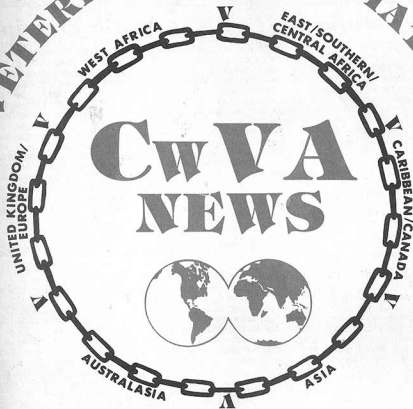


COMMONWEALTH VETERINARY ASSOCIATION



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



The Commonwealth is a voluntary association of independent sovereign states, consulting and co-operating with each other in the interests of all their peoples and in the promotion of international understanding and world peace

The Declaration of Commonwealth Principles

The Commonwealth of Nations is a voluntary association of independent sovereign states, each responsible for its own policies, consulting and co-operating in the common interests of their peoples and in the promotion of international understanding and world peace.

Members of the Commonwealth come from territories in the six continents and five oceans, include peoples of different races, languages and religions, and display every stage of economic development from poor developing nations to wealthy industrialised nations. They encompass a rich variety of cultures, traditions and institutions.

Membership of the Commonwealth is compatible with the freedom of member governments to be non-aligned or to belong to any other grouping, association or alliance. Within this diversity all members of the Commonwealth hold certain principles in common. It is by pursuing these principles that the Commonwealth can continue to influence international society for the benefit of mankind.

We believe that international peace and order are essential to the security and prosperity of mankind; we therefore support the United Nations and seek to strengthen its influence for peace in the world, and its efforts to remove the causes of tension between nations.

We believe in the liberty of the individual, in equal rights for all citizens regardless of race, colour, creed or political belief, and in their inalienable right to participate by means of free and democratic political processes in framing the society in which they live. We therefore strive to promote in each of our countries those representative institutions and guarantees for personal freedom under the law that are our common heritage.

We recognise racial prejudice as a dangerous sickness threatening the healthy development of the human race and racial discrimination as an un-

mitigated evil of society. Each of us will vigorously combat this evil within our own nation. No country will afford to regimes which practise racial discrimination assistance which in its own judgment directly contributes to the pursuit or consolidation of this evil policy.

We oppose all forms of colonial domination and racial oppression and are committed to the principles of human dignity and equality. We will therefore use all our efforts to foster human equality and dignity everywhere, and to further the principles of self-determination and non-racialism.

We believe that the wide disparities in wealth now existing between different sections of mankind are too great to be tolerated. They also create world tensions. Our aim is their progressive removal. We therefore seek to use our efforts to overcome poverty, ignorance and disease, in raising standards of life and achieving a more equitable international society.

To this end our aim is to achieve the freest possible flow of international trade on terms fair and equitable to all, taking into account the special requirements of the developing countries, and to encourage the flow of adequate

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The Commonwealth Secretariat

The Commonwealth Secretariat is the official international organisation of the Commonwealth. It was set up by Heads of Government in 1965 to organise consultations between governments and to run programmes of co-operation. Commonwealth summits, ministerial meetings and meetings of senior government officials decide these programmes and provide overall direction.

It is headed by a Secretary-General elected by Heads of Government, supported by two deputies. Other staff, drawn from member countries, are appointed by the Secretary-General. Many senior members of staff are officials released by their governments for a few years' Commonwealth service.

The Secretariat is active in international political and economic affairs, and in assisting social and economic development. The improvement of administrative and managerial competence, and of professional and technical skills in such fields as education, health and public administration, are pursued by the Human Resource Development Group embracing several specialist programmes. The

Secretariat also promotes co-operation in science, law and in food production.

The Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC), which functions as part of the Secretariat, assists development by providing experts, financing training, and offering a consultancy service to governments in key fields. Special units assist the expansion of industry and exports. The CFTC is independently financed, as are the Commonwealth Youth Programme and Commonwealth Science Council, which also function as parts of the Secretariat.

Several specialist agencies set up by governments also serve the Commonwealth while Commonwealth non-governmental organisations are active in many fields. There are mutually supportive links between them and the Secretariat, leading to joint activities in areas of common interest.

The International Affairs Division assists consultation between member governments on political issues. In association with host governments, it organises the meetings of Heads of Government, regional Heads of Government (of the Asia-Pacific coun-

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The Commonwealth Secretariat

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tries) and Senior Officials. It services committees and special groups set up by Heads of Government dealing with political matters, such as The Commonwealth Committee on Southern Africa through which governments have worked to help Zimbabwe to independence and continue to do so for Namibia. It serviced the Commonwealth observer groups at the pre-independence elections in Zimbabwe and the 1980 elections in Uganda. The Division includes a Human Rights Unit set up in 1965. The Secretariat has observer status at the UN; the Division monitors international progress on such matters as the Law of the Sea, and reports back to governments.

The Economic Affairs Division services the annual meeting of finance ministers, undertakes studies of economic issues and publishes regular bulletins on commodities, the development policies of international institutions, and capital markets. It also services expert groups commissioned by governments to make proposals towards the resolution of global problems; such groups have reported on the Common Fund for Commodities, constraints to economic growth, protectionism, obstacles to the process of negotiation, developing-country debt and the need for reform of the global financial system. Papers prepared by the Division assist discussion at meetings of Heads of Government and Finance Ministers. It has programmes to assist consultations between government officials and the financial community on access to international capital and on economic adjustment.

The Legal Division services the meetings of law ministers and attorneys-general. It runs a Commonwealth fraud liaison service, operates training programmes for legislative draftsmen, and assists co-operation and exchange of information on law reform, taxation policy, extradition, the reciprocal enforcement of judgments and other legal matters. Its quarterly 'Commonwealth Law Bulletin' reports on legal developments.

The Information Division provides public information on the work of the Commonwealth. It supplies news, feature articles, radio tapes and films. Its publications include 'Commonwealth Currents', a bi-monthly magazine. The Division assists with media training.

The Human Resource Development Group (HRDG) set up in 1983, brings together six programmes whose primary purpose is the development of human resources in Commonwealth countries. As well as projects in its six areas, the Group organises multi-disciplinary activities, with an emphasis on operational projects in the field. The group aims to provide short-term consultancy services in areas of human resource planning and development and the upgrading of professional skills.

The Education Programme operates a range of training workshops and co-operative projects in areas identified by education ministers, whose three-yearly meetings it also services. Its present areas of emphasis include higher education, science, technical and vocational education, non-formal education, educational administration and teacher education.

The Fellowships and Training Programme (financed by the CFTC) provides awards and finds training places for 1500 trainees each year. The majority of trainees are at middle management level and most training is provided in developing countries.

The Management Development Programme of HRDG (financed by the CFTC) assists governments in the development of human resource planning, particularly at senior government level and in parastatals. It assists management training and has special responsibilities for small countries.

The Medical Programme, guided by the three yearly meetings of Commonwealth health ministers, assists governments to strengthen their health services. It supports the work of regional health organisations, undertakes studies and provides advisory services to governments.

The Women and Development Programme of HRDG supports the efforts of governments to enhance women's role in development through improving employment opportunities, training and setting up women's bureaux.

The Commonwealth Youth Programme, funded through separate contributions from governments, seeks to promote the involvement of young people in the development of their countries. It operates training programmes from CYP centres in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and Pacific, and it disseminates information.

The Science Division, working under the guidance of the Commonwealth

Science Council of 32 governments, operates regional programmes to extend the application of science to development in such areas as renewable energy, rural technology, natural products, metrology and standards, mineral resources and geology.

The Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation, financed by voluntary subscriptions from all member governments, provides technical assistance to developing Commonwealth countries. It provides consultancy and advisory services, assigns experts to work in member countries, and finances training. The CFTC funds training-oriented work organised by the Secretariat.

The General Technical Assistance Division supplies experts and consultants and undertakes feasibility studies. Each year it provides governments with some 300 specialists in law, finance, planning, agriculture, industry, communications, education and other areas.

The Technical Assistance Group is an in-house consultancy providing governments with confidential, speedy advice. It has special expertise in mineral negotiations, economics, finance, law and statistics.

The Industrial Development Unit assists governments to launch or upgrade industries. It identifies potential industries, studies costs, materials, skills, distribution and markets, helps start production, and assists in finding finance and technical expertise.

The Export Market Development Division assists governments to improve foreign exchange earnings through market surveys, buyer-seller meets, and a range of marketing programmes. It gives advice on export institutions, production and marketing and provides training in marketing and trade negotiation.

The Food Production and Rural Development Division operates regional programmes in rural technology, post-harvest food security, agricultural management, livestock and fisheries. It assists governments to prepare agricultural projects for external financing. (The division is financed by the CFTC).

A complete list of Secretariat publications is available from the Information Division, Commonwealth Secretariat, Marlborough House, London, England, SW1Y 5HX.

The Commonwealth Foundation

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

Agreed Memorandum on the

Commonwealth Foundation

A Commonwealth Foundation will be established to administer a fund for increasing interchanges between Commonwealth organisations in professional fields throughout the Commonwealth. It will be the purpose of the Foundation to provide assistance where it is needed in order to foster such interchanges.

2. The Foundation will be an autonomous body, although it will develop and maintain a close liaison with the Commonwealth Secretariat. Like the Secretariat, the Foundation will be accommodated at Marlborough House.

3. Within the broad purpose indicated above, the Foundation will include among its aims the following objects: -
(a) to encourage and support fuller representation at conferences of professional bodies within the Commonwealth.

(b) to assist professional bodies within the Commonwealth to hold more conferences between themselves.

(c) to facilitate the exchange of visits among professional people, especially the younger element.

(d) to stimulate and increase the flow of professional information exchanged between the organisations concerned.

(e) on request to assist with the setting up of national institutions or associations in countries where these do not at present exist.

(f) to promote the growth of Commonwealth-wide associations or regional Commonwealth associations in order to reduce the present centralisation in Britain.

(g) to consider exceptional requests for help from associations and individuals whose activities lie outside the strictly professional field but fall within the general ambit of the Foundation's operations as outlined above.

Please note: the above are only three sections of the original "memorandum".

At Lusaka in 1979 the Heads of Government extended the Foundation's mandate to non-governmental organisations of a voluntary nature and further broadened its functions to in-

clude culture, information and the media, rural development, social welfare and the handicapped, and the role of women.

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

The Foundation is an autonomous body with a Board of Governors which determines its policies and controls its grant-making activities. The Board comprises representatives nominated by Commonwealth Governments which contribute to the Foundation. The Commonwealth Secretary-General is ex officio a Governor of the Foundation. The Chairman of the Foundation is Mr. Robert Stanfield, Canada.

The headquarters of the foundation is located in London. The foundation is administered by the Director, Mr. I. Faletau from Tonga, and a small staff of 11 officers from nine Commonwealth countries.

Along with its many other involvements, the foundation co-operates in the activities of the following Commonwealth-wide associations:
Commonwealth Archivists Association
Commonwealth Association of Scientific and Agricultural Societies
Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux
Commonwealth Association of Architects
Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind

Commonwealth Broadcasting Association
Commonwealth Society for the Deaf
Commonwealth Human Ecology Council
Commonwealth Council for Educational Administration
Commonwealth Association for the Education of Adults
Commonwealth Association for Education in Journalism and Communication
Commonwealth Engineers Council
Commonwealth Forestry Association
Commonwealth Geographical Bureau
Commonwealth Journalist Association
Commonwealth Lawyers Association
Commonwealth Legal Education Association
Commonwealth Library Association
Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies
Commonwealth Magistrates Association
Commonwealth Medical Association
Commonwealth Association for Mental Handicap and Developmental Disabilities
Commonwealth Association of Museums
Commonwealth Nurses Federation
Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Association
Commonwealth Association of Planners
Commonwealth Press Union

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resources, including governmental and private resources, to the developing countries, bearing in mind the importance of doing this in a true spirit of partnership and of establishing for this purpose in the developing countries conditions which are conducive to sustained investment and growth.

We believe that international co-operation is essential to remove the causes of war, promote tolerance, combat injustice, and secure development among the peoples of the world. We are convinced that the Commonwealth is one of the most fruitful associations for these purposes.

In pursuing these principles the members of the Commonwealth believe that they can provide a constructive example of the multi-national approach which is vital to peace and progress in the modern world. The association is

based on consultation, discussion and co-operation.

In rejecting coercion as an instrument of policy they recognise that the security of each member state from external aggression is a matter of concern to all members. It provides many channels for continuing exchanges of knowledge and views on professional, cultural, economic, legal and political issues among member states.

These relationships we intend to foster and extend, for we believe that our multi-national association can expand human understanding and understanding among nations, assist in the elimination of discrimination based on differences of race, colour or creed, maintain and strengthen personal liberty, contribute to the enrichment of life for all, and provide a powerful influence for peace among nations.

Canadian is new Chairman

Commonwealth Governments have appointed the Hon. Robert Stanfield, a former Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada and Premier of the Province of Nova Scotia, as the new Chairman of the Commonwealth Foundation, which promotes professional cooperation in the Commonwealth. He succeeds Mr. Justice Ulric Cross of Trinidad and Tobago, who stepped down in March '87 after four years in office.

Mr. Stanfield, a 72-year-old lawyer from Truro, Nova Scotia, studied economics and political science at Dalhousie University and was called to the Bar of Nova Scotia in 1940. His political career began in 1949 when he was elected to the Nova Scotia Legislature. He became Premier in 1966 and occupied that office for 11 years. He was Leader of the Opposition in the Canadian Parliament from 1967-73, and served as his government's Special Representative in the Middle East and North Africa from July 1979 to February 1980. He is now a member of the Executive Committee of the Directors of the North-South Institute and Chairman of the Institute for Research and Public Policy, both in Ottawa.

