

Volume 8 No. 2



July 1993

COMMONWEALTH VETERINARY ASSOCIATION



NEWS

EDITORIAL



The Programme Review meeting of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association at Ottawa, Canada was of great significance. This meeting gave the CVA members an opportunity to interact with the members of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. Canada, just as UK and Australia, has been playing a significant role in the affairs of the CVA ever since CVA was formed in 1968. This fact was stressed more than often during the week long meeting at Ottawa.

Without the active support and co-operation of the veterinary associations of the developed countries, the CVA cannot function merely on the grants of the Commonwealth Foundation. This was stressed in no small measures by Dr. J.T. Blackburn, then Vice President of CVA at the Gambia meeting in 1987 and it was he who stressed that CVA should first establish "credibility" and then it would be recognized. Ever since then, the CVA has played a major role in establishing its credentials, first with the various national associations and through them to the grass-root Veterinarians.

The ultimate objective of the CVA is to improve the status of livestock farmers all over the Commonwealth and through them to improve the economy of the nation. To achieve this, animal health and production are very important. The number of seminars organized by the CVA in Africa, Asia and Australia and the various workplans drawn by CVA to achieve these goals have been highly successful and the CVA enjoyed the support of national associations of UK, Australia and Canada.

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association which has been helping many national associations and countries through its International Development Programmes and Universities such as the University of Guelph and others, did have an opportunity to see closely the working of the CVA. The CVMA and University of Guelph have assured their full co-operation in CVA's plans and future programmes.

The warmth, affection and the hospitality of members of the CVMA will always be treasured by the members of the Programme Review Committee and the CVA looks forward for CVMA's continuous support and patronage.

July, 1993

**S. Abdul Rahman
Editor**

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Published and Printed by

Mrs. Shireen Rahman
Intervet Publishers
124/2, 7th B Main Road,
IV Block (West) Jayanagar
Bangalore 560 011 INDIA

In Association with

Commonwealth Veterinary
Association

Advertising Enquiries
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Layout & Typeset by
Foreword Impressions

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Editor

Dr. S. Abdul Rahman

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President's Column

Once more the Executive Committee has lived up to its responsibilities by carrying out an in-depth review of the activities of our Association and preparing a strategic plan for the next couple of years. All this happened at the Programme Review Meeting held in March in Canada. The Executive Committee members demonstrated their dedication and commitment to the ideals of the CVA and concern for the wider involvement of colleagues throughout the Commonwealth, especially those in the developing regions. It was along these sentiments that a new programme of work has been prepared. It is therefore my fervent hope that every member of our Association will take a personal interest in the activities of the CVA and also see to it that office bearers of national associations and Regional Representatives live up to their respective responsibilities.

The success of the Programme Review meeting in Canada was due to no small measure to the excellent preparatory work done by the Vice President Dr. Bert Stevenson, the good facilities put at our disposal and the warm welcome given by our colleagues of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA). The interactions between members of the Executive and our colleagues and other professional groups in Canada has underlined the assertion that the future of the Commonwealth will depend more on the peoples than on the Governments.

By the end of this year two regional workshops would have been held in addition to the Programme Review Meeting by the Executive. These are the Australian Workshop set for Wellington, New Zealand in June and the East/Central/Southern African Workshop to take place in Arusha, Tanzania in November/December 1993. It must be a source of pride to belong to a world-wide organisation which makes a deliberate effort to reach all and sundry. Through our individual and collective effort I am sure we can keep it this way and even improve upon the achievements.

July 1993

**Bakary N. Touray
President**

Organisation of Commonwealth Associations

Global Partnership 27th - 29th November 1992



CVA Stall at the Exhibition

A week-end Exhibition, Market and focus on Cultural Events and an International Forum was held on 27th - 29th Nov. 1992 at Olympia (The National Hall) London. Participants were non-government organisations, voluntary groups and associations with an interest in Third World Development.

Global Partnership was the idea of Mr. Benny Dembitzer, who had had first hand experience of development agencies when he worked in Africa. In the course of his work he found a proliferation of agencies, often duplicating work in the same country, and not particularly clear about each other's activities. When he returned to Britain, he felt that an event like Global Partnership would enable such organisations to know more about one another, and hopefully co-operate on their projects. He also felt that if a Christmas Market, mainly of Third World products, was run as part of the event, not only would it attract supporters of the various groups working in the developing countries, but would also open it up to the wider public, drawn by the Market's variety of goods and reasonable prices.

Global Partnership has been running at the Royal Horticultural Society's Halls in Westminster for the past three years. It has grown so much that a new venue had to be sought and this year it was held at Olympia.

Sponsorship from ODA and World Bank has strengthened the financial structure this year. Global Partnership has become the only recognised event across the U.K. for groups interested in and working in developing countries.

Many Commonwealth Professional Associations participated this year, especially with the promise of a higher profile. The CVA had a stall this year at the exhibition, where the CVA News was exhibited and CVA leaflet distributed.

Awards for Postgraduate Study at Commonwealth Universities 1993-95

Awards for First Degree Study at Commonwealth Universities 1993-95

New editions of the two ACU directories for students wishing to undertake some form of study or research mainly, but not exclusively, in another Commonwealth country are now available. Many of the awards are tenable outside Commonwealth countries and are open to students of any nationality.

Between them, these fully revised directories contain some 1,200 detailed entries describing the various forms of financial assistance available to students for study or research towards a formal qualification (degree, diploma etc) or for study visits, field work, attendance at conferences etc. The range of contributors includes universities, other tertiary educational bodies, governments, research councils and commercial firms.

Awards for Postgraduate Study at Commonwealth Universities 1993-95 This 420-page edition contains 1,050 entries including 200 award schemes tenable in any country and almost 600 open to any nationality. An appendix of over 150 award schemes open only to UK graduates and tenable only in the UK. **Price : UK and overseas surface mail £18.50 2 copies £ 29.60 Air Mail 1 copy £ 23.80 2 copies £ 38.00**

Awards for First Degree Study at Commonwealth Universities 1993-95 : Contains in 88 pages almost 150 award schemes including over 60 for students of any nationality awards for refugee students; loans and emergency funds **Price: UK and overseas surface mail 1 copy £ 6.50 Post free 2 copies £10.40 overseas Air Mail 1 copy £8.00 2 copies £12.80**

Both editions contain : Comprehensive indices to awarding bodies, named awards and subjects

2 new indices to places of tenure and nationality/residence

The other two titles in the ACU Awards Series are:

Awards for University Teachers and Research Workers 1992-94

Awards for University Administrators and Librarians 1992-94

For details of prices and order forms contact :

Association of Commonwealth Universities

John Foster House, 36 Gordon Square London, England WC1H 0PF

Tel: 071-387 8572; fax: 071-387 2655

New Statue of Queen Adorns Commonwealth Secretariat

A new statue of Queen Elizabeth II adorns a refurbished Marlborough House, London headquarters of the Commonwealth Secretariat, the International Organisation at the service of all The Commonwealth's 50 members.

The bronze bust was unveiled by the Prince of Wales before he attended a luncheon given by Commonwealth Secretary-General Chief Emeka Anyaoku for him to meet Commonwealth High Commissioners.

Chief Anyaoku said the statue was a mark of the great respect and gratitude in which the Queen was held.

The Secretary-General, who enjoys direct access to the Queen as Head of the Commonwealth, added: "That The Commonwealth has been able to endure and develop over the last 40 years out of its imperial past into a modern and relevant international association owes more than we can say to the inspiration and influence of Her Majesty."

The bust by British sculptor David Cregeen was a present to The Commonwealth by the Sackler Foundation.

- Commonwealth Feature - Feb. '93

Dr. Faletau Retires



Dr. Inoke Faletau, Director of Commonwealth Foundation for 8 years has retired. He has been in England for nearly 25 years, starting as Tonga's High Commissioner. During his tenure as the Director of the Foundation he has helped to create a regional network of 40 Commonwealth Liaison Units. He was also responsible for the creation of Commonwealth NGO's in 1991 in Zimbabwe to discuss issues of mutual concern and has always been an active supporter of Commonwealth Veterinary Association and participated at the Pan Commonwealth Veterinary conference at Harare in 1990. Dr. Faletau has received many tributes from the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and Commonwealth Secretary General. Dr. Faletau will be returning back to Tonga where he plans to retire and go fishing, catch up on reading, play the guitar and be with his grand children. Commonwealth Veterinary Association will be missing Dr. Faletau. Dr. Faletau has been succeeded as Director of the foundation by Dr. Humayun Khan of Pakistan, who was also his country's High Commissioner to Britain.

Commonwealth Quiz

(This Quiz was given to the visitors at the Global Partnership Exhibition, Olympia, 27-29 November 1992)

- Who is the head of the Commonwealth?
a) The Queen b) The Duke of Edinburgh c) The Prime Minister
- When is Commonwealth Day?
a) Second Monday in March b) Second Sunday in November c) Fourth of July
- How many people live in the Commonwealth?
a) 10 million b) 100 million c) 1,000 million

Countries

- How many countries are there in the Commonwealth?
a) 28 b) 50 c) 63
- Which of these Commonwealth countries are in the Caribbean?
a) Antigua & Barbuda b) Jamaica c) Tonga
- Which of these Commonwealth countries are on the coast of Africa?
a) The Gambia b) Malawi c) Sierra Leone
- Which of these Commonwealth countries are landlocked?
a) Botswana b) Swaziland c) Tanzania
- Can you unscramble the names of these Commonwealth countries?
a) AIDIN b) Yekari c) Riginia

Capital Cities

- The list of capital cities and countries have become muddled. Can you link up each capital city with the correct country?

Cities	Countries
Kampala	Guyana
Dar es Salaam	Bangladesh
Georgetown	Jamaica
Kingston	Sierra Leone
Dhaka	Uganda
Freetown	Tanzania

Languages

10. Many different languages are spoken in the Commonwealth. Which of these languages do you associate with India?
 a) Hausa b) Hindi c) Tamil
11. Which languages would you expect to hear in Brunei, Malaysia or Singapore?
 a) Chinese b) Malay c) Marathi
12. Which European languages might you hear in Mauritius or the Seychelles?
 a) English b) French c) Italian

Animals

13. Some Commonwealth countries have game reserves to protect their wild animals. Where would you find a herd of elephants?
 a) Belize b) Kenya c) Zimbabwe
14. If you wanted to see a tiger in the wild, where would you go?
 a) Bangladesh b) Fiji c) India
15. On which Commonwealth island would you find birds of paradise?
 a) Barbados b) Papua New Guinea c) Sri Lanka

Food and Drink

16. Commonwealth countries produce much of our everyday food. Can you name some of the countries which provide us with;
 a) Bananas b) Sugar c) Tea

Sightseeing

17. If you set out on a sightseeing tour, in which Commonwealth countries would you find;
 a) Himalayan Mountains _____ d) Limpopo River _____
 b) Mount Kilimanjaro _____ e) Taj Mahal _____
 c) Lake Tanganika _____ f) Victoria Falls _____

Complete the Quiz and send it to the Editor for a Free One Year subscription of CVA News.

CVA News

Programme Review Meeting of CVA, Ottawa, Canada March 7-14, 1993

The Programme Review Meeting was held at Ottawa, Canada from March 7-14, 1993. This was the first time that the CVA Executive was meeting on Canadian soil. Canada is one of the three countries which are contributing significantly to the CVA, the other two being Australia and UK. This meeting had gained importance as it was an occasion to interact with the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. It was also of great significance to Canada, as some of its stalwart Veterinarians, namely Dr. Laurent Choquette, Dr. Jim Archibald and Dr. Bert Stevenson had contributed to the growth of CVA. Dr. Brock Cleland, the former Editor of the News was responsible for the CVA News. No wonder then that the members of the Programme Review Committee were given a red carpet welcome and a variety of programmes, meetings, seminars, visits were arranged, not to mention the fabulous banquets and lunches.

The dates of the Programme Review Meeting were also fixed to coincide with important occasions in Canada and the Commonwealth. Members of the committee arrived in Ottawa on March 7, 1993 and were treated to an Interfaith service in the evening, which was attended by High Commissioners of the Commonwealth countries in Ottawa and other invitees.

Inauguration of CVA Programme Review Meeting

The formal inauguration of the meeting was held on Monday 8th March, 1993 at the Top of the Hill Room at Citadel Inn at 9. AM. The



L-R. Dr. Maurice Foster MP, Dr. B. Touray President CVA and Dr. Harry Brightwell MP

Chief guests at the inauguration were Veterinarian Parliamentarians Dr. Harry Brightwell and Dr. Maurice Foster. Dr. Roger Miller, Secretary Treasurer, CVMA was also present.

Dr. Bert Stevenson Vice President of CVA informally welcomed the members of the CVA Executive and thanked Dr. Claude Paul Executive Director of CVMA for his help in arranging the meeting.

Dr. Touray president of CVA welcomed Dr. Foster and Dr. Brightwell and gave a brief account of the activities of CVA and also outlined the various programmes of the CVA. He made special reference to the contribution of many Canadians such as Dr. Choquette, Dr. Archibald Dr. Cleland and Dr. Wayne Lees and Dr. Bert Stevenson to the success of CVA. He thanked the CVMA and the Canadian Govt. for their help in

organizing this meeting.

Dr. Miller in his speech said that he was representing CVMA on behalf of the President and wished the CVA a fruitful meeting and pleasant stay in Canada.

Dr. Brightwell in his speech welcomed the members and said that ever since he became a MP. in 1981 he has actively been associated with the problems of the profession. He said that he was familiar with the Association work also being a member of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. In a lighter vein he said that Vets and MP's had many things in common as both need clients (supporters) and both tackle puzzling diseases (problems). He wished the CVA would have fruitful deliberations. Dr. Foster welcomed the members and referring to the severe cold and snowy weather prevailing in Ottawa said that instead

of a warm welcome Canada was giving a cold welcome to the members of CVA. He recalled a popular Quebec song which read "My country is not a country it is a winter". He spoke about his 25 years of experience with Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. He said

that English being the language of the Commonwealth communications between member countries became very easy. He said that Veterinary profession needs to be improved and the CVA had a big role to play. He commended the CVA's role in bridging the gap between the developed and

developing countries.

On behalf of the CVA both the MP's were presented with a copy of the CVA News and the CVA hand book. The meeting was followed by a question and answer session.

Commonwealth Day Celebrated

Second Monday of March is celebrated as Commonwealth Day thorough-out the Commonwealth.

The High Commissioners of Commonwealth countries and their spouses held a reception on Monday 8th March, 93 at West Block of Parliament Building, Ottawa. The CVA executive which was holding its meeting in Ottawa was invited to attend the reception. The High Commissioner of Bahamas, Mr. Idris Reid welcomed the guests and a special reference to the CVA Executive was made. He stressed the importance of the Commonwealth and the role played by it in activities of the members nations. It was an unique opportunity for the members of the CVA executive to meet dignitaries from various countries of the Commonwealth who evinced keen interest in the objectives of the CVA.



Mr. Idris Reid The High Commissioner of Bahamas to Canada at the Commonwealth Day Celebrations.

Guide to a Cat's Age

Kittens grow at about 100gm/week, e.g., six weeks old = 600gm.

Three-year-old—groove in canine tooth becomes "smooth" close to gumline.

Eight to 10 years—opaque haze to lens.

Twelve years and above—iris develops brown pigment spots and iris colour fades.

Aust. Vet. Practit 22 (4)
Dec. 1992.



The CVA Executive at the Commonwealth Day Celebrations

Professional Assessment of CVA Activities.

Dr. Roger Stevens, Process Management Specialist was specially invited to attend the CVA meeting on Wednesday 10th March, 93 and discuss the functioning of the CVA. The whole day workshop was very thought provoking and all the members enthusiastically participated in it.

The objective was to consider three important issues

A Scope

B Personal commitment

C Communication

The discussion was broken down in each case into:

1 Definition of the issue ie the problem

2 Evaluation of the most likely causes of the problem

3 Recommendations on how to correct the problem

The members were divided into groups and they discussed at

length the various issues. At the end of the group discussion there was a plenary discussion at which a concise assessment of the CVA activities was achieved and future plans to improvise were drawn up. Some of the recommendations of the groups were:

- Appointment of a Public Relations Officer

- Draw up a CVA extension policy

- Prepare a Mission statement

- Production of Publicity material for national associations conferences and time slot allocations at conferences

- Produce a CVA leaflet and CVA Handbook for external distribution

- Production of a Promotional Video

- Contacts to be made with other groups, particularly on environmental issues.



