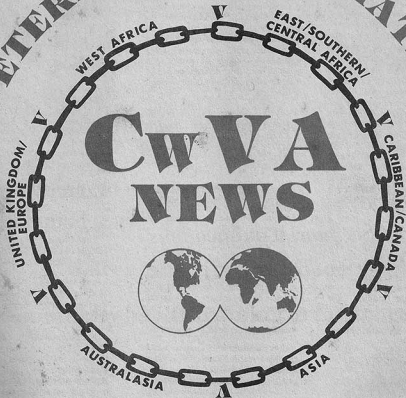


COMMONWEALTH VETERINARY ASSOCIATION

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TO
STRENGTHEN THE LINKS
OF
FRIENDSHIP & CO-OPERATION
BY
KNOWING EACH OTHER
BETTER

The Commonwealth, a membership of 49 nations

The Commonwealth, with its membership of forty-nine (49) nations, is a voluntary partnership for progress. Over one (1) billion people live in these forty-nine (49) independent countries which make up the Commonwealth.

Peasant farmers and landless people in rural areas are the poorest groups in most developing Commonwealth countries, and governments are particularly anxious to enable them to improve their living standards. Governments are equally anxious to increase food production overall, as about forty (40) of the forty-nine (49) member countries are net importers of food, and only five (5) - Zimbabwe, Canada, Guyana, Britain and Australia - are net exporters of cereals. Furthermore, in several countries, population is growing faster than food production.

Numerous Secretariat publications

The Secretariat publishes a range of information material on the Commonwealth and its activities. It also publishes research studies, the reports of meetings and seminars, journals, handbooks and directories covering many areas of Commonwealth activity and interest.

The subject material is listed under the following headings:

Reports of the Secretary-General.

It is estimated that almost one (1) in three (3) of the Commonwealth's one thousand million (1,000,000,000) people is malnourished.

Commonwealth leaders have pressed for more international action on food. Heads of Government and agriculture ministers (who meet every other year) are working for a dependable system of world food security and for strengthening of international efforts to increase food production.

The Commonwealth, with its proven qualities of understanding and bridge-building across the divides of race, religion and economic and political systems, deserves our individual and collective support.

Commonwealth publications are the source of some of this information.

Legal, Information, Medical, Economic affairs, Management development, Education, Science and technology, Export market development, Women and development, Food production and rural development, Youth, International affairs, CFTC.

For further information write: Commonwealth Secretariat Publications, Marlborough House, Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5HX, Britain.

Worthy of praise

Recently the Bangladesh Veterinary Association generously donated the amount of TK 94000 to the President of Bangladesh's Flood Relief Fund. To go along with this gift all veterinarians of Bangladesh contributed one days salary.

Like so many other groups in so many countries, the veterinarians of Bangladesh work in an environment of national scarcity of supplies and funds. This commendable act is indeed an example of genuine concern for those more troubled and less fortunate.



P.L.U. Cross

The Commonwealth Foundation

The Commonwealth Foundation co-operates in the activities of thirty-two (32) Commonwealth Professional Associations (CPA's). The Commonwealth Veterinary Association is one of these CPA's. The headquarters of the Foundation is located in London, England.

The Foundation was established in 1966, following a decision by the Commonwealth Heads of Government at their meeting in London in 1965, to promote closer professional co-operation within the Commonwealth.

At Lusaka in 1979 the Heads of Government extended the Foundation's mandate to nongovernment organizations of a voluntary nature and further broadened its function to include culture, information and the media, rural development, social welfare and the handicapped, and the role of women.

Following the decision of the Melbourne Meeting of Heads of Government in 1981, the Commonwealth Foundation was reconstituted as an international organization of the Commonwealth in 1983.

The Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation

The Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC) is the Commonwealth's own multilateral agency. Commonwealth Secretary-General Shridath Ramphal has stated: 'THE VALUE OF THE CFTC IS MORE THAN THE SUM OF ITS OPERATIONS; IT HAS COME TO BE A TOUCHSTONE OF CARING FOR THE COMMONWEALTH'.

The CFTC:

Identifies experts where they are most necessary, at the specific request of member governments.

Helps countries to build up their own expertise by enabling their citizens to be trained in other Commonwealth countries.

Conducts studies by consultants which can stimulate key sectors of a country's economy.

Helps countries in expanding their exports and earning crucial foreign exchange.

Provides specialist advice to governments on legal, economic, financial and statistical matters.

Assists in the establishment of new industries and in improving product-

ivity in existing industries.

The CFTC also supports practical co-operation between countries in food production and rural development, education, law, health, women's affairs, science and technology, economic affairs and management development.

Experts provided to many parts of Commonwealth

CFTC veterinary experts have been provided to many parts of the Commonwealth. Botswana has received two veterinary officers, a woman specialist in abattoirs from Uganda and a disease control expert from Ghana, while other Ghanaian experts include a veterinary training adviser assisting Sierra Leone and a veterinarian supplied to Grenada. Also based in Grenada, a CFTC animal husbandry expert from Britain is attached to the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute. Other CFTC veterinary expertise has been supplied to

St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Vincent and Tanzania.

The CFTC has responded to requests for veterinary training in related fields. A Ugandan is being assisted on an animal science master's degree course at Nigeria's University of Ibadan. Trainees from Malawi and Zambia have studied for veterinary degrees in Kenya, where other Malawians have trained in animal health and husbandry. A Grenadian has been assisted to study at REPAHA, the regional centre for animal health assistants in Guyana. A CFTC-sponsored student from Niue is specializing in animal husbandry at Fiji's College of Agriculture and a Cypriot has trained in veterinary pathology in India, where a Tanzanian has been assisted to study sheep and wool production and beekeeping. Three trainees from Solomon Islands have studied poultry husbandry and three others have studied livestock development, all in Papua New Guinea, while three senior Sri Lankan officers have made a study visit to examine rural abattoirs in Fiji.

Three month courses boost community health training in Caribbean

Community health training in the Caribbean is being boosted with a series of three-month training courses supported by the Secretariat. The first two courses were held in Guyana and St. Lucia in 1985; the third is to start in Dominica in April, and further courses are being planned.

These courses, aimed mainly at health workers but also including health educators, environmental officers and health educators, offer a broad training in public health, relating it to the total environment and training practitioners to develop positive attitudes to enable them to offer a better service to the community.

Provision for certificate courses of this kind for non-physician staff were approved by the University of the

West Indies and Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, and received the go-ahead from Caribbean health ministers in 1984. Supporters of the scheme include the Commonwealth Foundation, PAHO/WHO, the EEC and British Council. The CFTC, major funder of this course, supports training for some 1,800 skilled people on hundreds of courses and attachments each year.

The courses combine formal instruction with project work, case studies and discussion sessions. Subjects covered include epidemiology, community diagnosis, statistics and study of particular diseases, as well as social and environmental issues, the structure of health systems, and health education.

The second course, in St. Lucia, took a new direction, with increased

emphasis on the field assignment. The participants, divided among five communities, conducted community diagnoses and worked closely with local people in developing projects the community identified as a priority. The projects included forming health committees, cleanup campaigns, a revolving loan for building sanitary facilities, and screening for blood pressure and diabetes. The course, led by St. Lucia's Health Services Director Dr. Anthony D'Souza, was judged of real benefit to the communities involved, as well as to the 25 participants who should now be exercising their new skills in the ten Caribbean countries from which they were drawn.

(From Commonwealth Currents February 1986)

Items from The Papua New Guinea newsletter

The following editorial and the accompanying two articles are taken from The Papua New Guinea Newsletter.

P.N.G. VETERINARY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

No. 18, March 1984
Editor: M. J. Nunn

Research. For the 'man on the street' the word conjures an image of white-coated scientists, in spotless laboratories, dabbling with strange chemicals or organisms, with child-like naivety, oblivious to the world beyond their test-tubes or microscopes. The archetypal researcher is perceived as impractical and myopic, introverted and irresponsible, totally immersed in his (or her) narrow, private world, disdainful and suspicious of the 'real world' outside his laboratory or library. For the scientist, however, the word conjures images of the noble, self-sacrificing searcher after truth: fighting for funds, battling bureaucracy and ignorance, struggling and striving for knowledge and truth. The epitome of this image is the noble achiever triumphing over adversity, ignorance and limited resources; of Galileo, Newton, the Curies, Fleming or Rutherford of popular culture.

The truth, of course, is somewhere in between. But which is closer - the naive impractical introvert or the noble Nobel winner? How much research is relevant and applicable, especially in developing countries? This NEWSLETTER features two recent articles that challenge the role of agricultural research and suggest that, regrettably, the first image is too often closer to the truth.

Policy: Research

The amount of agricultural research conducted in third world countries has increased dramatically in the past twenty years. In 1971 an organization called the Consultative Group on International Agricultural

Research (C.G.I.A.R.) was formed by governments, international agencies and private foundations to support a system of agricultural research centres and programmes throughout the world. More than '600 senior scientists' are amongst the 7000 people working at C.G.I.A.R. centres on crops, livestock and farming systems. These centres include the International Livestock Centre for Africa (I.L.C.A.), Addis Ababa, with sub-centres in Mali, Nigeria and Ethiopia), the International Laboratory for Research on Animal Diseases (I.L.R.A.D.), Nairobi, with emphasis on trypanosomiasis and theileriosis) and the International Service for National Agricultural Research (I.S.N.A.R.), The Hague, with emphasis on agricultural development) through assisting and strengthening national research programmes). The last-named group was responsible, for a review of tree crops in Papua New Guinea and its recommendations have been adopted as the basis of the current World Bank funded Agricultural Support Services Programme (A.S.S.P.) of the Department of Primary Industry.

With this increased attention to agricultural research, it is appropriate to ask if the right kind of research is being done. Biggs and Gibbon (1984) argue that to answer this question one must first decide (i) what criteria are used to determine what is 'right', and (ii) what type of research is currently being undertaken. They note that research and development occur in both private and public sectors, with farmers undertaking a "considerable amount of 'informal' research and development, selecting and screening crops and varieties, and developing new cropping and resource management practices".

But "is enough research being directed towards improving the welfare of poor women, men and children in rural areas of developing countries? By defining a client group in this way we immediately have a criterion against which research programmes can be assessed. Agricultural research priorities in different countries do, of course, vary depending on local agro-ecological and socio-economic institutional con-

ditions. As food is a major basic need of poor people, it follows that emphasis on food production should be a major priority. But, while it may appear a straightforward objective, actually constructing a research programme to meet this objective may be quite difficult. For example, many of the new, high-yielding cereal crops which have been developed under better-than-average fertility conditions and protected from pest attack on research stations, are often quite unsuitable for the risk environment and multi-crop situation on resource-poor farmers' land. Wealthy farmers with good soil access to inputs and the means to reduce risk may, however, find such crops well suited to their environment'. Thus in assessing whether a research programme has the 'right' priorities and approach, it is necessary to consider first the likely beneficiaries of the output from the programme.

Another issue to be considered is the manner in which research is carried out. Work in the 1960's and the 1970's "concentrated on high productivity per unit area with combinations of single crop varieties and higher fertilizer inputs". Yet most farmers in the developing world do not have access to fertilizer and thus grow their crops "in mixtures and systems that are well-adapted to their particular low-fertility environments".

Another issue concerns wealth and income distribution. In many countries there is a growing number of landless labourers and poor farmers who have to rely on employment as a source of income. Research which "seeks to increase yields or reduce crop losses by capital-intensive technologies may result in gains in productivity but the displacement of jobs. The rapid spread of small-scale rice-hullers in Indonesia (replacing traditional rice-husking techniques with little or no reduction in post-harvest losses, resulted in a major loss of employment for poor rural women. When there are few jobs available, and there is no possibility of urban areas "absorbing" labour from rural areas, agricultural research programmes have to address the dual problems of

The Papua New Guinea newsletter...

from page 4

developing technologies for resource-poor farmers and at the same time providing benefits for rural labourers who have very limited resources".

One area the authors note is neglected is research into the use of power and appropriate tools to manage crops and soils efficiently. Work on simple tools and draught animal equipment and management is at present carried out using the same power resources as the poor farmer, so it is not surprising that many technologies developed at well-endowed research centres have little relevance for poor farmers". Recent work at some centres (eg: I.L.C.A.) has shown that animal draught power may be relevant for many farmers. But research work is hampered by the institutional problem of many research systems which have a clear separation of livestock from crop research, making effective research into animal draught power difficult.

A final aspect of research is the increasing emphasis on on-farm research and farming systems research. This is seen as likely to increase the relevance of research to farmers, and has been lacking in much on-station research conducted in the past. However, "very few research organizations work under carefully-developed criteria which define client groups, priorities, location and methods of conducting research. It follows that there is now an urgent need to collate and learn from recent experience in order to improve the quality and training of research scientists and managers, and also to improve the organization

and management of research in many Third World countries."

Reference: Biggs, S. and Gibbon, D. (1984) *Int. ag. Devel.* 4, 7-8.

Policy: More research or more application

Do we need to continue to attach so much importance to agricultural research? Oakley (1984) argues that rural poverty in the Third World continues to grow, despite "some thirty years of intensive national and international effort to bring about some form of development in the rural areas of the Third World..... We have been trying now for decades, but all our efforts still have not had much of an effect on the lives of the majority of the rural poor".... "Accompanying this massive effort has been an equally substantial effort to research the technological problems associated with agricultural under-development. Great efforts have gone into training the plant breeders, livestock specialists and soil scientists, for example, to tackle the Third World's agricultural problems. Much is written about the role of research in agricultural development. It can be argued that much of the research is irrelevant to the needs of the poor majority and also that it tends to cultivate the mentality that the poor majority's problems are essentially technical. The conditions, excellent and professional career structure which this research demands put a higher

premium on work in that field as opposed to the applied side of agricultural development. A career in research or other support services is more often preferred to one in extension or to working more directly at the local level."

Given the widespread and worsening levels of rural poverty, it is now "time to look at the research-technological innovation pattern and question its ability to tackle the above poverty... Is it not time to swing the whole balance away from further research and the generation of even more knowledge to trying to apply on a massive scale the knowledge that we already have?"

Oakley argues that as long as a premium is put on research to tackle agricultural underdevelopment "Then research will be rewarded and fewer people will want to put the effort into the far more complex but necessary work of taking the research, adapting it and putting it to the benefit of the rural poor. The generation of knowledge for agricultural development is a valid exercise, but unless it can be harnessed and made available to those who really need it, it becomes questionable".

"It is difficult to believe that we do not already have the technological solutions to the main problems which the majority of farmers face in most agricultural systems in the Third World. Would it not be better to try massively now to apply these solutions rather than generate even more knowledge, the value of which to the rural poor is questionable? A major commitment to apply what we know, rather than to generate even more, could actually begin to bring the results of past research to the benefit of those who labour with little support or encouragement. Given the endemic nature of rural poverty in the Third World, it is only by major shifts of thinking such as this that we are going to have any chance of making an impact on this poverty. If we do not change, we can go on improving agricultural statistics and the lives of a few for ever. But we will continue to forget the vast majority and the misery of their lives."

