarian.

I have never accepted this distinction. I cannot bring myself to believe that there is any life that is not sacred. . . . An animal is conscious of self as an entity, a free individual. It has sensations, emotions, suffers bodily pain and experiences mental pleasure. We have volun-

## A Prediction



AN AMERICAN VETERINARY COLLEGE, ANNO DOMINI, 1933, IF LAY MEDDLING WITH VETERINARY PRACTICE CONTINUES UNCHECKED AT THE PRESENT MOMENTUM

Cartoon by Dr. E. A. Schmoker suggesting what the veterinary colleges would be reduced to if lay meddling in veterinary practice continued unabated. *Veterinary Medicine*

tarily chosen a course of training which is designed to minister to the ailments of these dumb creatures. It is a noble work. Let us consecrate ourselves to it. . . . I love the veterinary profession. It completely fills my being. It satisfies my noblest longings — all my soul's desires.

Concerning a history of the profession, P. A. Fish observes:

Much valuable information has doubtless been lost through the death of the older members; it is obviously necessary, if a history is seriously contemplated, to get as much assistance as possible from the veterans remaining with us. For historical purposes, life is too short for procrastination.

The program included papers on tuberculosis by Evan Stubbs, and by J. A. Kieran; on brucellosis by C. M. Carpenter, and by I. F. Huddleson; abortion in mares by W. W. Dimock and E. S. Good; the estrous cycle of the mare by W. A. Aitken; inherited defects of stock by F. B. Hadley and B. L. Warwick; canine distemper by Ashe Lockhart; bovine indigestion by M. G. Fincher; blacktongue by C. C. Rife; skin diseases by H. J. Milks; and lameness by R. R. Dykstra.

The curtailed enrollments in veterinary colleges evoked much discussion; thus Dean V. A. Moore notes:

The suggestion has been offered that . . . a longer curriculum or higher entrance requirements would result promptly in a larger registration and professional preferment. Another has proposed the amalgamation of veterinary with human medicine. On the other hand, the need for veterinarians is so acute that men have had the audacity to appeal for lower requirements to practice. Further, certain agricultural agencies are endeavoring to popularize knowledge of animal diseases and teach farmers how to become their own veterinarians. Certain enthusiasts have hinted at the possible absorption of veterinary medicine by animal husbandry, thereby eliminating the profession.

As the crux of the problem, Dr. Moore states, "I believe the outstanding weakness in the veterinary profession today is to be found in its general, rather than its technical preparation." High school students he says, come:

ill prepared in the classics and not at all prepared in anything else. They have been instructed in many things, but they have not learned how to study or how to think for themselves.

Another fault is that:

Veterinarians, like physicians, have placed emphasis on their art . . . and the art has not been quick to accept the teachings of science. One of the difficulties in veterinary medicine is its failure to recognize that the greater part of the sciences which contribute to make it what it is today, did not originate within the profession. . . . There are a few veterinarians . . . who have concluded that veterinary medicine has a monopoly on the pure sciences found in the veterinary curriculum. . . . Why should not animal morphology, physiology and sanitary science be taught to the future husbandmen of the country? . . . It is the *art* of veterinary medicine that should be safeguarded. . . . I believe it is quite unsafe, and professionally a crime, to give the remedy for a disease to a person who cannot make the diagnosis.

Dean Moore favored:

a five-year course, which, for the present, should be made optional, in which the first year would be devoted to cultural subjects and basic sciences. . . . The one condition of success, the sole safeguard of the profession, is "the moral worth and intellectual clearness" of the individuals who enter it. Education

alone cannot give these but it may nourish them and bring those who possess them into the front, wherever and whenever they are to be found.

Thus Dr. Moore suggested a year of cultural preveterinary training, but E. T. Hallman countered that the experience in medicine had been, "These high educational requirements have resulted in an enormous growth of poorly educated cults and quackeries, all preying on the public under the guise of doctors." Dean Stange considered it:

unfortunate that, as educational institutions, we have been in the habit of comparing our profession with that of medicine . . . but practically there is a very wide difference. Our profession performs, in most of its branches, an essentially economic service.