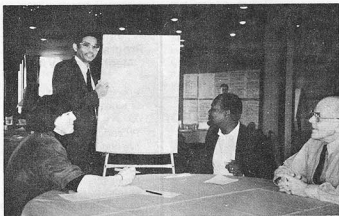
Dr. Roger Stevens (Standing 2nd from Right) with the CVA Members.

Highlights of the Minutes of the Programme Review Meeting of CVA.

- ** Approval of the application of Kiribati to join CVA.
- ** Preparation of the indicative budget for 1993-94.
- ** \$18,000/- to be the annual target of subscription for member countries and confirmed the policy of linking receipt of subscription to CVA support.
- ** Approval of programme for the Reg. Rep. to develop work activity in the West African Member Countries.
- ** Revised New Advertisement Tariff for CVA News.
- ** To examine the proposal to see whether more finances could be offered to the regions to conduct their regional workshops.
- ** Village Livestock and Fertility - Phase II Workshop to be held in Bangalore, India.
- ** Countries other than Commonwealth members could be admitted to CVA as "observers" without voting rights provided that they pay a subscription.
- ** Past-President of CVA to be on the committee for one term.
- ** Review the constitution including examination of the provision of bylaws.

Work Groups at the Process Management Workshop

L-R Dr. Laura Bowen,
Dr. Jalaluddin, Dr. Amanfu and
Dr. W.J. Pryor



L-R Dr. Amanfu, Dr. Blackburn,
Dr. Abdul Rahman and Dr. Bowen



L-R Dr. W. J. Pryor, Dr. Touray and
Dr. Bowen



CVA Executive meets Mrs. Choquette

Dr. Touray President CVA, Dr. J.T. Blackburn Programme Director and Dr. Bert Stevenson Vice-President CVA met Mrs. Choquette on March 11, 1993 to offer condolences on behalf of the CVA on the sad demise of Dr. Choquette former President and Hon. Life Member of CVA who passed away on Sept. 24 '92 at Ottawa. Mrs. Choquette has donated all the personal records and files belonging to Dr. Choquette to the CVA.

CVA Executive Visits Guelph

The CVA Executive travelled from Ottawa to Guelph on March 14 1993 and visited the Ontario Veterinary College on 15th March 1993. A seminar on "International Development Activities" was organized by the Ontario Veterinary College. Dr. Nielson, Dean of the college welcomed the CVA executive to the university and outlined the activities of the college. He said that the University of Guelph had a strong commitment for international programs. The college was involved to start the University Pertanian, Malaysia. He also explained the externship program of the university which started in the seventies. It involved the 3rd and 4th year students to participate in externship programs in other countries especially of the Commonwealth. A minimum of 8 weeks is allowed for the program which entitles the student to get 250 CD dollars per week. Dr. J. Thorson chairman OVC International Programs Committee described the various interactions between OVC and the University of Malaysia and Caribbean countries. He explained that short courses in diagnostics, bacteriology, immunology followed

CVA Executive at Social Functions.

The English Speaking Union of Canada, Ottawa branch, held its 75th Anniversary Commonwealth Dinner at the National Arts Center, Ottawa on March 11 1993. Sir Nicholas Bayne, British High Commissioner in Canada was the chief guest. Sir Charles Gunning, President of the Royal Commonwealth Society introduced the CVA members to the audience. The English Speaking Union of Canada, Ottawa branch was started 40 years back in 1953, whereas the Canadian branch was started in 1923.



L-R Sir Charles Gunning, Lady Gunning, Dr. Don Pulfer, Dr. Bert Stevenson and Dr. B. Touray at the dinner.

the linkage program. Currently two linkage programs, one veterinary science training program in Bogota, Colombia and the other in Heredia, Costa Rica are being conducted. These programs support graduate training for four faculty members from each school. There is also a provision for OVC faculty members to visit the two countries for conducting training courses.

Graduate Diploma in International Veterinary Medical Development has been started at OVC to prepare Canadian Vets. for activities in developing countries and to improve the skills of Vets from developing countries. The duration of this course is a minimum of three semesters. Courses are centered around a minimum of 5 credits of which one will be on Epidemiology

and one will be in field investigation project development and other related courses would be the third one.

Dr. Basur in her talk explained the OVC's involvement in Malaysia. Cross breeding of water Buffalo was a collaborative project of OVC which attracted funding agencies. There have been many Malaysian students in OVC since the program was initiated. There is a provision for Malaysian students to get partial training in other countries.

Dr. M. Thorburn explained the OVC's activities in Kenya and Dr. Peter Buck in Bristol. Ms. Marjorie McIssac President OVC Students International Club, Dr. C. Povey and Dr. D. Walther-Toews also spoke at the seminar.

Joint CVA/CVMA Council Meeting

A joint CVA/CVMA council meeting was held on March 12 1993 at Hotel Citadel Inn, Ottawa at 4.00 P.M. After formal introductions Dr. Don Pulfer, President CVMA welcomed the members. Dr. Touray President CVA thanked the CVMA for hosting the CVA Programme Review Meeting at Ottawa. He praised the efforts of the Canadians in the promotion of CVA activities. He said that the CVA has developed programmes which have been helping poor farmers in the less developed regions of the Commonwealth. He urged CVMA to help CVA in its activities. Ms Laura Bowen outlined some of the programs which CVMA was already doing on behalf of CVA and other programs which have been formulated at the present meeting which could also be assisted from CVMA.

Dr. Paul Greenough, Chairman International Development Committee spoke about the activities of his committee (reported else-



L-R Dr. W.J. Pryor, Dr. B.N. Touray, Dr. Don Pulfer and Dr. Robert R. Miller

where in this issue). He said that a register of human resources available has been produced. A CIDA project has been produced for assisting the veterinary association of Indonesia to im-

prove continuing education, private practice etc.. He also outlined a project on AI services in collaboration with CIDA in Swaziland and in-service training for veterinarians in Thailand.

The following members were present at the meeting of the CVMA Council and CVA Members

Saskatchewan

Dr. Don Pulfer, Weyburn, Saskatchewan **President**

Manitoba

Dr. Ken Mould, Winnipeg, Manitoba **First Vice-President**

Ontario

Dr. Donald MacDonald, Toronto, Ontario

Second Vice-President

Alberta

Dr. Terry Hunt, Sundre, Alberta
Member, Executive Committee
Dr. Robert R. Miller, **Secretary-Treasurer**
Ottawa, Ontario

Member Executive Committee

British Columbia

Dr. Susan McTaggart, Sidney, British Columbia

Quebec

Dr. Serge Ouellet, Hull, Quebec

New Brunswick

Dr. Ted L.J. Mouris, Woodstock, New Brunswick

Nova Scotia

Dr. K. Ross Ainslie, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Prince Edward Island

Dr. Greg Keefe, O'Leary, Prince Edward Island

Newfoundland

Dr. Ron Dunphy, St. John's Newfoundland

Federal government (PIPSC)

Dr. Murray Gordon, Ottawa, Ontario

Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Paul Greenough, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Ontario Veterinary College

Dr. Tom Hullan, Guelph, Ontario

Faculte de medicine veterinaire
Dr. Andre Cecyre, Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec

Atlantic Veterinary College

Dr. Tim Ogilvie, Charlottetown,

Prince Edward

Island

International Development Committee

Dr. Paul Greenough, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan **Chairman**

The CVA Executive was represented by Dr. B.N. Touray, **President**, Dr. Bert Stevenson, **Vice President**, Dr. W.J. Pryor, **Secretary Treasurer**, Dr. J.T. Blackburn, **Programme Director**, Dr. S. Abdul Rahman, **Editor**, Dr. Fazlul Hoque, **Reg. Rep. Asia**, Prof. Dr. Syed Jalaludin, **Reg. Rep. Australasia**, Dr. Keith Amiel, **Reg. Rep. Canada Caribbean**, Dr. Lebohang Khomari, **Reg. Rep. East/Central/Southern Africa**, Dr. W. Amanfu, **Reg. Rep. West Africa**, Dr. Ms. Laura Bowen, **Reg. Rep. U.K. Mediterranean**.

A gala dinner was hosted by the President and council of CVMA in honor of the Executive of the CVA on March 12 1993 at the famous

"The national Gallery of Canada". Dr. Touray, President CVA presented a memento to the CVMA on behalf of CVA. Accepting the me-

memento Dr. Don Pulfer thanked the CVA and wished the executive a pleasant stay in Canada and assured future collaborations with CVMA.

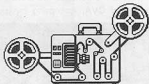


L-R Dr. B.N. Touray, President CVA presenting a memento to Dr. Don Pulfer, President CVMA

Dr. Don Pulfer, President CVMA displaying the memento presented by CVA President



L-R Dr. Ms. Laura Bowen, Reg. Rep. U.K. Mediterranean, Dr. Bert Stevenson, Vice President CVA, Dr. S. Abdul Rahman, Editor, CVA News, Dr. B.N. Touray, President CVA and Dr. Lebohng Khomari Reg. Rep. East/Central/ Southern Africa at the CVMA dinner



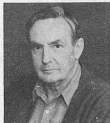
JOURNALS, BOOK AND AUDIO-VISUAL PROGRAMME



New Co-ordinator of Book and Journal Programme

Dr. Douglas Mitchell has been appointed as the new co-ordinator of CVA's Book and Journal Program he succeeds Dr. Wayne Lees. Born in Edinburgh, Scotland, 1925, son and grandson of Veterinarians, had his School education in Scotland, then served for 4 years in RAF (1943-47). He graduated from Royal (Dick) School and Edinburgh University in 1952. After a brief period in general practice, he spent 3 1/2 years in clinical teaching at the Universities of Edinburgh, Guelph and California before emigrating to Canada in 1956. From 1956-76 he worked as a Research Scientist for Agriculture Canada at the Animal Diseases Research Institute (ADRI) in Ottawa as Head of the Theriogenology Section. During this time he published over 60 papers in refereed scientific journals as well as making numerous presentations at regional, national and international meetings. His areas of particular interest in-

clude field investigation, leptospirosis in farm animals, fetal death in cattle and horses, and embryo transfer and related techniques in cattle, swine and horses. From 1976-84 he served as Director of ADRI Lethbridge. In



1984 he resigned to take up an appointment as Project Manager for the Yogyakarta Disease Investigation Centre Project in Indonesia. He retired in 1987 and has since had extensive involvement with World Development Education programs and committees in

Canada. He also served for 3 years on the Senate of Knox (Presbyterian) College, University of Toronto.

He was appointed a charter diplomate of the American College of Theriogenologists in 1971 and was awarded a gold medal by the Spellanzani Institute of Italy in 1976 for pioneering research in bovine embryo transfer.

In addition to the 2 1/2 years spent in Indonesia (1984-87), he was involved in short-term projects for CIDA and FAO in Cameroon (1966), Cuba (1976) and Sierra Leone (1979), and was recruited to assist Dr. Wayne Lees with the CVA Book/Journal Program in October 1991 and assumed responsibility for Program Co-ordination in December 1992 when Dr. Lees took up a post in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture.

The Herd Shot Round the World?

Astronauts Mark Lee and Jan Davis, who flew Sept. 11 aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavor, were the first husband and wife to fly in space together, as well as the first cattle breeder family to orbit the Earth.

Dr. N. Jan Davis and Angus breeder Lt. Col. Mark C. Lee got married some time after they were assigned to the joint U.S Japanese mission which carried Space Lab J into orbit. It was her first space flight, his second.

Colonel Lee got into beef breeding four years ago when he bought his first registered cattle and established Astro Angus Farm, a 700-acre spread near Verona, Wisconsin, USA.

Live Animal Trade and Transport Magazine - December, 1992

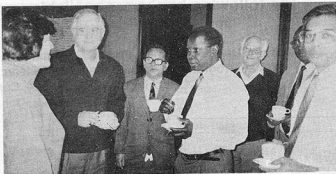
The Commonwealth Veterinary Association textbook program supplies veterinary and agricultural textbooks to veterinarians and veterinary institutions in the third world through donations of used books. The program is run entirely by volunteers and is dependent on receipt of a continuing supply of suitable books from CVMA members and institutional organizations. The program undergoes continuous modification in response to experience gained and feedback received over time in order to best meet the needs of the recipients. To date, books have been mailed to 26 different Commonwealth countries.

Through feedback, the Book Program has learned that, to meet the needs of the recipients, books must contain information which is still current. The type of books in highest demand are those containing information of a broad clinical nature on large and small animal and avian diseases. Later editions such as the Merck Veterinary Manual (6th) are preferred. Books covering specific disciplines such as pathology, clinical pathology, parasitology, physiology, pharmacology, microbiology, theriogenology, radiology, surgery, nutrition and tropical animal diseases are also frequently requested.

Journals, however, are rarely requested even by institutions and this aspect of the program is under review. It appears that photographic slides (2 x 2) may be useful to our colleagues overseas and the possibility of developing a slide inventory is being assessed by the Book Program volunteers.

Currently there are four depots for books at the following locations:

**Atlantic Veterinary College
Charlottetown, P.E.I.
Co-ordinator: Mrs. Martha Heider
Fax: 902-566-0958**



**CVA Executive at tea at the Programme Review Meeting
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Anyone wishing further information about the program can contact either Dr. D. Mitchell or Dr. Pamela Gale. Donated textbooks should be sent to the depot nearest you. Their receipt will be acknowledged, but unfortunately no funding is available for shipping. However, the CVA pays all costs involved in mailing books to recipients. The continued success of this venture is dependent on the generosity of book donors and the dedication of volunteer co-ordinators. Thanks are extended to all those who have contributed to date.

Ms. Yogi Gamester employee of the Atlantic Veterinary College has been an active supporter of the Journal/Book/Audio-Visual Programme for a number of years and has recently organized an event that raised \$50. to go towards payment of postage to send books overseas.



Ms. Gamester is one of approximately 10 people scattered across Canada that voluntarily assists with the Journal/Book/Audio-Visual Programme.

The following books are available under the CVA Book Programme.