Reference: Oakley, P. (1984) *Int. ag. Devel.*, 4, 24.

Over 8 million in Third World are illiterate

A threshold has been crossed and some history made in our century. For the first time most of the world's people are literate. But, however substantial the program, the problem of illiteracy persists. More than eight (8) million people, chiefly in the Third World and especially in the

least developed countries, cannot read, write or do written calculation. About five (5) million of those eight (8) million illiterate are women.

The source of this item is CIDA's magazine 'Development' - the winter (1985) issue.

Resolution regarding eradication of ticks is passed unanimously

At the CwVA Canada-Caribbean Regional Council Meeting, held in November, 1984, in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, W.I., Dr. J. L. Robinson, Council Member, Antigua, proposed a resolution, which was approved

unanimously, regarding the control and eradication of ticks throughout the Region, because of the serious losses associated with blood parasites, dermatophilosis, and heartwater.

This resolution was placed before the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Agriculture, Caribbean Community (CARICOM), held in November, 1984, in Guyana. The committee recommended that a pilot project be undertaken to evaluate eradication procedures on a regional basis and requested the CARICOM Secretariat, the CwVA, and Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) to collaborate in the execution of these recommendations.

The approach was endorsed next by the First Meeting of Chief

Veterinary Officers, CARICOM, held in May, 1985, in Jamaica.

Consequently, Professor H. E. Williams, Regional Representative, Caribbean-Canada Region, CwVA, was invited to attend and participated in the meeting, called by IICA, to discuss the strategy and a proposal for the feasibility study for a project for the eradication of *A. variegatum* and heartwater from the Eastern Caribbean Islands. Other participants represented CARICOM, Tuskegee University, University of Florida, USAID, USDA, National Cattlemen's Association, and Nor-Am Chemical Company. The meeting was held at IICA, Washington, DC, in December, 1985. Funding is being sought for the proposal. The expenses of the CwVA representative were met by IICA.

Tanzania Conference

Mr. J. T. Blackburn, Vice-President of the CwVA and Senior Vice-President of the British Veterinary Association attended the 3rd Tanzania Veterinary Association Scientific Conference at the invitation of Professor P. Msolla, Council Member for the CwVA in Tanzania. Professor Msolla who is the Dean of the Veterinary faculty in Sokoine University acted as Chairman of the Conference.

Mr. Blackburn reports that the conference was an outstanding success. It was attended by over 250 Tanzanian veterinarians and there was representation from other parts of Africa and from Western Europe. The quality of the papers and the qualifications of the speakers were highly regarded. Both Mr. Blackburn and Professor Msolla were among those presenting papers. The proceedings of the conference are scheduled to be published later this year.

The conference was held in the Arusha International Conference Centre on December 3 - 5, 1985. Mr. Blackburn reports that the venue is most impressive. Support for the conference was obtained from some government and commercial sources in addition to that provided by the Tanzania Veterinary Association.

Mr. Blackburn is most generous in his praise for the kindness and hospitality shown by his Tanzanian hosts.

Central Sales Canada to sponsor speaker

Mr. G. Lagerquist of Central Sales Canada, has informed the Secretary-Treasurer that his company will sponsor a speaker at the next Joint CwVA/CVMA/Caribbean Conference. The speaker will be identified on the program as "Central Sales Lecturer". This generous gesture is very much appreciated by all members of the associations involved.

Sir Jawara visits United Kingdom

His Excellency Sir Dawda Jawara, President of the Republic of The Gambia and Patron of the CwVA on a private visit to the United Kingdom, received Mr. Trevor Blackburn, Senior Vice-President of the British Veterinary Association and Vice-President of the CwVA. An

informal discussion took place concerning the site of the next Executive Committee Meeting.

Mr. Blackburn was accompanied by Brian Hoskins, President of the B.V.A. to the meeting with our Patron.

CwVA secretary honoured

Dr. James Archibald, Secretary-Treasurer of CwVA Executive Committee, was awarded the prestigious "International Prize for Scientific Achievement". This award is made by the World Small Animal Veterinary Association and it recognizes veterinary work that has had a significant impact on advancing knowledge concerning the cause, detection, cure and control of disorders of companion animals.

The CwVA joins other veterinary associations in expressing pleasure at this recognition of Dr. Archibald's outstanding accomplishments. The award ceremony was held in Tokyo, Japan, at the November 1985 congress of the World Small Animal Veterinary Association.



James Archibald

Regional Australasia meeting held in Malaysia

This meeting was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on April 21st and 22nd 1986. A seminar on Veterinary Public Health was held in conjunction with the CwVA meeting. Joint sessions of these meetings were the Association of Veterinary Surgeons Malaysia (AVSM), the Department of Veterinary Services Malaysia and the CwVA. The full proceedings of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association Regional (Australasia) Meeting and the papers, together with summary statements, delivered at the seminar will all be published in the Journal of the Association of Veterinary Surgeons Malaysia.

The following report, dated May 1986, is from Dr. W.J. Pryor of Canberra, Australia. Dr. Pryor is the CwVA Council Member for Australia and the CwVA Regional Representative for Australasia.

"The recent Regional Council Meeting of the CwVA, held in Malaysia, and the associated seminar, on veterinary public health, were unqualified successes. The meeting was attended by delegates from Malaysia, Singapore, New Zealand and Australia, with a late apology from Papua New Guinea.

Committee established to identify priorities

The Region's program of work has evaluated the plans for new activities finalized. Particular attention is to be given to a review, of veterinary services in the South-West Pacific, in collaboration with the Australia

Veterinary Association (AVA). A committee was established to identify priorities for future seminars in animal health, livestock production, veterinary public health and veterinary administration and management.

Dr. Pryor advised that current activities to be continued and expanded included journal donations and exchanges, information and publication exchanges as well as assistance to veterinary students from Developing Commonwealth Countries.

The associated "Seminar on Veterinary Public Health" was opened by the Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Malaysia), Dr. Goh Cheng Teik. The Deputy Ministry was highly complementary of the Malaysian veterinary services and he opined that livestock production could well surpass more traditional

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Photographed at the Australasian Regional Meeting of CwVA [April 1986] in Kuala Lumpur are [L to R]: Dr. Ahmad Mustaffa [AVS Malaysia], Dr. W.J. Pryor, Australia

[Chairman], Professor D.K. Blackmore [New Zealand], Dr. E.H. Shortridge [NZVA], Dr. Ng Cher Yew [Singapore], Dr. Ho Hon Fatt [SVA] and Dr. Yap Teow Chong [Malaysia].

Attendance at seminar was excellent...

*from page 7

forms of agriculture (rubber, palm oil) in the next decade or so.

Attendance at the Seminar was excellent with seventy-five (75) veterinarians participating. Speakers came from all member countries of the Region. The special guest speaker was Professor D.K. Blackmore of New Zealand. Professor Blackmore spoke on "The Way True Veterinary Public Health Must Go". Other speakers spoke on "Drug Registration", "Waste Water From Pig Farms", "Planned Animal Health Programs", "Brucellosis", and "Development Of Veterinary Public Health Programs".

Professor Omar Abdul Rahman, President of the Association of Veterinary Surgeons of Malaysia, and Dr. Ahmad Mustafa, Director

General of Veterinary Services, and Dr. Yap T.C. went to great trouble to ensure the success of the Seminar. One was struck by the open-mindedness and vigour of the discussions. It seemed that all member countries were having problems in clearly defining the fullness of their role in veterinary public health. Some countries are having difficulties with the inadequate control of ethical veterinary drugs. These issues were fully discussed and plans to effect improvements were developed at the meeting.

The Malaysian participants arranged two very enjoyable dinners, one was hosted by the Deputy Minister, Dr. Teik, and the other was at the home of Dr. Mustafa. Field trips were made to the Veterinary

School, the Veterinary Research Centre at Ipoh and a Cattle Research Station. At each of these centres the CwVA visitors took the opportunity to publicize the CwVA and its activities.

The success of these meetings was enhanced by a spirit of cooperation, enthusiasm and genuine goodwill. The CwVA delegates expressed their sincere appreciation to the cooperating Malaysian groups and colleagues.

It is planned to hold the next CwVA Regional (Australia) Meeting in Papua New Guinea in 1988 in conjunction with a Seminar on Veterinary Services for the South-West Pacific. This Seminar will be of much importance to the Region and its funding will be a crucial concern.

Dr. Blackburn visits Tanzanian conference

Dr. J. Trevor Blackburn, Vice-President of the CwVA and European Regional Representative, attended the recent Tanzanian Veterinary Conference, which was held at the Conference Centre in Arusha on November 30th to December 7th, 1985.

In an informal communication Dr. Blackburn notes the excellence of the meeting, with good papers and an impressive attendance of about 250 Tanzanian Veterinarians plus repre-

sentatives of other countries. At the opening of the conference Dr. Blackburn conveyed greetings from the CwVA and read out a message from CwVA Patron, His Excellency Sir Dawda Jawara.

Having worked Africa, Dr. Blackburn was no stranger to Tanzania. He and his wife, Mary, renewed several old acquaintances. Among personal highlights for them was the opportunity to attend Sunday service in Christchurch, Arusha, where two

of their children were christened.

Dr. Blackburn expressed his admiration for the efforts of the Tanzanian Veterinary Association under the leadership of President Peter Msolla. Dr. Msolla and his colleagues work under the stress and difficulties that always accompany national financial and material shortages.

Doctors

receive study grants

Dr. J. L. Robinson, CwVA Council Member for Antigua, has been awarded a grant by the C.V.I.F. He will undertake a course of study at the University of Edinburgh Centre for Tropical Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. I. D. Wickramasinghe of the Department of Animal Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka has been awarded a study grant by the Commonwealth Veterinary Interchange Fund.

Dr. Wickramasinghe will study at the University of Guelph, Canada, in the Department of Clinical Studies. He will be associated with Dr. Walter Johnson, an expert in Thierogenology.

Awards for Commonwealth University Academic Staff 1986 - 88

Fellowships, visiting professorships, grants etc. open to university academic staff in a Commonwealth country who wish to carry out research, make study visits, or teach for a while at a university in another Commonwealth country.

Price 9.90 pounds.

The Association of Commonwealth Universities
John Foster House, 36 Gordon Square, London, England
WC1H 0PF.

Financial Aid for First Degree Study at Commonwealth Universities 1986 - 88

A guide to scholarships, bursaries, grants, loans etc. for Commonwealth students who wish to study for a first degree at a Commonwealth university outside their own country.

Price 2.90 pounds.

International Seminar on livestock production held in Calcutta

The seminar was held from Nov-
 1983 to Dec. 1983, in Calcutta.
 It was organized jointly by the West
 Bengal Veterinary Association (a
 member of the Commonwealth Assoc-
 iation of Veterinary and Animal Health
 Officers) and the Government of India.
 It was a success-
 ful seminar with a total
 of 100 speakers from Bangla-
 desh and India. The
 seminar was attended and fifty
 participants from West Ben-
 gal. The success of this
 seminar is a credit to the Gov-
 ernment of Bengal and
 the Government of India
 for sponsoring. The chair-
 man of the speakers were
 Dr. M. U. Ahmed Chaudhury and
 Dr. D. D. Wanasinghe. Some of the insti-
 tutes represented were the Indian
 Veterinary Association, the Central
 Veterinary Research

Institutes of India, State Animal
 Husbandry and Veterinary Depart-
 ments, the Agricultural Universities
 of India and the 'All India Institute of
 Hygiene'.
 Dr. J.M. Bujarbarua the CwVA
 Regional Representative for Asia,
 Dr. M.U. Ahmed Chaudhury and the
 CwVA Council Member for Bangla-
 desh and Dr. D.D. Wanasinghe the
 CwVA Council Member for Sri Lanka
 all spoke on behalf of the CwVA.
 They explained the significance of
 the CwVA and its role in professional
 development in the Developing Com-
 monwealth Countries.
 The scientific sessions were carried
 out as follows:- Nov. 4th - Cattle
 Development, four (4) speakers;
 Chairman: Sri H. Guha, Director of
 A.H. Govt. of West Bengal.
 - Sheep and Goat Development,
 three (3) speakers; Chairman: Dr.
 Monohan Singh - Director of A.H.
 Haryana (Ret'd.)

Nov. 5th - Poultry and Duck
 Development, five (5) speakers;
 Chairman: Dr. H. B. Shetty -
 Director of A.H. Karnatak.
 - Pig Development, three (3) speak-
 ers; Chairman: Dr. S.N. Sharma -
 Director of A.H. Haryana.
 - Feeds and Fodder Development,
 three (3) speakers; Chairman: Dr. G.
 M. Srikanthiah - Director A.H.
 Karnataka (Ret'd)
 Nov. 6th - Field visit to Institute of
 Animal Health and Veterinary Biolog-
 y at Bengal Veterinary College,
 Calcutta.
 Nov. 7th - Field visit to Habra Cattle
 Show, Habra, West Bengal.
 - Livestock health, ten (10) speakers;
 Chairman: Dr. D.S. Gorhe - Chief
 Executive, BAIF.
 - Veterinary Public Health, five (5)
 speakers; Chairman: Dr. P.B. Kun-
 du - Director, Veterinary Services,
 West Bengal.

CwVA national (India) report

The Indian Veterinary Association
 held its 1983 Regional CwVA
 national meeting. It was held at the
 Indian Veterinary University in
 Calcutta, in November 1983 in
 conjunction with a Livestock Produc-
 tion and Animal Health seminar. At
 the regional meeting Dr. Bujarbarua
 presented the Regional Representa-
 tive report on the CwVA
 activities in India, Bangla-
 desh and Sri Lanka make up this

region.
 During this period (1983 to 1985)
 the Indian Veterinarian Association-
 held veterinary seminars and work-
 shops at Calcutta, Kottayam, Trivan-
 drum, Mysore Indian Veterinary
 Research Institute and in Itanagar.
 These meetings were held in cooper-
 ation with the various state veterinar-
 ian associations.
 - made substantial efforts to stimu-
 late a public awareness of the

importance of the Indian Veterinary
 Association. Briefs concerning the
 Indian Veterinary Council Bill, were
 presented to Parliamentarians and
 Minister of both Union and State
 governments.
 - erected the new Indian Veterinary
 Journal Building in Madras.
 - made significant progress to-wards
 acquiring an Indian Veterinary As-
 sociation building in New Delhi.

Indian Veterinary Journal

The Veterinarian

THE VETERINARIAN is a month-
 ly journal published by the Indian
 Veterinary Association. The success
 of "THE VETERINARIAN" is evi-
 denced by the expansion of its
 circulation over Sri Lanka and Bangla-
 desh in the year 1983. This is its
 sixth year of publication.

India

In 1983 the Indian Parliament en-
 acted the Indian Veterinary Council
 Bill. Under this several states have
 formed their Veterinary Associa-
 tions. According to the Act a States

must opt for the Indian Veterinary
 Council before a State Veterinary
 Association can be formed. It is
 expected that more states will soon
 follow suit.