He suggested a B.S. degree be awarded at the end of the four-year course, and, "The doctor's degree . . . should be offered only after further study, or at least five years of successful experience and a satisfactory thesis or other requirements." And noting an impending calamity when "The bars will be let down so as to enable lay pretenders to enter practice," Dean White urged, "Encouragement rather than discouragement should be given the intending veterinary student."

### J. W. Adams

John William Adams was born at Middleton, Mississippi, November 8, 1862, and spent most of his early life in Minnesota where he received the B. A. degree in classical studies (University of Minnesota) in 1886. He taught English at a military school for three years before entering veterinary study at the University of Pennsylvania. While an undergraduate he rowed on the crew, and was an all-American center on the football team. After graduation in 1892, he studied at Berlin and Dresden, specializing in horseshoeing under Prof. Lungwitz, whose text he later translated. He returned to the University of Pennsylvania in 1893, was made Profes-



sor of Surgery and Obstetrics in 1896, and elected to stay at this post rather than accept the deanship which was offered him in 1909.

Dr. Adams joined the AVMA in 1894 and served in various capacities; he was president of the Pennsylvania VMA (1921–1922), vice president of the Keystone VMA (1901–1902), and was elected president of the AVMA in 1925. Death came from a heart attack on October 22, 1926, only a month after completing his tenure as AVMA president. He was characterized as “the kind of a man who has earned his sterling reputation by sheer ability and close application.”

### Sound the Alarm

The matter of encroachment upon veterinary practice by agricultural interests was noted with alarm by a distinguished Russian veterinarian in 1926, who urged:

The tendency of the American agriculturalists to trespass in the realm of veterinary science, foreign to them, is very unpleasant and dangerous, because the veterinary branch is no less complex than the agricultural one. The public must be made to understand that it is one thing to know how to handle a syringe but quite another thing to realize and foresee the complex problems presented by some diseases and which can only be comprehended by the veterinary practitioner trained on scientific principles. In Russia, long before the revolution there was a moment when the agriculturalists tried to become the masters in the realm of zootechnics and live stock industry, but the veterinarians fought them with determination and not without effect.

In printing this warning, Dr. Lacroix observes, “It seems that we ourselves are the least aware of just what is transpiring around us.”

In discussing “the present and future of the veterinary profession” in 1926, A. T. Kinsley notes the probability that from the literature of the preceding few years:

succeeding generations will conclude that the veterinary profession was in a deplorable condition in 1923, 1924 and 1925. . . . The veterinarian, and particularly the practitioner, was

prosperous during the period of the war and until about 1920 when the depression of agricultural commodities occurred. Since that time there has been a gradual readjustment although the price of live stock and the income of the practitioner are less than they were during the war.

The agricultural depression, Dr. Kinsley notes, was a major cause of the reduction of income of the midwest practitioner, to a large extent through lay vaccination for hog cholera. This was not solely a matter of supposed outright economy, but was abetted by the suspicion created by an unstable pricing practice of many serum companies. Fluctuations of price by as much as 100 per cent during the year prevented practitioners from establishing standard fees for vaccination; the farmer whose hogs had been given serum at \$1.00 per hundred cc. might well wonder why he was charged more than his neighbor whose hogs had gotten 49-cent serum.

The entrance of states into the serum production picture further complicated matters, since many of these states not only permitted, but promoted, vaccination by farmers and state employees. “Lay vaccination,” Kinsley charges, “is an expensive privilege and the production of serum and virus by a commonwealth for such purpose should be discontinued.” And noting an instance where nonprofessional employees of a state with a veterinary school had gone into areas adequately served by veterinarians:

This is a paradoxical situation — a state institution maintaining a veterinary college in which state funds are expended in educating men for veterinary service and simultaneously maintaining a serum plant and sending an employee into the field to do veterinary service.

### Hiatus in Higher Education

In 1927 a press announcement by the USDA in calling attention to the fact that the BAI was short of veterinarians, notes:

The number of last year's graduates (132) from all veterinary colleges in the United States and in Canada was . . . scarcely up to

the replacement needs of this one branch of public service.