Mr. Stanfield is the sixth Chairman of the Commonwealth Foundation and the first from Canada, the second largest contributor to the Foundation's income after Britain. Sir MacFarlane Burnet, a Nobel prize-winning microbiologist from Australia, was the first Chairman; the others were Dr. Robert Gardiner of Ghana, Sir Hugh Springer, now Governor-General of Barbados, and Sir Adetokunbo Ademola, a former Chief Justice of Nigeria.

Source: Commonwealth Today, March '88.

Commonwealth Foundation

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Commonwealth Association of Science, Technology and Mathematics Educators

Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy

Commonwealth Association of Tax Administrators

Commonwealth Trade Union Council

Commonwealth Veterinary Association

The above associations make up The Commonwealth Professional Associations' Group.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH CENTRE FOR TROPICAL VETERINARY MEDICINE Diploma/MSc POSTGRADUATE COURSES

The following courses will be available

(i) **TROPICAL VETERINARY MEDICINE.** This course is designed for field veterinarians aiming at the senior and middle ranks of veterinary services in developing countries. It deals with the prevention and control of animal diseases at regional and national levels and has a strong epidemiological component. Related aspects of animal productions and veterinary public health are also covered.

(ii) **TROPICAL VETERINARY SCIENCE.** This is a course for veterinarians, which is mainly concerned with the laboratory diagnosis of diseases of animals including poultry and wildlife in developing countries. It also includes the organization and management of tropical veterinary laboratories and the epidemiology of the major diseases of animals.

(iii) **TROPICAL ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND HEALTH.** This course which is organized in conjunction with the University's Department of Agriculture is open to agriculture or veterinary graduates intending to specialize in animal production in developing countries. It provides a comprehensive review of the main constraints to animal production likely to be encountered in these countries with an indication of how they may be overcome.

Candidates are registered as Diploma/MSc students. All students take the same course from October to June. Students who attain a required standard in the June examination may continue for a further 3 months during which time they prepare and present a dissertation for the MSc degree. Students who do not reach this standard but who achieve the necessary marks will be awarded the Diploma and complete their studies in June. Students who do not reach the Diploma level in June may resit the Diploma examination in September.

Application forms and further information can be obtained from the Dean, Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, Summerhall, Edinburgh EH9 1QH, Scotland. Applications should be returned by March 31st (but preferably earlier as the courses are usually over-subscribed) for admission in the following October.

Any further details can be obtained from the Director of the Centre for Tropical Veterinary Medicine, Easter Bush, Roslin EH25 9RG, Midlothian, Scotland.

Awards for Innovations 1988

AWARDS FOR INNOVATIONS 1988

The Commonwealth Professional Associations (CPAs) is calling for applications for its Awards for Innovation.

Awards will be given to Commonwealth nationals who are members of skilled or learned professions or who engage in skilled auxiliary occupations, for innovative activities that have contributed to sustainable development in Third World Commonwealth countries.

Applications from individuals or groups (single or multidisciplinary) are acceptable.

There are three Awards, each for 2,000 pounds. The donors of the Awards are: The Commonwealth Foundation, The Fellowship of Engineering, and The Guinness Awards for Scientific Achievement.

Submissions must be received by 1 July 1988 by the appropriate Commonwealth professional association as shown in the Rules and Conditions.

The names of winners will be published on 1 October 1988 and the awards will be presented at a ceremony later that year.

Veterinarians in the Commonwealth should submit entries to: Mr. J. Trevor Blackburn, Pres - CwVA, c/o British Veterinary Association, 7 Mansfield Street, London - W1M 0AT, England.

Requests for further information should also be directed to Mr. Blackburn.

RULES AND CONDITIONS

Objective

The CPA Awards for Innovation seek to reward Commonwealth nationals, who are members of Commonwealth professional associations, for innovative activities that have contributed to sustainable development in Third World Commonwealth countries and have application in other such countries.

Eligible Applicants

Any individual or group from any Commonwealth country who are members of a CPA.

Form of Application

Applications must be submitted in the same format as the Official Application Form, duly filled in and signed by the applicant, or in the case of a group, by a nominated representative.

Applications must be in the English language.

Applications must be typewritten.

Applications must be received in full not later than 1 July 1988 by the appropriate Commonwealth professional association as shown below.

General Conditions

Submission of an application signifies acceptance of the Rules and Conditions, including the following:

- All documents and supporting material should be copies and not originals. The CPAs assume no responsibility in the case of loss, theft or destruction of applications or related documents.
- Applications and supporting documents will not be returned to applicants.
- Applicants certify that the innovation is their own and that, to the best of their knowledge, no other parties' rights are infringed.
- The CPAs assume no responsibility with respect to third parties' copyrights or patent rights on the applications and documents submitted.



University of London

The Royal Veterinary College MSc in Animal Health

This one-year MSc course for veterinarians begins in October. It provides advanced training in animal health, production, reproduction and welfare; epidemiology, control and prevention of major diseases; organization and administration of control of animal health at local and national levels. Modern techniques of animal management and breeding are taught.

Nine months are devoted to the formal course and 3 months to a practical project related to a special interest of the student; a report on this work must be submitted.

Further information and application forms are available from The Director, MSc in Animal Health, Department of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Husbandry, Royal Veterinary College, Boltons Park, Potters Bar, Herts, EN6 1NB. U.K.

Applications should be submitted as soon as possible but, at the latest, by 31st May.

Format of Application Form-Awards For Innovation '88

NAME OF APPLICANT (Family Name): _____

GIVEN NAMES: _____
Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms.

ADDRESS: _____

NAMES AND OCCUPATIONS OF GROUPS (if applicable) _____

SHORT TITLE OF INNOVATION: _____

I declare to the best of my knowledge that all the statements and particulars made with regard to this application are true. I hereby certify to be the sole and true author, or the chosen representative of the group involved, of the project submitted and that to the best of my knowledge, there are no third parties' rights infringed.

Signature _____

Date _____

PERSONAL DETAILS OF APPLICANT

Date of Birth _____

Nationality _____

Present Occupation _____

Education and qualifications with institutions and dates and membership of professional societies where applicable. _____

Description of Innovation (not more than 1000 words). _____

List of supporting documents. _____

List of other supporting books, papers, photographs, films or other material published or held by you (or your group) and not included with this application, that might help in assessing your innovation: _____

Previous awards received for this innovation: _____



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Officers of CwVA: Patron His Excellency, Sir Dawda Jawara, President, Republic of The Gambia; Honorary President, Dr. L.P.E. Choquette; President, Mr. J.T. Blackburn; Vice President, Dr. B.N. Touray; Secretary/Treasurer, Professor J. Archibald.

Regional Representatives: Dr. S. Abdul Rahman - Asia; Dr. W.J. Pryor - Australasia; Dr. J.L. Robinson - Caribbean/Canada; Dr. S.J. Ndaoma - East/Central/Southern Africa; Dr. B.N. Touray - West Africa; Mr. J.T. Blackburn - U.K./Europe.

When you have read this copy, please pass it on to a school, library or a new reader.

What is Success?

There is a kind of success that can open up an entirely new world to many people. Its theme is to stress a priority of helping others. By doing this, you develop a feeling of being needed. Your focus is on someone, or something, other than yourself. This lifestyle gives a peace and a feeling of satisfaction that you may never have experienced before. Granted often you will fail, but if you sincerely try to think of others and of their needs, you will develop an excellence in your life that will minimize the importance of the word success.

By caring for others and helping

them gain their goals, you will receive rewards beyond your greatest expectations. The rewards however are not monetary. Your attitude toward life changes, tensions regress, you begin to feel good about yourself as you get involved with people and they with you. The joy of living and working returns to your consciousness. This is one answer to the questions "What is success?"

Source: Aus. Vet. Practitioner Mar. '87, V17 N1 - The above is extracted almost verbatim from "What is Success?" by C.L. Lippincott. An article copied by the AVP from Trends AAHA June '86.

Successful conference

held in Gambia

Built on urgent concerns, springing from the grass roots of many developing areas, the CwVA 1987 Gambia Conference/Seminar was truly international and multicultural in scope. However, absent was the clashing rhetoric of East and West, and the politics of North and South. Present were friendship and brotherhood and a shared concern for those who are victimized by the stubborn and often growing problems of underdevelopment.

The voices of they who deal daily with the problems of so many rural areas of Africa gave a reality to the discussions and a great substance to the seminar. From this substance sprang practical and long-range recommendations, and a plan of action.

Commonwealth veterinarians from the African countries, from India, from Australia, from the UK, from the Caribbean and from Canada met in council meetings, executive meetings and in a myriad of informal discussions. All who attended the Gambia meetings contributed and all left wiser and richer for those contributions of others.

Emanating from our common heritage, 'The Commonwealth', came enhanced feelings of friendship, brotherhood and mutual respect and concern. A tacit pride in our Commonwealth and an unspoken determination to make it a better Commonwealth was evident to all.

The CwVA Gambia meetings were a true 'Success'.

Assessing the CwVA 1987 Gambia meetings

From Nigeria - Council Member Tom A. Aire

1. The Seminar on Animal Health Technician Course was an obviously useful one. It afforded one the opportunity of knowing the set-up and organisation of such courses in other parts of the Commonwealth. A definite benefit is our determination to ensure that standards were as close as possible, so that comparability will be easier and mobility facilitated. Areas of assistance from one country to the other were also identified.

2. Council Meeting: This was, without doubt, an important component of the Banjul Conference, and it was the first of such a meeting attended by some of us in the West Africa regional chapter of the CwVA which was inactive for

several years. The discussions were not only frank but also very useful for the purposes of growth and the general well-being of the CwVA. The council members and the regional representatives were able to look ahead towards the future, exploring ways of strengthening the CwVA as a multinational body. Many of the programmes planned should be of tremendous value in this regard.

3. The International Trypanotolerance Centre Inauguration Conference: This adjunct conference enabled some of us to up-date our knowledge of the trypanotolerant breeds of cattle. Current trends in research on these animals were presented in several brilliant papers. It was a pleasure to have been part of this.

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Report on seminar held in The Gambia

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4. General: We are surely going to remember this conference for a long time to come, not only for its scope but also for the fruits it is bound to bear.

From Trinidad/Tobago - Car/Can Reg Rep Holman Williams

I was impressed by the three following features of the conference as its deliberations and potential unfolded:-

1. The sincerity of the delegates to foster the CwVA and, further, to promote it into a dynamic world body for the 21st Century.

2. The Association's innate strength as a Commonwealth organization with established access to a myriad of other professional bodies, universities, farm institutes, rural dwellers, professional journals, etc.

3. The development of the Association since the 1984 London Meeting (I believe that that meeting's achievements have been much underrated), in particular the strengthening of communications with and determination to be accountable to the Commonwealth Foundation, the powerful newsletter thrust, and a start at what, ultimately, might be the most meaningful experience emanating from the Association, namely the one-to-one contact between colleagues in different countries with common interests and mutual respect.

From the United Kingdom - Vice President Trevor Blackburn

I believe that this was one of the most useful conferences I have ever attended. Most conferences consist of a lot of talk and very little action. We certainly had a lot of talk, but we finished up with a plan of action which we have already started to implement.

If anyone needs proof of the value of the Commonwealth, it is a pity that they were not present in The Gambia. It was obvious that the Commonwealth, in spite of all its critics and detractors, is a viable family in the broader sense. Certainly we argued and disagreed as families do, but always in the family spirit of seeking what is best for the whole family.

This meeting was a tremendous experience and although we were cocooned in a modern hotel, which could have been anywhere in a hot climate, we did manage to see a little of the country. This brief view served as a reminder of what real poverty is and what it means.

I am firmly convinced that such meetings are of immense value, pro-

viding they do have a SPECIFIC THEME resulting in the drawing up of an ACTION PLAN. I am also convinced that this conference can only serve to enhance the credibility of the CwVA.

FINAL CONCLUSION: There is only one world and it is our responsibility to make it a better place in which to live.

From the 1986/87 CwVA annual report to The Commonwealth Foundation

The Animal Health Seminar was an outstanding success with over 50 individuals in attendance. There was representation from each of the East/Central/Southern Africa Commonwealth countries except Zambia. The four West Africa countries were represented, as were the six regions of the CwVA. A representative from the FAO was a welcome observer.

The presentation of papers resulted in open and frank discussion of the problems being encountered with Animal Health Assistant courses and, perhaps more importantly, the implementation of programs for the utilization of these paraprofessionals by the various governments. Participation by the attendees was enthusiastic.

Benefits of the Gambian Seminar

As Dr. Velloso, FAO observer from Rome, noted, the substance of the seminar dwelt on practical aspects of many problems related to providing more and better help to the livestock raisers of developing Africa. From out of the seminar came an increased knowledge of the work of others, a better understanding of problems and constraints encountered by various animal health training institutions, and a gathering of tried and constructive ideas to counter those problems.

The circulation of the final report throughout the CwVA was assured by Vice President Trevor Blackburn. The executive committee indicated that there would be a rapid follow-up on several of the suggestions. All attending council members expressed the view that their national veterinary associations and officials of animal health training school would view with positive interest the findings and recommendations of this CwVA Gambian seminar. There was an accepted view that many of those recommendations would be acted upon by many of the AHA training centres. The following are comments from a few of the atten-

From Seminar Chairman Gavin Hamilton (University of Saskatchewan, Canada)

I consider the Gambian seminar a success. The objective was achieved, probably at a much higher level than I might have dared to hope. The participation was excellent, both in numbers and active involvement, and present was the camaraderie that grows out of common interests expressed in open discussion.

From Canada - Council Member Bert Stevenson

The very successful joint meetings of the two CwVA African Regions provided an insight into what can be accomplished when the opportunity exists for representatives from diverse nations to get together to discuss areas of mutual interest and concern. A significant advancement was made in strengthening the ties between all Commonwealth countries represented at the meetings. An attempt was made, possibly for the first time, to enunciate the aims and objectives of the CwVA at a regional level. There is an obvious need and desire to improve communications. What would help would be regional veterinary journals.

ding CwVA workers:

-T.A. Aire of Nigeria: "I will bring our findings and recommendations to the attention of the Nigerian Veterinary Medical Association and to the animal health schools in Nigeria."