Bangladesh VA

Despite severe financial con-
 straints the Bangladesh Veterinary
 Association managed to hold two (2)
 conferences during recent years, one
 in 1979 and the other in 1983. During
 this same period three (3) Bangla-
 desh veterinarians were able, with
 CwVA help, to visit India on study
 tours of various educational institu-

tions.

Bangladesh will host the next
 CwVA (Asia) Regional Meeting. It
 will be held at Dhaka in conjunction
 with the 1987 Bangladesh Veterinary
 Conference.

Sri Lanka VA

The Sri Lanka Veterinary Associa-
 tion was formed during the early
 1940's. It was then known as the
 Ceylon Veterinary Association.

The Sri Lanka Veterinary Council
 was established in 1948. Among its
 earliest accomplishments was the
 spotlighting of the rabies problem in
 Sri Lanka. The council then proceed-
 ed to organize and implement an
 anti-rabies campaign.

Sri Lanka hosts 6th CwVA regional conference

The Sri Lanka Veterinary Association was host to the 6th CwVA Regional (Asia) conference on Dec. 11th to 15th, 1985. The conference took place in conjunction with the 39th Annual Sri Lanka Veterinary Convention. The joint meetings were held at Colombo, Sri Lanka's capital city, and at Kandy, its winter capital.

The Indian CwVA delegation was led by Dr. J. M. Bujarbarua, general secretary of the Indian Veterinary Association and regional (Asia) representative of the CwVA.

The Bangladesh CwVA delegation was led by Dr. M.U.A. Choudhury, president of the Bangladesh Veterinary Association and its CwVA council member.

The Sri Lanka CwVA delegation was led by Dr. D.D. Wanasinghe, its CwVA council member.

A joint technical seminar was organized by the representatives of the three participating countries.

Joint Meetings

The joint meetings opened in Colombo on Dec. 11th. Dr. A.S. Abeyratne, president of the Sri Lanka Veterinary Association, welcomed the gathering. Opening addresses were delivered by Dr. K.N. Weerakkody, of Sri Lanka's Ministry of Rural Industry Development, and Dr. J.A. de S. Siriwardane, Director of Animal Production and Health in Sri Lanka.

Dr. Weerakkody mentioned the importance of the CwVA cooperating with other regional organizations. Dr. Siriwardane suggested that the CwVA might play a part in strengthening veterinary education. He stressed the need of progress in veterinary medicine being directed towards alleviating the plight of the poorer farmers. Dr. Bujarbarua, who replied to the remarks of the two dignitaries, and Dr. Choudhury spoke on behalf of the CwVA. They spoke on the work and aims of the CwVA.

Immediately after the ceremonial inauguration of the CwVA meeting, with Dr. Bujarbarua in the chair, commenced. The three national representatives spoke of the activities and problems of their respective veterinary associations. In the afternoon a CwVA regional (Asia) business meeting was held.

Kandy

On Dec. 13th the conference moved to Kandy. Morning saw the ceremonial opening of the 39th Annual Scientific Session of the Sri Lanka Veterinary Association. Dr. S.K. Piyadasa, Deputy Minister of Rural Industrial Development, gave the inaugural address. He urged that veterinary progress be directed to helping the farmers produce more milk, meat and eggs. Next on the program was Dr. A.S. Abeyratne, he outlined the plans and activities of

the Sri Lanka Veterinary Association.

The CwVA regional technical seminar was included in the Scientific Session. Veterinarians from all three countries actively participated in the seminar. The seminar's theme was 'Strategies to overcome problems curtailing animal health and production'. The afternoon was given over to a business session of the Sri Lanka Veterinary Association. Officers of the Sri Lanka Veterinary Association were elected for the year 1985-86.

The Annual Scientific Session of the Sri Lanka Veterinary Association continued on the 14th of December. Many papers of high quality were presented throughout the day.

On the 15th of Dec., the final day of the conference, visits were made to the Virus Laboratory at Polgolla, the National Livestock Development Board Mahaberitenna Farm, the Peradeniya Veterinary College and the Veterinary Research Institute.

In the final conference discussions there was general agreement that: 'The common aim of the participants had been to determine how best expertise and knowledge could be pooled to be of maximum benefit to the livestock industries of all their nations'.

The next Regional (Asia) CwVA meeting will be held in 1987 at Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Poultry production in Bangladesh

An interesting article, entitled 'Poultry Production in Bangladesh', appears in the January (1986) issue of THE VETERINARIAN (India). It is written by Dr. Kazi Abdul Fattah, the Director of Livestock Services in Bangladesh.

The following is taken from Dr. Fattah's article:-

- in the People's Republic of Bangladesh agriculture is the main occupation of the people, employing about 80% of the labor force.

- of the total animal protein food consumed in Bangladesh 28% comes from chicken meat and eggs.

- 99% of the total poultry are raised

in backyards. Almost all rural households have some poultry and traditionally the women look after these birds.

- poultry is one of the most appropriate income generating activities of the rural women and the landless and marginal farmers.

- most birds raised in the country are of an indigenous type and are relatively poor layers, averaging about forty eggs a year. The eggs are small, each weighing about 30 grams. The birds are small, hens weighing on the average one kilogram.

- these backyard flocks usually have

5 to 7 hens. One rooster will be shared by 2 or 3 flocks.

- The most active laying period is during the winter months. Broodiness is highest during the monsoon season.

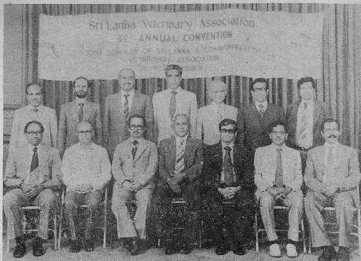
- village poultry raisers save 8 to 10 eggs each year for hatching.

Dr. Fattah's article describes some of the very considerable effort that is being extended to increase the productivity of the small family operations. Much work is also being done to encourage and develop commercial poultry production, particularly in areas close to the large city markets.

Recommendations from production and health seminar

The following considerations and recommendations have emerged from the Animal Production and Health Seminar which was held in conjunction with the Dec. 1985 CwVA Regional (Asia) and the Sri Lankan Veterinary meetings:-

- the problems of animal production and health are very similar in Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka.
- exchanges of veterinary specialists, on a short term basis, should be considered.
- consideration should be given to the formation of multinational task forces. These task forces would be concerned with livestock production, poultry development, disease diagnosis and prevention, and the production of biologics.
- veterinarians should routinely and systematically provide livestock owners with information on improved production practices.



Delegates to the CwVA Asian Regional Meeting were (seated) left to right, Dr. D.D. Wanasinghe (Council Member Sri Lanka) Dr. M.U.A. Chowdhury (Council Member Bangladesh), Dr. J.M. Bujarbarua (Regional Representative, Asia, India), Dr. A.S. Abeyaratne (President SLVA), Dr. G.M. Srikanthiah [Vice President Indian Vet. Assn.], Dr. M. Haq Bhuyan (Gen. Secy. Bangladesh Vet. Assn.); (standing) left to right, Dr. Idris Ali (Bangladesh), Dr. S. Abdul Rahaman (India), Dr. B.C. Ramakrishna (India), Dr. H.B. Shetty (India), Dr. B. Panda (India), Dr. B.B. Mallick (India), and Dr. R.T. Wazarikar (India).

Report on study visit to Tamil Nadu State

Dr. D. D. Wanasinghe has submitted a report of a study visit to India by two Sri Lanka veterinarians; Dr. C. Nadarajah, Unuwara Eliya Veterinary Division and Dr. A.V.R. Joseph, Veterinary Investigation Officer.

The study visit was undertaken in the Tamil Nadu State of India and consisted of two major components: a study session at the Madras Veterinary College and visits to the

Livestock and Poultry Research Centres at Thiruchirappalli, Thanjavur and Madurai.

Experience was gained in the clinical areas of large and small animals, and the visitors met in discussion with students, faculty and research personnel at the Madras College in both formal and informal teaching sessions and discussions.

The visitors stress in their report the value of this type of visit to

enhance comparison and discussion of problems associated with the livestock industry in two areas of a region confronted with common problems. They also stressed the value of the visit in promoting commonwealth understanding by establishing closer contacts with colleagues in another country.

Four veterinarians submit papers

A delegation of four Sri Lanka veterinarians attended the CwVA International Seminar on Livestock Production held in Calcutta, 4 - 6 November, 1985.

Each of the delegates presented a paper at the Seminar.

Dr. D.D. Wanasinghe (CwVA Council Member for Sri Lanka) spoke on "An Approach to Mastitis Control in Sri Lanka."

Dr. A.G. Koutiwakku's paper was "Cassava (Manioc) Leaf Meal as a Protein Supplement in Poultry Layer Diets."

Dr. W.W.H.S. Fernando addressed the "Recent Development in Foot and Mouth Disease Vaccine Production in Sri Lanka" and.

Dr. G.A.P. Ganegoda discussed the "Temporary Preservation of Raw Milk by activating Lactoperoxidase System".

Intraregional journal exchange

Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka are now exchanging their scientific journals on a reciprocal basis. Each association will send six (6) copies of their journals to the other two associations. The secretary-treasurer of each association will ensure that the visiting journals are passed around, free of charge, to their association members. Plans are to reserve one (1) page of each national journal for CwVA news.

Malawi hosts CwVA conference in Salima

The Malawi Veterinary Association was host to this conference which was held in Salima, Malawi from July 24th to July 26th, 1985 in conjunction with the MVA annual conference. The following veterinary associations were represented: Lesotho by Dr. L. Khomari Botswana by Dr. R. Windsor Zimbabwe by Prof. J.A. Lawrence Kenya by Dr. G.G. Kamau Swaziland by Dr. J.G. Dube Malawi by Dr. S. J. Ndaomba and Dr. R.C.J. Mkwandawire

Dr. Ndaomba, Chairman of the MVA, chaired the meeting. He was

The Veterinarian

The veterinarian is the first professional line of defence against disease and apart from his role of identifying the possible disease in the animal and making a precise diagnosis, he must continue to monitor disease conditions to reveal the changing patterns and to indicate the effectiveness of preventive and therapeutic campaigns.

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elected regional representative on the CwVA Executive Committee. He is also CwVA council member for Malawi.

Among the subjects discussed was the possibility of establishing a regional veterinary journal. Only Zimbabwe and Kenya have journals. It was agreed to recognize these two journals as regional journals and that the Council should consider financial assistance for them.

Dr. Windsor informed the meeting that Botswana was building a diagnostic laboratory. It would be completed and in operation early in 1986. A Swedish sponsored workshop, of 6 weeks duration, on diagnostic procedures was held in February and March of 1986. It was then proposed that a regional CwVA seminar/workshop be held in conjunction with the Swedish workshop. This proposal was well received and it was decided that Botswana would select the topic or topics, which should reflect current regional veterinary problems.

The meeting supported the suggestion that a monthly newsletter, as a means of improving communication between regional associations,

be given serious consideration. The status and activities of various regional associations then came under discussion.

Dr. Kamau reported that the Kenya Veterinary Association, with 500 members, has organized sub-committees among which are the Scientific Subcommittee and the Clinical Subcommittee.

Prof. Lawrence informed the meeting that the membership of the Zimbabwe Veterinary Association had reached 80.

It was noted that the activities of the Malawi Veterinary Association were growing both in scope and number. Hosting this regional CwVA meeting was an example. Attention was drawn to a serious problem in both Lesotho and Swaziland. Dr. Khomari and Dr. Dube both stated that their veterinary associations had not yet been accorded legal status in their countries.

The meeting closed with an air of optimism. Anticipation was high that there would be increased regional CwVA activity. The next regional CwVA will be held in Kenya in conjunction with the KVA 1987 meeting.



Attending the Joint CwVA/Malawi Veterinary Congress at Salima, Malawi in 1985 were, seated left right, Dr. S.J. Ndaomba [CwVA Regional Representative], Dr. J. Dube [CwVA Council member - Swaziland], Dr. L. Khomari [CwVA Council Member - Lesotho], Dr. G.A.A. Thyang-athanga [Chief Veterinary Officer Malawi], Prof.

Lawrence - Editor of Zimbabwe Veterinary Journal [Representative for Zimbabwe Veterinary Association], Dr. J. Kamau - CwVA Council Member - Kenya Veterinary Association; standing second from right - Dr. Windsor [CwVA Council Member Botswana Veterinary Association].

1985 Zimbabwe Veterinary Congress

The Zimbabwe Veterinary Association held a highly successful Congress from 3rd - 6th September, 1985 at the Harare Holiday Inn. The Congress was attended by some 58 registrants from as far afield as Australia, the United Kingdom and

South Africa. The international nature of the gathering was emphasized by the presence of Professor Shimizu and Dr. Teramura, Japanese veterinarians attending from the school of Veterinary medicine, Lusaka, Zambia, together with the guest lecturer, Dr. S.G.M. Verstraete, a Belgian veterinarian, currently in the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ondestepoort,

South Africa.

The Congress was opened on the 4th September, 1985 by the newly appointed Minister of Agriculture, Moven Mahachi. A well attended Cocktail Party the previous evening was sponsored jointly by Cooper Zimbabwe, and Milborrow and Company.

Papers presented during the Congress covered a wide spectrum of topics, from Rabies Vaccination (Dr. Guillemin, Ifra Merieux, France), Computer Application in Veterinary Practice (C.F. Tulley Associates, Zimbabwe) to a detailed, in depth surveillance of head and neck surgery (Dr. Verstraete). The Afri-

can location of the Congress was reinforced by papers on Disease in Crocodile Farms (Dr. C.M. Foggin) and the economics of Tick Control in Zimbabwe (Dr. R.A.I. Norvall).

A pleasant dinner/dance, to the music of the Zimbabwe Republic Police Band, was held on the night of the 5th September, 1985, after a tour of the Veterinary Faculty at the University of Zimbabwe, earlier that afternoon.

This year's Annual Congress will be held from 2 - 5th September, 1986, at the Montclair Casino Hotel in the Inyanga Mountains about 2½ hours drive from Harare.

Hargreaves is new president of Zimbabwe VA

Dr. Colin Skinner's last message as President of the Zimbabwe Veterinary Association was carried in the July / August (1985) issue of the ZVA News. Dr. Skinner's two (2) years as President came to an end with the election of a new President and Executive Committee on Sept. 1985, at the Harare Holiday Inn.

That Dr. Skinner's two (2) years as President were productive ones for the ZVA is evidenced by the Association's accomplishments during his term. Among those accomplishments were:

• issuing an update constitution together with a Scale of Fees.

• developing a Tape Library List.

• regular issues of the ZVA News.

• starting the establishment of a video tape library.

• ZVA representation at the WSAVA, IAVA, Tanzanian and Malawian Veterinary Congresses.

• ZVA representation on the Curriculum Advisory Committee of the

The Veterinarian....