At this time the BAI alone employed about 1,350 veterinarians, with a turnover of about 10 per cent annually, a figure perhaps surprisingly low in view of the entrance salary of \$1,860 — and the prospects of \$2,400 after ten or more years of service. In the hope of attracting more applicants for Bureau positions, it was urged, “veterinary medicine is worthy of consideration by young men about to prepare for their life work.”

Concerning this, D. M. Campbell observes:

All the solicitude and all the urging of the civil service commission will continue unavailing in increasing the number of the matriculants at veterinary colleges unless its efforts be supplemented by a little encouragement by that same department of agriculture that employs each year a group of veterinarians equivalent in numbers to the entire graduating class of all the veterinary colleges in North America. . . . It lies within the discretion of the chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry to set the entrance salary for a veterinary inspector at any amount up to \$2,400 a year if he can not get acceptable applicants at a lower figure. It follows if the entrance salary were set at \$2,400, some provision would soon be made for higher pay for lengthened service. The increase in pay would soon be reflected in the salaries of veterinarians in state, city and commercial employment. Veterinary practitioners, too, would be benefitted and veterinary courses would at once become more popular with high-school graduates intending to enter one of the professions.

It is probably no secret that for many years starting salaries for instructors in veterinary schools, and perhaps other institutions hiring veterinarians, were pegged to the BAI entrance salary.

In the same year M. H. Reynolds reported a study which showed for the years 1919 to 1924 an increase of 40.8 per cent in enrollment in medical schools, and 49.1 per cent in schools of theology, but a decrease of 24.2 per cent in veterinary enrollment. On the basis of these figures and other considerations (e.g., an increase of 30 per cent in pastor's salaries), Reynolds concludes:

Young men will not continue to attend veterinary schools in considerable numbers when they see other young men doing better in other lines, composite investments and receipts considered. . . . If improvement in agricultural prosperity alone brings inviting returns to practicing veterinarians, then our schools will fill up again . . . when we compare total veterinarians, with total domestic animals and total valuations, it is difficult to believe that America is over supplied with competent veterinary service. If there is anything wrong, there must be other factors. . . . Could the veterinary profession lower cost . . . by knowing definitely what lines pay, composite cost and returns considered, and which do not? Could our professional returns be increased by definitely working for public good will like Swift and Standard Oil are doing and by extending the veterinarian's market as they do? . . . Could the profession increase its returns socially by dress, manner, general culture and social activity? . . . Our student attendance must rise and fall with the *relative net advantages* enjoyed by the profession.

## 1927

In his presidential address at the 1927 meeting in Philadelphia, T. A. Sigler observed:

The veterinary profession has controlled or eradicated every disease the live stock industry has called on it to combat, with the single exception of hog cholera, and this is the only serious disease that the laity has interfered with. . . . Our greatest problem is selling our profession to the public, who are misinformed concerning the duties of our calling . . . They very frequently ask . . . “What do you veterinarians do since the horse is gone?”. . . People do not think of the large amount of wealth tied up in other classes of live stock. . . . We welcome . . . the coming of the motor cars that divorced us from the livery stable horse doctor and caused us to cast our lot in other directions.

Speaking on “The Veterinary Profession: Its Recognition and Personnel,” Raymond A. Pearson (brother of Leonard), president of the University of Maryland, notes, among many other contributions of the veterinary profession:

Research in the veterinary field made the Panama Canal possible. Very few people know this. . . . Under the direction of Dr. D. E. Salmon. . . . Smith and Kilborne solved the

secret of Texas cattle fever. This quickly and naturally led to the control of yellow fever and then — and not until then — it was possible to dig the canal. A monument to these men should be erected by the side of the Panama Canal to . . . atone for the unjust treatment given to Dr. Salmon before and after the close of his great service at the head of our splendid Bureau of Animal Industry.