-W. Amanfu of Ghana: "The recommendations and views and ideas expressed at our seminar will be presented at the forthcoming meeting of the Ghana Veterinary Association."

-L.H. Kallon of Sierra Leone: "I will make every effort to convince my colleagues that implementing our recommendations will surely enhance veterinary activities and improve the standard of the veterinary profession in Sierra Leone."

G.G. Kamau of Kenya: "The findings of this seminar should be considered and discussed by the relevant authorities in all our countries. The final report of the seminar will be presented to the Kenya Veterinary Association and the KVA will make recommendations to the Government."

-F. Mongul of Guyana: "The final seminar report with recommendations should go out to all participants as soon

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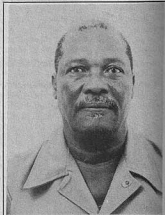
New Caribbean/Canada Regional representative

Dr. Joseph Leo Robinson of Antigua/Barbuda is now the CwVA regional representative for the Caribbean/Canada Region. Dr. Robinson is Antigua's CwVA council member. He is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, and a representative on the Permanent Committee of the World Veterinary Association. He has served as a CwVA council member for many years. His enthusiastic support, advice and participation in CwVA activities in the Caribbean region have contributed greatly to the stability and progress of CwVA's aims and objectives in that region.

Dr. Robinson is Chief Veterinary Officer (Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries), Antigua. He is responsible for animal health and livestock development. He is also a member of the Advisory Board of REPAHA (the Animal Health Assistants Training

School at Mon Repos, Guyana) and the Coordinator for 'animal health assistant training' and livestock projects in Antigua. He has been active in international veterinary affairs and has served as a consultant to PAHO/WHO on the 'Prevention and Control of Foot and Mouth Disease'.

Early in the 1940s before becoming involved in veterinary medicine Dr. Robinson was, for four years, a member of Trinidad and Tobago's police force. From 1946 to 1959 he served as Administrator in the Leeward Islands of the West Indies. In 1960 he commenced veterinary studies at the Tuskegee School of Veterinary Medicine. He graduated in 1965 and for the next year was employed with the United States Department of Agriculture. He returned to Antigua in 1966 where he served as Veterinary Officer until appointed to his present position in 1981.



J.L. Robinson, Caribbean-Canada Regional Representative

Bangladesh has new council member

Dr. Monjurul Huq Bhuiyan, Vice President of the Bangladesh Veterinary Association, is now Bangladesh's CwVA council member. He was elected to that office in April of 1987.

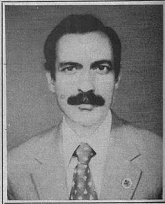
Dr. Bhuiyan is a member of the Bangladesh Civil Service (Livestock Cadre). He is a 1965 veterinary graduate of the East Pakistan Agricultural University in Mymensingh, Bangladesh. He did postgraduate studies at that same university, obtaining a M.Sc. degree in veterinary science. He represented Bangladesh at the XIV World Congress on Cattle Diseases in 1986 in Dublin, Ireland. Included in various continuing education courses, which Dr. Bhuiyan has attended, are an artificial insemination training course in Japan and a farm management training course, also in Japan.

Dr. Bhuiyan has been actively involved in both social work and sports in

Bangladesh and has been associated with several national and international social and sports organizations. In connection with these and his professional activities he has travelled widely, spending time in India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Hong Kong, the U.K., France, Switzerland, West Germany, Bahrain and Japan. His personal input into the development of the veterinary profession in Bangladesh has been most substantial.

Through the efforts of the CwVA Executive and CwVA Council Members the Commonwealth Veterinary Association is now emerging as an effective and important Commonwealth development organization. Therefore it was a wise and timely choice, on the part of the Bangladesh Veterinary Association, to have chosen Dr. Monjurul Huq Bhuiyan as their CwVA council member. There is no doubt that Dr. Bhuiyan will be a valued and creditable

member of that group of CwVA workers, the council members.



Monjurul Huq Bhuiyan, Council Member - Bangladesh

CwVA highlights

One of the most satisfying accomplishments was the increased communication and liaison with The Commonwealth Foundation. This was largely the result of personal contact between Vice-President Trevor Blackburn and the Director and Project Officer of the Foundation.

Trevor Blackburn was also successful in bringing the CwVA into closer

contact with other Commonwealth organizations such as the Com-

monwealth Professional Association and The Royal Commonwealth Society. Communication has also been established with The Commonwealth Secretariat, the FAO, the British Agricultural Training Board and other international agencies.

Advertising space is available
in the CwVA.

Contact: Dr. J. Archibald,
Secretary, Treasurer,
CwVA,
35 Lynwood Place,
Guelph, Ontario,
Canada, N1G 2V9.
Phone 519-824-1304.

Rahman makes fruitful visit to Bangladesh

A three day official visit to Bangladesh was made by CwVA (Asia) Regional Representative Dr. S. Abdul Rahman during June of 1987. Typical of the work of Dr. Rahman, it was an extremely fruitful visit.

During three busy days in Dhaka, Dr. Rahman met and had discussions with the newly elected office bearers of the Bangladesh Veterinary Association (BVA); Dr. Chowdhury the chairman of the Bangladesh Veterinary Council; Dr. Bhuiyan the CwVA council member; Mr. Seerajul Hossain Khan the Hon. Minister of Animal Husbandry; Dr. Nazir Ahmed the Director of An. Hub. & Vet. Services; and Dr. Kazi Patch an Additional Director. Dr. Rahman was also able to visit a number of veterinary hospitals, dairy farms, poultry farms, and the Dhaka Veterinary Research Institute. This enabled him to meet a good cross section of veterinarians.

Dr. Rahman's assessment of the situation in Bangladesh is candid and concise. It gives a very clear explanation for the small degree of participation by Bangladesh in CwVA activities. The following information comes to light in Dr. Rahman's report: -1. The role of the CwVA has never been fully explained to veterinarians in Bangladesh. Most of the veterinarians, who talked with Dr. Rahman, were unaware that Bangladesh had been a member of the CwVA for the last two decades. -2. There had been little serious communication between the CwVA and the BVA. Through the years little CwVA material or information had been sent to Bangladesh's CwVA council members. -3. The CwVA has in the past provided financial support for BVA representation at regional seminars in India and Sri Lanka. However no consideration has ever been given to efforts that would spread benefits from those seminars throughout the Bangladesh veterinary community, and, as a result offshoots, penetrating the animal health and livestock production scene.

Dr. Rahman notes that: -(a) The financial position of the BVA is difficult as they have virtually no funds. -(b) The BVA has made little progress towards gaining 100% membership of Bangladesh veterinarians. -(c) Veterinarians of the academic fields have not involved themselves with the activities of the BVA. -(d) Veterinary hospitals, dairy farms, poultry farms and research institutes are in urgent need of technical information by way of books, journals, audiovisual aids, etc.

However, despite past and present problems that plague the BVA, Dr. Rahman expresses a firm belief that the Bangladesh association will become an active and vital member of the CwVA. Dr. Rahman was extremely impressed with the newly elected BVA office bearers and the CwVA council member, Monjurul Huq Bhuiyan. Dr. Rahman indicates that he is confident that their personal qualities, their abilities and their enthusiasm will bring about a new and productive era of CwVA activities in Bangladesh.

Dr. Rahman notes that the Bangladesh Veterinary Council has been actively involved in securing membership and that the Council has already obtained government recognition in several important issues. Dr. Rahman attended a BVA executive committee meeting. At that meeting the following items of interest to the CwVA were unanimously passed: -1. Affiliation fees for membership in the CwVA be immediately brought up to date. -2. All correspondence from the CwVA be answered promptly. (Dr.

Rahman notes that he has already received information on the Bangladesh Veterinary Council Act, veterinary and animal health assistant training and other information requested by the CwVA executive). -3. A vigorous BVA membership drive be immediately commenced. -4. All possible steps to be taken to improve the financial position of the BVA. -5. The Bangladesh Veterinary Journal be published regularly. (One issue has already been published after a lapse of nearly five years). -6. More CwVA assistance, through the CwVA 'Book and Journal' program, be requested. -7. The Bangladesh Veterinary Association (BVA) host the 1988 CwVA regional seminar. The proposed venue is Dhaka and the suggested month, May. (Support of the Bangladesh Government has been assured by the Hon. Minister of Agriculture).

In his report Dr. Rahman recommends that the CwVA vigorously encourage and support the BVA in all these endeavours including, hosting the 1988 CwVA regional seminar.

1985 - Great Leap Forward

1985 was the 'Year of the Great Leap Forward' for the Commonwealth Veterinary Association. Reflecting concerns of the CwVA Secretariat, the level of activity increased beyond that experienced during 10 preceding years. Changes came about in the executive committee, communications were improved, correspondence increased, council members were brought into closer contact with the CwVA Secretariat, and the distribution of journals and other published materials was intensified. Changes were wrought in the administration of CwVA finances, a monthly news column was prepared by the secretariat and distributed to all Commonwealth veterinary journals, and the first CwVA News was published and distributed.

CwVA Vice-President Trevor Blackburn presented a scientific paper at the 1985 Annual General Meeting of the Tanzania Veterinary Association. While there he took part in discussions with representatives of Tanzania and visiting CwVA member associations.

Far flung corners of the Commonwealth witnessed the burgeoning CwVA efforts, all carried out in cooperation with various national veterinary associations.

In Sierra Leone, West Africa, a regional conference was held in conjunction with a seminar dealing with

'The Veterinary Profession and the African Food Situation'.

In East/Central/Southern Africa another seminar and regional conference was held in conjunction with the 11th Annual Conference of the Malawi Veterinary Association.

In India the Indian Veterinary Association and the CwVA jointly sponsored an international seminar on 'Livestock Production'.

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42nd member

In August 1987 the Western Samoa Veterinary Association became the 42nd member of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association. Western Samoa is the 9th member of the CwVA Australasia Region.

Western Samoa's CwVA council member is Dr. Ken T. Lameta. Dr. Lameta's address is Department of Agriculture Forests and Fisheries; PO Box L 1874; Apia; Western Samoa.

The CwVA News joins CwVA (Australasia) Regional Representative William J. Pryor and the CwVA Executive in congratulating and welcoming the Western Samoa Vet. Assoc. and their Council Member, Dr. Ken Lameta.

Report on The Year of the Great Leap Forward

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Among the many scientific presentations were papers on mastitis, foot and mouth disease, poultry layer diets and phosphate supplements in pig and poultry diets. This seminar was held in Calcutta.

Among the many visitors were representatives of Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, both members of the CwVA Asia Region.

The last major event of the year was a joint CwVA/Sri Lanka Veterinary Association conference and seminar in December. Over 250 veterinarians attended. Among attending visitors were representatives of India and Bangladesh.

In the Caribbean/Canada Region the CwVA cooperated with the International Development Committee of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association to institute a cooperative program of assistance to Grenada, often referred to as 'the Spice Island of the Caribbean'.

In 1985 Dr. B. N. Touray, Council Member for The Gambia, became Regional Representative for West Africa and Dr. S. J. Ndaomba, Council Member for Malawi, became Regional Representative for East/Central/Southern Africa. Both regional councils were determined that, despite a myriad of problems and difficulties, CwVA cooperative endeavours would flourish in their regions. That year (1985) a regional meeting and seminar was successfully convened by each of the two African regional councils and each laid plans for meetings in 1986. Later, with forethought, the 1986 plans were shelved so that the highly successful 1987 CwVA Pan-African meetings and seminar in The Gambia could come about.

The Commonwealth Foundation had, in 1984, established a program of assistance to Grenada, where life had been disrupted by political upheaval. As a part of that program an assessment team was sent there to determine the veterinary and animal production needs. This team was made up of Professors H. E. Williams (Trinidad) and J. Archibald (Canada), both CwVA workers. One of the resulting benefits was a 1985 cooperative development program involving the International Development Committee of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. Several veterinary consultants from Canada were sent to Grenada to work with Dr. Bonus Nutor and his staff. Dr. Nutor was at that time Grenada's Chief Veterinary Officer. These consultants visited Grenada at different times and

Remaining on the 1988-92 Executive Committee are four well known CwVA workers; Drs. Rahman, Pryor, Blackburn and Archibald. Their leadership has been vital in the successful struggle of the CwVA to play an important and productive role in the field of Commonwealth development.



Left to right, Abdul Rahman, India; Bill Pryor, Australasia and Trevor Blackburn, United Kingdom.

each stayed for about a month.

In 1985 a defunct program, still considered of much potential, came under scrutiny. This was the 'Books and Journals' program. Its aim had been the dissemination of new ideas and developments in areas of veterinary concern. The Overseas Group of the British Veterinary Association (BVA) had for several years successfully operated a development program of this type. Through the courtesy and cooperation of the BVA the CwVA executive were able to draw on the British experience. As a result a new CwVA 'Book and Journal' program was successfully inaugurated in 1986. Now operating from CwVA centres of the more affluent Commonwealth partners, such as Australia, Canada and New Zealand, it holds out great promise. It is a partner and not a competitor of the BVA 'Book, Journal and Small Items' program.

During 1986 The Great Leap Forward picked up momentum. The Cayman Islands (Caribbean/Canada Region) and Fiji (Australasia Region) became member associations of the CwVA. For the newly formed Fiji Veterinary Association joining the CwVA was one of its first official actions.

In the Caribbean Dr. M. Isaacs (Bahamas), Dr. B. H. Bell (Cayman



James Archibald, Canada.

Islands) and Dr. G. B. Swanson (Montserrat) became council members. In the Australasia Region, Dr. N. Tabunakawai became Fiji's first council member. In India, Dr. S. A. Rahman became council member for India and regional representative for Asia.