Write to :Dr. Douglas Mitchell, Project Co-ordinator, CVA Journal/Book/Audio-Visual Programme , Animal Diseases Research Institute Box 640, Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 3Z4, Canada

	Title	Authors	Subject	Edition	Year
Le	Bovine medicine & surgery	AVP	1g an medicine		1970
Le	Diseases of cattle	Gibbons			1963
Le	Diseases of feedlot cattle	Jensen & Mackey			1965
Le	Diseases of sheep	Jensen			1974
Le	Diseases of swine	Dunne			1975
Le	Diseases of swine	Leman <i>et al</i>			1981
Le	Diseases of Swine	Leman <i>et al</i>		5	1981
Le	Diseases of the bovine foot	Greenough			
Le	Equine medicine & surgery	AVP			1972
Le	Equine medicine & surgery	AVP		2	1972
Le	Equine Medicine Notes	Voss			1970
Le	Guide for control of arthropods	Alberta Agriculture			1979
Le	Guide vet service equestrian events	AAEP		1	1974
Le	Guide vet service equestrian events	AAEP		2	1976
Le	Guide vet service equestrian events	AAEP		3	1984
Le	Infectious diseases of domestic an	Hagan, Bruner		2	1951
Le	Infectious diseases of domestic an	Hagan, Bruner		3	1957
Le	Infectious diseases of domestic an	Hagan, Bruner		7	1881
Le	Infectious diseases of domestic an	Hagan, Bruner		7	1981
Le	Lameness in cattle	Greenough <i>et al</i>			1972
Le	Lameness in Horses	Adams		2	1967
Le	Mastitis control & herd management	NIRD			1980
Le	Merck vet manual	Merck			1967
Le	Merck vet manual	Merck			1973
Le	Merck vet manual	Merck			1979
Le	Merck Veterinary Manual			3	1967
Le	Outline of Inf Diseases domestic an	Merchant			1957
Le	Prog cattle & sheep prac (3 vols)	AVP		1	1968
Le	Progress in cattle & sheep pract 2v	AVP			1974
Le	Progress in cattle & sheep pract 3v	AVP			1969
Le	Progress in equine prac (2 vols)	AVP		1	1966
Le	Progress in equine pract	AVP			1966
Le	Progress in equine pract	AVP			1970
Le	Progress in swine pract	AVP			1966
Le	Progress in swine pract	AVP			1972
Le	Progress in vet pract- q & a's	AVP			1968
Le	Swine diseases	Agric Canada			1972
Le	Symposium on neonatal diarrhoea	VIDO			1980
Le	The lame horse	Rooney			1974
Le	Vet annual 1965 & 1970				1970
Le	Vet Clin Diagnosis	Kelly			1974
Le	Vet Clin NA-swine diseases				1982
Le	Vet clinics NA - eq respiratory dis				1979
Le	Vet clinics NA - gastroenterology				1979
Le	Veterinary medicine	Blood			1963
Le	Veterinary medicine	Blood <i>et al</i>			1979
Le	Veterinary medicine	Blood <i>et al</i>			1983
Le	Veterinary medicine	Blood <i>et al</i>		3	1968
Le	Veterinary medicine	Blood, Henderson, Radostits		5	1979
Le	Veterinary medicine	Blood, Radostits, Henderson		6	1983
Le	Veterinary medicine	Blood, Henderson		3	1968

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Compiled by Dr. W.J. Pryor Sec/Tres, CVA

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Roles and Responsibilities of CVA Regional Representatives

- A. In consultation with the Council members, Organising, Coordinating and Managing the affairs of the CVA within the Region.**
- B. These responsibilities will be accomplished by:**
- 1 Encouraging participation in the activities of the CVA by National Veterinary Associations.
 - 2 Ensuring that Affiliation Fees (annual subscriptions) of member countries within that Region are submitted annually and promptly to the Secretary/Treasurer and reminding country members of this responsibility.
 - 3 Through the Council member, ensuring that National Veterinary Associations are regularly kept informed of CVA goals and accomplishments. This may be in the form of formal written reports or verbal representations at formal meetings. A copy of each report or copy of meeting minutes shall be forwarded to the Secretary/Treasurer.
 - 4 In co-operation with the Council member, the RR will be responsible for the development of regional or local projects and will be responsible for any funds administered by the CVA and delegated to the RR.
 - 5 Taking responsibility for organising educational activities within that Region. The RR has the authority to name local committees and is responsible for any funds directed to that Region.
 - 6 Co-operating with educational and research institutions within the Region in co-operation with Council members to identify training or educational aids that could be provided through a CVA programme eg the Journal/Book/Audio-Visual Programme.
 - 7 Reporting activities in that Region to the Editor of the CVA News by May 15 and Nov 15 each year.
 - 8 Maintaining dialogue with the Executive Officers of the CVA by copying all relevant information and by regular communication.
 - 9 Encouraging interaction with other professional organisations locally.
 - 10 Acting, at the President's request, as the official representative of the CVA at formal functions in the Region.
 - 11 At the completion of the RR's term of office the outgoing RR will fully brief and hand over to the new RR all relevant documentation pertaining to CVA.
 - 12 The incoming RR is to ensure that all relevant documentation is received.

CVA REGIONAL NEWS

Asia

Indian Villagers Benefit From Embryo Transfer

Bhajwanga, a small village in the foothills of Himalayan Nainital in UP State of Northern India was witness to the latest technique of embryo transfer. An elite crossbred cow (donor) and 20 recipients were selected. A total of 29 eggs/embryos were collected from the donor and 25 were transferred to 14 recipients (2 embryos in one recipient and one each in 13 others) in the same village and two nearby villages on the same day. A large crowd of villagers had gathered to see the "operation" and a lucky few even got a chance to peep at the embryos under the microscope.

After 15 days the villagers were convinced of the "miracle" promised to them when the recipient cows did not come in heat. Eleven out of the 14 recipient cows became pregnant and all gave birth to lively, healthy calves. The village became a topic for discussion,



The proud farmer of Bhajwanga with his donor cow and her eleven calves.

not only in the district but in the whole state of UP. The villagers were thrilled at this technical

achievement which left them with 11 calves from one elite cow. Source: ET Update July 1992

Breed Conservation

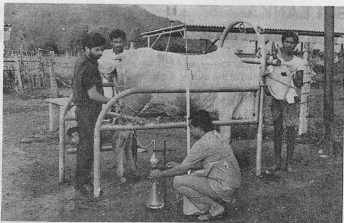
Besides rapid multiplication of elite animals, another important use of the embryo transfer technology is to conserve those breeds of animals which are on the verge of extinction.

In fact ET and cryopreserved embryos can be a very effective tool for conservation of the genetic re-

sources of all species of animals particularly the ones that are economically important. Some of these breeds, due to changed priorities, have very little use in the present breeding programmes and due to very high selection bias against these breeds their numbers are dwindling very fast. But to lose such genetic diversity is not even genetically wise. Therefore, these

breeds need to be preserved for posterity. But it is unwise to preserve these breeds in the form of small herds as it is uneconomical and also leads to their genetic deterioration due to high rate of inbreeding. With embryo transfer and artificial insemination techniques now available, the breeds can be preserved in the form of embryos and semen.

One such attempt is being made by the Nekarikallu Regional ET Centre in collaboration with the Prakasam state ET Centre and the State Animal Husbandry department of Andhra Pradesh, India to conserve the Ongole breed of cattle. Two embryo flushing and cryopreservation programmes were conducted on the Government Livestock Farms at Ramateertham and Mahanandi and one at Chintaladevi which have a sizeable herd of Ongole cattle. Although, the embryo harvest was poor, some 29 embryos were frozen and cryopreserved while 14 embryos which could not be frozen were transferred fresh in 11 cows on the farm resulting in three pregnancies.



Embryo flushing in progress in an Ongole cow.

Banana Skins to Mountain Goats Feature in Commonwealth Industry Assistance

Banana and pineapple skins, normally wasted in Sri Lanka causing pollution, are to be used to make a variety of goods - from table mats to wall hangings.

Pakistan is improving cold storage to minimise losses to its potato crops while India has improved the quality of car parts through computer-aided design and manufacture.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh is modernising technology for its cottage industries in electroplating, coir, handicrafts and dyeing of textiles, as Maldives looks to enhance skills of its small businessmen and women.

All these projects have one thing in common: They have been developed, or are being developed, with assistance from the Industrial Development Unit (IDU) of the Commonwealth Secretariat following a request from the five governments.

IDU assistance included feasibility studies, the provisions of field experts and identification and acquisition of suitable machinery.

The projects will benefit the countries in many ways - from giving a fillip to industry and creating jobs to improving the environment.

The banana and pineapple project in Sri Lanka involves the extraction of fibre from the skins of the fruit with a simple machine. The fibre will be used to make various goods.

IDU is also assisting Sri Lanka with the rehabilitation or modernisation of glass container and leather goods factories.

In Pakistan, it is helping to upgrade cold storage for potatoes to cut losses and to produce such value-added items as chips and mashed potatoes.

The unit has assisted Pakistan with successful trials of new varieties of onions and carrots which, together with garlic, will be used by a proposed new vegetable dehydration plant at Haripur near Islamabad.

IDU assistance has been sought with a fruit processing plant in Baluchistan, Pakistan's major fruit and vegetable producing region.

Pine trees which grow in abundance in Himachal Pradesh in northern India used to be cut down to provide wood for boxes to transport apples. The government, concerned at the adverse effects on the environment by tree losses, has introduced strong, paper-based boxes as a substitute.

These boxes are produced at a factory near the hill resort of Simla. The IDU has helped to improve their design so that they can withstand long journeys, often bumpy roads across India, thus avoiding damage to the apples.

Taking wool from mountain goats in Ladakh high up in the Himalayas has been a traditional occupation of the local population. They use a comb to extract the wool known as 'pashmina' or cashmere.

It is a cumbersome, time-consuming process which often results in losses. Now, thanks to IDU, they will be able to use a simple machine to extract and refine the wool at speed and with minimum losses.

Commonwealth feature April, 1993

SRI LANKA

Sri Lanka Veterinary Association (SLVA)-45th Annual Session

The Forty Fifth Annual Congress and Scientific Session of the SLVA was held at the La Galadari Meridian Hotel, Colombo on 11th and 12th December, 1992. The annual dinner of the Association was held at the Hotel La Galadari Meridian, Colombo.

Former President of Sri Lanka His Excellency J.R. Jayawardene and Madam Jayawardene were chief guests. The dinner was well attended by a large number of veterinarians, members of other professions, parliamentarians and well wishers.

Prof. Arjuna Aluwihare, Chairman of the University Grants Commission was the guest of honour.

The Annual Dinner was preceded by the Presidential address, addresses by the guest speaker, the chief guest and the induction of the new president (1993).

The President of SLVA, Dr. Fahmy Ismail, the Chief Municipal Veterinary Surgeon in his address stated that the veterinary services in Sri Lanka date back to about 110 years and the

SLVA was founded in 1940. He outlined the multidisciplinary responsibilities of veterinarians, which include fields such as public health, food hygiene, food safety and health of all animal species

including domestic and wild animals and besides treatment and care of domestic and farm animals. Dr. Ismail stressed that the meat inspection services in Sri Lanka is not totally in the hands of the veterinarians. He emphasised the urgent need to correct this situation.

The guest speaker, Prof. Arjuna Aluwihare, Chairman, University Grants Commission, in his address stressed the importance of the veterinarians in society. He said the veterinarians contribution to the society is not only looking after the health of animals, but protecting the society from zoonotic diseases. He remembered how he was able to derive an extra family income by animal husbandry. He thanked the veterinarians for the skilful manner in which they helped him in his animal husbandry ventures.

The chief guest former



His Excellency J.R. Jayawardene former President of Sri Lanka, Inaugurating the 45th Annual Session of SLVA by lighting the traditional oil lamp. Dr. Fahmy Ismail (R) and Dr. Ranjith Periera (L) President and Secretary respectively of SLVA are looking on.



Dr. D.D. Wanasinghe being inducted to the office of the President of SLVA by the outgoing president Dr. Fahmy Ismail. His Excellency J.R Jayawardene, Madam Jayawardene are also in the picture.

The chief guest former

President of Sri Lanka His Excellency J.R. Jayawardene quoting from the "Light of Asia" said "Do not harm the meanest thing upon its upward way". He expressed his concern about the cruelty to animals and regretted that little attention is paid by authorities to this matter. He said that Sri Lanka being a predominantly Buddhist country one must be more concerned about the animal rights and take action to prevent cruelty to animals. He remembered how he kept animals from his young days and how he called the "native cattle doctors" to treat his animals. He expressed that those skills and prescriptions should not

be totally forgotten.

The Office Bearers of Sri Lanka Veterinary Association (1992/93)

The following members were elected unanimously for the respective positions.

Dr. D.D. Wanasinghe
- President

Dr. (Ms) A.L. Godwin
- President Elect

Dr. (Ms) I.D. Silva
- Vice President

Dr. D.W. Piyadasa
- Vice President

Dr. A.O. Kodituwakku
- Secretary

Dr. M.G. Jayaruban
- Treasurer

Dr. M. Fahmy Ismail
- Immediate Past President

The official address of the Secretary is; c/o Department of Animal Production and Health, P.O. Box 13, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.

Forth Coming Events

Sri Lanka Veterinary Association 46th Annual Congress and Scientific Sessions would be held on 17th and 18th December, 1993.

Bangladesh

Bangladesh Veterinary Association

Bangladesh Veterinary Association is now engaged in multifarious activities such as rectification of Vet. Education, two month practical refresher training for veterinarians working in the field 140 veterinarians have attended the programs. The training course was inaugurated by the honourable Minister & State Minister of Environment, Forest, Fisheries & Livestock. The Association is helping the farmers to develop the dairy industry in Bangladesh, and over 6500 dairy farmers have benefited by this program.

Honourable Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia is personally taking

interest to develop the livestock wealth of Bangladesh. BVA organized four Cattle shows in different



Hon. PM Mrs. Begum Khaleda Zia and Min. of Livestock Forest and Fisheries at the cattle show

parts of the country. One such show was inaugurated by Honourable Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at Bogra on 15th April 1993, About 500 quality dairy cows were exhibited & she evinced keen inter-

est in the exhibits. She distributed prizes and certificates to the animal owners. She informed the vets that vacant posts of veterinarians under the Directorate of Livestock Services would be filled up and promised to elevate the status and position of the veterinarians in the country. BVA is trying to form a poultry farmers association (poultry and duckery) under the leadership of Dr. Monzur Morshed Khan and with the help of Rhone-Poulenc company in Bangladesh.

BVA is also trying to convince the Govt. to start a second Veterinary College in the country to meet the increasing demand for Veterinarians in the country.

The 5th Bi-Annual Conference of the BVA was held on 28th Dec. 1992 at Dhaka. A Scientific Seminar on 'Infertility in cattle' was inaugurated by the Honourable Minister of Forest, Environment, Fisheries and Livestock Mr. Goyshwar Chandra Roy. The Secretary Mr. A.Z.M. Nasiruddin was also present as a special guest. The Key note address was given by Dr. Saiful Islam Talukder. A colourful cultural function was also held.



Dr. Fazlul Hoque

The following were elected as office bearers of the Association for the year 1992-93.

President :

Dr. M. Fazlul Hoque

Vice Presidents :

Prof. Dr. Akter Hossain

Dr. Kafiluddin Ahmed

Prof. Dr. A. Awal

Secretary General :

Dr. Sultan Mohiuddin

Joint Secretaries :

Dr. Wazed Mollah

Dr. Afzal Hossain

Treasurer :

Dr. A. Khaleque Khan



Dr. B.C. Ramakrishna



Hon. Prime Minister, seeing some of the exhibits



Mr. A.Z.M. Nasiruddin, Secretary Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and Dr. Nazir Ahmed (R) Director of AH. and Veterinary Services examining one of the exhibits

New CVA Council Member of India

Dr. B.C. Ramakrishna, Secretary General Indian Veterinary Association has been nominated as the new CVA Council Member of India. He succeeds Dr. S. Abdul Rahman former Sec. Gen. IVÁ. Dr. Ramakrishna is a veteran in association activities. He was the Secretary of the Karnataka State Veterinary Association for 10 years and has been the Sec. Gen. of IVA from 1992. He is the founder president of the Karnataka Veterinary Benevolent Trust and has also been the treasurer of the Indian Veterinary Association. He is the president of the Mysore Kennel Club. Dr. Ramakrishna with rich experience in his various capacities of service to the veterinary profession will be an asset to the Asian Region of the CVA in particular and the CVA in general.

Progress of Animal Husbandry Activities: Achievements of Karnataka State of India

Farmer participation was given importance at Seminars on Poultry farming, Sheep husbandry and Dairy farming. State level Seminars were conducted in Bangalore the capital of Karnataka State. Farmers from all over the state participated in the seminars.

Over 50,000 sheep breeders attended the Sheep Breeders Conference at Bangalore on 20th April 1993. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of the State Mr. Veerappa Moily inaugurated the conference. The Animal Husbandry Minister Mr. K.N. Nage Gowda announced number of programmes for the welfare of the sheep breeders including a massive Sheep Development Project under World Bank assistance.

The State Poultry Farmers conference was held on 15th May 1993 at Bangalore and attracted over 30,000 farmers. This conference was also inaugurated by the Chief Minister who announced that the Government had decided to provide facilities for the import of Poultry vaccines, regulate price of poultry feed and to bring legislation to have control over hatcheries.

The State level Dairy farmers conference was attended by 1,50,000 milk producers. The Union Agriculture Minister Dr. Balram Jakhar inaugurated the conference. At the conference the Govt. decided to solve many of the problems of farmers including fixing up of procurement price of milk, prompt and regular payment to farmers, supply of concentrate feed at subsidised rates and the supply of vaccine through co-operative societies. Fodder production programmes were also initiated.

The Govt. of Karnataka has also decided to open many veterinary institutions (Polyclinics) with modern facilities and subject matter



A Section of the farmers who attended the dairy conference

specialists. The Government has also decided to finance unemployed Veterinary graduates to start Veterinary clinics in rural areas.



Mr. K.N. Nage Gowda

The Government has also established the Karnataka Meat and Poultry Marketing Corporation which will safeguard the interest of both the producer and consumer by providing remunerative price to the farmer and wholesome meat and poultry products to the consumer at reasonable prices. The government has also drawn up plans to modernise slaughter houses in the State. With financial assistance of banks to the tune of Rs. 560 million (US \$ 20 million) a massive livestock development programme has been initiated.