Concerning the "Grading of Small-Animal Hospitals," J. V. Lacroix suggested a "Hospital Branch" of the AVMA be established — perhaps the first public pronouncement of the concept that achieved substance with the later founding of the American Animal Hospital Association. On specialization in practice, F. H. Miller argued:

true specialism, properly and ethically carried out, does pay the highest dividend in any profession and is of the greatest possible service, when so conducted, in adding to the sum total of human knowledge.

Of particular interest was the presentation of papers by Bernhard Bang of Denmark on abortion and tuberculosis. Also presented were papers on bacterial nomenclature by W. A. Hagan; milk fever by P. A. Fish; bovine genital disease by W. W. Williams; dairy practice by E. R. Cushing; hog cholera by Marion Dorsett; fractures by C. P. Zepp; bovine sterility by Leonard Goss; fowl paralysis by J. R. Mohler; and infectious enteritis by H. E. Biester, publication of which marked the first use of full-color illustration by the *Journal*.

In a report on epidural anesthesia, W. M. McLeod and E. R. Frank note this had been demonstrated at the previous meeting by Dr. Benesch of Austria, a method "which is rapidly gaining favor among American veterinarians."

On "Bovine Infectious Abortion," Bang notes that it was thirty-two years earlier that he was the first to identify the causative agent, and now:

It is commonly admitted that the bacillus, to which you as a rule give my name, is the chief cause of the bovine infectious abortion. . . . I wish to express my sincere admiration for the

numerous excellent researches on infectious abortion which have been made in your country. Your scientists have indeed for many years been in the fore front in this field. In congratulating you with my whole heart I express the hope that the energetic attempts you make to eradicate this disastrous disease may be crowned with success.

Secretary Hoskins reported that the plan for junior membership in the AVMA, announced in 1924, had been put into effect with the organization of student chapters at the state colleges of Michigan, Washington, Iowa, and Kansas, and the University of Pennsylvania.

### What's in a Name

A considerable discussion revolved around the adequacy of the term *veterinarian*; G. A. Dick urged:

You will all agree that the term "veterinarian" does not adequately describe the functions of our profession as it is today and some of our most eminent men believe that, if we could find another name that would better describe our activities or functions, it would greatly assist the public in understanding our activities and our functions.

To this N. S. Mayo replied:

I do not know whether it is possible for us to coin a new word that will express to the average layman the field that the veterinarian occupies so far as his relation to public health is concerned. If such a name could be coined, I would welcome it, but I believe that within a very few years the public will become more and more impressed with the value of veterinary service so far as public health is concerned . . . and when these facts are brought more prominently before the public our position will be realized no matter what you call it.

Dr. L. A. Klein, however, states:

I am not ashamed of the name "veterinarian." On the other hand, I am proud of it. The veterinary profession has an honorable reputation which gives any member of it a right to take pride in it. It has accomplished many things not only of benefit to the animal industry but also for the benefit of public health. At the same time I realize that this name "veterinarian" does not describe our work. . . . I

want the general public to be able to understand the work of the veterinary profession because this understanding is having a very serious effect, in my opinion, upon the present progress of the veterinary profession and it may exert a very serious effect upon its future because this idea prevails, that the veterinarian does nothing but doctor horses.

Dr. Klein thus anticipated the clamor, thirty years later, for disbanding the Veterinary Corps because "the Army had more veterinarians than it had horses." He further relates an account of a student whose family had offered to pay his way through medical school, but demurred at paying any expenses in veterinary school. The author knows of at least one student who worked his way through veterinary school for this very same reason, and of another whose wife divorced him, apparently on this same account.

Dr. Klein suggests, in keeping with the prestige earned by the BAI, that the degree of "Doctor of Animal Industry" might be offered, but "I have not found a name for the man." To this, J. W. Connaway interjects:

I think what we want is more honest-to-God veterinarians, who are not ashamed of the pigpen and the work that they have to do. . . . The public are beginning to appreciate this and we do not want to confuse the public with some new name. . . . They do not stop to consider that this peculiar name isn't exactly fitting for everything. That is true of hundreds of English words which have come to mean very different things from what they were originally coined to mean. So I stand for the name "veterinarian."