The CwVA (Australasia) regional meeting was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Association of Veterinary Surgeons Malaysia (AVSM) and a seminar on veterinary public health. During this same month (April

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Sri Lanka (Asia Region)

The Sri Lanka Veterinary Association (SLVA) joined the CwVA in 1972. In the years that followed CwVA seminars and study tours, along with the annual conventions of the region's veterinary associations, provided an opportunity to the veterinarians of the region to meet with each other and close contact was established among veterinarians of the Asia Region's three member associations, Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka.

More than 15 members of the SLVA benefitted directly from the John Anderson Travel Grant. The members travelled to various parts of India, visiting several veterinary colleges and animal health institutions. The John Anderson Scheme provided opportunities for Sri Lankan veterinarians to establish close links with fellow professionals and with veterinary establishments in the Asia region. Another 15 SLVA members were able, because of the support of the CwVA, to

attend CwVA seminars within the region, most of these were held in India.

During these years the SLVA received modest assistance from the 'professional development' component of the CwVA budget. That assistance helped the SLVA to hold successful and productive annual conferences. Of great value was also CwVA's assistance by way of veterinary books, journals and a slide projector.

As with many development programs curtailed by restraints of inflation and recession, CwVA assistance to Sri Lanka shrunk. In the very recent years the main CwVA activity in Sri Lanka has been the 'Book and Journal' program.

The CwVA has played a significant role in bringing together the veterinarians of the Asia Region and the SLVA sincerely acknowledges the role played by the CwVA in furthering understanding and cooperation among the veterinarians of the Asia Region. In

Sri Lanka the CwVA has played a significant role in improving the image of the veterinary profession and while doing so it gained the respect and goodwill of not only Sri Lankan veterinarians but also of the livestock farming communities of Sri Lanka.

The SLVA fully realizes that CwVA funds are limited and that those funds are donated for specific types of endeavours. However with the improvement in many national economies and the energizing thrust and forward planning outlook of the CwVA there is much optimism for a revitalized CwVA role in Sri Lanka. Expectations are reasonable and modest. It is generally felt that priority should be given to renewed assistance for SLVA's annual conference, consideration of a limited number of study tours for Sri Lankan veterinarians, and increased contact with all Commonwealth Countries.

Source: Aug/87 Communication from Council Member Wanasinghe.

The Year of the Great Leap Forward

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1986) on the other side of the world the CwVA was jointly involved with the Caribbean and Canadian veterinary associations in conducting three highly successful seminars on the islands of Jamaica, Antigua and Trinidad. West Africa and East/Central/Southern Africa both cancelled planned seminars and annual meetings, hopeful that support would be redirected to the planned 1987 CwVA Pan-African meetings and seminar.

Dr. R. G. Stevenson (Canada) became chairman of the new 'Book and Journal' program and assumed direct responsibility for its Canadian arm. Dr. W. J. Pryor and Dr. E. Shortridge oversee operations in the Australian and New Zealand areas respectively.

A review of the CwVA's financial situation emphasizes that the CwVA, with its limited resources, can only be a participant and catalyst in the affairs of member associations. High on the list of priorities are (1) Continuing education and dissemination of information and (2) The enhancement of the ability of veterinarians and all animal health workers to play their vital role in livestock production, including assisting the small livestock owner to improved productivity. Of great concern is the need to help many member associations in their efforts to improve professional status and, in some cases, to gain legislative recognition by their

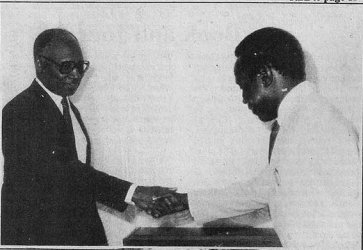
government.

The Commonwealth Veterinary Association is a member of the Commonwealth Professional Associations (CPA) group. As with all CPA members its existence rests on support of the Commonwealth Foundation. Its most important projects, such as seminars and workshops, are made

possible because of generous and timely assistance and support from both the Commonwealth Foundation and the Commonwealth Secretariat.

The CwVA assists member associations by providing speakers and some ancillary necessities for conferences and seminars, however it does not have

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A handshake for a popular new CwVA Vice-President - President of the Republic of The Gambia and Patron of the CwVA, His Excellency, Sir Dawda Jawara congratulates newly elected CwVA Vice-President, Dr. B. Touray of The Gambia.

1985

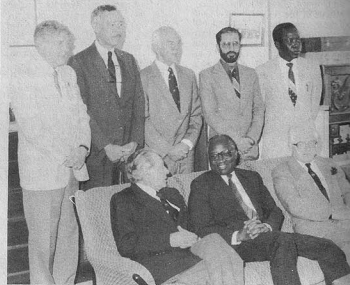
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the financial resources to mount such conferences and seminars without the commitment of member associations. Member associations do provide the necessary instruments; e.g. postage, telephone, cables etc. for their respective council member to function effectively. No one in the CwVA gets paid a salary, no rents are paid for office space. Office space for the president is provided by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association and that for the secretary-treasurer by the University of Guelph. The British Veterinary Association generously extends similar assistance to the vice-president. Several commercial firms in the UK and in Canada have given valued assistance in financing speakers to participate in conferences and seminars.

It is essential that all CwVA member associations respond appropriately to the vital and generous support from the Commonwealth Foundation and the Commonwealth Secretariat, and to the valued assistance for these other sources. Each member association must play its part by appropriate financial contributions and active participation. Members should also do what is possible to create a greater awareness of, a greater interest in, and a greater appreciation of the work of the CwVA, thus encouraging increased public support.

Source: Annual Report (1985/86) of the Secretary-Treasurer of the CwVA to the Commonwealth Foundation.

CwVA History



The last gathering of the 1984-87 Executive Committee, seated (left to right) President Laurent Choquette, Patron, His Excellency Sir Dawda Jawara and Vice-President Trevor Blackburn; standing, Secretary-Treasurer, James Archibald; Regional Representatives, Holman Williams, Caribbean-Canada; William Pryor, Australasia; Abdul Rahman, Asia; Bakary Touray, West Africa. Absent from the photo were Dr. S. J. Ndaomba, Regional Representative of East-Central-Southern Africa.

Book and Journal Program

Sri Lanka is now receiving The Canadian Veterinary Journal, The Canadian Journal of Veterinary Research and The Tropical Veterinarian. Among the veterinary textbooks that have recently arrived are 'Clinical Syndromes in Veterinary Neurology' and 'Clinical Endocrinology'. Dr. Wanasinghe, CwVA council member, has passed along thanks from the Sri Lanka Veterinary Association and acknowledgement of the receipt of these journals and books, which are now important additions to the libraries of Sri Lanka's veterinary school and veterinary research institute. There they are available to veterinarians and animal production workers.

The CwVA Book & Journal Program is important and its potential almost limitless. Its real value is that it looks to the future and its benefits accumulate and spread out into developing rural areas. Once in such work cen-

tres, as Sri Lanka's veterinary school and research institute, these books and journals are sources of information and reference for years to come. Those who benefit directly, whether they be student or professional worker, consciously and subconsciously pass on these benefits to colleagues and even more important to younger workers.

This program is supported by veterinarians who contribute journals and books that they are no longer using. Some also contribute financially to the mailing costs which are very considerable. Various publishing houses have provided newly published texts to be reviewed. This is done on a volunteer basis. The reviews are then carried in the CwVA News and the books sent along to some developing region of the Commonwealth. The CwVA is most appreciative of this generous and valued support from these publishers.

Those who wish to strengthen this program, either by donating books or journals, or money to help with mailing expenses may contact:-

Australia - Dr. W.J. Pryor, Galwiji, Pryors Road, Scotsburn, RNB Buni-nyong 3357, Victoria.

Canada - Dr. R. G. Stevenson, PO Box 1410, Sackville, New Brunswick, E0A 3C0.

New Zealand - Dr. E. Shortridge, Brookvale Road, Havelock North.

Singapore - Dr. Choo Hoo Ciam, c/o Primary Production Dept, National Development Bldg. 8th Floor, Maxwell Road, 20106.

United Kingdom - Support BVA's 'Book Journal and Small Items' program. BVA Overseas Sub-Committee, 7 Mansfield St. London, W1M 0AT.

**YOUR SUPPORT IS IMPORTANT—
IT IS NEEDED**

A message from President Blackburn

I take this opportunity of sending good wishes to all veterinary surgeons throughout the Commonwealth.

I am conscious of the honour and privilege of following my distinguished predecessors, our Patron His Excellency Sir Dawda Jawara, Association President 1967-82, and Dr. Laurent Choquette, President 1982-87. We all owe a debt of gratitude to both of them. First of all to our Patron for his constant support in all our affairs and to Laurent Choquette, particularly for his period as Secretary-Treasurer when he worked so hard to promote the affairs of this Association.

We are now in our 21st year and this is a good time to show that we have come of age by developing our plans and moving forward rapidly.

Let us make 1989 "Membership Year" and ensure that all eligible associations and countries within the Commonwealth become members of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association. Perusal of the list of Commonwealth countries represented at the Commonwealth Heads of Governments meetings indicates that there are still some countries who are not yet members of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association. Let us ensure that all these countries become members before the end of 1988.

The June 1987 edition of the CwVA News contained a draft Forward Plan. The intention of this Forward Plan is that we shall set ourselves targets with view to improving conditions in the various member associations and coun-

tries. Items can be added to the Plan as required but the main point is to ensure that we plan effectively. If we are to obtain support for our plans, as will be necessary from time to time, it is essential that when preparing programmes great stress is placed on who will benefit from the programme, how will they benefit and when.

We in the veterinary profession have a tendency on occasions to work in isolation. Our expertise is unique but it is of greater value to the community when our expertise is used in a team effort for the benefit of all. Consequently it is helpful to have joint programmes or conferences where possible inviting other people who are working in related fields, and hopefully receiving reciprocal invitations so that the benefit of everyone's expertise can be shared.

As well as maintaining contact with those working in related fields it is useful to establish contacts with other professions. There are many Commonwealth Professional Associations apart from our own and these are active in some of the Commonwealth countries and hopefully in the next "News" we shall be able to prepare a table indicating which Commonwealth Professional Associations are active in which countries to facilitate the making of appropriate contacts.

A new president never makes an opening address without referring to communications and this is no exception. In spite of all the talk about communications and the insight of satellites and intercontinental communication

there still seems to be problems with contacting one's own colleagues. If you have any suggestions on how this can be improved they would be most welcome. Obviously The CwVA News has now become well established and is proving a useful method of communication but one wonders just how far it travels and whether it reaches all the people who should be seeing it.

As you read this, to whom do you intend to pass on your copy to spread the word?

In an attempt to improve personal relationships and contacts the Commonwealth Veterinary Association is attempting to set up a twinning programme, and in this connection the British Veterinary Association is running a pilot project on behalf of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association. This twinning project is reported elsewhere in this CwVA News and hopefully, as this kind of programme spreads, people will develop personal contacts throughout the Commonwealth both to exchange technical information but also to establish personal social contacts to strengthen this unique veterinary family bond, as it is, by a common language.

You may rest assured that I shall serve this Association and our profession to the best of my ability and I would be delighted to receive any suggestions which any of you may have and also to visit you whenever possible and to receive you in Britain if you are able to visit us here.

J.T. BLACKBURN
5.11.87

Did you know that:

Sheep and goats in India are owned mostly by nomads who constantly move their flocks from place to place in search of good pastures. Flock size may vary from a few to a few hundred. Some of the ewes of recognized breeds are allowed to live well beyond what can be considered as the "cancer age". Only when their ewes become unproductive or are affected with chronic affections like mastitis are they disposed of.
Source: IVJ May/88 pp374-5 PKR Iyer.

The International Veterinary Students Association (IVSA) arranges exchanges for overseas veterinary students wishing to see practice in Canada. Interested students should contact Miss Victoria Bennett, IVSA Exchange Officer, PO Box 276, Ontario

Veterinary College, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, Canada N1G 2W1.

Source: Can Vet J Nov/87.

More milk in the Asian region is produced from the buffalo than from the cow. For example about 80% of milk in India comes from the buffalo. As a domestic species, buffalo have several advantages over the cow. They are more resistant to ticks and to certain diseases. They are less selective in their eating habits, their milk is richer in butterfat and their meat is lean. In spite of these advantages, the potential of the buffalo has not been fully appreciated.

Source: The Veterinarian May/87 VII N5 p4.

Benefits of seminar

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as possible. In Guyana it will be discussed and the approved portions implemented."

-I.T. Ndzingo of Botswana: "My colleagues in Botswana will be made aware of the targets in the action sheet (Pan-African council meetings) and I am sure that follow up action will be taken. I am equally optimistic that suggestions and recommendations arising from this seminar will also be acted on."

-S.A. Rahman of India: "The recommendations in our final report will be sent to the National Government and all State Governments of India".

Australia celebrates 200th anniversary in '88

In 1988 Australia celebrates its 200th Anniversary of permanent settlement and an extensive program of celebrations will be conducted throughout the country during the year.

The Australian Veterinary Association has had its 65th Annual General Meeting and Conference acknowledged as a bicentennial activity. The association is also heralding 1988 as the centenary year of formal veterinary education in Australia and the 1988 Annual Conference will be held in Canberra, the nation capital, from 18th to 22nd May, 1988. The venue will be at the Canberra International Hotel and the Australian Academy of Science which is located nearby.

Canberra in May is beautiful. Autumn leaves, temperatures in the order of 15° C and clear blue skies plus the attraction of the Nations Art Gallery, War Memorial, Military College and the magnificent buildings would make

our 1988 Conference venue an attraction to overseas visitors. Canberra is only 3½ hours by road to Sydney, 5½ hours by road to Melbourne and is a launching point for an ideal Australian vacation.

Planning for the conference is well in hand with scientific and plenary session programs covering special interest group fields.