The credit for all these activities

goes to the dynamic Minister of Animal Husbandry Mr. K.N. Nage Gowda who within a short time of four months, since his appointment as minister has revolutionised the entire Animal Husbandry and Veterinary activities. His interest in the welfare of the farmers was mainly responsible for the success of the seminars and the various programmes initiated by the government.

Anti - Aging Gene

The discovery of a key anti-aging gene in fruit flies opens the possibility to doubling the lifespan of humans, according to a Univ. of Calif. scientist. The anti-aging gene, which was discovered when fruit flies were selectively bred to live the human equivalent of 150 years, is one of the key genes that control the aging process, evolutionary biologist Michael Rose reported last week. The next major step will be to create long-lived mice and other mammals through forced evolution or genetic manipulation since their genetic makeup is more similar to that of humans, he said.

Aries Newsletter, June 1992

Veterinary Services in Vanuatu

Vanuatu is situated in the Pacific nearly 2000 km due east of north Queensland, Australia and due north of New Zealand. It is unique in the Pacific region for its beef production and export industry. Smallholder producers own 70,000 head of a total cattle population of 120,000 head. There are two abattoirs operating for both export and local consumption, with the majority of export going to Japan. In order to enter into further export, market plans are being implemented to improve abattoirs and provide further evidence that Vanuatu is free of the majority of animal diseases. Beef production is a rapidly growing industry and a major export earner.

There is also a small amount of commercial pig (24,000) and poultry (20,000) production but the majority of pigs (56,000) and poultry (300,000) are kept as a local food source within extensive systems at village level throughout the country. There are also small numbers of goats (11,000) and sheep (1,000). Horses are used extensively for stock management and also for leisure purposes.

There are no private veterinary practitioners within Vanuatu and companion animal treatments are dealt with by the livestock services. Fortunately due to the lack of disease there is little call for clinical services to the large animal populations.

The new CVA Councillor for Vanuatu, Dr Mike Nicholls, was born in England in 1944 and graduated as Bachelor of Veterinary Science from the University of Liverpool, UK in 1968. From 1969 - 1979 he was employed by the Overseas Development Administrations (British Overseas Aid) in development projects in Kenya, Paraguay and Bolivia with intervening short periods in clinical practice in UK. Overseas development work included disease control, regulatory duties, clinical work, and later, the installation and running of veterinary investigation laboratories and disease surveys.

In 1972 the newly developed course in Tropical Veterinary Science was followed at the CTVM, University of Edinburgh.

From 1979 to 1983 he was employed in commercial Foot and Mouth Disease vaccine research at the Wellcome Research Laboratories, Pirbright, UK. During this period he travelled widely throughout Africa, South America and the Middle East and was awarded a Masters degree in Veterinary Science by research thesis from the University of Liverpool, UK.

In 1984 he rejoined ODA to manage a Livestock Service Development Project in Bangladesh, followed by co-ordination of ODA's support to veterinary research projects in Kenya until mid-

1991.

This was followed by a six-month period in ODA headquarters, London, acting as the Senior Animal Health Adviser to ODA, until he took up his present appointment in Vanuatu in January 1992.

He is at present midway through a two year contract with ODA on secondment from the Natural Resources Institute (NRI) UK on loan to the Government of Vanuatu, as Principal Officer, Animal Health and Production.

He works within the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry and Fisheries (MALF), Government of Vanuatu. MALF has four departments, each with a departmental director. He is directly answerable to the Director, Livestock Department and responsible for all technical and administrative aspects of animal health and livestock production in Vanuatu with a Departmental staff of 50, including two other ODA supported veterinarians and one Australian volunteer veterinarian, supported by OSB. The main function of the department is to support the beef industry, with activities in quarantine control, disease testing, meat inspection, abattoir hygiene, pasture improvement, marketing and animal management.

His wife Dr Veronica Nicholls is also a veterinarian and they have three children.

Spotting The Species That Has It Made In The Shade

Of all the critters that swim, slither, crawl, walk or flutter on this planet, the only species with what you'd call a work ethic is good old *Homo sapiens*. And forget all this bunk about bees and ants and beavers being compulsive workers. Not so. In fact, researchers have discovered that most animals spend their time doing nothing at all. Two zoologists have studied lions since the 1970s only to discover that lions can lie in the same spot without twitching a muscle for 12 hours at a stretch. They're active on their feet for just two to three hours a day. (On the other hand, two lions published a report on zoologists, noting that "they mostly lie under a bush staring through binoculars for up to 12 hours a day.")

A lot of human activity is spurred by a desire to collect resources far beyond what is required for survival. Squirrels collect enough nuts to get them through the winter. Humans worry about college bills, retirement or replacing the Chevy with a BMW.

Live Animal Trade and Transport Magazine - Dec '92

Singapore Veterinary Association

The SVA held its Annual Conference on 5-8 November 1992, at the Marina Mandarin Hotel, Singapore. The theme of the conference was "All Creatures Great and Small". It was a very successful conference and the subjects covered were wide-ranging and topical. They included a paper on "The Human-Animal Bond" by Dr Judith Blackshaw, Professor Animal Behaviour and Welfare, University of Queensland, Australia; "Feline Toxoplasmosis in Singapore" by Dr L H Chong, Primary Production Department, Singapore; "Transgenesis" by Dr C H Phang, Department of Biotechnology, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Singapore; "Ornamental Fish Genetics - Past Present and Future" by Assoc Prof Violet Phang, National University of Singapore; and "Recent Findings in Diseases of Tropical Marine Fish" by Dr Frederic Chua, Primary Production Department, Singapore.

The following are the new Committee Members for the year 1992 / 1993:

- Dr Chua Sin Bin**
- President
- Dr Kelvin Soh**
- Vice-President
- Dr Alfred Chua**
- Honorary Secretary
- Dr Er Jwee Chiek**
- Honorary Treasurer
- Dr Frederic Chua**
- Committee Member
- Dr Astrid Yeo**
- Committee Member
- Dr Nellie Fong**
- Committee Member

Western Samoa CVA Assistance to Western Samoa

Western Samoa has been struck by two devastating cyclones in the last three years. CVA has co-ordinated assistance to the veterinary authorities in Western Samoa who lost their entire collection of veterinary publications as well as suffering damage to equipment and buildings

The assistance has taken the form of a cash grant and the collection of veterinary publications. A major effort to collect books was made by the Australian Veterinary Association and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, CVA also forwarded a cash grant.

In a recent letter (14 April 1993) to the Secretary-Treasurer, the CVA Councillor for Western Samoa, Dr Ken Lameta, described his reaction to the assistance received as follows:

".....The CVA donation and the Canadian brothers/sisters CANS200 donation was spent on assorted veterinary supplies which were short and much needed at the time. Books were received from Australia and Canada. These arrived much later but in excellent condition. The World Society for Protection of Animals in collaboration with the New Zealand Veterinary Association at the end of the cyclone sent us a veterinarian in the name of Dr Mark Howell with a consignment of emergency supplies. Mark returned to New Zealand and Dr Kerry Creswell is now in W Samoa for a year. Dr Creswell brought with her another load of supplies (about 100kg). These were flown in free of charge by the country's national flag carrier, Polynesian Airlines.

The assistance from colleagues around the globe had been just fantastic and we can only convey our heartiest gratitude to all concerned. I believe these disasters can affect anyone of us anytime anywhere. We can only hope the devastating experience we had would not affect others but this is something we cannot control. From W Samoa, I can only say "Thankyou so much"! The assistance has reaffirmed my confidence of the CVA's concern for its family members. Thankyou very much and God Bless!....."

CVA every year has in its budget an item for disaster relief of member associations. Last year it was made aware of natural disasters in Western Samoa, Montserrat and Bangladesh. The funds available are very limited but CVA regularly communicates with its members so affected and offers help of various sorts. Emphasis is now being placed on training in disaster preparedness. At the recent Ottawa meeting, the Executive Committee set in motion a programme to secure training in disaster preparedness for CVA veterinarians.

Details of the Australasian Regional Workshop, Wellington NZ held from June 16-17 1993 will be published in the next edition of CVA News.

Malaysia

The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Univ. Perten, Malaysia had an open day-theme "Twenty Years of Teaching". The Malaysian Veterinary Association took part by exhibiting the news of VAM, sale of old issues of Malaysian Vet. J. and Kajian Veterinar, ties and tie pins.

The Open Day was declared opened by Mr. Peter Chew Fah Kui, Dep. Min. Sci. Tech. Envi. Dr. Ahmad Mustafa Babjee, Dr. Omar Abdul Rahman and Dr. C. Samuel were presented with Anugerah Mengenang Jasa.

Canada Caribbean

Rabies Epizootic In Labrador- Hugh Whitney

Rabies appears in Labrador on a cyclical basis, depending upon the spread of the disease within the populations of arctic foxes farther north. The last epizootic occurred in 1988 and, at that time, was the largest wave of cases seen since the late 1940's. This year has seen the arrival of another wave that is even broader in its geographical scope than the one in 1988; it has also extended further into the summer than previously recorded. It is felt that this wave will continue south to affect the more populated areas of Quebec, possibly within the coming year. From January 1 to September 10, 1992, 13 of 25 animals from 11 different communities were positive for rabies.

Advance warning for such epizootics in Labrador usually comes from confirmation of rabies in northern Quebec and Baffin Island. In this case, reports from Nain (April, 1991), La Forge 1 (July, 1991), Kuujuaq (September and December, 1991), Schefferville (January, February and March, 1992) and Iqaluit (February, 1992) helped us to forewarn residents, and to be prepared ourselves. Confirmed cases to date in 1992 in Labrador include Hopedale, Esker and Postville (February), Nain, Cartwright and Churchill Falls (May), Goose Bay and Rigolet

(May and June), and Makkovik (September). All of these outbreaks occurred in either arctic foxes or red foxes.

These facts indicate an epizootic of rabies that is spreading across all of Labrador and well into Nouveau Quebec. Although there has not been any confirmation of rabies on the Labrador coast farther south than Cartwright, there have been cases in the Havre St. Pierre/Longue Pointe region of the north shore of the St. Lawrence River. The absence of any recent historical evidence of the disease in the area suggests that this may be a further southern extension of this wave.

As elsewhere in Canada, populations of foxes are very high in Labrador this year, because of a peak in the cycle and of minimal trapping pressure as a result of low prices for pelts. Usually, we expect epizootics of rabies to stop by May or June, but unconfirmed cases suggest that the disease has continued well into the summer. The facts emphasize the need to monitor these geographical and temporal extensions of rabies, as residents often become complacent if they are not continually reminded through publicly announced confirmations that the disease continues to exist in the area. Officials in more southern regions are forewarned that this wave may be heading in their direction. *Can Vet J 33: 756*



Dr. Gavin Hamilton retires as Dean of WCVM

On June 22nd 1992, Dr. Gavin Hamilton completed his term as Dean of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. During his tenure as Dean, the College has retained its vitality in the face of very difficult economic conditions affecting the university.

In the decade of his stewardship, the WCVM has seen considerable important progress. Completion of the far-reaching Pew Strategic Planning Exercise, realization of major interprovincial funding for graduate education, development of the new clinical departments and the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and, perhaps most importantly, the recruitment and nurture of an outstanding young faculty were all facilitated by the personal support given by Dr. Hamilton within and outside the university.

New Dean at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Alexander Livingston assumed the responsibilities of Dean of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in August, 1992.

Dr. Livingston is currently a reader in Veterinary Pharmacology, at the University of Bristol, England. Formerly, he was acting head of the Department of Pharmacology and Dean of Undergraduate Studies (Science).

He succeeds Dr. Gavin Hamilton, who stepped down on June 30, 1992 after serving as Dean since 1982. - *Can Vet. J 33 : 636*



Canadian Veterinary Medical Association International Development Activities

Dr. Paul Greenough

Western College of Veterinary Medicine Univ. of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada.

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) has, for a number of years, demonstrated dedication and commitment to supporting international work. It established an International Development Committee (IDC) in 1985 which, initially had the role of catalysing and exploring dialogue with colleagues in developing countries. The CVMA has no funds with which to support international projects. Nevertheless, the association gained credibility with international funding when it published a comprehensive directory of veterinarians either experienced in or willing to become interested in international work.

We have recently been fortunate in obtaining funding from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for a project in Indonesia. CIDA had been funding animal health projects in Indonesia for some years and they supported the CVMA proposal on the basis that through strengthening the Indonesian Veterinary Association (IVA) Canada would be strengthening its ongoing initiative.

Over the five years that I have been chairman of the IDC I have received numerous letters, many from my colleagues in the Commonwealth asking for the sort of help that we are unable to give. Also, during those five years I have personally gone through a learning curve about the manner in which some International Funding Agencies operate. I would like to share with the readers some of my findings but I must add that a great deal of mystery remains.

CIDA has many 'branches', 'divisions' and programs. The project in which we are about to engage has been funded through the Professional Associations Program of

CIDA. Through this program the CVMA has the mission to help strengthen its sister organization the Veterinary Association in Indonesia. We plan to do this by assisting with the continuing education program and journal production. In Indonesia as in many other countries there is a determined trend to reduce the size of the Government veterinary work force by retraining them for work in private practice. It will be job of the CVMA representative to help our Indonesian colleagues to make the change. We hope also to be able to make our colleagues aware of the many functions that our association performs on behalf of the profession. A strong association can be a force for positive change in perceptions of the veterinarians both by the government and the public.

I have received several requests to assist schools of veterinary medicine. This activity involves an entirely different branch of CIDA which deals only with Institutional interactions. Recently CIDA has severely limited its aid to Universities. Nevertheless, Veterinary school twinning programs are still possible but the schools in both recipient and donor country are in competition with other disciplines in a University requesting aid. Requests from individual faculty members or even departments are unlikely to be successful unless they are part of a program that the University has agreed to support.

Another category of funding falls within the description of being bilateral aid. These projects are developed between an institution requesting aid and an international funding agency. A high proportion of bilateral aid takes the form of a loan from an international bank that

is underwritten by the government of the country involved. A good example might be strengthening the artificial insemination service of a country and implementing an embryo transfer program. This might be conceived as a joint program between a teaching institution, the private sector and a branch of government service. The project has to be demonstrably beneficial to the industry. Arguments regarding genetic improvement, enhancement of livestock exports would have to be used to justify the proposal. In my opinion we, veterinarians are ideally positioned to motivate project development but we lack the experience with which to articulate and sell the idea. The language of the world of foreign aid tends to be arcane. The agencies talk of bankable documents. The project reviewers are realistic pragmatists who may respond favourably to a logical concept but are possibly less concerned with altruistic motivation. Nevertheless, the 'language' contains emotionally tinged catch phrases with which we have to be familiar. For example a project that is motivated towards 'poverty alleviation' or 'the production of greater quantities of wholesome nutritious milk' is more meaningful than to say one that is dedicated to 'increase milk production'. The latter phrase can be interpreted as aimed at making the rich richer. Other useful expressions are 'to improve the role of women in agriculture' or 'lessen the pressures of agriculture on the environment' or 'reduce the incidence of endemic diseases of livestock particularly those communicable to man'. These modes of expression are softer and more caring than the succinct scientific jargon that we veterinarians so enjoy.

Writing a bankable document is not an easy task. It is one in which Canadian might be able to assist. More often than not the process requires a pre-feasibility study and these cost money. Normally, the individuals having the idea would first have to convince their own government of the merits of their idea. The government in turn would enquire from the appropriate embassy if the agricultural attaché could ask on behalf of the country involved that such a study be made. If as in the case of livestock reproduction, there is possibility of the donor country creating a new market then the chances of obtaining funds for a feasibility study are reasonable.

Even then the process is not fast. Once a bankable document has been submitted to a bank, the bank carries out its own feasibility study. If they decide (usually after at least 12 months) to make the loan, the proposal, as modified by the bank, is submitted for international tender. International development has become big business in recent years and most projects are implemented by commercial organisations specializing in project management. I am associated with the University of Saskatchewan and we have de-

veloped a commercial enterprise of this type. A consortium called CANED International was formed by the colleges of Veterinary Medicine, Agriculture and Commerce in conjunction with an agriculture technician training college and two aggressive commercial agricultural and international management enterprises from the private sector. CANED specialises in feasibility studies as well as project development and management. The pool of human resources is truly amazing.