Secretary Hoskins apparently had been holding the trump card, for he neatly terminates the discussion with "a sort of preliminary report" of the Committee on Policy:

It is suggested . . . that it is not advisable to make any change in the name of the veterinary profession or its allied organizations. In the interest of the veterinary profession and the public at large, it is urged that a modern and comprehensive definition of the term "veterinarian" be made in keeping with the activities which come under the domain of the profession at the present time.

Noting that the matter of a change of name "has been taken both seriously and otherwise by the public," Dr. Hoskins editorializes:

Even if nothing comes of the proposal, the veterinary profession has certainly been the gainer as the result of the publicity that has been given the subject by the press throughout the country. It is doubtful whether the same amount of publicity could have been obtained in any other way.

In observing that the real motive undoubtedly was a desire to divorce the connotation of "horse doctor" from "veterinarian," he suggests:

It would be easier to give a modern, up-to-date definition to the word "Veterinarian" than to adopt a new word and then have to explain its meaning. . . . "That is the new name for veterinarian." . . . Not so long ago a delegation of morticians — they used to be known as funeral directors — were taken for a group of brick-layers.

A widely-reprinted newspaper editorial urged:

It is most unfair to a conscientious veterinarian, trained at much expense for a service of great importance, to make him the butt of cheap horse-doctor jokes. His professional value is beyond question. It is entitled to respect . . . but there is a lack of earnestness upon the part of veterinary surgeons to "sell themselves" to those who need their service and the public in general.

On the lighter side, the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* answers "What Shall We Call 'Em?" with:

Vets do not like the name Vets;  
"Hoss Doctors" is passé;  
What are we going to call 'em? Let's  
Decide it right away. . . .

Beastosophist? Livestockopath?  
Catleech or Cowpropractor?  
Dogmatophist? Philhippomath?  
Pighealer? Mulofactor?

These hit at specialties — and yet  
They ought to, for the fact is  
No up-and-coming modern Vet  
Would touch a general practice.

On this matter, perhaps the best suggestion comes from John A. Kolmer, M. D., an honorary member of the AVMA, in an

address on "The Relation Between the Medical and Veterinary Professions." Dr. Kolmer urges:

The time has arrived when there should be a wider and deeper acknowledgement and appreciation of your special qualifications for public health and laboratory careers in human medicine. Indeed if the present plans for abolishing the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine should meet with success because of its inadequacy, I would suggest the degree of Doctor of Medicine in Animal Diseases as a substitute for showing that you are first and foremost doctors of medicine, with special training in the diseases occurring among the lower animals, several of which are transmissible to human beings.

Dr. Kolmer notes his choice of Fred Boerner for an assistant professorship in bacteriology and clinical pathologist in the Graduate School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania:

At no time have my students, all graduates from the best medical schools in the United States and some foreign countries, questioned his teaching or the propriety of having as a teacher a V.M.D. man. Nor have the staffs of the hospitals, composed of the leading medical and surgical experts of Philadelphia, ever questioned the propriety of my selection. And when I needed a good research bacteriologist for the Research Institute of Cutaneous Medicine I selected Dr. Malcolm J. Harkins, also a graduate in veterinary medicine. . . . Furthermore, the first steps have already been taken for the admission of properly qualified V.M.D. men to associate membership in the American Society of Clinical Pathologists.

### T. A. Sigler

Thomas A. Sigler was born in Clinton Township, Indiana, September 15, 1879, and graduated from the Indiana Veterinary College in 1902. For a time he taught at the Indiana and Terre Haute schools in addition to conducting a general practice, and in 1904 moved his office to Greencastle, Indiana, where he became active in civic affairs in addition to conducting a nationally-known practice for more than half a century. His intensely practical ideas resulted in his being much sought-after for lectures and demonstrations at association meetings and clinics.

Dr. Sigler served as president of the Indiana VMA (1911–1912), and was elected AVMA president in 1926. He died on June 24, 1957.