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• to must conduct general surveys of ill-defined conditions, frequently of unknown etiology, and must continue specific epidemiological investigations using conventional, prospective, retrospective and interventional studies.

The above description of some of the responsibilities of a veterinarian is taken from an article in the *Vet-News* (Trinidad and Tobago) Vol. 2 No. 2.

Veterinary Faculty of the University of Zimbabwe.

The new president of the Z.V.A. is Dr. Stuart Hargreaves, who is also Deputy Director of Veterinary Services. The Honorary Secretary is Dr. Alex Wilson. Dr. Wilson is the retired Director of Veterinary Servic-

es and is presently acting as Advisor to Cooper, Zimbabwe.

The honorary treasurer is Dr. D.J. Batchelor. Dr. Batchelor is also the CwVA council member for Zimbabwe. The Zimbabwe Veterinary Association now has ninety (90) members.

Zimbabwe briefs

Of general interest is the following paragraph, taken from an article in the ZVA News. Quote:-

"There has recently been an increase in the interest in game farming. This is manifested by the establishment of a Game Farming Sub-Committee within the Cattle Producers Association and the large number of farmers that are making use of the Conservation Trust Scheme, whereby certain species of game are captured by National Parks and then sold to interested farmers. This places an obligation on veterinarians to be conversant with those diseases that are potentially transmissible from game to domestic animals."

A new veterinary school is to be established in Lusaka, Zambia. To be built as part of a Japanese aid program, the school will include ten buildings and four students hostels. The foundation stone was recently laid by President Kenneth Kaunda.

This item was taken from the *Vet-News* (Trinidad and Tobago) Vol. 2 No. 2.

The ZVA News, published in Causeway, is the newsletter of the Zimbabwe Veterinary Association. It is an excellent newsletter and has a very neat and attractive format. Its circulation is restricted to members of the ZVA.

The ZVA News carries articles and information of a practical nature and regional concern. Its news items are of regional interest and the personal items carry a refreshing breeze of friendly informality.

It is interesting, but by no means surprising, to see notices from overseas veterinary students in the ZVA News. The notices indicate that these students have some time off and would like to spend it with a practicing veterinarian in Zimbabwe.

The ZVA News (July/Aug.:85) contains three (3) such notices. One from a British veterinary student, another from an Australian student and a third from a student at the University of Berlin.

Guidelines on small slaughterhouses are stressed

In many developing countries, conditions in slaughterhouses and meat-handling practices contribute greatly to the spread of zoonotic diseases. Local authorities are usually aware of the bad situation, but what improvements are made tend to be in towns or at plants producing meat for export. Yet most of the slaughtering occurs in the countryside, where there is urgent need for better meat and slaughter hygiene.

WHO'S "Guidelines on small slaughter-houses and meat hygiene for developing countries" can help veterinary and public health authorities and food handlers alike. The booklet describes simple facilities where appropriate technology can be applied for the hygienic slaughtering and handling of meat, thus keeping the environment free from pathogens of animal origin and helping communities to increase and im-

prove meat production. Written by I. Mann, the guidelines were published in Geneva earlier this year.

Factors that lead to the infection of meat and possible spread of dangerous pathogenic micro-organisms include inadequate sanitation at slaughterhouses, unskilled staff, unclean water supply, and use by the butcher of dirty knives, dirty clothing and dirty hands. The heat and moisture prevalent in tropical countries, sale of carcass meat mixed with offal, the presence of flies, mosquitos and cockroaches, and various other unhygienic factors all contribute to the risk of consumer infection. Sometimes the shortage or high cost of wood or other fuel may encourage people to eat their meat without sufficient cooking.

Foodborne infections and intoxications take on a more dramatic form in populations suffering from malnutri-

tion, malaria, schistosomiasis and other tropical diseases, burdened by parasitic infestations, and deprived of clean drinking water and sanitary waste disposal.

The guidelines explain why it is essential for the producers, the sellers, the inspectors and the consumers of meat all to have at least a rudimentary knowledge of bacteriology. Wherever possible they ought to be backed by a competent laboratory service where close cooperation is ensured between the medical and veterinary services at levels.

This item is from the July 1985 issue of World Health.

For 'Guidelines on Small Slaughterhouse and Meat Hygiene in Developing Countries' or other publications of WHO write to: World Health Organization, Distribution Sales, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Declaration of Alma-Ata

Concerns of veterinary public health

An article, entitled 'Animals and Man', appears in the July 1985 issue of World Health. It includes the Declaration of Alma-Ata which was adopted by the WHO-UNICEF International Conference on Primary Health Care in September of 1978.

This Declaration states 'Primary Health Care involves, in addition to the health sector, all related sectors and aspects of national and community development, in particular agriculture, animal husbandry, food, industry, education, housing, public works, communications and other sectors; and demands the coordinated efforts of all these sectors'.

The article then indicates the concern of veterinary public health with such activities as control and eradication of zoonoses and the development and supervision of food hygiene practices. Credit is given to the veterinary profession for establishing modern principles of food hygiene for the dairy and meat packing industries.

An estimate from the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) is referred to. This estimate is 'that animal diseases contribute significantly to the loss of over thirty (30) million tons of milk annually, enough to provide almost two hundred (200)

million children with two (2) glasses of milk each day'.

The importance and responsibilities of the veterinarian are stressed.

'Veterinary services offer a powerful tool for improving health (particularly in rural areas), preventing zoonoses, decreasing malnutrition, improving hygiene and sanitation, and dealing with emergencies.'

'Prevention and control of zoonoses is the most important function of public health.'

'The final objective of veterinary medicine does not lie in curing animals from disease, but it lies very definitely in improving human nutrition and health.'

Danger lurks in our food

The following timely reminders were taken from an article entitled 'Danger Lurks In Our Food'. This article was written by Drs. C.M. Singh and Alexander Koulikovskii and appeared in the July 1985 issue of World Health:

Foods of animal origin pose a special threat to human health because their high protein and water content make them liable not only to rapid spoilage but also to the

survival and multiplication of dangerous pathogenic organisms.

The interaction between nutrition and infection is perhaps most critical in the first three years of a child's life. Food contamination which reduces the quality of available food will accentuate the already grave problem of malnutrition, and malnutrition itself is further complicated by diarrhoeal diseases which kill mil-

lions of children in developing countries.

Meat, milk, eggs and so forth from infected animals, and processed food of animal origin contaminated during processing, contribute significantly to this high incident of diarrhoeal diseases.

Veterinarians are especially responsible for preventing and controlling diseases in animals, including those which could infect humans.

Salmonella and food-borne disease control program

The Canadian salmonella control program has changed. In November of 1984, the Salmonella Co-ordinating Unit (SCU) under the direction of Mr. Al Bentley, published its final document, a Report and Update on the recommendations for control of salmonella in the Canadian agri-food industry. Having completed its mandate, the SCU turned over its activities to the Animal Health Division of the Food Production and Inspection (FP&I) Branch.

A recommendation made by the SCU was to establish a permanent unit, to co-ordinate a continuing program of salmonella and food-borne disease control. After consultation with representatives of industry, academia and provincial and federal agencies, a task force of the FP&I Branch prepared the outline of such a program. The program is designed to continue and augment the excellent work done by the SCU and was approved for implementation in August 1985.

The salmonella and food-borne disease control program is designed as a comprehensive Branch program. Eight Program Divisions and two Operations Directorates are involved and each will conduct sub-programs using their own particular expertise in areas as diverse as feed compounding, food processing and consumer education. The central coordinating body is the Salmonella and Food-Borne Disease Section in the Animal Health Division. Dr.

Claude Lavigne is Chief of this section and is assisted by two other veterinarians. The section will work to facilitate the continuing effectiveness of the program through the identification of needs and possibilities, and the coordination of resources. The Salmonella and Food-Borne Disease Section will also be working closely with seven Regional Specialists who are representatives of the program at the local level. Among their duties, these Specialists will serve as secretaries for their respective Regional Sanitation Awareness Committees which are composed of representatives of local producer, processor and marketing groups.

Short term activities

The short term activities and objectives of the program relate primarily to salmonella control and include: a) the establishment of a national veterinary serotyping facility, b) economic studies of salmonellosis and control measures in the dairy, beef, veal and pork industries and, c) the continued or increased surveillance of the contamination of red meats, poultry, dairy and egg products, and feeds. Research will be directed towards the development of an effective *S. typhimurium* vaccine for calves, improved methods for the detection of carcass contam-

ination, and practical processing methods which will reduce contamination. Public relations and education, irradiation of fresh poultry and mechanically deboned poultry meat, the public health hazard of pet reptiles and amphibians, and the potential for spread of *S. dublin* to the Canadian cattle population are issues which will also be addressed this year.

It is anticipated that measures implemented to control salmonella will also curb the occurrence of other food-borne disease causing organisms. As information is gathered about these other organisms (e.g. *C. jejuni* and *Y. enterocolitica*), procedures for their control will be added to the program activities.

In summary, the Food Production and Inspection Branch of Agriculture Canada has accepted the recommendations of the SCU and established a salmonella and food-borne disease control program with a co-ordinating body in the Animal Health Division. We have no illusions as to the complexity of the task, or the dedication and effort which will be required to make a significant impact on infections and contamination with salmonella. However, with the co-operation of all sectors of the agri-food industry it will, in time, be possible to reduce the prevalence of these costly infections.

Prepared by: Food Production and Inspection Branch, Agriculture Canada.

Food Standards Program: object to protect consumer health

The joint FAO/WHO Food standards Program has as its objective to protect the health of the consumer by recommending safe, sound and wholesome products. Part of this role involves establishing microbiological criteria for international trade in foodstuffs.

The WHO publication "Microbiological Criteria for Foods" is a summary of recommendations made by FAW/WHO experts' consultations and working groups between 1975 and 1981. It highlights the most significant conclusions reached, and spells out the background to those conclusions.

The handbook includes a description of microbiological criteria for egg products, pre-cooked frozen shrimps and prawns, dried milk, food for infants and children, ice mixes and edible ices, natural mineral waters and frozen frogs' legs. It also discusses the usefulness of microbiological criteria for raw foods.

Since microbiological sampling and methods of analysing it can be controversial, recommendations are first made by a number of independent experts. These are then considered at regular meetings of experts convened under the auspices of the

Food and Agriculture Organization and WHO.

The task of these meetings was, firstly, to consider the need for microbiological specifications for foods and, secondly, where such needs were demonstrated, to make appropriate recommendations to the Codex Alimentarius Committee on Food Hygiene. The Codex Alimentarius Commission was set up jointly by FAO and WHO to provide an inter-governmental forum where food standards could be examined, so as eventually to reach a consensus on

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Public concern over drug residues still growing

In the July 1985 issue of *World Health* there is an article entitled "Drug Residues" by Professor Arpad Somogyi. The following is quoted directly from Professor Somogyi's article:

"There are only very few well-documented cases of residues of animal drugs in food actually resulting in harm to the consumer's health. Yet public concern over the presence of such drug residues has grown rapidly in recent years and is still growing.

The potential health hazards emanating from animal drug residues in

food can be divided into three major categories: toxicology (direct damage to tissues or organs); microbiological (inducing resistance to chemotherapeutic drugs); and immunopathological (eliciting allergic reactions).

The best way to avoid these harmful health effects would be to avoid the residues themselves. Over the years, however, it has become increasingly doubtful whether this goal can reasonably be achieved. Recent studies show that a rapid initial decrease of drug concentrations in edible products of animals is

followed by an extremely slow and often very long phase of depletion. It is, therefore, obvious that to produce food really free from residues must be considered a practical impossibility. It could only be obtained by abandoning the use of therapeutic agents altogether; this is clearly an unacceptable option in contemporary veterinary medicine and in modern agriculture. Drugs, once administered, will always result in residues in food of animal origin. So it is not the mere presence of residues but their relevance to the health of consumers that is important".

Publications available regarding shellfish problems

The World Health Organization has published two (2) booklets concerned with problems with shellfish. These are:

'Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning' (WHO Offset Publication No. 79) by B.W. Halstead in collaboration with E.J. Schantz. This booklet contains valuable information on the significance of this problem, including health aspects, as well as economic, environmental and ecological implications. It gives a scientific explanation of the chemical and physical properties of this disease, and recommends practical measures for its surveillance, prevention and control.

'Guide to Shellfish Hygiene' (WHO Offset Publication No. 31) by P.C. Wood. This is an earlier and more general publication which describes a wide range of diseases transmitted by shellfish, including bacterial infections and intoxications, viral infections, intoxications from biotoxins in shellfish, parasitic

infections, chemical intoxications, allergies, occupational diseases and others. It is intended for the use of officials and professional personnel concerned with the prevention and control of diseases transmitted through shellfish.

This information is taken from the July 1985 issue of *World Health*.

For these and other publications of WHO write to: World Health Organization, Distribution & Sales, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

World Health July '85

Devoted to veterinary medicine

Copies of "World Health" the magazine of the World Health Organization, July, 1985, were obtained from Mr. John Bland, editor and distributed to all Regional Representatives and Council Members. This entire issue is devoted to veterinary medicine and its relationship to health and disease in man. Members wishing to obtain a copy

should write to: Mr. John Bland, editor, World Health, WHO, Appia, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

It is suggested that the deans of all veterinary colleges throughout the Commonwealth acquire one or more copies of this issue of "World Health" for their respective libraries.

Food standards

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the health and economic aspects of food standards.

This item is from the July, 1985 issue of *World Health*.

For 'Microbiological Criteria for Foods' or other publications of WHO write to: World Health Organization Distribution & Sales, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

WORLD HEALTH, the magazine of the World Health Organization (WHO), is the official illustrated magazine of WHO. The English version appears ten (10) times a year.

Its address is World Health, WHO,
- Av. Appia, -
Geneva 27, - Switzerland.

Consequences are numerous from food-borne diseases

Data from various parts of the world show that food borne diseases constitute an important cause of morbidity and mortality in man. In addition to physical suffering, considerable other socio-economic consequences occur, such as loss of time at work and the cost of hospitalisation, rehabilitation and lost food. So it is in the interest of every country to take adequate measures to prevent and control these diseases.

The efficacy of these measures depends essentially on the availability of reliable information on food-borne diseases, but unfortunately this information is often collected by means of inadequately planned and imperfectly operated national surveillance programs.

This is why WHO has published "Guidelines for organization and management of surveillance of food-borne diseases", which sums up the general principles for setting up a surveillance system for foodborne diseases, including epidemiological investigation, and advises Member States how to establish such a system at the national level.

Edited by Dr. G.I. Forbes, Scottish

Home and Health Department, Edinburgh, United Kingdom, the booklet is intended for use by a wide variety of public health workers concerned with prevention and control of food-borne diseases.

Surveillance, in this context, means the collection and interpretation of data on epidemiology, including causation and incidence of food-borne diseases, to enable responsible authorities to concentrate on appropriate prevention and control measures.