The outline program and registration forms are expected to be available in late 1987 from the convenor, Dr. J. Hayhoe, "Boonderoo", Tharwa, A.C.T., 2620, Australia, or from the National Office of the Australian Veterinary Association: P.O. Box 371, Artarmon, N.S.W., 2086, Australia.

The Australian Veterinary Association extends an invitation to overseas colleagues to join its 1988 celebratory year and its Annual Conference.

Progress on the Solomon Islands

The following is extracted from a progress report (dated Aug. 20, 1987) from Dr. W.J. Pryor, CwVA (Australasia) Regional Representative.

Quote: "In pursuance of one of the major current objectives of the CwVA in the Australasia Region, I recently visited the Solomon Islands.

At the global meeting of the CwVA Executive held in The Gambia, March 20-27, 1987, a proposal for a conference to evaluate veterinary services in the South West Pacific was approved following its recommendation from the Australasian Region. I was asked to examine the Solomons as a possible venue.

The Solomon Islands is a country where Australian veterinarians have played a very significant role in establishing livestock industries. Some of those involved have included George Osborne, David de Frederick, Ian Freeman and Kathy Wilson. My apologies to others unnamed.

At present there are only two veterinarians in the country, both Australians, Graham Polke and Colin McCool. Both were immensely helpful and enthusiastic about the proposed venue. Although tourist development has not been greatly pursued as a matter of government policy, the fact remains that it is a very attractive country with a population of under 300,000. All that I met were very friendly and seemed to largely eschew the materialism so omnipresent in western society. I concluded that it would be a very suitable site for the conference."

Dr. Pryor notes that an Australasia-based committee, with AVA and CwVA representation, has been established to mount the conference. The two Solomon Islands veterinarians are

amongst its membership. Others include Pat Boland (Convenor), Ian Davis, John Hayhoe along with Bill Pryor. The CwVA, ADAB and the AVA have all expressed interest in and support for this project. The conference will center on the serious business of improving the production of animals including fish, and the necessary support of other organizations is being sought.

Although Dr. Pryor and his Australian colleagues have put much time and effort into these plans readers should be aware that they are not yet finalized. (According to information available to the CwVA News in Oct./87). We quote further from Dr. Pryor's report:-

"The proposed date and venue are June 14-17th, 1988, at Honiara in the Solomon Islands. It is planned to hold the Regional Council meeting of CwVA coincident with the conference. The CwVA (Australasia Region) now includes Papua New Guinea, Fiji, West Samoa, Tonga, Solomon Islands, New Zealand, Malaysia, Singapore and Australia."

News from Malaysia

A new centre for research and training in poultry diseases, the Asian Poultry Disease Research and Training Centre, is being established at the Veterinary Research Institute at Ipoh in Malaysia. It is being funded by the Japanese Grant and Technical Aid Program. This modern centre will cost approximately \$7 million. It is expected to be in operation before March of 1988. Included in its capabilities will be scanning and transmission microscopy for SPF flocks.

During July of 1987 Malaysia's 2nd Animal Welfare Week was held. Organized by the Department of Veterinary Services, in collaboration with several interested organizations, it was again a great success. The Honourable Minister of Agriculture officially opened the celebrations, which included dog and cat shows, horse jumping shows, performances of police dogs in action, snake shows and static exhibitions. A specially constructed operation theatre allowed for public viewing of surgical demonstrations. The occasion was celebrated throughout Malaysia in honour of animals. Tributes were paid to the im-

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Australasia Council Members

Australia	- W.J. Pryor
Fiji	- N. Tabunakawai
Malaysia	- Ahmad Mustafa B HJ Babjee
New Zealand	- E. Shortridge
Papua New Guinea	- M. Nunn
Singapore	- C.H. Giam
Solomon Islands	- G.K. Polke
Tonga	- M.Z. Hussain
Western Samoa	- W.T. Lameta

The Singapore Veterinary Association (SVA) is a small but active organization. Anyone wishing to contact the SVA should write to the Honorary Secretary, Singapore Veterinary Association, c/o City Veterinary Centre, 40 Kampong Java Road, Singapore 0922, Republic of Singapore. Dr. C.H. Giam is its CwVA council member and he may be reached at that same address.

Singapore hosted the 4th International Symposium of Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics in November of 1985. The proceedings of this symposium were published in March of 1987. Those interested in the availability and cost of this publication should contact the SVA.

Utilizing opportunities to keep abreast of professional developments in other parts of the world, foreign veterinary experts visiting Singapore

are, whenever possible, invited to SVA meetings. In 1986 Dr. W.A. Royal of New Zealand spoke on 'Developments in meat inspection of New Zealand'. In March of 1987 Dr. Peter Gafner of Switzerland spoke on 'The veterinary profession in Switzerland'. Also in that same month Dr. J.B. Spence of the United Kingdom spoke on 'The Veterinary Investigation Service in the UK'.

The 1987 SVA Annual Conference was held in October. The CwVA News regrets that it did not have this information in time to include it as a 'coming events' item in its July/87 issue. It was noted that the theme was to be 'Veterinarians and Food Animals' and that the SVA extended a warm welcome to all veterinarians, who might be visiting the Singapore region.

Dr. Giam gives a very positive response to the recent CwVA steps

towards 'Forward Planning'. The following statement is a direct quote from Dr. Giam's remarks - "I think there is a lot for us to consider seriously, especially for those of us in countries which are more fortunate than others".

Dr. Giam notes that Singapore does not have a veterinary school or a centre for training animal health assistants. The SVA has for some time expressed an interest in a national campaign dealing with responsible pet ownership. Information from other CwVA associations, on appropriate films especially on subjects which promote animal welfare and reduce cruelty in animals, would be much appreciated.

It is interesting to note Dr. Giam attended the 1987 Conference of CITES (Conference on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora), held in Montreal during July.

Interesting reading for all veterinarians

A most interesting and informative letter from Dr. J. Francis of the Dept. of Pathology and Public Health, University of Queensland, St. Lucia, Australia, appears in the correspondence section of the April/87 Australian Veterinary Journal. It is our pleasure to reproduce it here.

9 March 1987

Dear Sir,

Veterinary services in Singapore and Malaysia

My visit to Malaysia and Singapore late in 1986 to attend and contribute to meetings of the Federation of Asian Veterinary Associations (FAVA) and in Singapore, the 26th World Conference of The International Union against Tuberculosis (IUAT), gave me an opportunity to assess the great achievements of our former undergraduate and post graduate students, of the Queensland Veterinary School, in Singapore and Malaysia.

There are in all 56 members of the Singapore Veterinary Association.

They graduated from Queensland (19), United Kingdom (13), Massey, New Zealand (4), Sydney (4), Murdoch (3), Melbourne (3); of the remainder, 2 graduated from the new Malaysian Veterinary School and the rest from widely scattered veterinary schools in Asia and Europe. These graduates have a high esprit de corps and play an important role in veterinary public health, laboratory diagnosis of animal diseases and private practice. One is a Minister in the Singapore Cabinet.

Professor A.R. Omar (a former post-graduate student) was the Founding Dean of the Malaysian Veterinary School and is now Scientific Advisor to the Prime Minister of Malaysia. Dr. Mustafa-Babjee is Head of the Veterinary Department, which almost certainly has a greater relative impact on, and has more responsibility for, the livestock industry of Malaysia than similar veterinary departments have in any other country I have seen.

Dr. Mustafa-Babjee and other graduates in the Veterinary Department are responsible for the Institute Haiwan, a predominantly animal research institute of 1700 ha some 80 miles north of Johore Strait. A nearby station of some 400 ha, Padang Hijau, carries out experimental cattle breeding, including cross-breeding between the native wild Gaur of the Malaysian forests, *Bos gaurus hubbacki*, and *Taurindicus* (Friesian/Sahiwal) cows.

The Jelai Gemas farm, some 60 km south of Kuala Lumpur, carries about 1600 Droughtmaster cows, on about the same number of acres, to produce calves for distribution to village farmers, and it appears that staff of the Veterinary Department provide advice to them on the development of pastures, cattle management and health. There is also a large commercial farm, Pahangbif near the coast north-east of Kuala Lumpur, with about 3,400 Droughtmaster cows. Some of the progeny are sold to the Veterinary Department for distribution to farmers but

most are fattened in feed lots for commercial use, locally produced palm kernel cake now being the chief basis of the ration.

At the National Zoo at Kuala Lumpur we were guests of the Director, Dr. J. Lee for a most informative day at this very pleasant zoological garden.

In Malaysia we also learned more of the work being done by Professor P.B. Spradbrow and Dr. J.L. Samuel (ACIAR Project No. 4) on the immunization of village poultry against virulent Asian Newcastle disease by an attenuated strain of Newcastle disease virus incorporated in food pellets. This project has been so successful that it is now also being pursued and further developed by the staff of the Malaysian State Veterinary Department and the Malaysian Veterinary School.

J. Francis

News from Malaysia

from page 16

portance of animals and the part they play in the life of Malaysia. The week was marked by lectures and discussions on providing proper care, and on showing kindness and love to animals.

Source: Communication from Council Member Ahmad Mustafa B.H.J Babjee.

Report on Dr. Cork's work in Fiji

Early in 1987 Dr. Susan C. Cork of New Zealand accepted the position of manager of the veterinary clinic for the Suva SPCA in Fiji. The following is a brief, but interesting and informative, account of her work there.

The Suva SPCA runs the only full time veterinary clinic in Fiji. We have consultations and surgery every week day and a morning clinic on the weekends. Theoretically the veterinary clinic operates on an appointment system but things rarely work according to plan. Facilities include all of the basics and are sufficient for routine work but orthopedics is generally limited to the use of pins or casting where appropriate. The Agricultural Department offers free laboratory facilities but tests are usually made for interest sake as results never materialize until a week or two later when it is either too late or irrelevant. In retrospect it does, however, provide a spot check for future diagnosis. For clients that can pay we can use the local medical laboratory which provides a service within 24 hours.

Dogs by far outnumber cats in this country, many owners keeping 2 or 3

to guard their homes. The favourite "breeds" are anything with a hint of Doberman or German Shepherd, with high prices paid for anything that looks good. The clients, like their animals, vary widely. We can begin the morning with a well meaning Fijian villager whose puppy has swallowed a walu steak bone and then move on to the intense Indian "German Shepherd" breeder with a jaundiced bitch, before opening the door to greet the local Ambassador's wife with their atopic guard dog or an ex-patriot with the old corgi with heart failure from back home.

The local wildlife reserve along with the Suva Pony Club offers an occasional change of scene to see a lame horse or a pruritic parrot and the odd mongoose or mangy bat. Lifestock in Fiji is generally under the control of the Ministry of Primary Industries. The local government veterinarians deal with the majority of the large animal work and on occasions will lend a helping hand with difficult surgical cases in the small animal line.

In summary, common veterinary

problems often reach extremes in this tropical climate, especially parasitic conditions. We see many advanced cases of a variety of diseases which may be a pathologist's dream but not always very rewarding therapeutically. Needless to say our case mortality rate is quite high. We do have our success stories, much to the credit of a modern selection of antibiotics. Road accident cases arrive on most clinic days and bitch speys are a regular, but never routine, feature in daily life. Skin infections are a great problem with sarcoptic mange often becoming intractable and generalized. Malicious wounding with can knives and paraquat poisoning are also a regular presentation, not to forget the ever present stream of worm ridden pups and coughing dogs for heart worm injections. The mosquito is nobody's friend.

I hope that this information may be of some interest to readers in New Zealand. Any marvellous new treatment regimens for paraquat poisoning or handy hints for winning the battle against sarcoptic mange would be gratefully received.

Susan Catherine Cork

Agriculture in Papua New Guinea

-Subsistence agriculture is (1985) probably the largest single economic activity in PNG and probably the least understood. The role of pigs is seen as very important yet poorly understood. Much of the food (fed to pigs) is poor quality tubers which would not normally be eaten by people, but it still comprises a very large proportion of available food, especially in the highlands. The conversion rate of this garden produce to pork is low, possible reasons for this include high mortality, long farrowing intervals, and high levels of parasites and disease. Growth rates as low as 25 Kg per year are common. Pigs are a form of investment in wealth rather than current consumption. The need for more information on village pig numbers, productivity, and marketing is seen as crucial to an understanding of subsistence agriculture in PNG.

-Over the past two decades there has been substantial investment and expenditure by government in the primary sector (smallholder agriculture). But too often there has been little correspondence between government ex-

penditure and smallholder output. Up to 1978 the (Asian) Development Bank had made 2850 small cattle loans. Yet today (1985) small holder interest has evaporated in most areas, an exception is the Morobe district. Left behind are many unpaid loans, disillusioned project owners, and large numbers of feral cattle. The smallholder herd is now (1985) around 45,000 compared to the target of 175,000 set for 1980. It is noted that of about 500 intensive village piggeries, that were established, virtually none of these have survived. Of government sponsored smallholder operations only smallholder poultry offers returns comparable to other activities such as coffee.

It is stressed that agriculture (smallholder livestock) must compete with other opportunities such as cash crops, local employment and migration. A good knowledge of the returns from alternative activities is essential before recommending any new agricultural activity.

-Papua New Guineans, rural and urban, want higher cash incomes, and this can only come to most people

through agriculture. Papua New Guineans work very well and very hard at agriculture and their achievements, as smallholders, have been quite remarkable over the past many years. To continue this in the future is only possible through shifting expenditure from current consumption to investment in future production, such as roads, improved water transport, schools, health care, plant and equipment (small industry?), extension services, housing, and research.

Source: PNG Vet Assoc Newsletter 24 Aug./85.

Australian Veterinary Association Officers

National office bearers of the Australian Veterinary Association for 1986-87 were President - Dr. Terry P. Collins, Hon. Secretary Dr. John W. Plant, Exec. Director Dr. Warren F. Bassam. Correspondence on Association matters should be addressed to PO Box 371, Artarmon, New South Wales, Australia 2064.