Regional projects are another possibility. These projects materialise when several countries get together to develop a project from which they all would benefit. Let me set the scenario for an imaginary multilateral project. Let us assume that there is a meeting of minds in several African countries. The governments wish to downsize their veterinary services in favour of private veterinary practice aimed at providing strong preventive medicine services. The governments agree to use the monies saved from downsizing veterinary services to subsidise a program for private practitioners who are working on an endemic disease control program. It is therefore decided that funding

would be requested to establish a 'Pan African School for Animal Health' (PASAH). (Such a school is being planned for South East Asia) The mandate for the school would be to establish an 'in-service training program' in preventive medicine for veterinarians. It would also be responsible for implementing regional campaigns to control endemic diseases. Once established the mandate would be extended to training animal health technicians. Self sustainability (more good terminology) would be assured by each government in the region agreeing to contribute a fee for each student going through PASAH.

Obviously PASAH is a dream that may never be fulfilled. But veterinarians do have dreams and they should strive to fulfil them. We have to be leaders if we are to help our countries. Frustration and ridicule is often our payment for effort but those who frustrate and ridicule often do so for reasons of their own self preservation. It is easy for us in Canada to mouth platitudes but we want to do more. Maybe we can help maybe not. At least we might be able to establish a dialogue and offer some ideas as to how you might proceed.

A New Look For The CVMA

For a number of years, CVMA Council has been expressing the desire to have the CVMA's public and corporate image revamped. A new logo for the association has been launched.

The process of choosing a new corporate identity began exactly one year ago when design firms were contacted and asked to submit competitive bids for the job. OVE Design, an Ottawa company, was chosen to take on the task, and submitted a first set of proposals to Council in March, 1992. Following the meeting, and armed with councillors' feedback, the designers went back to the drawing board and submitted a second set of proposals in July, 1992; a hybrid of

three designs submitted was approved by the councillors over the summer months.

The new corporate identity includes a



slight adjustment to the name of the association in French based on recommendations of francophone vet-

erinarians in Canada. The change from the "L' Association Canadienne des Veterinaires" to "L' Association Canadienne des Medecins Veterinaires" also brings the name of the association to four words which is in line with the name in English.

"The new logo includes the 'staff and serpent' symbol for medicine and a stylistic 'v' for veterinary medicine, and incorporates a "green" representing the environment. The jade green is complemented by a vivid purple which was viewed by Council as a modern and upbeat color," says CVMA Executive Director, Claude Paul Boivin. *Can Vet J* 34: 16

Squawfish

Officers of the Jamaica Veterinary Medical Association

President

Dr. George H. Grant

Vice President

Dr. Clifford L. Grey

Secretary

Dr. Panampilly Vijayan

Assistant Secretary

Dr. Linette Peters

Treasurer

Dr. Cedric Lazarus

Commonwealth Representative

Dr. Keith Amiel

Members of the Executive

Dr. C. March

Dr. W. Schloss

Dr. G. McDonough-Lyons

Dr. C. L. Bent

Export Bovine Embryos to Japan

The Canadian livestock industry will be the first to export bovine embryos to Japan, thanks to the joint efforts of Agriculture Canada, External Affairs and the Canadian Embryo Exporters Association.

The Hon. Michael Wilson, Min. of Ind. Sci. and Tech. and Min. for International Trade Canada, and Agriculture Minister Charles Mayer, announced Canada and Japan have signed the first ever quality certification protocol granting Canadian bovine embryos access to the profitable Japanese market.

Estimated sales of Canadian bovine embryos to Japan could surpass \$1 million in 1993. Total bovine embryo export sales for 1991 were \$2.6 million.

Sen Tinel, NZ, Dec 15, 1992

CanEd International Inc.

Western Canadian Expertise Launches into Global Markets

CanEd International Inc. is the first "for profit" western Canadian consortium of educational institutions and businesses engaged in the provision of Canadian agriculture-based training and technology transfer to clients

In case you never heard of the squawfish, it's a member of the minnow family except much, much bigger, with an appetite as gigantic as that of a whale.

This means the squawfish is a predator that gobbles fish like trout and salmon and others swimming in Western U.S. and Canadian streams.

Those familiar with this voracious eater will tell you it's a "trash" fish that should be exterminated.

But the reviled fish has powerful friends in high places, such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The service has listed the Colorado squawfish as an endangered species and last spring began a seven-year study, part of which includes releasing large amounts of water from the Navajo Reservoir in New Mexico into the San Juan River. Squawfish, it seems, need turbulent water to reproduce.

Last spring they got the turbulent water all right, except that it cost the lives of perhaps thousands of Canada Geese in the process.

Jennifer Fowler-Probst of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service told the

meeting why saving the squawfish is so important.

"Their value transcends economics," she said. "These are organisms that evolved over a millennia to this system."

Back in the '60s the New Mexico State Department of Game and Fish set out to poison the squawfish in the San Juan River because they interfered with trout by eating them.

The poisoning must have been successful, since relatively few of the predators are left today in the San Juan.

The Bonneville Power Commission on the Columbia River is offering a bounty for squawfish caught below McNary Dam. The \$3 bounty is paid for squawfish more than 11 inches long.

Area studies show that the ravenous squawfish accounts for 80 percent of the downstream migrant salmon and steelhead trout lost in the Columbia River.

Ralph Looney
The Washington Times, Sept. 5, 1992.

in selected international markets. CanEd International will bid on training and technology transfer projects and will provide expertise in a number of areas: agriculture, agribusiness, business management, enterprise development, veterinary medicine, integrated rural development, forestry and soil and water management and conservation.

The consortium will work with Canadian agencies, international financial institutions, international governments and the Canadian government.

The educational partners within this unique consortium include Tricoll Services Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of the University of Saskatchewan, (participating colleges include the Western College of Vet-

erinary Medicine and the Colleges of Agriculture and Commerce in Saskatoon), as well as Olds College in Olds, Alberta.

The private-sector participants include CanAgro International Inc., a member of the Regina, Saskatchewan-based Cochrane Group and an associate firm of SNC-Lavalin, one of the world's largest engineering consulting firms. The other private partner is Tradex International Consulting Corp. of Calgary, which will provide marketing services as well as assembling the interdisciplinary teams to deliver services to clients.

Gordon A. Wells
President and C.E.O.
CanEd International Inc.
305 100-4th Avenue S.W.
Calgary, AB T2P 3N2 Canada

East, Central and Southern Africa



As part of CVA's activities to strengthen Regional Organisations I as the E.C.S. African Regional Representative arranged visits to the above mentioned countries. The trip was scheduled for 29th November, to 16th December, 1992.

I first attended the Tanzania Veterinary Association Annual Conference from 1st-3rd December, 1992. Subsequently, meetings with the Executive Committees of the respective national associations were also scheduled. The objective of these meetings was to try and identify problems contributing to the inactiveness of the E.C.S. Region. Secondly, it was to discuss the coming 1993 E.C.S. Regional Conference.

Planning/Activities:

All the concerned national associations were requested to host me while in their respective countries. Due to infrequent flights from Dar to Arusha the plane was fully booked hence Prof Msolla promised to arrange for a lift with one of the vets, which unfortunately did not materialize as he had to go straight to Arusha from Kuwait. Fortunately through local assistance by a taxi driver successful negotiations to get a seat were made at an extra cost of US \$20.

TVA conference was well attended

Regional Representative's Report on the visit to Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya and Zimbabwe.

with about 200 local participants. There were also participants from neighbouring sister associations. A number of good papers were delivered but there were too many for the duration of the conference. As a result people had to rush over their presentation and very little time was left for discussions.

On the second day of that conference, I was given time to address the participants which was the most important issue above all and that was greatly appreciated. I was also invited to attend TVA's AGM which was very educative and informative. Some of the ideas from that meeting were passed on to the other sister associations as possible solutions to their problems and they were highly appreciative. The core of all the association's problems were very similar as they all centered around financial constraints. To try and alleviate this, TVA has started several fund raising projects e.g. they are operating a clinic run by a full time employed vet with a support staff of 4 permanent and 2 part time employees. The project is two years old and it is a success.

As regards the Regional Conference Peter Msolla stated that due to the communication breakdown between himself and the RR he was compelled to accept to host the Pan African Veterinary Meeting scheduled for 1993. In the light of that development I thus put forward a suggestion to hold the two events together. It was accepted

with the understanding that such a conference would draw a larger participation and consequently a more successful conference.

Of all the national associations Uganda seemed to have been more prepared for the visits. The two days were fully occupied with relevant and interesting items.

It is important to mention that one of the farms I visited belonged to the Vice-President of Uganda national association who was kind enough to give a personal guided tour of the farm. The other associations seemed to just decide in an off-hand manner as to what to do that would be of interest. But all the associations accepted the proposed combined conference.

French Meat Consumption Figures

Total meat consumption in France amounted to 94.7 kg per capita during 1990, an increase of 4.2% on the quantity consumed in 1980, according to Animal Pharm (No 251, 3 May 1992). Broken down by meat type, sheep meat consumption per person in France in 1990 was 5.6 kg, 36.9% higher than in 1980. Beef, veal and horse meat were all down on 1980 figures to 24.4 kg, 5.6 kg and 1 kg respectively. No mention of frogs' legs and snails in Animal Pharm's report.

Vet. Script. March, 1993

Namibia

Centenary of Veterinary Profession in Namibia

The first veterinarian to arrive in Namibia was Dr. Wilhelm Rickmann in 1894. 1994 will thus be the Centenary of the formal introduction of veterinary science to Namibia and thus be an excellent opportunity to commemorate this occasion in particular and veterinary achievements for the past 100 years in general. Namibia Vet. Association, supported by the Veterinary Council of Namibia, has applied to the Postal Authority of Namibia for a special stamp series to be issued in 1994.

The following have been elected as Office Bearers of the Association for 1992/1993

President :

Dr. I. Schespers

Vice-President :

Dr. H. Schneider

Secretary :

Dr. J. Ndiukuwera

Congress Secretary :

Dr. A. Schmidt-Dumont

Treasurer :

Dr. R. Hassel

Additional Members :

Dr. D. Smith

Dr. K. Depner

Dr. F. Schroter

Dr. T. V.d. Merwe

Editor of The Manga :

Dr. H. Schneider

Regional Commonwealth, 5th Pan African and 11th Tanzania Veterinary Association Conference.

First Announcement and Call for Papers

The 5th Pan African Veterinary Association Conference is to be held in conjunction with the Regional Commonwealth and the 11th Tanzania Veterinary Association Scientific Conference at Arusha International Conference Centre - Tanzania from 30th November to 3rd December, 1993.

The theme of the conference shall be "Livestock Production and the African Environment". The subthemes of the conference will be:-

- (i) The Impact of Livestock Husbandry Systems on the Environment
- (ii) Science and Technology for Sustainable Livestock Development in Africa for the 21st century.
- (iii) Nutrition as a Constraint to Livestock Production in Africa
- (iv) The Impact of Diseases on Livestock Development in Africa
- (v) The Role of Private Veterinary Practice in Enhancing Livestock Productivity
- (vi) Improving Animal Productivity at Village level

Those wishing to present papers/posters should submit abstracts to:

The Chairman,

PAVA/CWVA/TVA - Scientific Committee,

Sokoine University of Agriculture,

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine,

P.O. Box 3174,

Morogoro

Tanzania,

Fax No. 010-255-56-3177/3718/3259,

Not later than 30th August, 1993.

P. Msolla,

Chairman-Tanzania Veterinary Association

Botswana Veterinary Association - A Report by Dr. M. V. Raborokgwe

The Botswana Veterinary Association held its Annual General Meeting on November 27th 1992. The meeting was held at the Botswana College of Agriculture Boardroom in the capital City of Gaborone, Botswana.

The association is made up of thirty-eight Veterinarians out of a total of forty-nine practising veterinarians in the country. The majority of the veterinarians in the country are involved in Government work either as District Veterinary Officers or lecturing at the Botswana College of Agriculture and most are employed by the Ministry of Agriculture. There are two veterinarians employed by the

Department of Wildlife and National Parks. There are also two private practitioners based in the City of Gaborone. All the Vets employed by the Ministry of Agriculture are involved in Government regulatory work, disease control and prevention as well as production of veterinary medicine especially in the wetter and more fertile South Eastern Botswana.

Twenty-seven of the forty-nine vets are expatriates from the United Kingdom, USA, Australia, Jamaica, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Ghana, Nigeria and South Africa.

The biggest problem faced by our members is the vastness of the

country in relation to our numbers. Lack of continuing education is another major problem. The association is trying to alleviate this by inviting outside experts to cover relevant topics during our Scientific conference. The next conference is to be held the week beginning Sunday 21st November, 1993.

The following were elected as office bearers of association

Dr. I.T. Ndzingo
President
Dr. M.V. Raborokgwe
Vice President
Dr. M.S. Fanikiso
Secretary/Treasurer
Dr. K.V. Masupu
Committee Member

Zimbabwe To Sell Rhino Horns

Zimbabwe is going to enter the rhino horn trade, selling to the same markets that have been responsible for the species' heading drive towards extinction.

Zimbabwe's Department of National Parks and Wildlife Management is convinced that international bans on wildlife trade have proved hopeless in stopping poaching and smuggling.

Poaching has brought the numbers of the Black Rhino in Zimbabwe, where it exists as the last big wild population in Africa, to the brink of extinction. Zimbabwe's answer is to take over the trade.

Zimbabwe is in its eighth year of Operation Stronghold, a paramilitary campaign against poachers crossing from Zambia to blast rhino with automatic weapons, hack off their horns and paddle back across the border to feed their booty into the chain of middlemen that takes the horn to the Far East, where it is sold as a powder to treat colds and fever.

Live Anim. Trade & Trans. Mag.

New Bovid In Indochina

Vietnamese scientists have described a new species of bovid - the first new large mammal to be discovered for more than 50 years - in the forests of their country's border with Laos. The animal is an antelope which belongs to no known genus and has been assigned the name *Pseudoryx nghetinhensis*.

Vu Van Dung and colleagues described the new species in a letter to Nature (June 3, p 443). So far, no live specimens of the animal have been found and the description is based on skins, skulls and teeth from about 20 specimens kept as trophies by local hunters. The authors believe that the species may have a range of about 4000 km² and estimate, from the frequency with which hunters claim to have trapped the animals, that a few hundred survive in the forests of the Nghe an and Ha tinh provinces.

The animal's name is derived from its superficial similarity to the oryx in having long straight horns and black and white facial markings,

although it is not closely related. The total bodyweight of an adult is estimated at about 100 kg and its total length from nose to anus at about 1.5 m. DNA sequencing has confirmed that the animal is unrelated to other bovid species in the region. Another Indochinese bovid, the kouprey (*Novibos sauveli*) was the last large mammalian species to be discovered, in 1937.

Vet. Record. June 12, 1993

The World Association of Wildlife Veterinarians

The World Association of Wildlife Veterinarians will have its next meeting in South Africa between the 14th and 18th of September 1993 and will be hosted by the Wildlife Group of the South African Veterinary Association. The venue will be the Kruger National Park where the symposium "The Capture, Care and Management of Threatened Mammals" will take place. Further details can be obtained from Dr. I.W. Espie, Secretary of the Wildlife Group of SAVA, 209 Clara Barea, 18 Clara Street, Pretoria 0001, South Africa.

Malawi

Scientific Conference and Annual General Meeting of Malawi Veterinary Association 1992

- Report by DO Chinombo, MVA Chairman

This year's Scientific Conference and AGM was held from 26th to 28th August, 1992 at Club Makokola in Mangochi. Various comments received from participants are suggestive that the conference was indeed a great success scientifically and socially. During the conference, the Association was again greatly honoured to have the Honourable Kangaunde, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, to perform the official opening. In his opening speech, participants were urged to be prudent in the use of various veterinary drugs and chemicals so that abuse and misuse should be minimised.