### PROSPECTS FOR PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

The 1928 meeting at Minneapolis broke all previous attendance with a registration of over 1,400. In his presidential address, Reuben Hilty urged:

Unless the practicing veterinarians pay more and more attention to so-called preventive medicine, we will be compelled to bow to state medicine. True, we must depend on state medicine in the handling of outbreaks of dangerous diseases, on account of the authority with which its men are clothed, but unless the practicing veterinarian is himself prepared to render the stockman this service in preventing disease in his herds and flocks, he will clamor for state medicine.

Past-president D. S. White issued a protest against:

the too common habit of thought which seems to link us closely with agriculture. While to be sure the veterinary profession is an aid to agriculture, it is no more so than any other of the professions. If linked up with anything, it should be with medicine.

In part, Dean White related this to the fact that:

85 per cent of the graduating class in medicine hold baccalaureate degrees, while less than 2 per cent of the veterinary graduates . . . can boast of any preliminary education beyond the high school. . . . Medicine is forging far ahead of us because she is in a position to use only the best material. . . . We have failed to guard the portals of the profession. . . . [We] should look forward to an increase in the entrance requirements in order to fill up the schools with a better educated, more mature type of student.

We cannot continue to take the rejects, the culls, the boys who wanted to study something "higher" and failed and with this material build up a great veterinary profession. Medicine is forging far ahead of us because she is in a position to use only the best material out of which to make physicians. . . . In our profession, in part due to the lethargy and sometimes hostile spirit manifested toward increasing the standards of education and the development of the schools, we have failed to guard

adequately the portals of the profession, with the result that too many of the mediocrity and too few of the superiority are filling in the gaps in the profession caused by the ravage of time. . . .

The veterinarian, therefore, who desires to see his profession continue to grow in the appreciation of the people, must become more alert to the needs of the school and use his influence as a citizen and voter to further them. Among other things he should look forward to an increase in the entrance requirements in order to fill up the schools with a better educated, more mature type of student, whose intellectual plane is higher than at present and more on a par with the student in the other professions. He should be more careful to recommend prospective students only when he knows them to be fit. More than once some loyal alumnus has introduced to me a prospective student whose only recommendation was that he had made a failure of everything else. . . . Kind deans of other colleges have frequently come to me with similar offerings in the way of faltering students whom they wish off their hands. "This boy likes horses — he ought to make a great veterinarian."

Past-president and Dean G. H. Glover suggested:

Perhaps our course of instruction is too strictly professional, that training young men for citizenship is more important than training them in a specialized way for the veterinary profession.

In discussion of the papers by Deans White and Glover, W. H. Feldman doubted "if the rank and file of our veterinary students possess a lower mentality than the average for the rest of the college or university." Dr. Feldman recommended extension of the curriculum to five or six years, doubting the propriety of awarding the D.V.M. for what was really only a baccalaureate degree. Also, the veterinary curriculum should be so standardized that it would be recognized anywhere "as fulfilling all the requirements for admission to graduate work and the full candidacy for the Ph.D. degree."

Papers were presented on rabies control by F. H. Brown and by B. J. Killham, state veterinarians of Indiana and Michigan respectively, in which each noted that the disease had not been brought under con-

trol; sheep diseases by E. T. Baker and by Hadleigh Marsh; hookworm in dogs by S. W. Haigler; foreign bodies in cattle by E. E. Wegner; pathology of sweet clover poisoning by L. M. Roderick; transmissibility of tuberculosis by A. F. Schalk; equine breeding diseases by W. W. Dimock; anatomy of the dog by J. D. Grossman; pullorum disease by B. T. Simms; hog cholera virus by H. C. H. Kernkamp; brucellosis by Ward Giltner; diagnosis of paratuberculosis by W. A. Hagan and Alexander Zeissig; and fecal examination in domestic animals by E. A. Benbrook.

It was decided that the Salmon Memorial Fund, which had been accumulating since the death of Dr. Salmon in 1914, and amounted to more than \$6,000, should be used for awards to outstanding veterinary students. The first award of \$600 was made to Erle R. Carter, a junior at Iowa State. The funds which had been collected for a memorial to Dr. J. J. Schmidt, of milk fever fame, were expended for a bust and plaque in his honor at Copenhagen.