2613 tonnes of beef produced

-In 1984 the estimated beef production in Papua New Guinea was 2613 tonnes. Consumption during that year was estimated at 5790 tonnes, this does not include some 9310 tonnes of imported canned meats.

-Local production of beef can be increased by opening up new areas of land to cattle, by increasing the production from existing holdings or by a combination of both these approaches. Owing to the complexities of land tenure, major expansion of land for cattle is unlikely in the foreseeable future.

-In Papua New Guinea management and nutrition are the main factors limiting beef production. The national herd is free of the major diseases of cattle and most stock now include some tropical blood to minimize the impact of genotype-environment interactions. Trial work conducted at the Pastoral Research Centre, Erap, from 1973 to 1979, clearly indicates that nutrition is the major limiting factor.

-Tropical pastures in PNG are often low in nitrogen, available energy, and minerals.

-Javanese Zebu, supposedly derived from cattle imported from Indonesia last century, are small (bulls 500-600

kg, cows 300-400 kg), fine-boned cattle. They have an alert active temperament, high calving rates and high calf survival.

-Under relatively benign conditions the toughness of the Brahman was expressed in the face of a minor nutrient deficiency (no salt) while potentially more productive breeds of cattle were reduced to the level of the Brahman.

-Available data on beef cattle production in PNG suggests that:-

1) extremely good production can be achieved by cattle in the lowlands of PNG, given good management and nutrition.

2) there are considerable differences between species, breeds and types of large ruminants in their response to good and poor environments in PNG.

3) Javanese Zebu and buffalo offer better production than Brahman crossbred cattle in poor management and poor nutritional environments in PNG.

-Mention is made that research efforts in PNG are confounded by 'a rapid turnover of staff' (laborers at research and agricultural centres) and by 'a low emphasis on analysis and publication'.

Source: PNG Newsletter Oct/85 No. 25.

Dog Act of interest to many

A New South Wales newsletter in the April 11/87 AVA Journal is of interest to many in widespread areas of the Commonwealth. It concerns the problem of stray dogs. In the Caribbean, CwVA workers are making serious efforts to come up with solutions that would be workable on the small island nations of that region. The following is copied verbatim from that AVA Journal.

DOG ACT

This NSW legislation empowers councils to register dogs and to require registration and identification of dogs by a collar bearing registration badge and a disc with name and address of owner. Owners of dogs that attack or cause injury to persons or animals may be fined \$200 unless the dog is on its home territory or is unduly provoked. Courts may order destruction of dogs that bite or may order better restraint. Greyhounds must be muzzled unless at home or being shown or trialed. All dogs in public places must be controlled by chain or leash. Dogs are prohibited from playgrounds, bathing areas, schoolgrounds and shopping areas.

Fouling of footpaths may incur a penalty of \$100 unless the owner disposes of the faeces. Extensive provisions cover the seizure, handling, disposal and destruction of strays. Livestock owners are entitled to destroy dogs which they reasonably believe are likely to molest or attack livestock or poultry on enclosed lands. Special entitlements for guide dogs for the blind or deaf provide relief from many of the legislative provisions.

Enforcement of these provisions depends on municipal councils' concern and resources.

WEST AFRICA

Council Members: The Gambia - Dr. B.N. Touray; Ghana - Dr. W. Amanfu; Nigeria - Dr. T.A. Aire; Sierra Leone - Dr. L.H. Kallon.

Closer Cooperation

Dr. W. Amanfu, Honorable Secretary of the Ghana Veterinary Medical Association, reports that he and many of his colleagues favor closer coopera-

4th

Science Congress held

The Asian-Australian Association of Animal Production Societies held their 4th congress at Waikato University, New Zealand, last February (1987). Despite having a membership from only nine countries (Thailand, Indonesia, Australia, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand and the Philippines) the Societies' congress attracted representatives from thirty countries from both the Pacific and Europe and from developed and developing countries. Five hundred delegates spent a week together on the grounds and in the hostels and lecture theatres of Waikato University.

The conference covered many more areas than veterinary science. It was divided into sections on reproduction, nutrition, behaviour, cropping, computer modelling, meat processing, growth, pasture development, diversification of production and marketing.

Source: NZ VET J Apr/87 V35 N4.

40 veterinarians welcomed

During 1987 more than 40 Australian veterinarians were welcomed into the 'Australian College of Veterinary Scientists' as Members and Fellows. 'Specialties' of the successful candidates included Avian Health, Epidemiology, Medicine of Cats, Medicine of Dairy Cattle, Medicine of Dogs, Medicine of Pigs, Medicine and Management of Laboratory Animals, Pathology, Surgery of Horses, Small Animal Surgery, Veterinary Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, Radiology, Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Medicine of Goats, and Avian Management and Diseases.

Source: NZ Vet J V35 N5 May/87.

tion between veterinarians and other animal scientists and agriculturists. It is felt that an integrated agricultural format in areas that raise livestock and produce both cash and food crops would have many potential benefits. Ways and means of utilizing agro-byproducts to feed cattle and other livestock during the dry season could be explored. Such an approach would also bring in line the production efforts of the animal scientist and the veterinarian.

General news items from New Zealand

A workshop to discuss the information needs of practitioners in particular, and the veterinary profession as a whole was held at Palmerston North on 14-15 August, 1986.

It was organized by Peter Trim, run under the auspices of the Foundation for Continuing Education and was sponsored by the Telecommunications Division of the New Zealand Post Office (NZPO).

The objective of the workshop was to identify ways in which the effectiveness of veterinarians and the veterinary profession could be enhanced by improved information services and information flow. Practice management was considered to be the most important area of veterinary practice requiring improved information utilization. It was felt that the profile of practice management needed to be raised and training increased.

It was also considered that, in addition, the veterinary profession required outside help in developing more effective communications systems.

Practice Outward Communications Aims

1. To relate to clients in a way that assures them that we care for their animal and its problem.
2. To familiarize them with the practice regimen and protocol necessary for efficient services.
3. To enhance their knowledge on animal health matters.
4. To acquaint them with what we have to offer i.e. to sell ourselves professionally.

Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis

By the beginning of April 1987 nearly 900 flocks had attained accredited CAE free status.

In the United Kingdom there are two CAE schemes operating which together, have the effect of a two-tier system such as has been proposed in New Zealand.

The British Goat Society is embarking upon a voluntary monitoring scheme for caprine arthritis-encephalitis virus infection which will require periodic blood sampling of participating herds.

Goat Health and Production

The upsurge of interest in goat farming in New Zealand had been accompanied by the inevitable animal health and management-related problems. Although goat farming is well established in many countries little reliable information is available on goat diseases and production under pastoral farming

conditions. MAF are attempting to correct this situation by publishing a quarterly bulletin entitled 'Goat Health and Production' for veterinarians, goat farmers and others involved with the goat industries. Enquiries should be addressed to Keith Thompson, Palmerston North/Animal Health Laboratory, P.O. Box 1654, Palmerston North.

New Products from Young's

Robert Young & Co (NZ) Ltd. has recently launched the following new products.

Ryobon Sheep is a sheep drench containing ricobendazole, a modern broad spectrum benzimidazole which controls roundworm, lungworm, tapeworm and worm eggs. It is presented as a yellow suspension in a mini-dose form, i.e. a 5 or 6 ml ewe dose. The higher dose will give additional control of mature liver fluke. The drench is available in 2.5 l backpack and 10 l plastic jerrycan.

Cypr has been reformulated using the higher potency high-cypermethrin. It contains a green marker for identification of treated sheep, and will give 15 weeks lice control. The marker has passed MAF tests for wool scourability. The goat market is catered for by introduction of a 1 litre pack, a revised lower dose for kids and clearance for use on dairy goats. Treatment may be by spot application, as an alternative to backline, making application easier on longer woolled sheep.

Unorthodox Medicines and Methods

In response to widespread pressure within the profession to provide some ethical guidelines covering provision of 'unorthodox' services by veterinarians, a final draft of a propos-

ed amendment to the guide has been produced. This provides for protection of animal welfare, and of clients, in the event that the provision of services, incorporating medicines or methods not generally accepted as orthodox by the majority of veterinarians could have adverse effects on the welfare of the animal.

This should not be construed as a blanket condemnation of such methods, rather an expression of the ethical care which must be taken by practitioners offering such services. It must be said that it proved very difficult to find a consensus on the specific requirements of such an amendment given the wide range of strongly held opinions on the topic.

A Bit of Variety

Cathy Robins and Toni Munroe of the Stratford Veterinary Club were recently called upon to treat a lion and an elephant belonging to Ridgeways Circus.

A 15 month lion was suffering from a severe tooth abscess. Treatment with antibiotics was initiated, but seven days later the infection had not improved. The decision was made to extract the tooth.

Neil Chesterton of the Inglewood Veterinary Club, using a dart gun, anaesthetised the lion. In total two teeth were extracted.

Sheba the elephant requires antibiotic treatment for a recurring kidney complaint from time to time. This was carried out the same day.

All in all, a novel day for our three colleagues.

Source: NZ Vet J May and June/87.

Did you know that:

'Until recently, many researchers believed that livestock were unable to distinguish colours and viewed their environment in graduations of grey. However, Hebel and Sambras (1976) reported complete colour vision in swine and partial colour blindness in herbivores such as cattle and sheep. Colour discrimination tests conducted on 18 month old Friesian heifers showed that the animals had discrimination for all colours except blue and purple; however, orange and yellow were confused (Thines & Soffie, 1977). In a study conducted by Webb (1966), cattle approached yellow lights more readily than other colours, and exhibited no reaction to infrared lamps.'

Source: Aus Vet Practitioner Mar/87

V17 N1: Letter to the Editor from B.D. Johnston, District Livestock Officer, Narrabri, NSW, Australia.

Info wanted

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association would like to receive some information on affiliated and related groups who plan to hold a meeting during Sask '88. "Sask '88" is the 1988 Annual Convention of the CVMA to be held in Saskatoon July 10-13. Information should be sent along to The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, 339 Booth Street, Ottawa Ontario, Canada K1R 7K1.

On the Canadian scene

Canada's fourth veterinary school was officially opened during 1987. On May 9 the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC) University of Prince Edward Island, was officially opened. The Dean of AVC is Dr. Reg Thomson. During the dedication ceremonies Dr. Thomson was introduced to the large gathering by University President Dr. C.W.J. Elliot. Dr. Elliot noted that all the praise being directed at Dr. Thomson was well merited as he, Dr. Thomson, had never stopped working towards the construction and development of AVC once the decision to build the new college had been made. AVC is located at Charlottetown, the capital of Prince Edward Island, which is the smallest of

Canada's Atlantic Provinces.

Preceding the dedication ceremony, Dr. Claudia Lister, President of the Prince Edward Island Veterinary Association, presented to AVC a 'letter of intent' from the Veterinary Medical Associations of Canada's four Atlantic Provinces. This letter notified AVC that a fund had been established and that the earnings from it would be used to provide an annual award to a DVM student. The requirements for the award would be agreed upon by the Associations and the recipient would be chosen by the Awards Committee of AVC.

Construction of the new Equine Research Centre at Guelph is expected

to be completed in 1987. The Centre will be among the most up-to-date facilities of this kind in the world, Director of the Centre is Dr. Russ Willoughby.

In his President's Message in the July/87 Canadian Veterinary Journal Dr. Gary Morgan, President of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, notes that of the 5500 veterinarians in Canada, 3600 are CVMA members. (Editor's note - this would suggest that an estimated 9.2 percent of the veterinarians of the Commonwealth live in Canada).

Source: Can. Vet. Journal July/87 V28 N7.

A bit of history

Many early attempts to establish veterinary schools in North America failed, both before and after Andrew Smith, an 1861 graduate of Edinburgh Veterinary School, set foot on Canadian soil. Yet the college he founded in 1862 is now the oldest veterinary school in continuous operation on this continent.

The Ontario Veterinary College had something the others lacked: Dr. Smith's foresight to begin with a practical four-week course for farmers to "make them acquainted with the principles of their important art" and a close relationship with both the government of Upper Canada and later the provincial government.

Appointed by the Upper Canada Board of Agriculture, Dr. Smith operated the College initially as a private college, later by charter, from 1862 until his retirement in 1908. The first lectures were free to interested young farmers. The first three students graduated in 1866, after completing a two-year course covering anatomy, physiology, *materia medica* and surgery.

Source: U of G Alumnus Sept/87.

CVMA Executive

Members of the 1987-88 executive committee of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association are: President - Dr. T.A. Sanderson (Prov. of Ontario), 1st Vice-President - Dr. E. Shacklady (Prov. of Alberta), 2nd Vice-President - Dr. Grant Spearman (Prov. of Manitoba), New members - Dr. Ronald Taylor (Prov. of Newfoundland) and Dr. Christiane Gagnon (Prov. of Quebec).

A Canadian concern

Soil erosion costs Ontario farmers an estimated \$68 million a year in nutrient and yield losses, says Dr. Miller. In 1984, a Senate report on soil conservation described erosion as "the most serious agricultural crisis" in Canada's history and predicted the loss of a major portion of Canada's agricultural capability if prompt action were not taken.

The loss of productive topsoil is not the only problem. Soil erosion is the

cause of major pollution of Ontario's Great Lakes. Runoff from farm land is the source of about two-thirds of the phosphorus that is destroying marine life in Lake Erie, Dr. Miller says.

Source: U of G Alumnus Sept/87.

Editor's Note: Ontario is one of Canada's ten provinces. Lake Erie is the smallest of a chain of five fresh water lakes, known as the 'Great Lakes'. The Great Lakes lie along the Canada/United States border.



Professor J. Archibald, Chairman CVMA International Development Committee and Secretary/Treasurer, CwVA.

Professor Archibald honoured

Professor Archibald was the recipient of the highest honour of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons, the Award for Distinguished Service.