Despite the poor financial status, the Association managed to carry out a number of activities during the year eg. it managed to obtain its own postal box, launched a yearly prize (award) given to the best practical veterinary graduate of NRC, had its constitution legally accepted by the office of the Attorney General and Justice. Above all the Association successfully

launched a raffle and MK6,000 was raised. However, it is very disappointing to note that half of the members are still not dedicated and committed enough to honour their 1992 Annual subscriptions as pledged during the 1991 AGM. Sympathetic donors and coffers are hard to come by nowadays. Hence, if the Association is to sustain itself financially, more financial reliance will have to be placed on members' annual subscriptions than from traditional donors as we have done in the past.

Insufficient funds and lack of external sponsorship were constraints to MVA's representation at various scientific conferences of other associations within the region. Despite numerous invitations, only a handful were honoured. Our sincere appreciation goes to the LDE Project which managed to send MVA representatives to Mozambique and Zimbabwe and the Basic Animal Health Services Project which also sponsored one MVA representative to South Africa. On behalf of the As-

sociation, I would also like to thank Malawi Pharmacies Ltd, Cold Storage Company, CAPS and KK Millers Company for their generous financial contributions to this year's annual conference.

First Journal of Malawi Veterinary Association

Malawi Veterinary Association has launched its first Journal, **Malawi Veterinary Journal**. This Journal will be published every few months and will include scientific papers of original research, investigation and research in field of Animal Health and Production. Its Editor is Dr. Bart Adons. The journal will be sent free to all its members and for non members a subscription rate of K20.00 per annum has been fixed.

*'What we hope ever to do with
ease, we must learn first to do
with diligence'*
- Samuel Johnson

Exploiting Medicinal Plants

About two thirds of the more than 250,000 plant species in the world grow in the tropics. Only about 5,000 of these species have been comprehensively tested for their medicinal value. They include *Rauwolfia serpentina* from India, used as a tranquilliser; *Pygeum africanum* from Cameroon and Zaire, used for prostatic hypertrophy; and *Ephedra sinica* from China, used as a decongestant.

At the Seventh Asian Symposium on Medicinal Plants, Spices and Other Natural Products (ASOMPS) held in 1992 in Manila, concern was expressed about the uncontrolled collection of plant samples from the tropics, which are then taken to industrialized countries for analysis. Where they are found to be medicinally effective, patents are issued granting exclusive rights and the profits go to the person or firm who first applied for the patent. Very often plants have been collected by local botanists or folk herbalists who rarely receive credit or recognition for the important scientific contributions made.

Although third world scientists are quite capable of analysing the plants concerned and testing them, they do not have the resources to do it. It costs at least US \$200 million to develop a new drug. Examples of 'exploitation' mentioned at the symposium include a drug used to treat leukaemia developed and marketed in the United States from a flowering plant, *Catharanthus roseus* (rosy periwinkle) which grows in Madagascar. None of the profits from marketing the drug went back to Madagascar as development money, and its inhabitants probably could not afford the drug anyway.

Other examples included an effective drug for treating gastric ulcers developed from a plant growing in Thailand. It was brought to Japan by occupation forces during World War II. The plant is now grown on a mass scale by Thai farmers and exported to Japan which holds the patent rights for the drug. The bark of thousands of red stinkwood trees (*Pygeum africanum*) are exported from Cameroon and Zaire to pharmaceutical firms in France and Belgium, and 200 tons of the roots of another tree, Devil's claw, are shipped to a firm in Germany for use in a remedy for arthritis.

Common Health Oct/Dec 1992.

West Africa

Ghana's First Pharmacopoeia

As a major step towards the standardization of herbal drug preparations in Ghana, the first Ghana Pharmacopoeia has been developed and will soon be available to herbal practitioners, pharmacists and doctors.

Prof. Kwame Sarpong, Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy, UST made this known in an interview in May with the Ghana News Agency (GHA).

He stressed the importance of the pharmacopoeia and noted that lack of documentation on the uses of medicinal plants hindered the development and promotion of traditional medicine in the country.

The pharmacopoeia, he said, provided identities, sources and use of various Ghanaian herbal drugs as well as specific procedures for their preparations. It sought to ensure that medicines derived from the same plant for a particular ailment met set standards for purity and quality, he added.

Material for the pharmacopoeia was compiled by the Policy Research and Strategic Institute (PRSI) in Accra and was drawn from studies conducted by the Faculty of Pharmacy and the Centre for Scientific Research into Plant Medicine (CSRPM) at Mampong-Akuapem and some individual authorities on herbal science. (Health Courier, Volume 2 Number 3, 1992)

CPA News letter Nov. 92.

West African Commonwealth Veterinary Association/Ghana Veterinary Medical Association Conference, Accra, Ghana September 7-12, 1992.

ABSTRACTS OF PAPERS PRESENTED

Small Ruminant Production and Management - The Contribution of Nigerian Women

Sanni B.D.

Department of Veterinary Surgery and Medicine
Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria

Small Ruminant animals contribute substantially to the economy of Third World Countries as suppliers of meat and raw materials such as skin for leather industries and foreign exchange. In Nigeria, large populations of sheep and goats are found where they are largely managed under the traditional extensive system. However, there are slight modifications of the traditional system in various parts of Nigeria. African women in general and Nigerian women in particular have been known to produce, process and distribute 60-80% of the food consumed in Africa (FAO 1977). Although on a small scale, African women are also engaged in livestock and poultry production and management. In view of the current strive towards meeting the increasing demand for livestock products the participation of women in livestock production becomes very relevant.

This paper attempts to highlight the extent and significance of the contribution of women in livestock production and management in Nigeria.

Ghanaian Traditional Veterinary Interventions in Small Ruminant Production

A. Annan-Prah

Department of Animal Science, School of Agriculture, University of Cape Coast, Cape Coast, Ghana

Veterinary services are not available to every village in Ghana because of a number of constraints. A survey indicated that, in view of this, people who raise small ruminants use traditional methods and medicines to solve some of their animals' health problems.

Phyllanthus niruri, *Maratichloa flexusa*, *Lantana camara* are among plants used because of their bactericidal properties. *Carica Papaya*, *Carapa procera* and *Elaeophorbium drupifera* are used to expel worms. *Sida acuta* and *Abrus precatorius* are used in cases of dystocia and contraception respectively. *Cola nitida*, *Paulina pinata* and *Clausena aegyptica* are among plants used against viral diseases.

Problems Faced by Rural Ghanaian Women Involved in Small Ruminant Production

P.K. Turkson

Animal Science Department, School of Agriculture University of Cape Coast, Ghana

A study was undertaken to identify problems faced by rural women involved in small ruminant production in two areas in Southern Ghana. Among the problems identified were absence or inadequate veterinary and extension support services, lack of marketing avenues, no or insufficient financial support and lack of know-how in animal production and health management systems.

The implications of these findings are discussed and recommendations made.

Leprosy

Leprosy still affects between 5 and 6 million people in the world, of whom between 2 and 3 million have deformities. Although it is regarded as public health problem in 91 countries, more than 8 out of 10 of the 3.2 million known or registered cases live in just 5 countries - India (2million); Brazil (250,000); Nigeria (160,000), Myanmar (110,000) and Indonesia (100,000). However WHO estimates that the actual number of cases is about twice as much. The disease carries considerable stigma and sufferers are reluctant to report it for fear of social ostracism.

The leprosy bacillus is thought to be transmitted through nasal discharge, and possibly by skin contact. The commonest early signs include one or more white or reddish patches. Other symptoms include thickening and folding of the skin, mainly of the face and around the ears; nodules; insensitivity to pain or temperature; nerve inflammation and tissue damage which can lead to destruction of bone and other tissue. It is a slow growing organism and symptoms may not appear for up to 20 years after infection has occurred.

There was no drug treatment for the disease until the early 1940s when Dapsone was discovered. It is a weak, slow acting drug, which has to be taken daily over several years, or for life in serious cases and therefore requires strict supervision. Furthermore, if it is not taken with other anti-leprosy drugs resistance can build up. For these reasons WHO introduced multi drug therapy in 1981 which has resulted in curing more than 2 million patients in the last 5 years. Although 88% of registered patients in India are receiving multi drug therapy, the proportion in Africa is only 18%. However nearly two thirds of the world's registered patients live in India and the 12% of untreated cases amounts to 240,000 persons.

The Role of Women in the Improvement of Small Ruminant Production at the Village Level

S. Sanko, M. Mbakeh,

Gambia

Trypanotolerant cattle and small ruminants such as Djallonke sheep and Fouta Djallon goats constitute major national resource in the Gambia. With the continuous decline in annual rainfall and the resultant occasional crop failures, a substantial proportion of the rural population is beginning to rely more on small ruminants as a major means of subsistence. Development strategies to increase their overall output through simple improvements in the traditional small holder production system can significantly strengthen the rural economy and improve the nutritional standards and incomes of the rural communities. The small ruminant population was estimated at 167,443 ovine species and 190,879 caprine species (LSR 1991). Nationally, women own about 37.8% of sheep and 51% of the goats and the daily management of all the animals is generally their responsibility.

In recognition of the important role of small ruminants in the rural socio-economy - Project No. GAM/004, for the development of hitherto neglected trypanotolerant small ruminants was started with UNDP funding in May 1988 and executed by FAO.

The project emphasis was to provide sustainable strategies in the form of best husbandry and veterinary packages that are simple and cost effective for the development of small ruminants in the traditional small holder production system, taking advantage of the farmers back-ground and experience. Project implementation during the initial phase was confined to select sheep and goat owners, the majority of whom are women. The paper outlines the role of women in the implementation of sheep and goat development activities which serves as a model for other farmers in the country.

Multidrug therapy lasts for between 6 months to four years. But in February of this year large scale trials began of a now rapid multidrug therapy which combines two of the most powerful antibacterial drugs available - ofloxacin, which is a new antibiotic developed over the past 5 years, and rifampicin, which was discovered in the 1960s and has become the mainstay of standard leprosy and tuberculosis therapy. If the trials are successful the duration of treatment could be reduced to about 4 weeks, making it much more acceptable to patients who are often reluctant to continue the existing multidrug therapy lasting months or years. The new combination could be very useful for patients living in outlying communities.

UK Mediterranean

Commonwealth Helps Malta Revive Ancient Medicinal System

Anyone stealing a plant believed to cure heart disease could be jailed for two years with hard labour in Malta by the Knights of St John who ruled the Mediterranean island from 1530 to 1798.

Such was the value the country placed on plants and herbs which have traditionally been used here to cure various ailments -from coughs and fever to diabetes.

However, the centuries-old tradition has been dying out in the face of competition from modern drugs, especially among young people. Malta, where knowledge of the plants has been passed from generation to generation, is now reviving the tradition... with help from the Commonwealth Secretariat and India where ancient systems of medicine continue to be widely practised

The University of Malta has joined hands with the Secretariat's Industrial Development Unit (IDU) in project to identify plants of medicinal value and to create a computerised database.

This will be followed with the creation of a research laboratory and the launch of a herbal drug development programme, culminating in a new pharmaceutical industry.

The 400-year old university hopes to establish a centre of excellence for the study of plants of medicinal value and share it with other institutions in the Mediterranean.

Commonwealth feature - May '93

Veterinary Helpline Judged A Success

The Veterinary Helpline, set up by veterinarians to provide a confidential telephone counselling service for colleagues with professional and personal problems, has been judged a great success after completing its first year of operation.

According to Mr Bernard Wells, a Past-President of the BVA and a member of the Helpline Steering Committee, the results so far have more than justified the efforts of the BVA, the RCVs and the Veterinary Benevolent Fund in establishing the service. The steering committee met on March 24 to assess the response to the service, which began in February 1992.

The service receives an average of three calls a week from colleagues with a wide range of problems. Mr Wells said, The majority of calls have been from younger members of the profession. Unemployment among young, inexperienced veterinarians has been the largest single factor in prompting calls to date. Conflict with employers over maternity arrangements has been another source of difficulty for young female veterinarians. The 20 volunteer counsellors involved in the service have also noticed an increasing number of calls from vet-

erinary students. The steering committee intends to approach the veterinary schools to discuss how the counselling services available to students might be improved, he said. The significance of the personal and professional problems experienced by veterinarians in practice was highlighted shortly before the meeting by the publication of a study by the UK Government's Office of Population Censuses and Surveys. This examined the figures for suicides of men in the 16 to 64 age group between 1979 and 1990 and categorised these by occupation. During that period, 35 veterinarians committed suicide, three times the figure that would be expected on the basis of the national average. Pharmacists, dental practitioners and farmers were also included in the highest risk group. 'The existence of these professional groups in the high mortality category suggests that easy access to drugs which can be used for suicide is an important factor... Farmers and vets are part of a culture where very sick or distressed animals are killed. This may lead them to consider suicide more readily than other people,' the report says.

- Vet. Rec. April 10, 1993

Equine Welfare Centre

The University of Glasgow is to launch an appeal for funds to build a centre for equine welfare studies. The centre is to be named after Sir William Weipers, the former director of the university's veterinary school. The first phase

of the £5 million project is due to begin in the late spring. The university recently received a £502,000 grant from the Home of Rest for Horses to help to launch the building programme

Vet. Rec. March 27, 1993.

First impressions of a CVA Executive Meeting

- Laura Bowen
Reg. Rep. CVA UK Mediterranean



As a fledgling Regional Representative it was with some trepidation I arrived in Canada for the Executive Committee Meeting March 8-12 1993.

Even then I was not fully prepared for the full scale mental stimulation to follow.

The friendliness and support of fellow committee members helped considerably.

Debates and reports revealed the multinational and multicultural favours to follow. We were there to get a job done, to get CVA on course for the next 3 years, and to give everyone the extra high energy kickstart they would require to fulfil all of their duties.

This involved much appraisal and evaluation of recent CVA activities, followed by discussions on how to build on these and move CVA forwards. Much time was spent on reviewing CVA and assessing how to facilitate communication and resource utilization to strengthen the association.

I have rarely worked so hard for a week and felt, with justifiable satisfaction, that we had managed to achieve so much.

These achievements went beyond the working day. In the evenings we were guests at several functions where we waved the CVA banner proudly. This included a reception for Commonwealth High Commissioners to Canada in the splendid buildings of the Houses of Parliament. In complete contrast to this classic grandeur was the National Art Gallery, an architects dream in modernist lines with an abundance of light and views of Ottawa. An excellent choice of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association when they hosted a dinner in our honour. All excellent interludes to the hardcore business of CVA. All served to inspire me and to ensure my interest in CVA remains at a peak for the coming year.

And now when anyone asks me "what is CVA" I say well,..... I have confidence in CVA.

Edinburgh School to Celebrate Dick's Bicentenary

The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies is to celebrate the bicentenary of the birth of its founder, William Dick, with a series of events from July 7 to 10.

The Dick' is Britain's second oldest veterinary school, after the Royal Veterinary College, London, which celebrated the bicentenary of its opening in 1991. The Edinburgh school was opened in 1823 and, after Dick's death in 1866, was bequeathed in trust to the town council. It was incorporated into the University of Edinburgh in 1951 and was established as a faculty of the university in 1964.

The celebrations will begin with a special graduation ceremony on July 7, at which this year's graduates will receive their degrees in the presence of the school's patron, HRH the Princess Royal. In the afternoon the school's field station at Easter Bush will host an open day highlighting the work of the school and its contribution to the advancement of the profession.

July 9 and 10 will be given over to 'state of the art' symposia involving a number of international speakers.

A Small Animal Symposium will feature the contributions on the diagnosis and treatment of diseases of dogs and cats by speakers from the UK, the Netherlands and France.

An Equine Symposium will include talks on foal diseases, equine clinical neurophysiology, orthopaedic farriery, peptic ulcer disease and cardiac murmurs, by speakers from the USA and the UK.

A farm animal symposium will include presentations on digital dermatitis, neonatal septicaemia and recent advances in reproduction, by speakers from London, the USA and Dublin.

A Special Wildlife Symposium will be held on July 9. In addition, the festivities will include a number of social events for graduates of the school and other members of the profession: reunion dinners for each graduation year, a bicentenary concert and a gala dinner. **Vel. Rec. May 1, 1993**

Corrigendum

In our CVA News Vol. 8 No.1 Jan. 1993 p. 12 it had been mentioned that Dr. Muhammad Yaqoob Bhatti, President Pakistan Vet. Assoc. had been appointed as the Director General of Veterinary Services in Pakistan. This is incorrect. The error is regretted. - Editor

European Veterinarians Meet To Discuss FMD Control Measures

Veterinarians from all over Europe met in Paris on March 19 to examine how they might co-operate to prevent the further spread of an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Italy.