The guidelines underline that surveillance is not an isolated activity, but a component of an effective control program which should be used to formulate and carry out a disease control policy.

The principal components of a surveillance program are the reporting of the occurrence of these diseases including: the presence of corresponding pathogens in human beings, animals, food and the environment; the investigation of outbreaks and sporadic cases; the collation and interpretation of the data gathered; and the dissemination of information to facilitate speedy and efficient action.

Systematic reporting permits prompt analysis of data for use in prevention and control programs and also formulation of long-term plans for diminishing the effects of food-borne illnesses. In addition, a surveillance program enables the impact of various control measures on the disease situation in question to be properly assessed.

The guidelines, besides outlining general principles of organization and management, offer concrete criteria for confirming an outbreak of foodborne disease, methods of collecting, preserving, packaging and shipping samples, a list of agents included in WHO's Surveillance Program for Control of Foodborne Diseases in Europe, and some examples of epidemiological techniques that could be useful in investigating outbreaks of foodborne diseases.

This item is from the July, 1985 issue of World Health.

For "Guidelines for Organization and Management of Surveillance of Foodborne Diseases" or other publications of WHO write to: World Health Organization, Distribution & Sales, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Salmonellis: widespread food-borne zoonotic

Salmonellosis is a widespread foodborne zoonotic disease which represents an actual or potential problem all over the world. WHO's "Guidelines on prevention and control of salmonellosis" sums up the etiology of the disease in humans, its pathology, diagnosis and treatment, and describes comprehensive veterinary public health measures directed eventually at preventing the infection in humans.

Edited by Dr. A. H. Linton of the University of Bristol, United Kingdom, the booklet gives simple and practical advice - based on veterinary public health programmes which have already been successfully used by some Member States - on how to organize surveillance of the disease and on preventive and control measures in the areas of animal husbandry (pigs, cattle, poultry), transport of animals, and slaughter and processing of meat, meat products and poultry.

The reader will find useful infor-

mation, including a comprehensive list of references relating to existing methods of decontamination of feed and foodstuffs, on prevention of Salmonella contamination during retail handling of foods, and on the hazards of Salmonella infection derived from pets, as well as recommendations on cleaning and disinfection. The guide also gives information on the problem of salmonellosis in international trade.

The booklet contains five annexes with recommendations on microbiological monitoring and detection of Salmonella, practical measures to decontaminate fish meal, and the addresses of Salmonella surveillance centres all over the world.

The preventive and control measures presented in the guidelines are in most cases valid for other enteric pathogens of a zoonotic nature which in many circumstances behave similarly. Many of these bacteria have similar survival properties in the environment and in food, and similar

resistance to cooling, freezing, heating, irradiation, disinfectants, drying, salting and other technological procedures.

So, the use of good hygienic practice by food handlers and by consumers aimed at prevention and control of salmonellosis will also be effective in preventing many other types of foodborne diseases of bacterial or even viral origin (for instance, diseases caused by *S. typhi*, *S. paratyphi*, *Yersinia enterocolitica*, enteropathogenic *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Campylobacter* spp., *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*, *Brucella* spp., and rotaviruses).

This item is from the July, 1985 issue of World Health.

For "Guidelines on Prevention and Control of Salmonellosis" or other publications of WHO write to: World Health Organization Distribution and Sales, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Regional conference and workshop held in Freetown

The CwVA (West Africa) Council held a regional conference and a workshop on May 20 to 23, 1985, in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

The following national veterinary associations were represented: Sierra Leone by Professor J.A. Kamara (council member) and Dr. L.H. Kallon (delegate); Ghana by Dr. Willie Amanfu (council member) and Dr. S. N. Appiah (delegate); Nigeria by Professor T.A. Aire (council member) and Dr. David O. Alonge (delegate); Gambia by Dr. Badara Loum (delegate) and Dr. Famara B. Sanyang (delegate).

Dr. J.A. Kamara, regional representative, was chairman of the opening ceremonies which were held on Monday, May 20. In a short welcoming address he mentioned that the decision to establish a West African Region of the CwVA was taken by area veterinary associations in Kaduna, Nigeria, back in 1972. In 1977 the initial meeting was held at Banjul, The Gambia. In November of 1979 Sierra Leone had been host for the second meeting and now five and a half years later it was pleased to host this, The Third Regional Conference. He stated that the value of this meeting would be enhanced by a very timely workshop - "The Veterinary Profession And The African Food Situation".

Dr. Abass Bundu, Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources in Sierra Leone, delivered the opening address. He stressed the importance and benefits of the exchange of ideas and knowledge at Commonwealth meetings. The success of the 1966 to 1969 anti-rinderpest campaign was mentioned as an illustration of the potential of international efforts, although, as Dr. Bundu pointed out, the benefits on that occasion had been significantly nullified by the devastation left in the wake of prolonged drought. He spoke of the vital role of the veterinarian in combating the shortage of food, of animal origin, in the face of an ever increasing demand brought about by unprecedented population growth. He informed the meeting that his Ministry was planning to integrate animal production and animal health under one technical and administrative division and that, in the field, crop and livestock production would be

closely integrated. The Minister then formally declared the meeting open. Before leaving he invited all to attend an evening cocktail party at the Brookfields Hotel.

Dr. R.S. Kamara, Director-General for Agricultural Services in Sierra Leone, delivered the keynote address. He mentioned how appropriate the theme for the workshop was and then went on to deliver an address, which left in its wake much that demanded serious consideration. He spoke of Africa's devastating crisis of hunger and poverty which was being aggravated by rapidly increasing populations and by poor utilization of available land.

He stated that the small producer must be the centre-piece of whatever development strategies are adopted - "for it is upon the hundreds of thousands of small farmers, spread throughout the world, that the

Food for thought

responsibility of feeding the huge populations of Africa and the world falls". He went on to point out that evidence now indicates that no matter where the farmer comes from he is capable of meeting an increased demand for his produce provided the price is right and the agricultural environment suitable. Agricultural development, he declared, must encompass concerns such as education, water supply, infrastructure and much else for it needs to become "true rural development", a concept concerned with the overall quality of rural life.

In his closing remarks, while acknowledging the importance of animal health, he stressed that livestock development demanded a multi-disciplinary approach.

Workshop

The workshop was held on Tuesday, May 21. Its theme was "the veterinary profession and the African food situation". Four papers were presented. Dr. Tom Aire was chairman of the morning session, Dr. Willie Amanfu was chairman of the afternoon session and Dr. S.N.

Appiah was rapporteur for the entire workshop.

Drs. Sanyang and Loum, of The Gambia, spoke first. Their paper, entitled "The effect of climate on animals on animal health and production - The Sahelian Experience", pointed out that in the Sahel is a transition zone between eight countries, four of which are landlocked. High temperatures and low rainfall characterize its climate. Its economy is largely dependent on livestock production.

Drought, bushfires and overgrazing have combined to bring about untold losses of livestock. Proper management of its grasslands is necessary for the area to reach its potential for ruminant production. Preventing bushfires and reducing the grazing pressure by selling young stock are among the necessary steps.

The second paper, entitled "The effect of the economic crisis in West Africa on animal health and production", was presented by Dr. Willie Amanfu of Ghana. Some of the factors that had contributed to this crisis were reviewed, the oil crisis (1973-73), depression of agricultural development. It was noted that the deterioration of livestock production had been aggravated by inadequate veterinary support. There had also been a slowdown in the training of personnel in areas related to agriculture as well as an exit of trained manpower from depressed regions. Dr. Amanfu indicated that he concurred with the thinking behind "new ideas and initiatives were needed in the field of agriculture and animal production".

Professor T.A. Aire of Nigeria opened the afternoon session with his paper, entitled "The effect of rapid population growth and high population dynamics on the production and distribution of food of animal origin". He expressed concern of Africa's population growth rate of more than 3 per cent per annum, noting with alarm "the lack of the will to do something about it". Nigeria was described as having the capability of producing sufficient food, including animal products. However "the will and determination seem not to have been developed" and as a result Nigerians have

•Turn to page 3

Freetown conference and workshop...

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less than desirable intake of animal protein.

Professor Aire suggested that the government of Nigeria provide leadership, guidance and support to the traditional herders of Nigeria, the Fulanis, who actually control animal production. His paper closed with a list of other suggestions which included increasing investments in agriculture, development of mixed farming and incentives to attract young and capable people into the field of agriculture.

Dr. John K. Isabirye of Sierra Leone provided the workshop with the concluding paper, "The problems and prospects of animal production in the high humid tropics of West Africa".

Projections for Sub-Saharan Africa were brought to the attention of the meeting. These projections indicated:

(1) an increased demand for animal protein at the rate of 4.2 per cent per annum.

(2) an increased supply, of animal protein, of 2.4 per cent per annum.

(3) that the increase of protein, from ruminant sources, would grow at a mere 1.2 per cent per annum.

It was pointed out that the tsetse fly infested humid area of West Africa has a very low livestock population. Mentioned as contributing causes were disease, poor grazing facilities, lack of investment and absence of guidance for the traditional herdsman.

An elected committee of four deliberated on these presentations and resulting discussions. After reaching some conclusions they made recommendations, which were later accepted by the Council. The following recommendations were to be passed on to the regional governments:

(1) encourage the selling of young stock in the Sahel in order to reduce overgrazing. These could be sold for rearing in more humid areas.

(2) promotion of pasture improvement and fodder conservation.

(3) programs to prevent brushfires.

(4) agricultural policies to provide improved extension services, soft loans to livestock farmers, land reform to aid pastoralists, improved marketing.

(5) encourage mixed farming.

(6) selective breeding of indigenous livestock, accentuating disease resistance and productivity.

(7) increase efforts to overcome manpower shortage, in the livestock sector, at the professional and technician level. Intergovernmental exchange of technical staff should be given consideration.

(8) increase research in the areas of animal diseases, nutrition and breeding.

Regional Council Meeting

The West African CwVA Regional Council Meeting was held on Wednesday, May 22, 1985. Dr. David Alonge was elected recorder.

Among various topics discussed were:

(1) regional seminars.

(2) the training of animal health technicians.

(3) inter-regional communications.

It was decided that 'National Associations be responsible for notifying the Regional Representative and the CwVA Secretariat of any change of a council member'.

(4) national dues. It was decided that the CwVA secretary-treasurer should bill each national association directly.

(5) regional dues. Each national association would open a bank account in the name of 'The West African Commonwealth Veterinary Association and regional dues would be paid into this account'.

(6) the new constitution of the CwVA.

(7) request from the CwVA for reports and news of meetings, seminars and other events. It was decided that national associations should send such items direct to the Secretary-Treasurer and a copy to the Regional Representative.

Dr. B.N. Touray of The Gambia was unanimously elected West Africa's Regional Representative on the CwVA Executive Committee. His nomination was proposed by Prof. J.A. Kamara, the retiring Regional Representative, and seconded by Prof. T.A. Aire. Dr. Touray's term will be for four years.

The final event of the conference was a field trip on Thursday, May 23. Feed Mill Products (S.L.) Ltd., the SLPMB Animal Feed Mill, the Yele Poultry Farm, the Hastings Abattoir, the Alton Farm, and the MANR Livestock Farm at Newton were visited.

Environment ministers approve plan of action

A plan of action to halt the destruction of Africa's natural resources has been approved by environment ministers of OAU countries at a meeting in Cairo in mid-December. The plan is the culmination of two years of preparation by African governments, the OAU, Unep, the UN's ECA and other agencies. It consists of a range of co-operative measures to put Africa on the road to agricultural recovery and sustainable future development. The emphases are on self-sufficiency in food, development of water and energy resources, environmental health, relevant education and training, and science and technology.

Ministers at the conference took note of a number of Commonwealth initiatives to assist these efforts. These stem from the work of the

Commonwealth Action Group on Africa (see above), the Secretariat's Food Production and Rural Development Division and the Commonwealth Science Council, and also from the Secretariat's report, *Technological Change, Enhancing the Benefits*. The Secretary-General's Science Adviser, Professor Jose Furtado, represented the Secretariat at the conference.

Among the projects relevant to this new African initiative are programmes in energy resources, biological resources, mineral and water resources, agriculture, environmental planning (particularly soil erosion), food production and rural development policies for small farmers, and science management and organization.

(from Commonwealth Currents February 1986)

PNGVA small, but boasts 100% membership

In a letter of Mike Nunn, Secretary of the Papua New Guinea (PNG) Veterinary Association, an interesting description of the PNG Association is given:

"Our Association is small (with only 12 to 15 veterinarians in the country - at least we can boast 100 per cent membership, if not 100 per cent participation!). We are hampered by small numbers, the diversity of members' interests and skills, and the scattered geographical location of our membership. Despite lofty aims we have been unable to hold regular meetings and our major activity has been to publish, albeit somewhat irregularly, a newsletter and provide some focus for the profession (and its views) in Papua

New Guinea."

Be that as it may the PNG Association has a first-rate newsletter. Several copies have been received by the CwVA news office. The first issue (No. 1) was dated July 1981 and we note that the December 1985 issue was No. 24. The July 1981 issue listed the aims of the PNG Association, as presented in its constitution. These are:

(1) To advance the study of veterinary science and to bring together members of the veterinary profession for their common benefit.

(2) To subscribe to become a member of and cooperate with any college, association or organization whose aims are consistent with those

of the Association.

(3) To promote the exchange of information and material for study between individuals and organizations interested in veterinary science.

(4) To print and publish a newsletter or other periodical that the Association may think desirable for the promotion of its aims.

(5) To act as an authoritative voice on behalf of the veterinary profession in Papua New Guinea.

These aims have obviously served the PNG Association well and they certainly merit the attention of any group planning to take on the responsibilities of a National Veterinary Association.

Algae ponds used to treat pig waste water

An article in the Singapore Veterinary Journal (Vols. 6 & 7), 1982-1983 discusses the use of high rate algae ponds to treat pig waste water and to recover algae biomass. The following statements are taken from it:

...the role of the ubiquitous algae forging a link in the food chain has been long recognized by farmers in the tropical regions. Traditional Chinese farmers had relied on algae and other aquatic plants to purify pig waste water and grow fish thus providing the prototype integrated farming system.

...the high rate algae pond was tested on a practical scale and it

Annual meeting of Singapore VA

The annual general meeting of the Singapore Veterinary Association was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on November 23, 1985. The officers of the association for 1985/86 are: President, Dr. Tan Hwa Luck, Vice-President, Dr. Chua Sin Bin, Secretary, Dr. Ng Cher Yew and Treasurer, Dr. Khoo Teng Huat.

Host Symposium

The Singapore Veterinary Association hosted the 4th International Symposium on Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics, November 18 - 22, 1985. Over 250 participants from 33 countries attended the symposium.

proved to be an efficient system of reducing organic pollutants from pig waste effluent. Besides removing carbonaceous pollutants, removal of nitrogenous and phosphatic pollutants were effected.

Algal biomass could replace part of the soybean meal in both pig and poultry diet without any adverse effects.