The ceremony took place in San Antonio, Texas, February 5, 1987 at the Annual Meeting of the college.

The award was presented by Dr. Vladimir Sokolovsky, former member of the ACVS Board of Regents. Dr. Sokolovsky emphasized the international contributions of Professor Archibald and his involvement with the Commonwealth Veterinary Association.

Upcoming Kenya Conference in April 1988

The Kenya Veterinary Association (KVA) will hold its coming annual conference on the 21st and 22nd of April, 1988. The theme of this conference will be **REPRODUCTIVE MANAGEMENT**

Veterinarians from anywhere and everywhere in the Commonwealth, or in the world, would be welcome. The venue and details of this meeting are available from the KVA. Kenya has all the amenities for a fascinating and most pleasant family holiday. The KVA would be pleased to make suggestions and help you get information about hotel accommodation, sightseeing tours and visits to Kenya's famous wildlife parks.

Enquiries should be directed to Dr. C.G. Ndiritu, Kenya Veterinary Association, PO Box 29089, Kabete, Kenya.

Report from Tanzania

Professor Peter Msolla, chairman of the TVA and CwVA council member, reports the following:-

"The TVA organizes an annual 'scientific conference' which brings together animal scientists, livestock economists, rural sociologists, administrators, extension and research workers, and veterinarians. The success of past conferences suggests that this is an ideal platform for the interchange of ideas and an overall 'continuing learning process'. The conferences sprang from the realization of the large gap that existed between professional groups and extension workers (often the implementers of programs) and the target groups (the peasants and the farmers). The sixth of these annual conferences will be held in December of 1988. It is expected that once again numerous African and Commonwealth countries will be represented.

"The TVA has successfully conducted a public information program through

the daily newspapers. The purpose of this public relations program was to create an awareness among the general public, particularly those concerned with agriculture, that veterinarians were not just "syringe and needle people" but that veterinarians were a professional group with a broad mandate in livestock production. As a result of TVA's efforts many more of the public now realize that veterinarians are educated, trained and knowledgeable in many aspects of livestock production, such as nutrition, feeding, shelter, and breeding.

It is interesting to quote from Prof. Msolla's letter:- "The 'syringe and needle' concept is probably made worse by the attitude of some of our veterinarians who tend to ignore various aspects of animal production, even though they are quite knowledgeable about these".

Veterinary authorities the world over are familiar with this situation.

Interesting letter

Editor's note: It seems appropriate to include this "Letter to the editor" in our East/Central/Southern Africa section.

10 Oct 1987

Dear Editor:

It was encouraging to read Dr. Tofa's informative article in the July/87 CwVA News that much goes well with the Swaziland Veterinary Service. It was less encouraging however to note that no mention was made of the meat inspection service which in my time consisted of about 12 full time staff of whom 10 were qualified meat inspectors headed by a veterinarian. Are we to infer from this omission that Swaziland no longer exports beef to the EEC and elsewhere?

Yours truly,
George L. Somerville,
10 Miller Avenue,
Tarrytown, New York, 10591,
USA.

News from Lesotho

The Lesotho Veterinary Medical Association has successfully been registered as an association with the Law Office in Lesotho.

The Association has His Majesty, Moshoeshoe II as its Patron. He has shown tremendous interest in the livestock industry and its development in this country. We are thrilled to have him as our Patron.

The following were elected as a new executive for the year 1987:

Dr. M. Moteane, Chairman
Dr. L. Letuka, Vice Chairman
Dr. L. Khomari, Secretary
Dr. Abdel Messieh, Treasurer
Dr. D. Scott, Member.

The association has had several get-togethers. The following meetings on continuing education, addressed by renowned figures on the subjects, were held:

Equine influenza and its control
Use of antibiotics on superficial wounds

Ticks and tick control in the Southern African region

Use of hormones in beef and dairy cattle

Contributed by Dr. Moteane, CwVA Council Member.

Did you know that: _____

Cases of mercury poisoning, leading to self mutilation and mental retardation, have been reported. These cases were associated with the agricultural use of chemicals. Persons working with these chemicals must be made aware of their dangers. Regulations are needed to control their use and to ensure proper labelling, detailing the contents and proper and safe use of the product. Industrialized countries should bear this in mind, before exporting such chemicals to developing countries.
Source: CAMHADD Newsletter July/87.

Council members

Council members of East/Central/Southern Africa are:

Botswana - Dr. I.T. Ndzinge

Kenya - Dr. G.G. Kamau

Lesotho - Dr. M. Moteane

Malawi - Dr. S.J. Ndaomba

Mauritius - Dr. V.B. Groodyol

Swaziland - Dr. J. G. Dube

Tanzania - Dr. P. Msolla

Uganda - Dr. I.D. Odur

Zambia - Dr. C. Oparaocha

Zimbabwe - Dr. D. Batchelor

Report on Seminar of Administrators of Programs and Educators of Animal Health Assistants

March 21 - 24, 1987,
Banjul, The Gambia

Acknowledgements:

The officers and members of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association gratefully acknowledge the support and encouragement received from the Commonwealth Foundation, The Commonwealth Secretariat, The Canadian International Development Agency, The Agricultural Training Board, and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association.

Appreciation is also expressed for the contributions of the following commercial firms: Merck, Sharp and Dohme, May and Baker, Duphar Veterinary Ltd., Bayer A.G., and R.M.B. Animal Health Ltd.

The Government of The Gambia was especially helpful with arrangements for the seminar and its hospitality was warm and gracious.

Special thanks are extended to the guest lecturers and the participants in the Seminar.

The Reason:

In a recent survey of trained manpower in the livestock sector conducted by the FAO, it was found that there is a relative abundance of professionals as compared to middle level technicians in Africa. In many of our countries, animal health requirements can be more easily met through the services of well-trained animal health assistants. Thus, for many of us, the education and training of the assistant is crucially important.

Many African countries have their own institutions for training middle level personnel. However the course content, duration of training and qualifications obtained vary from country to country. It is necessary to harmonize the curricula so as to obtain a minimum standard of qualification that will be recognized by employers and educational institutions in Commonwealth countries. This need underscores the importance of this 'Seminar for Administrators and Educators of Animal Health Assistants'. - Dr. B. N. Touray, The Gambia.

The Purpose:

Over the past few years, there has been a proliferation of training pro-

grams and a rapid increase in the number of institutions, within the Commonwealth, offering courses for the education of Animal Health Assistants. It became obvious to the Commonwealth Veterinary Association that a great disparity existed in standards for admission to and requirements for graduation from such courses. It was also observed that, in some cases, neither governments nor veterinary associations had established uniform guidelines for the duties and responsibilities appropriate for the new discipline.

This Seminar was designed to identify the strengths, weaknesses and similarities of these programs as well as associated problems and, where appropriate, offer suggestions for improvement. -Professor G. F. Hamilton (Chairman): Canada.

The Accomplishments:

The formulation and presentation of the following appropriate and realistic "Guidelines for Animal Health Assistant Training Programs".

Program Objective

The objective of an Animal Health Assistant training program is to provide knowledgeable, supportive, paraprofessional (subprofessional) staff to assist veterinarians.

Length of Course

Two years is the minimum acceptable time required to adequately train personnel to this level of competence.

Recognition of the Course of Study

The course of study (program) should be a recognized part of the secondary educational system of the jurisdiction (country or state) within which it is located.

Admission Requirements

A General Certificate in Education with five "O" levels with credit in English and Chemistry is required. A pre-entry field experience may be a reasonable admission requirement or be an integral part of a three-year course.

Curriculum

The details are the responsibility of the staff of the institution offering the program but the following subject matter is essential.

A. Biological Sciences

Anatomy-gross anatomy of the animal body with emphasis on those parts or surgical and radiographic interest.

Physiology-a basic understanding of the normal function of the body systems including body water, electrolytes, acid-base balance, blood, urinary, respiratory, digestive, circulatory, reproductive, endocrine and nervous systems.

Genetics-the principles of genetics and inheritance with emphasis on the mechanisms of cell division and inheritance.

Immunobiology-an introduction to disease and a study of defence mechanisms of the animal body including phagocytic and immunological systems.

Microbiology - an introduction to veterinary microbiology including bacteriology, mycology, virology and parasitology and the principles of sterilization and disinfection.

Instrumentation - an introduction to the operation and use of common laboratory equipment used in veterinary practice. Analytical technique, accuracy and safety to be emphasized.

Introductory Biochemistry - an introduction to basic biochemistry and metabolism.

Clinical Chemistry- Chemistry, metabolism and determination of body fluid levels of clinically relevant parameters. Sample collection and preservation, quality control and organ function tests to be emphasized.

Mathematics-sufficient to allow an understanding of laboratory pro-

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cedures and equipment and basic statistics to aid in scientific studies.

Animal Systems- studies to include basic nutrition and feeding, husbandry and knowledge of breeds of dogs, cats, cattle, horses and laboratory animals.

B. Medical Sciences

Medical Exercises- an introduction to working with and handling domestic animals. A practical course to include bathing, grooming, restraint, routine medication and bandaging with an introduction to some of the more common clinical equipment.

Anesthetic Principles- practical and theoretical aspects of anesthetic techniques in animals.

Animal Nursing - practical animal nursing skills required for hospitalized animals (both sick and healthy). To include the operation of clinical equipment associated with nursing care.

- Principles of ethics and jurisprudence pertaining to the veterinary profession.
- Knowledge of common disease conditions of domestic animals.

Clinical Techniques - a time to develop laboratory skills required by veterinary practice.

- Case material should provide the source of many of the teaching samples.

- Emphasis placed on applied microbiology, hematology, parasitology, mycology, urinalysis.

Radiography - principles governing the common aspects of radiographic technique. Laboratory portion should emphasize positioning and safety.

Surgical Protocol - supportive skills associated with veterinary surgery including assisting, instrument handling, anesthesia, bandaging, splinting, casting, monitoring, etc.

Pharmacology - introduction to pharmacological terminology, absorption, distribution metabolism, excretion and action of drugs, legal aspects of pharmacology, drug classes commonly used in veterinary medicine.

Communications- communication skills required by animal health technicians in veterinary practice. Course content to include interpersonal communication skills and report writing.

Office Procedures - Accounting - management of the office of an animal hospital to include payroll, filing, collection and purchasing procedures.

Public Health - relationship between animal and human health. Knowledge of common zoonoses.

Use of simple terms to measure health and disease in a population.

Animal Behaviour Animal Handling - to develop an understanding of behavioural characteristics of animals, the psychological and practical aspects of handling animals, an appreciation of the human-companion animal bond and be familiar with the physical requirements of animals.

Introduction to Microcomputers - to gain an understanding of how programs are created and operated and how data can be stored and processed.

Diseases - a basic understanding of common diseases of animals with consideration given to recognition, importance and treatment methods.

In addition to the above core curriculum, colleges are encouraged to introduce students to special techniques and procedures such as histologic technique, ultrasound, fluoroscopy and research and extension methods (training of farmers).

Teaching Methodology - The information transfer of the subject matter requires the use of the lecture and laboratory format, however, to the extent possible, practical "hands on" experiences are stressed.

Recommendations:-

1. Common standards for Animal Health Assistant Programs - to facilitate maximum utilization of trained personnel and movement within and to other jurisdictions.
2. Periodic review and accreditation of programs - to maintain acceptable standards and provide for improvement.
3. Rules and regulations for the employment, role and lawful activities of Animal Health Assistants should be developed and attached to the Veterinary Practice Act in each jurisdiction.
4. In those jurisdictions where the name is established, graduates of these programs continue to be known as "Animal Health Assistants".



Chairman of CwVA Seminar, Professor Gavin Hamilton, Dean of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Canada.

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Nigeria - Professor Tom Aire.

The Animal Health Schools in Nigeria, with the exception of the one at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, and the National Veterinary Research Institute, Vom, were established by regional governments. With the creation of 19 states from the three regions, it became necessary to affiliate the regional schools to nearby Universities. That is why all of them, except the federal government owned school at Vom, are now arms of universities.

These schools are located at Ibadan (Animal Health School, Institute of Agricultural Research and Training, University of Ife), Makurdi (now affiliated to Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria), Nsukka (part of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Nigeria, Nsukka), and Vom (part of the National Veterinary Research Institute).

Most students are sponsored by the state governments and are bonded to serve those governments for prescribed periods after training.

Diploma Courses and Duration

(a) Ordinary National Diploma (O.N.D.) - two years.

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(b) Higher National Diploma (H.N.D.) - two years.

Candidates for the H.N.D. course must normally work in the field after the O.N.D. course for at least one year to be eligible for admission into the H.N.D. courses.

- the training programs are geared towards meeting the needs of the animal health aspect of the economy of the nation.

- facilities for training this cadre of staff are deteriorating, and need replacement or refurbishment in order to maintain and or improve upon quality of the graduates;

- Unfortunately, these assistants are hardly mentioned in the various animal and public health edicts or decrees or acts of the Country.

- The Veterinary Council of Nigeria Decree severely neglected to make mention of this category of subprofessionals.

The Gambia - Mrs. Edna Corrah (Animal Husbandry Officer)

- The Training Sector-Unit of the Department of Animal Health and Production is not basically a training unit. It manifests itself as a small dependent unit within the general framework of the department.

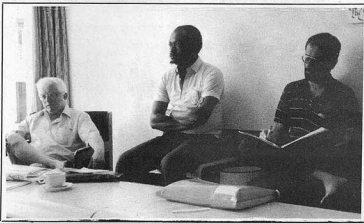
- We determine the level of knowledge and the skills of the trainees. We then determine what the trainees specifically need to gain from the training program.

- In developing the training we specify our objectives and goals and then make a general training plan, including the subjects to be taught. Training falls within the governmental time framework (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.).

- The delivery of our training program is never free of problems because we have to use our senior health and husbandry officers as part-time lecturers. We have discovered that they delegate their teaching time to second place in comparison with other duties.