The origins of the outbreak, first reported in the province of Potenza on March 2, are still unknown. By March 21, 40 outbreaks had been reported and thousands of animals slaughtered and incinerated.

The meeting was organised by the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) and was attended by state veterinarians from as far afield as Norway and Turkey, as well as representatives of other organisations including the European Commission and the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation.

The theory that the disease reached Italy in a consignment of cattle from Croatia could not be confirmed at the meeting. Dr Petrak, head of the Croatian veterinary services, produced health certificates which accompanied these animals. He said that these had been altered by cattle traders who were now under arrest. However, Dr Alex Donaldson, head of the OIE reference laboratory, Pirbright, was able to confirm that the virus involved was a type O1 strain. The nearest source of this strain was in the Middle East, he said.

At present no European country is considering a return to vaccination as a control policy against FMD. Assurances were also made by representatives at the meeting that some of the trade barriers erected by various countries to prevent the introduction of the disease would now be removed. In the meantime, the OIE has been asked to co-ordinate a stricter system for disease surveillance and information exchange. It will also be examining the question of how to prevent the

falsification of international animal health certificates.

Restrictions imposed on a farm in Northern Ireland following a suspected outbreak of FMD have now been lifted, according to the province's department of agriculture. The suspected incident involved a group of young dairy heifers which arrived from Italy on March 5. Four animals later developed mouth ulcers but tests at the AFRC's Pirbright Laboratory have shown that these were caused by bovine viral diarrhoea virus.

Veterinary Record, April 3, 1993

BVA Congress VET '93, 20-22 September, 1993

The British Veterinary Association looks forward to welcoming delegates to its Annual Congress to be held from 20-22 September 1993 at the Edinburgh Conference Centre, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh - one of the world's most beautiful capital cities.

Congress Programme

This year's programme is divided into 3 sections with a mixture of sessions on current affairs as well as lectures concentrating on updating the scientific knowledge of veterinary surgeons. In a new approach to the scientific programme both the In Practice editorial team and the Scottish CPD unit were invited to suggest sessions which would appeal to the practitioner. The In Practice programme endeavours to bring the flavour of this popular veterinary publication to a conference programme covering a broad range of subjects on cats, horses, exotic animals and small animals with an added dimension of quizzes and puzzles thrown in for good measure.

The Scottish CPD programme on Monday 20 September takes veterinary response to emergencies as its theme with sessions on equine emergencies, small animal emergencies and the veterinary

response to the Shetland Oil spill disaster. *In vitro* fertilisation in cattle will also be discussed as well as advances in genetic improvements in cattle.

The current affairs programme will concentrate on matters affecting the veterinary profession and their farming clients with a mixture of speakers from veterinary and agricultural backgrounds. A range of topics will be covered including medicines, the free movement of animals, problems faced by OVSS and the effects of EC policies on farming.

For further information please contact the BVA Congress Office, Westrade Fairs Ltd, 28 Church Street, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD3 1DD.

Queen's Award For Pitman-Moore

Pitman-Moore has won the 1993 Queen's Award for Technological Achievement, for its Autoworm pulse release cattle worming bolus.

The bolus consists of five tablets of oxfendazole anthelmintic in a soluble core protected by inert sealing washers. After being administered orally using a specially designed balling gun, the bolus lodges in the animal's rumen. It produces bursts of the anthelmintic agent at roughly three weekly intervals during its effective life of three months.

The company says that the product achieves a delicate balance between controlling the worm burden effectively and allowing a degree of exposure between pulses essential to the development of natural immunity. The product was launched in 1987 and the company reports that it has a 60 per cent share of the cattle worming bolus market.

Vet Rec. May 15, 1993.

General Articles

The Quacks, The Cow and The Vet.

Many arms had been shoved in. Many Twenty, to be precise, given that both the left and the right arms got equal opportunities to try their luck. In all, six people tried once. Four out of these six ventured in twice but still came out emptyhanded. What could blind arms see? It was like a motor mechanic trying to extract a decayed tooth.

Unknown to Chitundu, his neighbours were using his cow as an object of amusement. Even people returning from Kufase's opaque beer get-together across Musangazi river "went in" too with uncleaned arms, more to feel the warmth than to assist the poor cow. When everybody present and those passing by had tried, failed and conceded defeat, Mutani the agricultural extension worker (A.E.W) advised Chitundu, the cow owner, to go to town and look for an animal doctor. That was how a vet was involved.

The Vet was an ideal person to sort out the confusion, clean up the mess and receive the blame, should anything go wrong. So, in sheer desperation, nearing panic, and because Chitundu specifically cherished that particular cow, a Vet was asked to go and save the high milk producer (4L/day), the best drought animal in the herd of six, and Chintundi's wounded pride.

Mildred lay on lateral recumbency. Using the subjective 1-5 body-condition scoring (BCS) system, she was wellfed (BCS 4), she looked tired and understandably dejected but her eyes ap-

peared alert with a faint hint of forlorn anxiety. The cow was in full control of all reflexes. Following a cursory examination both the UGS and the AC were confirmed to be functioning normally. Considering the species of the animal, the estimated age and time of day, TPR fell within the accepted ranges. However, the tortuous, serpentine, struggling spoor had a long, unpleasant, maternity story to relate, authenticated by the onset of raw decubitus wounds on all bony prominences.

There was neither a blade of cut grass in front of Mildred nor a dish of concentrate, nor a bowl of water. Nobody seemed to have remembered to provide a ramshackle shade over the cow which was eagerly pushing the cantankerous calf to no avail. Bruised vulval lips were enlarged three times their usual size. A waft of rich smell of decomposing flesh filled my nostrils while green bottle flies whined and hovered around with menacing interest like war bombers.

The crowd mainly men in working clothes, began to swell around me and the ill-fated cow. They were speaking in hushed tones like mourners waiting for the pastor to conduct the "... dust to dust ..." ceremony. Women firmly clutching babies, formed a different group (from the man's) mixed with wide-eyed toddlers and infants. They were standing at a safe distance away as if the cow was going to stand up and charge in retaliation for being neglected and poked at disgracefully.

As I entered into my uniform (armless deep green overall and black Bata gumboots) my hopes were not very high. After assembling all the necessary obstetrical cutlery and utensils including an embryotomy wire (just in case ...) I knelt down on both knees as if preparing for a pre-service Sunday confession. I adopted a left-side lateral recumbency vulnerably placing my face a few inches from the terminal end of the GIT.

Watching all this ritual, were four mongrels lying paws and heads forward. Occasionally, the dogs angrily, snapped at flies which they swallowed effortlessly. Nearby the rest of the herd stood wearing curious, caring almost comical expressions on their faces except one brown, small-statured, Lyre-horned, indigenous bull which pawed the ground and bellowed zealously as if challenged by another bull.

One calf was present. Dead. It was diving into the pelvic inlet alright but both front legs were withdrawn. The cervical bones were flexed 90 degrees towards the right-side of the dam. There was no cephalo-pelvic disproportion except that emphysema had set in. Righting the malposition was easy and the cow did the rest of the job using strong explosive forces assisted gently by calving ropes. Over-joyed, Chitundu gave Mildred a congratulatory pat on the head. I was rewarded with what sounded like a genuine "thank you"

As I tried in vain to deodorize from my arms a persistent

blended odour of rancid foetal fluids and denatured blood. I loudly recited my pessimism about the fate of the cow and chided the quacks for their uninformed "assistance". My bill, I said, was 100 in devalued Zimbabwean dollars. That was at 10.31 am on a sunny Monday of September 1986. . .

I arrived at my office at 07.30 hours the next day. Waiting for me were 3 familiar - looking people whom I could not quickly remember. They did not seem to have made an effort to change their working attire before coming into town. And because their wrinkled faces appeared unwashed (for the Day), I concluded that they probably left in extreme hurry - may be rushing to catch the pre-dawn rural bus. The expression (infact, lack of expression) on their faces caused me great concern and mild worry. Perching gingerly on the edge of the chair I wondered what their mission was. Chitundu rescued me:

"The cow you TRIED to assist yesterday died overnight".

He stressed "tried" and spoke very slowly like a high court judge passing a death sentence to an incorrigible juvenile delinquent. I looked from one face to another starting from the left to the right and back again. Then I attempted to count my fingers but somehow they did not add up to 10. I kept getting mixed up at 6.

I was wondering what to do next Chitundu spoke again?

"Could I sell the meat"?

"I choked. Outwardly, I heaved a sigh of relief quite aware that I did not know how to answer the question professionally without being rude or blamed for intransigence. The ringing telephone saved my day.

"The EEC visitors have arrived",

my secretary announced.

I excused myself, and left the office in exaggerated hurriedness. I do not know the fate of the Worringham (Sub-urban Bulawayo) meat. But I am sure that because the quacks contributed substantially to the death of the cow, the Vet was not paid.

*** The names, except Worringham and Bulawayo, are fictitious.**

The intention of this article, presented in a lighter mood, is to underscore the trials and tribulations the Veterinary profession and the professionals encounter in the bid to make in-roads into rural, resettlement and co-operative livestock farming areas where tradition, culture and "ignorance" impede or counteract the developmental forces of change.

In a country (Zimbabwe) where there is dearth of affordable meat and where money is fast losing its value like other developing countries, livestock appreciate in value daily; yet professional efforts to introduce primary animal health care into these societies are received almost grudgingly or resisted despite that state veterinary delivery systems and services in Zimbabwe are virtually free (Subsidized) to date.

The Quacks, The Cow and The Vet epitomizes clash of interests, uninformed collusion and an ill-fated attempt to seek professional assistance and guidance which is not always chargeable

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Plants Rights

Waving pickets reading "Veggie Liberation," "Save the Sprouts," and "Roots Have Rights," a group of plants-rights activists dressed as giant fruits and vegetables protested the "Animals Ball," a vegetarian dinner at the Willard Hotel, Washington, USA

The dinner, in honor of the inauguration of President Bill Clinton, was hosted by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PeTA), a group that seeks to abolish meat and enforce vegetarianism.

PeTA was expected to raise over \$100,000 from the sold-out dinner, which was attended by several Hollywood celebrity PeTA supporters.

"Profiting from the slaughter of tender sweet corn and baby peas is cruelty and abuse in the service of greed," said "Rudy Rutabega," leader of the protest. "PeTA's promotion of animal rights, while murdering and cannibalizing innocent plants, is utter hypocrisy," he added. "It's like racism, a classic example of the animal kingdom exploiting the oppressed vegetative nations of the earth."

"PeTA tries to turn people off meat by asking 'Did your food have a face?'" explained Mr. Rutabega. "We just want to ask, 'Does your food have a head like lettuce, or eyes like a potato?'"

"Plants are not ours to eat, wear, or prune! They don't harm anyone; they just mind their own business. Animals should just eat one another, and leave plants alone," he added. "I won't even wear cotton."

Mr. Rutabega, who claims to be photosynthetic, is spokesman for the militant Artichoke Liberation Front (ALF). In a daring pre-dawn raid on the Willard kitchen, the ALF liberated several fruits and vegetables that were slated to be sliced and diced. The raiders spraypainted "Tofu is dead" and left their calling card, a picture of a venus flytrap eating a fly.

The demonstration is supported by Putting People First, a Washington-based citizens organization dedicated to the humane and responsible use of animals.

Putting People First, January, 1993.

Agricultural Extension For Women Farmers.

Are Women Important in Agricultural Production?

Women contribute heavily to agriculture in the developing world, especially in the production of food for the household. FAO, IFAD and other international agencies estimate that women account for 70 to 80 percent of household food production in Sub-Saharan Africa, 65 percent in Asia, and 45 percent in Latin America and the Caribbean. Women are also active in post-harvest activities, in livestock production, and increasingly in cash-cropping. Compared to men, women are generally involved in a wider range of crops, livestock, and agro-based activities, and perform a wider range pre-planting and post-harvest tasks. Furthermore, women's agricultural activities are changing as mounting demographic pressure on land, and environmental degradation result in increased rural poverty and male migration off the farm in search of wage employment. Increasingly, the farmer in the developing world is a woman.

What Constrains Women's Agricultural Productivity?

Women farmers have particular difficulty raising their productivity because:

- They have less access than men do to information, resources, and even markets.
- Technologies for crops women farmers grow are relatively undeveloped.
- Land tenure tends to be vested in men. Occasionally there is a legal condition; often it reflects socio-cultural norms and

Many women spend several hours a day collecting fuel, water, and fodder. Cheap transport and other technologies are lacking.

- Women's substantially greater illiteracy and lower school enrollment rates hamper their access to and ability to understand technical information.

- Women have limited access to credit and inputs because of formal laws, lack of collateral, social factors, and the criteria for participation in credit and cooperative groups.

- Rural women often lack incentives to increase productivity. Husbands frequently control the income derived from women's labor, and low food crop prices and poor market infrastructure may differentially hamper women.

Technical knowledge and extension strategies that are appropriate to women must take account of these constraints. This is the challenge for research and extension.

Do Extension Services Help Women Farmers?

The major instrument public agencies use to disseminate agricultural knowledge to farmers is Agricultural Extension. Even where farmers face problems getting credit and inputs, extension programs can increase agricultural productivity and rural incomes by bridging the gap between new technological knowledge and farmers' actual practices. (Of course the impact of extension will be that much greater when credit and inputs are available). Agricultural technology in the developing world is too often designed and dissemi-

ners receive extension advice, practical and effective approaches can help to reach these women.

What Changes are Needed in Extension?

Use Gender Analysis. To reach women farmers with appropriate messages and technologies, research and extension services must understand what work men and women do in agriculture:

- **Activities.** Who within the household carries out which tasks?

- **Resources and constraints.** Who has access to and control of resources? How do the constraints under which men and women operate differ? What specific measures would enable men or women to increase their productivity and income? What would the likely cost and impact of these measures be?

- **Benefits.** What are the incentives for different family members to produce specific outputs?

Develop Technology Suitable for Women Farmers.

Research should be conducted within the farming and social context of women farmers. Better technologies are needed for women, that recognize their production objectives and constraints, including the burden of household and other chores.

Improve Information Delivery.

Some cultures prohibit male extension agents from working with female farmers, and in any culture, communication with women farmers is often easier for fem-

ary and agricultural schools and by cultural restrictions on women's employment. Recruitment can be encouraged by modifying selection criteria, improving training facilities, employment and living conditions for women, retraining female rural agents, and encouraging girls to enroll in agricultural schools.

The relatively few female agents should be used to facilitate contact between male agents and women farmers, to encourage women's groups, and to promote gender awareness in all agents through training. Male agents may need special incentives to work with women farmers, and training in gender analysis, awareness and communication methods.

Groups are a cost-effective way to deliver extension to farmers. Many cultural difficulties are alleviated when male agents work with women's groups rather than with individuals. Moreover, women tend to speak out more freely in single-sex groups.

Most rural communities have a tradition of women's groups that exchange labor, mobilize savings and credit, and cooperate in social and ceremonial activities. Working with existing groups is better than starting new ones. Groups should select their own leaders. Female agents can work with groups of women farmers and help women develop confidence and deal with extension system. Female agents can then introduce the group to a male agent and move on to other groups. Bias against women should be avoided in the selection of contact farmers and group members. Better com-

munication skills may be needed.

The media should be accessible and the messages understandable to all farmers. Radios and TVs are often located where only men congregate; and audio-visual programs are useful only to women who understand the language being used. Women, who are more often illiterate than men, may not be able to read printed matter.

Child care obligations, domestic and productive activities, and cultural mores limit women's participation in extension activities. More women will attend if they find programs valuable and if activities are at convenient times and locations. Restricting extension activities to the most productive geographic areas may also discriminate against women farmers.

Obtain and Respond to Feedback.

Extension programs should be required (and monitored) to encourage feedback from farmers on extension messages and methodology. Because women farmers' needs are even less likely than men's to be communicated to researchers and managers, feedback must be encouraged and heeded. Feedback can be through the extension service or through organizations of rural women, or both. Continuous monitoring of the extension program helps manage, guide and modify program interventions.

Innovative or pilot projects should be evaluated and adjusted so that successful features can be expanded. Adjustment may include changes in the criteria for select-

ing farmers or group members or for eligibility to receive credit, as well as changes in the timing and location of extension activities or the medium of communication.