### R. Hilty

Reuben Hilty was born in Hancock County, Ohio, in 1878 and graduated from Ohio Northern University. After teaching school for two years, he entered the Ohio State University, and obtained his D.V.M. in 1907. For most of his life he practiced in Toledo, where he was also zoo veterinarian and a noted judge at horse shows. He was a founder of the Ohio Board of Examiners, on which he served for 15 years. During World War I he was assistant chief veterinarian of the A. E. F. in France and was the recipient of the Legion of Honor from the French government, retiring with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Active in official AVMA circles from 1917 to 1943, Dr. Hilty served at various times as secretary of the Section on General Practice and of the Section on College Faculties and Examining Boards, and member of the Committee on Education and

on Legislation. In 1927 he was elected president of the Association. Dr. Hilty died March 4, 1952.

## 1929

In his presidential address at the 1929 meeting in Detroit, T. E. Munce noted:

The majority of the veterinary practice laws were enacted at a time when the standard of veterinary education maintained by the A.V.M.A. was lower than at the present.

Therefore, he urged that state boards discontinue examining graduates of approved schools and become primarily licensing boards "until such time as the feasibility of a national licensing board could be determined."

On the subject of disease prevention, Dr. Munce proposed:

The veterinary profession should assume the leadership in matters of preventive medicine. Veterinary researches that will continue to discover defenses against disease should be given more sympathetic and substantial support. . . . More of the public funds which are being spent for free veterinary service could to advantage be diverted to veterinary research, and training veterinarians in the use of better methods.

As Chairman of the Committee on History, P. A. Fish reported some progress on the proposed history of American veterinary medicine; he had completed an introductory chapter: "relating to veterinary science from ancient times down to a comparatively recent period." Chapter II was to deal with the beginnings of the profession in America; Chapter III "has already been written by the late Major Schwartzkopf . . . [on] the history of the Army Veterinary Corps." Also "practically finished" was the history of the veterinary schools, including "complete lists of the alumni of the forty-four veterinary schools . . . approximately 19,735 names." Unfortunately, it seems doubtful that any of this material exists today.

On "The Veterinarian's Obligation to the Poultry Industry," H. J. Stafseth, chair-

man of the first Section on Poultry, observed:

Intelligent and up-to-date poultrymen are desirous of obtaining efficient veterinary service. . . . The veterinary profession must find an effective way to reach the poultryman with a type of service that he can use with profit to himself and adequate remuneration to the veterinarian.

Concerning the problems of veterinary parasitology, M. C. Hall urged:

Parasitic diseases are approximately as important as bacterial diseases . . . [but] with the number of men now engaged in the study of veterinary parasitology in this country it would probably be a matter of centuries to secure satisfactory answers to these questions.

Papers were presented on poultry practice by A. D. Goldhaft, and on fowl pox by F. R. Beaudette; milk fever by P. A. Fish; rabies vaccine by H. W. Schoening, and rabies control by T. E. Munce; canine distemper immunization by Adolph Eichhorn; hog cholera virus by C. N. McBryde; and infectious enteritis in swine by H. E. Biester and Charles Murray.

The Society of Phi Zeta, with chapters at Cornell (1925) and Pennsylvania (1928), was organized on a national basis, with V. A. Moore as president; L. A. Klein, vice president; and W. R. Hagan, secretary.

## T. E. Munce

Thomas Edward Munce was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, April 26, 1877. After attending Washington and Jefferson College, he returned to the farm for five years before entering veterinary studies at the University of Pennsylvania, from which he graduated in 1904. After three years of general practice he engaged in livestock regulatory work, becoming Deputy State Veterinarian for Pennsylvania in 1909 and State Veterinarian in 1919. He served as president of the Pennsylvania VMA and of the U.S. Livestock Sanitary Association.