Poultry industry developments

Anyone interested in the development of the poultry industry in various parts of the Commonwealth would find an article by P.C. Chew in the Singapore Veterinary Journal (Vols. 6 & 7 / 1982-1983) worthwhile reading. It is entitled "Bird Production under Intensive Poultry Production in Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia".

The article begins:

"The poultry industries in Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia have moved over the last 10-15 years into progressively intensive multi-million dollar enterprises. Although backyard farming still exists, particularly so in Indonesia where 80 per cent of the poultry population are of the native type, it is the exotic high performing breeds of poultry which are gaining in popularity.....".

The conclusion, with some interesting observations, is now quoted: "All in all, bird productivity under intensive poultry production have

The article is entitled 'High Rate Algae Pond Systems for the Treatment of Pig Waste Water' and its authors are A. Goh and B.Y. Lee. For those interested in pursuing the subject the address of the Singapore Veterinary Journal is c/o City Veterinary Centre, 40 Kampong Java Road, Singapore 0922, Republic of Singapore.

shown to be satisfactory for layers and breeders in the 3 countries studied when compared to those in the temperate countries. For broilers however yields are far from satisfactory. Undoubtedly management, nutrition, breed and environment have to interact correctly for good bird performance but one has to bear in mind that although intensive production means getting more yield per area of utilized space, putting all utilizable spaces next to each other does not mean better yield."

National Science Prize

A Malaysian Veterinarian, Prof. A. Latif Ibrahim, was awarded the National Science Prize for contribution to research in Newcastle disease. He is currently Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science of University, Peruvian Malaysia.

61st New Zealand Veterinary conference

The 1985 Annual Veterinary Conference was held in Invercargill, at the southerly tip of South Island. This location allows this Conference to make the unique claim of being the most southerly veterinary conference ever held in the world. It is possible, but highly unlikely, that a veterinary convention of Argentina or Chile may have topped this.

There were three and a half days of technical sessions, covering special interest, equine, small animals and production animal interests. Various major speakers had been brought in from Australia, USA and Britain, but some of the highlights came from members' contributions.

The production animal session was in effect the Annual Seminar of the Sheep and Beef Cattle Society which was well supported. Professor Dick Macleod was the feature speaker, and

the emphasis was on sheep, with particular reference to the local Southland variety.

The 1985 Annual General Meeting saw the election of new officers. Dr. Peter Trim as President, Dr. A.M. Alexander as Vice President, and Drs. R.W. Brown, M.A. Gething and J.B. Mason as Council Members. At this meeting a remit, committing the Association to action in the area of animal welfare in a nuclear disaster, was passed. A major revision of the Association Rules was agreed upon. The Council will in future be comprised of nine members each elected for three year terms, in groups of three (plus the VSC representative). The President and Vice President will now be elected each year by Council from those elected to Council and the President may serve up to three years consecu-

tively.

The Plenary Session was for many a highlight of the conference. It was concerned with mid-career changes and had been arranged by Professor David Blackmore. Professor George Shouksmith (of Massey University) presented the results of his survey of the profession. Five veterinarians gave personal experiences of major career changes. Spouses were present for this session and they participated, with a good deal of enthusiasm, in the discussions.

A workshop of much interest that occupied an entire afternoon and that was actively participated in by a great number of persons dealt with the topic of 'promoting the profession'. A number of new ideas as well as interesting variations on existing themes were discussed.

Dr. Gumbrell addresses conference on 'Change'

The highlight of the opening ceremony of the 61st New Zealand Veterinary Conference was Dr. Bob Gumbrell's address. Dr. Gumbrell, the outgoing president, spoke on the topic of 'Change', leaving behind much that merits 'thinking about'. The following are portions of this address:

Change is an alternative, a substitution of one for another. If we are familiar with the original then the replacement may appear threatening; we fear that we will be discomfited by the removal of what is familiar. We may welcome change: then it is called variety.

I expect that every one of us can recall situations where a change from the usual method of treatment elicited fear in the minds of the patient's owner; fears that their animal would not recover as previously. I remember having to explain in detail and at length why it was not desirable to remove the retained placenta of a cow after calving. The previous veterinarians had all spent working hours unbuttoning these and the owner suspected that I was wanting an unpleasant job rather than increasing his cow's chance of retaining her fertility.

As a profession we are currently grappling with change and are finding it fearsome in some areas. There is general agreement that our

profession needs to be used more. Society has great need of our skills, both to minimize animal suffering and to ensure that it can maintain and improve its standard of living by producing appropriate amounts of high quality disease-free animal products.

The one form of change that we cannot escape is that of our life: we are in a process of physical growth, maturity, age and eventually death. These produce changes that we are

Change can produce conflict

reminded of in various ways, sometimes producing conflict with our vanity. This process is one that we have to accept although some of us attempt to influence it in various ways.

The process of our development as humans also brings changes. These have been described in various ways by psychologists such as Erikson, Freud and Havighurst. They consist of stages and tasks that we all have to progress through. These are all changes. Many pass with little stress or conflict and are in fact built into our growth as professionals.

However, some changes, inevitable in themselves, produce conflict

between our professional and our personal lives. This in itself is again part of the change - growth cycle. But the conflict - resolution stage can be particularly traumatic for everyone involved.

There are no wise words for those in situations like this. I think that the simple personal acknowledgement of the existence of conflict is the most necessary action. This can allow the conflict to proceed to resolution, change and growth.

I conclude by asking you all not to fear change, to look on it as part of our whole-of-life process, and to use it as part of growth, an essential feature of life to-day.

Animal Welfare Week

The Department of Veterinary Services, AVSM, SPCA Malaysia and Ministry of Education Malaysia held a highly successful Animal Welfare Week in Malaysia from December 14 to 20, 1985. This is the first time such event was organized to instill greater love and welfare for all animal species. The wife of the Malaysian Prime Minister officiated at the opening of the exhibition, demonstration, animal shows and children painting competition.

Peter Trim, new NZVA president takes office

At the Conference dinner held on May 22, 1985, the new President of NZVA Council was inducted.

Peter Trim is a Founding Director of BPI Systems Ltd in Wellington and is well known to the profession, especially for his involvement with Argus, the veterinary videotex service.

Peter's involvement with the veterinary profession spans 25 years. He qualified at the University of London in 1959 and, after coming to New Zealand in 1960, spent 15 years in clinical practice in Eltham and the

Bay of Islands. In 1971, he was made Senior Veterinarian of the Bay of Island Veterinary Services, a post he filled for four years. Concurrently, he served as Club Veterinarian representative on the New Zealand Veterinary Services Council.

In 1975, he left clinical practice and joined the Animal Health Division, transferring to and becoming Director of the Management Services Division in 1978.

In 1982, always one to experience yet another facet of veterinary science, Peter, with two co-directors,

founded the Bureau of Primary Information. He has been instrumental in the past three years for pushing veterinary videotex, from its embryonic form, forward to its current status as a valuable, fully commercial, veterinary information source. Peter has served three years as a member of Council NZVA, in fields encompassing public relations and ethics, and the field of continuing education.

The task of NZVA President is exacting and we wish Peter every success.

Professor receives award

Professor B.W. (Bill) Manktelow received this award during the Opening Ceremony of the 1985 Annual Conference in Invercargill.

Bill Manktelow was honoured by this award in recognition of his service to the veterinary profession in New Zealand. He has served the Association as a member of Council, has been an NZVA nominee on the Veterinary Surgeons Board for many years and more recently has been elected as the Chairman of that body.

Professor Manktelow is the Head of Department of the Veterinary Pathology and Public Health at Massey University, a component of the Faculty of Veterinary Science. In this capacity he has become known to many of the Massey graduates.

In all respects Bill Manktelow measures up to the very short list of veterinarians similarly honoured since the award was instituted in 1979.

5th Fava Congress

The Association of Veterinary Surgeons Malaysia (AVSM) will hold the 5th Congress of the Federation of Asian Veterinary Associations (FAVA) from October 18 - 21, 1986 at the newly completed Putra World Trade Centre, Kuala Lumpur. Some 500 veterinarians from Asia are expected to attend the congress. All veterinarians and interested scientists are welcome to participate in the congress.

ZOONOSES

Rabies still number one

The following information comes from World Health, the magazine of the World Health Organization. This information was in the July 1985 issue of the magazine and pertains to two (2) WHO regions.

WHO's African Region

Rabies is still considered the number one (1) zoonotic disease of major public health importance in the Region.

The problem of newly emerging zoonoses is another potential hazard for the populations in certain areas. Monkeypox, a rare zoonoses occurring in the tropical rain forests of West and Central Africa, is regarded

as a most important orthopox virus infection requiring surveillance during the years, since small pox was eradicated. Lassa fever, first discovered in Nigeria, has continued to crop up sporadically in Africa.

WHO's Eastern Mediterranean Region

The main zoonoses in this region are: bovine tuberculosis, brucellosis, anthrax, tetanus, plague, and leptospirosis (bacterial diseases); rams and Rift Valley fever (viral diseases); and leishmaniasis, taeniasis, echinococcosis and trichinosis (parasitic diseases). At least one (1) is present in every country of the region at different levels of prevalence.

Brucellosis in humans

is largely dependant on animal reservoirs

The occurrence of this disease in humans is largely dependent on animal reservoirs, and high rates of brucella infection among goats and sheep cause the greatest prevalence of infection in man. Each year, large numbers of human cases are reported in many Latin American, Mediterranean and African countries.

WHO and FAO have jointly established Collaborating Centres for Reference and Research in Brucellosis in Weybridge, UK, and Moscow, USSR, to assist in developing global control programs on brucellosis.

'WHO's 'Guide To The Diagnosis, Treatment And Prevention Of

Human Brucellosis' is intended for health, veterinary and agricultural workers who may not be too knowledgeable about the disease, so have to be aware of all its implications.

The above information comes from an article entitled "Brucellosis" which appears in the July 1985 issue of World Health. The author is Takao Fujikura.

For "Guide To The Diagnosis, Treatment And Prevention Of Human Brucellosis" or other publications of WHO write to: World Health Organization, Distribution & Sales, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

373 million people at risk

Some three hundred and seventy-three (373) million people in Latin America and the Caribbean are at risk from more than one hundred and fifty (150) known zoonoses. About one hundred and eighty-six (86) million of them will be infected by one or more zoonoses in their lifetime.

Each year an average of three hundred (300) persons die from rabies and more than one hundred and twenty thousand (120,000) persons are bitten by rabid dogs.

Three thousand (3000) new human cases of brucellosis occur each year.

Hydatidosis is diagnosed in fifteen hundred (1500) persons each year.

Thirty thousand (30,000) tons of milk are lost each year.

Ringworm is a fungal disease

Dermatophytoses form a very large group of fungal diseases, many of which are transmitted from animals to man. Ringworm is included in this group.

For a long time, existing methods of dermatophytoses control in animals as the main source of human infection - drug treatment, disinfection, quarantine and so forth - all proved unsatisfactory. A revision of the traditional control techniques was called for. In the USSR, for example, elimination of these diseases in farm animals has been achieved by the wide use of vaccines produced

Yearly losses of up to forty (40) per cent in productivity (in livestock industries) occur each year.

In financial terms (U.S.\$) estimated annual losses are: bovine rabies 50 million; foot-and-mouth 600 million; brucellosis 600 million and porcine cysticercosis 68 million.

Malnutrition is responsible for fifty-three (53.2) per cent of all deaths in children under five (5) years in Latin America, and twenty-eight (28) million of the children in that age group - sixty-one and a half (61.5) per cent of that total - suffer from protein malnutrition.

The above information comes from the July (1985) issue of **WORLD HEALTH**.

in the country. These vaccines, such as LTF-130 (for cattle) and Mentavak (for fur-bearing animals and rabbits) have also been successfully used in Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Norway, Yugoslavia and elsewhere, with a very significant decrease of infections in humans.

This information is taken from an article entitled "Fungal Infection". Its authors are Professors A.K. Sarkisov and G. Koromyslov. The article appears in the July issue of **World Health**.

Voice from another quarter

The achievements of science are questioned in the industrialized world and the needs of people and the environment are considered by the community to be of paramount importance. Scientific and industrial achievements are no longer ends in themselves.

Professional scientists in developed and developing countries must be responsible to these changing needs

and attitudes. Intellectual effort needs to be directed more at tackling real problems within the community and less at academic involvement for its own sake.

The above remarks are taken from the **CASAS** News of Nov./Dec. 1985 (issue #14). They are from 'The President's Message' of M.N. Kinsella, president of the 'Commonwealth association of scientific agricultural societies'.

Rabies

About eight-eight (88) countries and territories - mainly in the developing world - are still suffering from the spread of rabies among the dog population. Dogs are a most dangerous reservoir of the disease, accounting for ninety-nine (99) per cent of all human cases worldwide.

The cost to medical services is enormous, and many countries do not have enough vaccine to treat all the bitten people who expect help in an emergency situation.

This information is taken from an article, entitled 'Mad Dog', in the July 1985 issue of **World Health**. The authors are Drs. Jean Blancou and Konrad Bogel.

Leptospirosis

Leptospirosis is a special risk for people whose way of life brings them close to animals.

Rodents such as rats are among the most important mammal sources of leptospirosis.

Effective health education programs which explain the details of the epidemiology of leptospirosis in a given region should help to keep the disease under control.

The above comes from an article, entitled "Farmworkers At Risk" in the July 1985 issue of **World Health**. The author is Professor Ryo Yanagawa.

WHO Guidelines for the Control of Leptospirosis offers practical information and advice on the recognition, diagnosis, management and control of this disease. Presented in an unusual but convenient way, this information will be valuable for clinicians, veterinarians, laboratory microbiologists, epidemiologists and students. Those who do not aspire to become experts in leptospirosis but are concerned with the health of such occupational groups as rice and sugarcane workers, farmers, dairymen and abattoir workers will find it indispensable for diagnosis (at the bedside of the human patient or in the field), clinical action including treatment, laboratory and administrative support for accurate diagnosis, and the selection and carrying out of preventive measures according to local needs.

For 'Guidelines For The Control Of Leptospirosis' or other publications of WHO write to: **World Health Organization, Distribution & Sales, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.**

"Communication"

*distributed to
national associations*

Agriculture Canada, through the courtesy of Dr. J. E. McGowan, Assistant Deputy Minister and Carmen Hodgson, editor, the publication "Communication" has been made available to the Secretariat for distribution to national veterinary associations throughout the Commonwealth. "Communication" is a handsomely prepared publication with an attractive format. Notices and reports of meetings are recorded and abstracts are prepared of articles which have appeared in other journals on topics such as research, disease control as well as original articles.

Two numbers of volume 3 of Communication have been distributed to Regional Representatives and Council Members throughout the Commonwealth. The response has been enthusiastic with Regional Representatives urging that the distribution be continued.

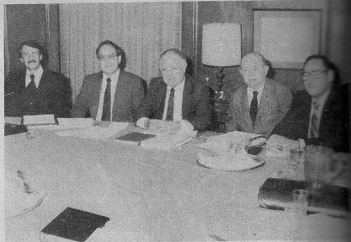
A third mailing of "Communication", Volume 3, Number 4 is presently underway.