Recommendations

If extension projects are to help women farmers, they should be tailored to local socio-cultural conventions and be flexible enough to respond to changing circumstances, deficiencies in the original design, and the situation of women farmers. Projects should be able to expand successful strategies and test promising approaches. Successful project preparation requires understanding women's role in farming, their information needs, and how these needs can be satisfied.

Where extension does not reach women, the following steps will help to involve women more effectively:

- Gender analysis to guide the development of technologies and extension strategies to help women farmers.
- Project design tailored to local traditions and explicitly targeting women farmers.
- Projects that include: pilot schemes for women farmers to identify appropriate strategies and interventions for implementation on a larger scale, an unallocated fund earmarked for activities that will assist women farmers, and someone with responsibility for gender issues on project appraisal and supervision missions.

- *Widline, Population and Human Resources Department No.3 March 1992*

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The Elephant

Members of the Commission of World Scientists gaze at a bewildering sight, brought to us by television, using cameras equipped with close-up lenses of inordinate power.

The picture pans across a greyish, striated surface, a vista of solid in space, broken here and there by fissures, sometimes curving, sometimes obscured by flat shadows. Nothing moves, nothing grows on the barren area. The harsh roughness of the sight hints at a silent, empty mass, an outer skin as of a larva or a pachyderm, gnarled as though with immemorial age.

As we watch, the American commentator's voice sets the scene of this documentary report:

"From the beginning of time, man has consistently and untiringly explored his environment, he has striven to extend the threshold of his knowledge, even driving probes deep into outer space..."

The British voice of the Chairman of the Commission is now heard, as the pictures of the object alternate, the angles varying, to give as complete a view as possible of the intimidating, silent bulk:

"What we are considering here is the er, topography of the outer husk, as it were, the skin of the, er, bulk of a mass whose characteristics are..."

Now fades in the matter-of-fact report of the laboratory astro-physicist, giving a fragment of his results:

"...Microscopic section of this undoubtedly organic material betray a cellular structure strikingly akin to Dermic tissue."

The viewers can hear sounds corresponding with the laboratory operation. The astro-physicist continues:

"Staining the section with Von Glauben's Fluid..."

He is interrupted, for this is a democratic discussion.

The German Scientist's rejoinder is clearly heard:

"Von Glaubean's Fluid? May I point out that this was found to be a totally arbitrary method in early nineteen hundred and sixty-three, when it was superseded by Kauffer and Blakmann's Traumatic Method. It is totally out of date."

The Chairman, like all good chairman, switches the discussion to bring in another constructive scientist:

"Er, no, yes, er, quite; however, pending further corroboration, er, to resume, we can be safe, and, indeed, germane, in asking Professor Markarjee to give us some data on the basis of his Indian experiences with this material."

Dr. Markarjee is brisk and to the point:

"I can categorically state that positively this material cannot be conclusively classified by conventional categorization. All personnel engaged in the combined Calcutta and Benares project were objective in their subjectivity because they had been subjected to an

intense programme of induced Nirvana. It is also incumbent upon me to say..."

But time is running short, and the director of the programme fades in the unemotional voice of the American Space Expert, to give another view:

"We have recently found that the radio-carbon/90 dating of this material gives us one-two-three years on the relative timescale with a calculated error of plus or minus six point-zero. Tensile strength is directly proportional to bulk and destruct temperature demonstrates little resistance. Since this material cannot be milled or rolled, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration considers it unsuitable for the fabrication of nose-cones. It is therefore declassified".

Now for the radio-astronomer's results:

"We have definitely established that it is not a quasi-stellar source of radio propagation, but by employing our double-basin transmitter we have been able to record marked scatter, and it could conceivably be used as a selective reflector, if a substance with these characteristics were needed for advanced and extremely specialized work".

The German Scientist, asked for his opinion again, remarks:

"But Kauffer and Blakmann have consistently shown that cellular differentiation can be more accurately demonstrated by high-magnetic differential illumination and spectroscopic micro-analysis".

The Chairman feels that the time has come to bring the programme to a graceful end:

"Ah, well, er. I think that, er, we can all safely conclude that while knowing nothing of the overall picture, all evidence tends to suggest that the specific material in question, while not static and - seemingly - singularly obstructive and of a rather fibrous character, will undoubtedly reveal itself in its own good time: and, indeed, take its rightful place in the scheme of things".

The camera zoom-lenses are beginning to retreat as the American Commentator gives his final ringing phrase:

"...And will eventually fall before Man's ever-questing search".

While the credit lists of participants are being rolled across the picture, it is possible to see that the lenses have retracted to such an extent that, for the first time, the whole of the object, not just its skin, is visible. It is a large, African, elephant.

But the Motto of the Institute of Comparative Dermatography now nearly obscures the picture, getting larger as we read:

The Parts Are Greater Than The Whole

Dr. J. Pearson, Veterinary School, Univ. of Qld. Australia, in Parasitology Tomorrow March '92.

News & Abstracts

Effects of Exercise On Immune Functions Of Horses

Four three to seven-year-old clinically normal thoroughbreds were used to assess the effect of a single bout of intense exercise on their immune functions. An increase in the serum cortisol concentration and an increase in the neutrophil/lymphocyte ratio of the horses indicated that they had been stressed. The chemotactic index and the peak luminol-dependent chemiluminescence of their neutrophils had decreased significantly one day after the exercise, but the mitogen-induced blastogenesis of their lymphocytes and their serum immunoglobulin level remained unchanged. These results indicated that a single bout of exercise impaired the antimicrobial functions of the neutrophils and the non-specific defence mechanisms of the horses for a short time, but that it had no effect on their specific immune mechanisms.

Wong, C.W., Smith, S.E., Thong, Y.H., Opdebeeck, J.P. & Thornton, J.R. American Journal of Veterinary Research 53, 1414, 1992

Pet Ownership And Risk Factors For Cardiovascular Disease In People

Anderson *et al* (1992) undertook a study to see if there was a basis for public health claims that pet ownership is beneficial in preventing heart disease. They argued that if this were so, pet owners might have lower levels of the known risk factors for cardiovascular disease. On the surface, this seemed unlikely given the large number of known and unknown factors that affect blood pressure and plasma lipids. However, they found that pet owners ($n = 784$) attending the Baker Medical Research Institute in Melbourne had lower systolic blood pressures and plasma triglyceride concentrations, and in men triglyceride concentrations were 13% lower in pet owners and cholesterol concentrations were 2% lower, compared with those who did not own a pet ($n = 4957$). The differences were not explicable on the basis of cigarette smoking, diet, body mass index or socio-economic profile.

These differences are modest but it is worth noting that epidemiological evidence suggests that there may be a two-fold reduction in the risk of cardiovascular mortality for a 1% reduction in total cholesterol concentration.

The authors did not attribute the differences necessarily to pet ownership itself, because they could not be certain that the two groups were comparable samples of the general population. However, they concluded that the possibility that pet ownership reduces cardiovascular risk factors should be investigated.

**Anderson WP, Reid CM and Jennings GL
Med J Aust 157:298, 1992**

The Use Of Magnetic Resonance Imaging In The Diagnosis Of Neurological Disease

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) data were correlated with clinical and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) findings in one cat and two dogs with brain lesions. In all three cases, localization of the lesions, as determined clinically, was confirmed using MRI. Magnetic resonance imaging also helped us to define the full extent of the lesion(s) in each case. In one case, the lesion would have been diagnosed as purely inflammatory based on the abnormalities in the CSF. The MRI study, however, showed a homogeneous mass with circumferential changes characteristic of peritumoral edema or inflammation. In two cases, the MRI findings were confirmed at necropsy. An MRI study was also done on a normal dog, demonstrating the variable contrast and anatomical detail possible using this technique. We also discuss difficulties in identifying tumor type using MRI.

Wendy A. Stewart, Joane M-L, Parent, Rheal A. Towner, Howard Dobson, Canadian Veterinary Journal 33:585-90, 1992



**Dr. William Amanfu
New Regional
Representative
- West Africa**

Warning Pregnant Women During Lambing

The Department of Health and the Agriculture Departments of Great Britain have advised pregnant women who come into close contact with ewes during lambing periods that they may risk their own health and that of their unborn child from an infection which can occur in some ewes. This infection is caused by the organism, *Chlamydia psittaci*, which is the most common cause of abortion in ewes.

Although the number of reported human miscarriages resulting from this infection is extremely small, the Health and Agriculture Departments believe it is important that pregnant women are made aware of the potential risks.

To avoid the possible risk of infection, pregnant women are advised that they should:

- not help to lamb or milk ewes and should avoid contact with aborted or new-born lambs or with the afterbirth;
- seek medical advice if they experience fever or influenza-like symptoms after coming into contact with sheep.

Farmers should take any necessary steps to minimise the risks to pregnant women. If a ewe aborts, farmers are advised to ask their veterinary surgeon to take a sample along to their local Ministry Veterinary Investigation Centre to determine the cause. In the interests of hygiene, farmers should dispose of all after births promptly and safely.

Live Animal Trade Transport Magazine - March '93

Monkeys in AIDS Cure

In a development that could greatly assist research on AIDS vaccines, scientists have discovered an animal that can be infected with the AIDS virus and that gets sick, just as people do. The animal is *Macaca nemestina*, a light brown south-east Asian monkey, commonly known as the "pigtail macaque". The only other animal known to be susceptible to HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, is the chimpanzee. But chimps do not actually develop the disease; also, unlike the macaque, chimps are an endangered species, expensive and difficult to raise. Thousands of monkeys will be needed for the expected vaccine research in the next several years. Human tests of AIDS vaccines will begin in 1994. The World Health Organization has struck agreements with two African countries as well as Thailand and Brazil to conduct experiments in which thousands of uninfected people will be vaccinated. They will then be monitored to see if the number that would be expected to become infected without the vaccine actually do become infected or are protected by the vaccine.

NY Times, 6/12/92.

Hunger Kills Sarajevo Zoo's Last Animal

The last animal in the Sarajevo zoo, a brown bear, has died of starvation.

"We took him some bread, an apple, but he was too weak to eat them... He died the next day," said zoo worker Pal Takac. "I was sad to see him die after all these months, but at least his suffering is over."

The bear survived longer than any other animal in captivity at the zoo in the Bosnian capital, under siege for seven months, by eating two other bears that shared its cage.

The cage is just 100 yards from the lines of Sarajevo's Serbian besiegers and has been exposed to regular sniper and mortar fire.

"We tried to feed the bear as often as we could, but when the leaves fell from the trees it was nearly impossible because the snipers could see us easily," said Mr. Takac, 60.

One zookeeper was shot dead by a sniper and another wounded attempting to feed the animals. The carcasses of lions, tigers, leopards and bears clutter cages in the main animal house near the Serbian lines.

Zoo workers say giraffes, eagles and wolves died months ago.

An American animal-rights activist recently arrived in the Croatian capital of Zagreb, intent on rescuing the bear. He abandoned his mission when U.N. and government authorities refused to give him the credentials necessary to travel through the Bosnian war zone to Sarajevo.

Peacocks still wander the zoo grounds, their shrill cries rending the air along with the crack of sniper fire and the crash of mortars.

Ponies occasionally are glimpsed grazing on a nearby hillside controlled by Serbian forces.

But for all the caged animals in Sarajevo's zoo, the siege is over.

The Washington Times, Nov. 4, 1992

Cleanliness, Godliness, and 'Ecological Sins'

Germany's passionate concern to make every citizen a paragon of ecological virtue started a stink when an official condemned daily showers as a threat to the environment. The official, Klaus Matthiesen, boasted that he saves hot water by only showering once a week, said Deutsche Presse Agentur in a report distributed by Scripps Howard News Service. The newspaper Bild Zeitung asked how he avoided body odor and was told he sponges himself with a washcloth other days.

Mr. Matthiesen, environment minister of North Rhine Westphalia, said a lot of water and heat could be saved if all Germans followed his lead. A daily shower is "an ecological sin," he said.

The Washington Times, July 8, 1992

Tackling Rural Poverty

Many Commonwealth countries are poor and face acute problems, including excessive population growth, crushing poverty, debt burdens and environmental degradation.

- Harare Commonwealth Declaration October 1991

The concern of Commonwealth Heads of Government over growing poverty is expressed more dramatically in statistics; a billion people, representing a fifth of the world, live in absolute poverty; 900 million adults are unable to read or write; 800 million people go hungry every day; 150 million children under 5 years of age are malnourished; 14 million children die each year before their fifth birthdays. About two-thirds of the undernourished live in South Asia and a fifth in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Worse is to come. World Bank forecasts predict that absolute numbers of poor in Sub-Saharan Africa are expected to rise from 85 million in 1985 to 265 million by the year 2000. That region's per capita GDP growth in the year 2000 is expected to be lower than in 1985.

The decades-long battle against poverty has simply made little headway. The theory that the benefits of enlarging the economic cake would 'trickle down' to the poorest sectors has largely been discredited. Sectoral policies centering on improving agriculture, health, education, transport and the like have fared better but have often lacked specific direction of benefit to the poor most. Redistributive measures, particularly through land reform, have often stumbled over legislation loopholes and the narrow interests of elite sectors.

Many economists describe the 1980s as a 'lost decade' for efforts to alleviate poverty. Many countries opted for enlarging the economic cake by pursuing export-led or industry-led strategies and neglecting their agricultural sectors. There was little or no 'trickle down' effect and poverty became more widespread. - SPORE, Feb '92

Coconut Milk For Malaria Control

For countries like Peru, the economic costs, and the logistics required for mass spraying campaigns against malaria are very limited. There would be a clear advantage for any program that relied on self-directed community action.

Can people modify environmental parameters to reduce health risks? This was the question posed by scientists at the Alexander von Humboldt Tropical Medicine Institute in Lima, Peru. There has been increasing interest on the part of public health officials for using bacterial insecticide to control malaria. It is environmentally safe and deadly only to target organisms such as mosquito and black fly larvae. However, there are logistical problems with its distribution, mainly because of its biological nature (storage, production, shelf life, etc). How could this novel technology be transferred effectively to people in communities in a way that would empower them to reduce the environmental health risk posed by malaria?

The research team developed an innovative and low cost approach to making *Bacillus thuringiensis var. israelensis* (Bti) available cheaply in communities where malaria is endemic. The technology focused on using locally available coconuts to grow the biological insecticide. Research demonstrated that coconut water was a good culture medium for Bti. The research team demonstrated that whole coconuts could be inoculated directly with Bti and that laboratory conditions were not necessary. This opened the door to implementing the strategy in the field. Research has shown that two or three inoculated coconuts produce enough Bti to maintain a small, shallow pond free of mosquito larvae for 45 days. A prototype kit for inoculating coconuts was devised.

Health and the Environment IDRC Canada 1992.

CALENDAR - 1993

The Surgery Chapter of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientist (ACVSc)
5th - 9th July Sunshine Coast, Queensland, Australia

45th Annual Convention of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association
7th - 10th July Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

10th Congress of World Veterinary Poultry Association 16th - 19th August, Sydney,
Australia

IXth International Congress of Virology 8th - 13th August, Glasgow, U.K.

New Zealand Veterinary Association Conference 24th - 28th August, Taupo,
New Zealand

Federation of Asian Veterinary Associations & North Western Pacific Veterinary
Conference 20th - 24th August, Darwin N.T. Australia.

World Small Animal Veterinary Association Meeting, 6th - 9th October, Berlin
Germany

11th International Symposium of World Association of Veterinary Food Hygienists
24th - 29th October, Bangkok, Thailand

World Congress on Alternatives and Animal Use in the Life Sciences
14th - 19th November, Baltimore, U.S.A.

International Symposium on Virus Cell Interaction 22nd - 24th November, Bangalore,
India.

1994

Australian Veterinary Association National Conference 6th - 11th March, Canberra,
Australia

7th International Conference on Equine Infectious Diseases 8th - 11th June, Tokyo,
Japan.

IVth World Buffalo Congress 27th - 30th June, Sao Paulo, Brazil.

13th International Pig Veterinary Society Conference 26th - 30th June, Bangkok,
Thailand.

World Small Animal Veterinary Association meeting 22nd - 28th October, Durban,
South Africa

1995

British Small Animal Veterinary Association (BSAVA) Annual Meeting, 6th - 9th April,
U.K.

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