Dr. Munce joined the AVMA in 1904; he served as the first secretary of the Sec-

tion on Sanitary Science in 1916, and as a member of the Executive Board prior to his election as president of the Association in 1928. In 1934 he presided at the first session of the House of Representatives. At the time of his election to the presidency, L. A. Merillat cited him as "a tireless worker in behalf of the veterinary profession — not one branch, but all." Dr. Munce died at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, March 17, 1936.

### In the Name of Humanity

Dissatisfied with the increasing encroachment upon private practice by humane society hospitals, a committee headed by R. S. MacKellar, Sr., had met with a group from the A.S.P.C.A., "and immediately cordial relations were established." The combined group drew up a "Proposed Code of Ethics for Humane Societies and Veterinarians," which was adopted by the American Humane Society in 1928 and by the AVMA in 1929. This called for:

loyal cooperation between veterinarians and humane societies . . . to avoid conflict with the development of the veterinary profession . . . [but] in localities where the veterinary profession is unable or neglects to provide the facilities . . . it logically rests upon the humane societies to undertake the task.

Humane organizations . . . [shall] use their best influence . . . to urge the public to avail themselves of the services of qualified veterinarians . . . [and] the A.V.M.A. shall use its influence to have introduced into the curricula of the veterinary colleges correlated instruction in the humane care and treatment of animals. . . . Humane society animal hospitals and clinics . . . [should] offer their facilities to all licensed veterinarians on an equitable basis.

In an address on "Existing Relations Between Veterinarians and the Humane Organizations" in 1930, W. A. Young, of the Boston Animal Rescue League, reports the results of a questionnaire sent to about 150 humane societies. Satisfactory relations with local veterinarians were reported by 93; distinctly unsatisfactory relations by 31. Eight had full-time veterinarians; 19 part-time; 86 had veterinarians on call; 14

were provided with free service by local veterinarians. Nearly all said they could use veterinarians more advantageously; 40 stated they needed additional veterinary service. Frequent complaints were a lack of sympathetic understanding of the mission of the humane societies, and of apparent conflict with private practice.

In calling for more universally cordial relations between veterinarians and humane societies, Dr. Young observes that the latter:

have been markedly responsible for the growth and popularity of the veterinary profession. . . . They are continually pounding away at the public, demanding that people provide adequate care, shelter, food and medical attention for their animals. . . . Every humane organization issues one or more publication urging better care for the animals and invariably these publications say: "When your animal is sick or injured, consult your veterinarian."

The subject continued to be of interest, and at the 1932 meeting Raymond J. Garbutt, Chief Veterinarian of the New York A.S.P.C.A., discussed "The Relationship of the Veterinary Profession to Humane Organizations." Noting that the A.S.P.C.A. (established in 1866) had opened its first animal hospital in New York in 1912, Dr. Garbutt observes:

Much of the criticism against humane society hospitals has been without justification. There are veterinarians who even have questioned the right of societies to maintain hospitals. . . . [To 1912] the Society maintained no hospital but . . . it soon became apparent that it would be better to build a hospital and to centralize control. A survey showed a few modern hospitals in New York City but most of them were insanitary, dark and altogether unfitted for caring for animal patients. . . .

Most humane hospitals have been opened and operated by veterinarians who served gratuitously in the early periods of formation, but as work increased and the lack of control of free employees became more apparent, the humane hospitals centralized control, employed competent men and remunerated them on a weekly or monthly basis. All large organizations have found this to be the better way, and the societies know it is justified. They can point to the United States Army, which abolished its contract veterinarians for regular army officers,



to the U.S. Bureau of Animal Industry, which employs about 1,300 veterinarians, and to the large dairy companies, railroads, and express companies, which employ their own veterinarians. Humane societies are surely within the law and certainly have the right to employ their own staffs rather than contract for their veterinary work.

He does admit, however, that some humane society hospitals have overstepped

their jurisdiction in performing luxury services in direct competition with private practitioners, but on the whole:

Because of the birth of the humane movement the veterinary profession has been made a better profession. . . . An advertising campaign has been carried on relentlessly in behalf of the veterinary profession, which has brought to it prestige, publicity and financial reward, paid for by the humane organizations.