The Commonwealth Veterinary Association is most grateful for the generous support of Dr. McGowan and colleagues in Agricultural Canada.

Bovine tuberculosis project

This Project was sponsored by the International Development Committee of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, with financial support from CIDA. Dr. R.R. Miller (OVC 1948), Ottawa, Ontario, served as a CVMA cooperant in Grenada, West Indies, October 19 to November 9 1985.

The objective of Dr. Miller's program in the context of the Project was to provide training to Ministry of Agriculture's Veterinary Division staff on the application and interpretation of the intradermal caudal tuberculin test in bovines and to make recommendations to the Ministry for the establishment of a national tuberculosis program for cattle in Grenada.



Visit of the President and Secretary-Treasurer of the World Veterinary Association with the Canadian Organizing Committee for the 1987 World Veterinary Congress. Left to right - Dr. G. Lafreniere, Dr. R. Downey, Dr. J.F. Figueroa [Pres.], Dr. C.L. DeCuenca [Sec./Treas.] and Dr. J. McGowan.

Enjoy the old charm of Montreal

Montreal, Canada, is the site of the 23rd World Veterinary Congress, August 16-21, 1987. The old world charm of this North American Metropolis makes it an ideal atmosphere for vacationing and learning.

The Executive Committee of the Congress is directed by Dr. John McGowan, Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Canada. Other executive members represent the Quebec and Canadian veterinary Medical Associations, together with the organizers of the Scientific and social programs.

Dr. Jean Pierard and the planners of the Scientific program have selected the theme for the Congress "Rational use of animal resources":

- To start each scientific session renowned specialists will deliver a keynote scientific paper related to the Congress' theme, thereby setting the stage for the speakers that follow.

- Hotel Accommodation for attendees will be an easy walk from the new Montreal Convention Centre (Palais de Congress).

- The Palais is the Communication hub for transportation, where subway, rail and highways meet. Traveling downtown or for example to the Olympic Stadium and to the side of 'Expo '67 or to McGill University is

easy.

- The social events will be heralded by an impressive opening ceremony on the site of the 23rd Olympiad. During Congress social conventioners will be entertained by a social program which runs simultaneously with scientific events.

- There will also be enough time to see the sights of Montreal and attend the numerous programs that are scheduled for summer '87.

- Chairing the Organizing Committee for the 23rd Congress is Dr. G. Lafreniere. The Conference Office McGill University have been employed as consultants for the Congress for Marketing, exhibitors, etc.

- Canadian Veterinary Medical Association is pleased to invite you to the 23rd World Veterinary Congress (1987) in Montreal, Canada.

Canadian cattle are brucellosis free

The Canadian national herd is now free of bovine brucellosis.

On October 2, 1985 the Canadian Gazette registered the brucellosis free status of the Province of Ontario. Because the Province of

*Turn to page 2

Preparations for World Congress

The preparations for the 1987 World Veterinary Congress are proceeding well. Exhibitors kits have been mailed, pre-registration kits will be mailed in the Spring and various groups will be holding meetings prior to the Congress.

The official languages of the Congress will be English, French, Spanish, German, Russian and Japanese. There will be simultaneous translation during the opening and closing ceremonies, and the four plenary sessions.

The World Veterinary Congress is hosted by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, under the patronage of the World Veterinary Association.

Saskatchewan wildlife diseases

The Handbook of Diseases of Saskatchewan Wildlife is authorized by Dr. Gary Wobeser of WCVM Department of Veterinary Pathology and is distributed by the government of Saskatchewan. It can be obtained by writing to the Saskatchewan Parks and Renewable Resources, 220 Albert Street, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, S4S 5W6

Brucellosis free...

(from page 24)

Ontario was the last province to achieve that status, in effect the Government of Canada has declared that bovine brucellosis has been eradicated from the national cattle herd. The event was the last chapter in a success story that encompasses seventy years.

Guyana VA executive

The members of the new executive of the Guyana Veterinary Association are: Dr. Steve Surujbally, president; Dr. T.B. Richmond, secretary-treasurer; Dr. L. Applewhite, committee member and Dr. J. Dodson, reserve committee member.

Discuss Grenada assistance program

Dr. Bonus Nutor, Chief Veterinary Officer and CwVA Council Member for Grenada, W.I. visited the office of the CwVA Secretary-Treasurer, December 16-17, 1985. Discussions were held regarding the Foundation's Grenada Assistance Program, the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association/CIDA Joint Program for International Development, the early scheduled Seminar/Short Course for the Caribbean and the Joint CwVA/Caribbean/Canadian Veterinary Conference to be held in Barbados November 30 - December 5, 1986.

Veterinarians Directory distributed

The second Directory of Veterinarians in the Caribbean has been published and distributed. This project has been made possible by the cooperation of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, and thanks are extended to the members of the professional staff at QVMA Headquarters for their efforts.

It will be noted by those familiar with the Caribbean area that there are obvious omissions of some names. This can be corrected in subsequent issues if member associations cooperate more fully.



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Sir Jawara sends greetings to 4th European Congress

His Excellency, Sir Dawda Jawara, is the President of the Republic of The Gambia and the President of The Gambia Veterinary Association. The following message was sent to the BVA Congress in greetings from His Excellency.

A Special Role In Development

"As a former president of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association it is my belief that the professions have a special and unique role in development," said H E Sir D.K. Jawara, president of the Republic of The Gambia and president of The Gambia Veterinary Association, in greetings sent to the BVA Congress.

"Members of the veterinary profession across the world have a common commitment to care for the animal, both commercial and non-commercial, and to owners and attendants who look after the animals. Vets are also very much aware that diseases such as rinderpest and foot-and-mouth disease and vectors such as ticks and the tsetse fly respect no national frontiers. They recognize that close collaboration is required between veterinary services and individual veterinarians. Confidence and trust between services is based on individual veterinary members knowing each other well.

Personal contact is important

"In looking for something extra to current aid programs I would like to stress the importance of personal contacts within the professions. During the last two decades a whole new generation of vets has grown up in the developing world many of whom have become isolated, often working in inadequate conditions, and who have lost contact with friends from their undergraduate days.

"I would like to suggest that members should renew their efforts to establish personal contacts within the profession thereby offering their advice and support both professionally and socially.

"In The Gambia, a member of the BVA who began coming for holidays is now offering honorary clinical consultant services on a regular basis to my young veterinary staff, an action which has developed out of personal friendship. I am confident that there are many other members present today who would like to become involved in a variety of ways.

"In 1984 the zoological division of

the BVA held its annual conference in The Gambia and met members of The Gambia Veterinary Association.

"I would like to mention a venture in animal research which the government is making. With a loan from the African Development Bank and financial contributions from ODA and EEC the parliament of The Gambia has established a new independent international research centre with its own council of which I am currently chairman and Dr Touray, (who was present at the Congress) is deputy director.

"The main objective is to study the phenomenon of resistance to diseases such as trypanosomiasis, the tsetse fly borne disease, which the Njala breed of cattle in The Gambia possess, and to make every attempt to enhance this resistance. The Centre is collaborating with other research centres in Kenya and Ethiopia in an effort to counter the problem of the tsetse fly which affects an area of tropical Africa as large as the United States of America and includes some 38 countries.

"I hope that this initiative of The Gambia will be of continuing interest to members of the BVA, some of whom already work in The Gambia.

The above report is from The Veterinary Record, Sept. 28/85.

Expresses concern regarding post graduate awards

The following is a letter which appears in the letter section of The Veterinary Record (March 29/86). It is from J.S. MacFarlane (c/o Kasra Ltd., 9 Curzon Street, London, W1). We quote:

Sir, I note with interest that the Overseas Development Administration is again offering postgraduate awards to veterinarian graduates wishing to study for an MSc. in Tropical Animal Production and Health at the Centre for Tropical Veterinary Medicine, Edinburgh University (VR, Jan. 18, pg. 60. I have not read elsewhere of similar awards for agricultural graduates and am concerned that one of the strengths of this particular course, i.e. the cross fertilisations of minds between veterinarians and agriculturalists and the fostering of a better understanding between the two disciplines, may be endangered by an imbalance of participants.

Understandably, veterinarians and agriculturalists are each inclined to adopt polarized viewpoints with regard to the relative merits of their undergraduates courses as a foundation on which to build the expertise required to assist developing countries within the tropics and subtropics with their livestock development. Both disciplines possess strengths

and weaknesses in their suitability for the practice of tropical animal production and it is the encouragement of an awareness of this and the opportunity provided to compare matters that makes the course at Edinburgh so valuable, but only so long as the proper balance is maintained between veterinarians and agriculturalists participating.

British Universities' Guide to Graduate Study 1986-87

Price 15.95 pounds post free [by surface overseas]
By printed paper airmail (including price of book) 20 pounds.

To: Publications Department,
Association of Commonwealth Universities,
John Foster House, 36 Gordon Square,
London, England, WC1H 0PF.

British VA Small Aid Scheme is active

The British Veterinary Association (BVA) Overseas Sub-Committee reports that its Small Aid Scheme is active. Tuberculin Testing equipment and books have been sent to Tanzania. Books have also been sent to Zambia.

The Overseas Fund has received a donation of 500 English pounds from

Miss Poly Butler who has also assisted in carrying specific items to Africa.

It is of interest that the Overseas Group lends assistance to developing countries outside the Commonwealth.

A cheque for 2000 English pounds was received from the B.V.A. as its

annual contribution to the CwVA.

The BVA reports that Mr. T. Raison, United Kingdom Minister of Overseas Development, has approved continued government funding for research at Edinburgh University's Centre for Tropical Veterinary Medicine. Up to 2.1 million pounds will be available over the next three years.

The British Veterinary Association has recently published two (2) books which will be of interest to many members of the CwVA. These are:

Invaluable for the veterinarian in the tropics and those encountering exotic disease anywhere.

Handbook on Animal Diseases in the Tropics

Edited by Professor Sir Alexander Robertson and revised by members of the Centre for Tropical Veterinary Medicine assisted by other experts in this field.

Hardback / 304 pages / Comprehensive index / A5 size / 6 pounds (inc. p & p) in UK / Other countries on application.

Cash with order please to

BRITISH VETERINARY ASSOCIATION
7 Mansfield Street, London W1M OAT.

Veterinary Aspects of Fish Farming

A compilation of articles from The Veterinary Record prepared under the auspices of the Fish Subcommittee of the British Veterinary Association

Aquaculture worldwide C.J. Shepherd

Management, nutrition and housing of farmed fish G.D. Cawley

Diseases of farmed fish: Salmonids R.H. Richards

Diseases of farmed fish: Non-salmonids including eels and crustacea N.C. Stuart

Treatment of fish disease N.C. Stuart

Fish farm checklist P.W. Scott

Fish farming reading list

Price 2.50 pounds, including postage. Cash with order, please.

From BVA Publications, 7 Mansfield Street, London, W1M OAT

Items of interest for all veterinarians

Food for thought

It has been reported by an unnamed source that between thirteen (13) and eighteen (18) million people die every year from hunger and starvation. Every twenty-four (24) hours thirty-five (35) thousand people die from hunger. The rate of these fatalities is twenty-four (24) per minute. Of the twenty-four (24) that die each minute of every hour eighteen (18) of them are children.

More people have died of hunger in the last five (5) years than have been killed in all the wars, revolutions and murders in the last one hundred and fifty (150) years.

Forests and People

The Food and Agricultural Organization estimates that tropical forest is being cleared at the rate of some 11 million hectares a year, and that as much as 40 per cent of reserves may have been lost since 1970. The world's two billion people dependent on fuelwood are directly threatened by this depletion, while the erosion, flooding and desertification which result from stripping tree-cover from fragile land pose even greater dangers.

The Twelfth Commonwealth Forestry Conference, held in September 1985 in British Columbia, Canada, recommended that governments and agencies focus on the need to view forestry as a necessary part of rural development.

Productivity of livestock

The productivity of Africa's cattle is often said to be poor. However, in addition to meat and milk African herds provide a plethora of intermediary goods and services, the value of which are not easily quantifiable. Animal traction for cultivation and transport; manure for fertilizer and fuel; a variety of inedible products such as hides and skins; food security and year-round employment for millions of people in rural areas - all these are largely ignored in the list of benefits from African livestock development projects which thus appear highly uneconomical. These omissions foster the illusion that African

herds are unproductive and are partly responsible for the unwillingness of governments and donor agencies alike to invest in the African livestock sector. Meat and milk represent only half the total livestock output of sub-Saharan Africa. The other half is accounted for by the value of hides and skins, manure and draught power with the latter two in particular becoming increasingly valuable as energy costs rise.

This item is taken from an article, entitled "Economics: Measuring The Productivity Of Livestock" which appeared in the Papua New Guinea Newsletter #15.

Development

Development may now be one of the fuzziest, the most divisive and yet the most all-embracing words in the dictionary. If one thousand people were questioned there might well be one thousand different concepts, or at least experiences, of just what development is, isn't, and should be.

Development does not transplant - it must grow from seeds in each setting. Western models may be ruinously expensive for the Third World. Even if affordable, no single model would work everywhere, because valid development must arise from and relate to real life, as people live it in the vast array of different cultures and environments that make up our world.

If not synonymous, education and development have a great deal in common. All peoples need opportunities to learn about what is happening to them as their environment changes: to understand, control, manage and participate in development. That is what education and training should be all about.

A most vital characteristic of a culture is its ability to adapt to change. Development should aim at assisting that adaption. Development should build suitable and comfortable structures upon indigenous foundations, and not import castles in the sky.

It may well be that, among those who assist with the development of others, sincerity is a greater asset than scholarship.

Many of the above considerations and thoughts came from the winter (1985) issue of CIDA's magazine

"Development". This issue deals with education.

It is the editor's (CwVA newsletter) personal opinion that many of the ideas expressed apply to development.

African Swine Fever

The following item is from the Papua New Guinea Newsletter, December 1985 (No. 26).

Economics - African Swine Fever

Relatively few reports are available to document the economic and socioeconomic effects of exotic disease outbreaks in developing countries. A recent report (N. Nukechab and Gibbs, 1985) describes the effect of an epidemic of African swine fever (A.S.F.) in the Western Province of Cameroon, West Africa.

The Western Province is the smallest of the ten provinces of Cameroon, and has an area of some 13750 square km and a human population of just over 1 million. Just prior to the A.S.F. epidemic, an estimated 63% of the country's 1.1 million pigs were found in the Western Province. The epidemic was first reported in late May 1982 on three properties and had spread throughout the province by July.

Data collected in 1983 show that some 3762 pig farmers reported a total of 54,432 pigs died from A.S.F. between June and December 1982, although many owners are known to have not reported their losses. The market value of these losses was some US\$2.5 m. These losses proved difficult to estimate. Feed manufacturers estimated sales of US\$260,000, and as many farmers had outstanding loans at the time of the outbreak, repayment of many loans proved difficult, impossible as no government compensation was paid for losses from the disease. Other less tangible losses occurred as employees were laid off from some affected farms, animal feed producers and meat merchants.

Although pig meat is used in traditional funeral services in the area, this use was abandoned as people were suspicious of all pig meat, a fear resulting from the rapid spread and high case mortality rate of the disease. The credibility of veterinary staff fell as it proved difficult

•Turn to page 2

Permanent pasture is world's largest land use form

The following items is from the Papua New Guinea Newsletter of May 1984 (No. 19).

Animal Production: Grazing Lands

Permanent pasture is now estimated to be the world's largest form of land use, occupying 3100 million ha (compared to 1400 million ha for crops and 2800 million ha for forests). This dominance of grazing land is, in historical terms, relatively new, and the subject of some concern, as noted in a recent review (Stewart 1984).

Most ancient civilizations based their nutrition primarily on crops, and considering the huge areas involved the contribution of grazing lands to human nutrition is "very small". Animal sources other than eggs and fish provide only 14% of protein consumed in the poorer countries, compared with 43% in the richer countries... The very poor get hardly any benefit from grazing animals....

Matters are probably even worse than these figures suggest, for figures on permanent pasture production underestimate the true proportion of land devoted to grazing:

"Much forest has broken tree cover and is used, often illegally, for grazing. Without strict management, its deforestation can only be a matter of time. With the use of fire to clear perennial plants, the change to pasture is often very rapid. The great deserts, too, are affected by nomadic grazing, which helps to maintain their vegetation at a minimum and causes them to expand on the margin. There are many countries where even cropland is grazed after the harvest and during the fallow. Any benefits from the recycling of nitrogen are counter-balanced by the compaction of soil under the hoof.

The great advantages of animal foods, however, is that, unlike plant foods, their protein has the same amino acid composition as our own, so that we can use them as sources of those amino acids that the human body cannot synthesize. Each plant protein is relatively deficient in one or more of these substances, so it is only by combining a range of plant foods that an adequate supply can be ensured... Meat has traditionally been regarded as food for special occasions or special people.... Because of its relative scarcity, only the

rich could regard meat as an everyday food, so that it came to be seen as a symbol of wealth. Milk and milk products, the other main foods from animals, are relatively abundant, because the animal does not have to be killed to obtain them... Without expensive investment in processing and distribution, milk can only be consumed close to its point of origin, so that for more distant consumers it is little cheaper than meat per unit of protein or energy.

Meat and milk products food for relatively rich

Both the meat and milk products of livestock are likely to remain foods for the relatively rich. Increased production requires considerable investment in farm buildings, fencing, transport, veterinary services, provision of water and supplementary feeding, all of which are reflected in production costs. Even with such investment, supply from grazing land is unlikely to keep pace with demand, so that prices will rise unless kept down by heavy subsidies. Inexpensive animal products will come rather from intensive systems using the traditional 'backyard' stock, for example pigs and poultry, whose requirements for land is small, minimizing the costs of confinement, supervision and transport."

The author develops his argument

by noting that in many countries the external costs of grazing "are borne mainly by the poor", for "destruction of forests to make room for herds" has cost many communities their local supply of wood, for both building and energy (heating and cooking). Deforestation also leads to a loss of biomass and soil nutrients, and, in areas "inadequately covered or compacted by animals' hooves, erosion. The long term effect can be "a decline in fertility and productivity, which may affect neighbouring farmland through torrents or dust-storms, and may lead to the spread of desert or semi-desert... In a rationally organized world there would be very little grazing in the hotter countries. Tropical grassland has a net productivity only 40 per cent higher than temperate grassland in biomass per unit area, and in the long term it may even fall below it, thanks to soil degradation and erosion. By contrast, tropical crops and forests often have more than two or three times the net productivity of their temperate equivalents. The tropics thus have a comparative advantage in plant production and are actually worse off than they would be if the land were used for crops and trees. Only the more arid areas are capable of attaining their greatest prosperity through grazing, and then only if it is properly managed."

Stewart does not advocate a reduction in the total amount of animal production, but proposes that

•Turn to page 30

No treatment for African Swine Fever ...

*from page 28

cult for farmers to accept that there is neither any treatment nor a vaccine to control A.S.F. In the early stages of the outbreak, most farmers cooperated and buried carcasses, but as they "became frustrated with the relentless progression of the disease they dumped carcasses along stream and river banks, on footpaths and even highways". As the disease spread, farmers "felt helpless as they watched their healthy pigs fall ill and die" and the price of other meats increased by over 30%. No data are presented on the costs of control measures attempted.

Over 70% of all European-type pigs died in the initial outbreak; indigenous pigs did not appear to suffer such high mortality but precise figures are not available. A.S.F. is now considered to be endemic in the province and very few farmers have attempted to restock.

The number and distribution of pigs in Cameroon are limited by both social and geographical factors (eg: 20% of the total human population (9.5 m in 1983) are Muslim, and a large area of the country is dry savannah used for traditional pastoral grazing of about 2.5m cattle and 3.5 sheep and goats).

Observations from non governmental organization

In a 1984 Non governmental organization (NGO) perspective the following are noted:

- it is clear from the experiences of the last twenty years that scientific and technological innovations alone are not the solution to the problem of malnourishment in one quarter of the world's population.

- the growing of family food has been traditionally the concern of women.

- a national food strategy will only be truly successful if it is based on the needs and capabilities of the village communities.

- the crucial role played by women in the development process suggests that all programs, drawn up in the context of a national food strategy,

should involve women in the planning process.

- the environmental crisis, together with population pressures, is severely affecting agricultural production in many areas of Third World.

- that it is essential that food programs be designed within the overall ecological context, that the environment be protected from over-exploration by agribusiness corporations and that educational programs be organized to explain to the rural communities the importance, and long-term self-interest, of environment protection.

- malnutrition is not only a product of food shortages but a question of education and of access to food.

- agricultural research should con-

centrate on improving the situation of subsistence and small farmers and should not promote dependency on a scientific approach to agriculture, which is often irrelevant to the needs of the rural poor.

- at the centre of the dilemma of hunger and poverty, is the human animal. It is people - not climate - who create the degradation of the environment.

The belief is expressed that the only long-term solution to the world's problem of hunger and malnutrition is agrarian reform which, in addition to a redistribution of land, should include improved access to credit, markets, roads, transport, storage facilities, and extension and training services as well as a minimum agricultural wage.

56% of students are female

The Canadian Vet Supplies magazine (winter 1985/86) notes that women make up 56% of the student population of the two eastern Canadian veterinary colleges. Enrollment in Canada's western college and in the pre-veterinary course at the Ontario Veterinary College also emphasizes the growing interest of Canadian women in the veterinary profession.

When questioned about the impact of women graduates on large animal practice, Canadian authorities agreed that many lady veterinarians made excellent large animal and farm practitioners. As was pointed out technique rather than strength is the key to the appropriate handling of large animals.

The Veterinarian (India's monthly magazine for veterinarians) notes in its January 1986 issue that lady veterinarians make up as much as 45% of the Sri Lanka government veterinary department staff. The Veterinarian also reports that under consideration is the formation of 'The Indian Association of Lady Veterinarians'.

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Veterinarians

must also treat fish

Fish farming has become an increasingly popular backyard activity in Tanzania. The treatment and prevention of diseases in fish has therefore become another of the veterinarian's responsibilities.

Egg drop syndrome

has many causes

Egg drop (egg drop syndrome (-EDS)) is a problem frequently reported in layer units in PNG, and it has many causes, not all of which are easily proven. That similar complexity in the diagnosis of this condition occurs overseas is shown by a recent report from England. In one large battery unit in Gloucester persistent low egg production was confined to the middle and upper tiers. Poor ventilation or difficulties in the infectious bronchitis vaccination program were suspected until, one night, a former employee was caught raiding the shed. His bad back had prevented theft of eggs on the lower tiers.

The above item was copied from the Papua New Guinea Newsletter #15.

Grazing lands...

*from page 29

"grazing should be replaced by more intensive methods, preferably based on feedstuffs that are not potential human food." He argues that reforestation of large areas of degraded pastures would bring immediate benefits through employment as "forestry uses three or four times as much labour as grazing - more if wood processing industries are later established locally." The author also advocates combining animal production with forestry, especially through the use of the goat, which he notes "has a unique capacity to convert woody vegetation into products for human consumption.

Its bad reputation is the fault of the goat herd, not of the goat. Kept in a stable and fed on foliage, it could be more productive".

The review concludes, philosophically, that 'The promise is great, but the problems to be overcome are also enormous. Perhaps the biggest difficulty, however, is to persuade people that there is a problem. Grazing is so much a part of our dominant cultures, and meat and milk are so central to their conception of a normal diet, that nothing short of a cultural revolution will end the abusive expansion of grazing land.'

Reference: Stewart, P. (1984) Int. ag. Devel., 4, (3), 10-11.

Remarks from the CwVA editor

This area will be reserved for comments and contributions from readers, "letters to the editor", etc.

Address all correspondence to: The Editor, CwVA News Bureau, P.O. Box 59, Lucknow, Ontario N0G 2H0 Canada.

The CwVA News is a news magazine carrying news from member associations of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association and items of

interest and concern to all. If there is no news from your National Veterinary Association it is because we received none. The fact that we carry no news from your Association makes this a poorer magazine. We ask you to ensure that your CwVA council member sends in news from your Association so that this may be a better magazine.

We will give serious consideration

to including any item or article sent in by anyone. It is hoped that future issues of the CwVA News do contain more material sent in by readers.

The number of copies of the CwVA News is limited, so please pass your copy on to another colleague. If you wish a copy sent directly to you please send us your name and address. If it is at all possible we will be pleased to comply with your request.

Did you know that?

Two films donated

Through the courtesy of Mr. Leo Conway and the generosity of Ayerst Laboratories of Montreal, Canada, two 16 mm films entitled "Calf Killer" and "Management of Calving" respectively have been donated to the CwVA. These films will be distributed on a rotating basis to veterinary schools throughout the Commonwealth.

New college opened

The Natural Resources College of Malawi was officially opened early this year (1986). As Malawi's first bona fide training facility for extension workers, this co-educational college will accommodate a total of seven hundred and twenty (720) students yearly. Two year extension training is offered in the fields of agriculture, veterinary science, fisheries, resource management and farm home economics. This training institute constitutes an integral part of Malawi's National Rural Development Program.

CIDA (the Canadian International Development Agency) has provided assistance to design, construct, furnish, and equip the College as well as provide training for its personnel.

Fiji joins CwVA

Readers will be pleased to learn that the Fiji Veterinary Association has become the newest member of the CwVA. The application for membership and the 1986 contribution was received from Dr. John Holt on 3 January, 1986. The Secretary's office is presently in correspondence with

Dr. Tabuna Kawai and it is anticipated that Fiji will be represented at the Australian Seminar to be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Commemorative stamp

Dr. W. Arthur de Silva, well known Sri Lankan veterinarian, was honored on May 22nd, 1984 by the government of Sri Lanka. A special commemorative postage stamp was, on that date, issued in his honor. It is reported that that was the first time for any veterinarian in the world to be so honored.

Photographs on ZVA news

Photographs of the new Veterinary Science Faculty of the University of Zimbabwe are on the cover of the July/August (1985 issue of the ZVA News. This was a joint project of the Republic of Zimbabwe and the European Economic Community and is a part of the EEC's five-year aid program for Zimbabwe, Belgium, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands and the United Kingdom were the donor countries of the EEC who helped fund the Faculty.

Subsistence agriculture

It is estimated that:

- in Cameroon more than seventy-five (75) % of the people are subsistence agriculturalists and that agriculture accounted for twenty-seven (27) % of the (1983) Gross Domestic Product.

- in Papua New Guinea about eight (80) % of the people are subsistence agriculturalists with agriculture ac-

counting for some thirty-three (33) % of the (1983) Gross Domestic Product.

Bombay college celebrates centennial

The Bombay Veterinary College celebrates its centennial this year (1986). These celebrations are being held in conjunctions with the annual conference of the Indian Veterinary Association.

Former secretary

It is interesting to note that Dr. Trevor Blackburn, Vice-President and UK/Europe Regional Representative of the CwVA, was once Secretary of the Tanganyika Division of the British Veterinary Association.

Distance learning

Distance education has taken great strides in recent years. India has pioneered the use of satellite transmissions in bringing training in agricultural technology to farmers, and is about to set up a distance institute for higher education, the Indira Gandhi Memorial University.

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WHEN YOU HAVE READ THIS COPY, PLEASE PASS IT ON TO A SCHOOL, LIBRARY, OR A NEW READER.

XXIII World Veterinary Congress to be held in Montreal

One hundred and twenty-four years and 22 World Veterinary congresses, separate the first congress (1863) and the next (1987). Only two of these world congresses were held in North America: New York (1934) and Mexico (1971).

1987 - The Goal

It is not one but several goals that the Organizing Committee of the XXIII World Veterinary Congress has chosen:

- Quality
- Innovation
- Efficiency

While the World Veterinary Association is the oldest professional association, the XXIII World Con-

gress in Montreal will integrate this historical position with a futuristic outlook on the latest developments within the profession and the industry.

Montreal meets those two essential qualities of the World Veterinary Congress: A touch of history with a futuristic North-American know-how
67 Participating countries
4000 Veterinarians from around the world

19 World Associations of specialists presenting 650 first class speakers
600 Poster presentations
Pre World Congress Satellite meetings.

Need we say more....

Languages

To reflect the world wide participation at this event, the official languages of the World Veterinary Association are English, French, German, Russian and Spanish. The XXIII World Veterinary Congress has added Japanese to the list of Congress.

For more information please contact the Secretariat, XXIII World Veterinary Congress, Box 100, Succursale Desjardins, Montreal, Quebec H5B 1C2. The Congress is held under the patronage of the World Veterinary Association and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association.

Invitation to submit papers to World Congress

The Secretariat of the World Veterinary Congress to be held August 17-21, 1987 in Montreal invites all those wishing to present papers in the following sections:

- Surgery
- State veterinary medicine
- Diseases of wild and laboratory animals, bees and fish
- Veterinary education (except teaching of preventive veterinary medicine)

In order to be able to classify the requests, those interested are asked to clearly indicate the title of their paper and the section to which it belongs.

Deadline to submit papers is October 31, 1986.

The XXIII World Veterinary Congress is organized under the patronage of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association and the World Veterinary Association.

WRITE TO:

Dr. Jean Pierard, XXIII World Veterinary Congress, Box 100, Succursale Desjardins, Montreal (Quebec) H5B 1C2.

Coming Event

JOINT CwVA/CARIBBEAN/CANADA CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP, BARBADOS, WEST INDIES, NOV. 27 - DEC. 4, 1986.

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Among features in the
next CwVA News

- News from Tanzania
- history of the
Commonwealth
Veterinary
Inter-change Fund