- A higher calibre of veterinary assistant needs to be trained to assist in extension work. As the number of veterinary surgeons is inadequate we have decided to train veterinary assistants to execute extension duties necessary in the field. It is pertinent to note that the present number of veterinary assistants stands at 98. We need a further 150 for effective work.

- Our classes are mainly lectures, with very little group discussion and practically no case studies. Lack of funds results in a shortage of teaching aids,



Speakers at CwVA Seminar were left to right, Drs. Trevor Blackburn (UK); William Amanfu (Ghana-West Africa); Abdul Rahman (India-Asia).

such as audio visuals. Shortages of transport and fuel make it impossible to plan field trips. This is all very discouraging for our teaching staff and as a result motivation is lacking.

- We have a library but no trained librarian to supervise its activities. More books are necessary and a general reorganization is in order. Library hours are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- Plans are afoot for our training program to come under the control of Brikama College, an educational institution of The Gambia. There would then be a permanent teaching staff. Instructional materials and adequate teaching aids would be available and more use would be made of the library.

Ghana - Dr. William Amanfu

The training of Animal Health Assistants (Technical Officers) in Ghana started in earnest in 1960 at Pong-Tamale, with an initial intake of 12 students. Prior to the commencement of local training of Animal Health Assistants in Ghana, training in this sphere of veterinary activity was done by Vom, Nigeria. The history of Animal Health Assistant training is closely related to the establishment of Veterinary Services Department in the then Gold Coast and it is pertinent to review briefly, the history of Veterinary Services in Ghana Vis a Vis Animal Health Assistant Training.

The colonial British Administration in the Gold Coast, commissioned Dr. W.P. Beal, a Veterinary Surgeon, to establish the Veterinary Department as a wing of the Gold Coast Medical Services in 1909. His specific terms of reference were two namely:

i) to find out the animal diseases that were indigenous to the country.

ii) to help to improve the breeding and husbandry practices of the cattle owners.

He was assisted in this enormous task by only one dispenser from the medical department. By 1920, the department had two veterinary surgeons and six medical dispensers. The staff was found to be inadequate to cover the whole country and also ill trained for the job. Therefore, it was decided to establish a Veterinary Assistants Training School. This school was eventually established in 1922 in Pong-Tamale, with Dr. Gurbak Singh, an Indian veterinary surgeon, as the first head. He had a tour of three years after which he left the country. There was no replacement for him and due to shortage of funds and staff, the training was discontinued.

During the early fifties, Ghanaians were being trained in Vom, Nigeria, for the department. The number of places at the institute for Ghanaians was limited so it became necessary to start the training in Ghana again. The United States Government realizing the importance of the college in the livestock industry of the country, provided funds under a Technical Cooperation Agreement, for construction work to begin in 1958 which was subsequently completed in 1960. Thus in 1960, the Veterinary Training School was restarted at Pong-Tamale with an initial intake of 12 students under the headship of Dr. S.C. Schroder, a Danish veterinarian. An additional course in Technical Officer (Laboratory) was introduced in 1974.

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As has been stated earlier, the pioneers of the Veterinary Profession in Ghana were Britishers. The diseases of significance that engaged the attention of the early pioneers of the profession in the then Gold Coast, were Rinderpest and Bovine Trypanosomiasis. No professional training of locals was actively pursued until the middle of 1950's when some Gold Coasters were sent to the U.K., Canada, and the United States to study Veterinary Medicine. The expatriate Veterinary Surgeons were assisted either by the Animal Health Assistants trained in Vom, or by untrained personnel commonly referred to then as cattle patrol or Veterinary Guards. The training of Veterinary Surgeons assumed an accelerated pace after political independence. Candidates were sent to Western and Eastern Europe for studies. Veterinary schools were established in Kenya and Nigeria and these absorbed a lot of Ghanaians for training, more so when entry into Veterinary Schools in Western Countries proved very difficult. As at present, entry into Veterinary Schools in Africa is becoming increasingly difficult as harsh economic conditions have not permitted the expansion of such schools to cater for the increased number of qualified applicants both locally and internationally. The training school was established at Pong-Tamale for the following reasons:

i) Pong-Tamale is a town in the middle of Ghana's heavy livestock population, as such, good clinical and practical exposure was readily available.

ii) The Veterinary Station had in place:

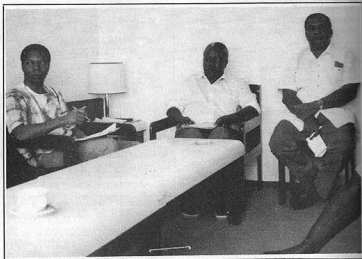
a) A laboratory-producing lapinized Rinderpest, C.B.P.P. and Fowlpox vaccines and a Diagnostic Service.

b) Government livestock farms engaged in beef, milk, poultry and pork production.

c) Administratively, the Northern Region headquarters of the Veterinary Services Department was located here.

The school has trained a number of African animal health assistants. Included have been International students from the Gambia, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, and South Africa. Some have gone on to become veterinary surgeons of eminence in their respective countries.

Animal Health Assistants (Technical Officers) play an important role in the animal health care delivery system in



Speakers at CwVA Seminar were left to right, Drs. Tom Aire (Nigeria-West Africa); George Kamau (Kenya-E/C/S Africa); Frank Mongul (Guyana-Caribbean Area, South America).

livestock and pet practice. In Ghana, as in most developing countries, their role in the livestock sector of Agricultural output is significant. That being the case, efforts at increasing their work knowledge and technical efficiency should be encouraged.

It is unfortunate that this important level of veterinary manpower requirement is given little attention by most countries in Africa. The breakdown of the Veterinary Services and re-emergence of major livestock epizootics in Africa can be attributed in part, to poor middle level stratum. Exodus of veterinarians (both experienced and recent graduates) during the deep economic crisis of Africa in the late 70's and early 80's left a large manpower void which led to the collapse of Veterinary Services in most countries.

Kenya - Dr. George Kamau

The training program for Animal Health Assistants in Kenya was started in July, 1965, in one Institution (Animal Health and Industry Training Institute) - Kabete. The aim of the Institute was to train Technical Assistants who will be in constant touch with livestock owners and who will be able to give advice to livestock owners on livestock disease control, livestock production improvement through better management. The

animal health trainees were also trained on how to handle and process animal products such as milk, hides and skins. Due to increased demand for Animal Health Technicians, two more institutes have been opened since 1978. These are AHITI-Nyahururu and AHITI-Ndomba. Both institutes offer Animal Health two year courses whereas the Animal Health Institute at Kaebete offers two year courses in Animal Health, Range Management, Hides and Skins Improvement. Two shorter courses - Leathercraft (one year) and Artificial Insemination (six weeks) are also offered.

The training of the Animal Health Assistants is carried out by Qualified Veterinary Officers, graduate animal production officers, graduate Agricultural Officers with a minimum of three years field experience. They are assisted by Technical Assistants who act as demonstrators in practicals and demonstrations. About fifty percent of the teaching time is devoted to practical aspects of the training. The Animal Health Assistant trainee practicals include training in practical skills, farm visits, field work with the veterinary Department of Inoculation - campaigns against diseases such as Foot and Mouth, Rinderpest; Anthrax

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and Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia, etc.

During the two year course, the animal health assistant trainees at Kabete spend one term at AAHITI Extension based, at a farmers training institute where they become familiar with routine farm work as well as receiving specialized demonstration such as dip management, haymaking, castration, docking, clean milk production and practical animal handling. They also spend four weeks in Naivasha Dairy Training School where further clean milk production and processing milk products such as butter, ghee, cheese and yogurt are taught. At the other two institutes at Ndomba and Nyahururu the trainees are exposed to farm work and practical handling of livestock throughout their two years training on the institute's farm. The curriculum for the two year course covers six terms of approximately 13 weeks duration each.

The objectives of the training are to produce a graduate with adequate skills and knowledge in animal health, animal production and extension, who will be able to adequately advise livestock owners on how to control diseases, improve their livestock management and carry out simple treatment, supervise disease control projects, eg. dipping and be able to diagnose and report outbreak of diseases to the veterinary officers in charge of their areas.

Most of the graduates are employed by the government as Technical Assistants in the Veterinary Services, others are taken for further training as laboratory technicians, meat hygiene technicians, and artificial inseminators.

The graduates of animal health work directly under qualified veterinary officers who are registered. They are not licensed and are not permitted to issue prescriptions or charge for any treatment that they may carry out unless directed by a veterinary officer.

After serving for some two years, graduates may be considered for upgrading courses at Egerton College where they do a diploma course in animal production or animal health. After the diploma course, the degree course at the University of Nairobi is open to the very bright ones.

India - Prof. Abdul Rahman LIVESTOCK CENSUS AND NUMBER OF VETERINARIANS AND ANIMAL HEALTH ASSISTANTS

Cattle	191 Million
Sheep	58 Million
Goats	91 Million
Pigs	10 Million
Poultry	196 Million
Equines	1 Million
Camels	1.5 Million
Buffalo	70 Million

Total Number of Veterinarians - 30,000 (Approx.)

Total Number of Animal Health Assistants - 52,000 (Approx.)

ADMINISTRATIVE SET-UP OF VETERINARY ACTIVITY IN INDIA

States	24
Union Territories	8

STATE ORGANIZATION

District - Veterinary Hospital
Taluk - Veterinary Dispensary
Village - Rural Veterinary Dispensary
Artificial Insemination Centre.

PROMOTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Veterinary Livestock Inspector at
Entry - Grade II
Grade I
Supervisor

EXAMPLE OF KARNATAKA DISTRICT Number of Animal Health Assistants

700 Rural Veterinary Dispensaries
500 Artificial Insemination Centres
175 Veterinary Dispensaries
300 Veterinary Hospitals
150 Livestock Farms

ROLE OF ANIMAL HEALTH ASSISTANTS

Discharge of duties of the veterinary officer in his absence, or where there is no veterinary officer such as a village to:

1. Treat animals.
2. To attend the outbreaks of various diseases and vaccinate the animals.
3. To attend to emergency calls of treatment.
4. To attend to the work of castration of scrub bulls and to undertake artificial insemination work and to diagnose the stage of pregnancy in the cattle and buffaloes.
5. To attend to the work of poultry, sheep and piggery development through advanced animal husbandry practices.
6. To attend to the work of extension activities in the form of organization of cattle and other livestock shows.

7. To attend to the work of providing advice on animal management feeding schedule and rearing practices to the livestock farmers.

8. To attend to the work of fodder and pasture development.

9. To assist the senior officers in the research laboratories, diagnostic laboratories and in the institutions engaged in the production of veterinary biologicals.

Canada - Prof. Gavin Hamilton

The objective of the accredited AHA training programs currently operating in Canada is to train technical personnel to assist veterinarians in clinical veterinary practice. The institution offering the course of study must be a part of the post-secondary educational system of the province within which it is located. The pre-requisites for the course are senior matriculation or secondary school graduation and Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics are preferred subjects. The course is at least two years in length and the curricular elements are outlined in the C.V.M.A. Standards and Procedures for Animal Health Technician programs.

The teaching methods employed are formal didactic lectures, laboratories and hands-on clinical practice activities centered within the institution for the most part, but may also include external experiences with veterinarians in the practice setting.

The programs are aimed at training assistants for veterinarians in clinical veterinary practice. The object is to develop the skills and knowledge of the graduates so that they can secure gainful employment in veterinary hospitals. The graduates are trained to provide assistance with diagnostic services such as exposing and developing radiographs, inducing and maintaining anesthesia in animals, performing clinical laboratory tests including equipment maintenance and use, performing autopsies on animals and collecting and submitting tissue samples for analysis, assistance in surgical operating rooms, hospital reception and animal care including laboratory animal species.

United Kingdom - Mr. Trevor Blackburn

Animal Health Assistants, as recognized at this seminar, are not known in the United Kingdom. There are a number of people who work at

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subprofessional levels and these are usually referred to as lay people or lay assistants. These fall into three main categories:-

1.-Farm Workers

Employees of animal owners. This covers such people as farm workers, kennel workers and a variety of people in the livestock industry. There is no formal training, but there are a variety of courses organized by the Agriculture Training Board for farm staff leading to craftsmen or stockmen's certificates.

2.-Veterinary Nurses

These people are trained to assist veterinary surgeons in practice - usually small animal practice. The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons has supervised a scheme for what used to be called Registered Animal Nursing Auxiliaries (RANA's) since 1961. Their name has recently been changed to Veterinary Nurses. This change in name is tied up with tradition in the United Kingdom. Originally, the RANA's, as they used to be called, could not be called "nurses" because the nursing profession objected to the use of their title by people dealing with animals. Recently, a ruling was made that the nursing profession did not have the sole right to the title and the RANA's changed their name to Veterinary Nurses (VN).

3.-Animal Health Officers

A third category is employed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in the State Veterinary Service. These people are known as Animal Health Officers.

As well as poultry testing, they perform such tasks as supervision of premises disinfection, following outbreaks of disease; collect blood and milk samples; record data in disease surveys; etc.

Training takes place "on the job" and is given by senior officers within the service. New recruits attend a one-week course on Ministry procedures and then at various times in their career, they attend various other courses to train them for various aspects of the work.

It will be seen that there is scope for use of lay staff in the United Kingdom. There are now also a number of lay cattle foot trimmers in operation and people carrying out pregnancy diagnosis on sheep using the latest techniques.

Guyana (South America) - Dr. Frank Mongul

At the first meeting of the Food and Agriculture Organization/World Health Organization (FAO/WHO) Expert Panel on Veterinary Education held in Rome in 1962, there was general acceptance that auxiliary personnel could make an outstanding contribution to the animal industry by extending the scope of the veterinary services. In countries where there were insufficient veterinarians, they could usefully be employed in some aspects of disease control, minor surgery, food inspection, livestock development and some regulatory work.

Since that meeting, a new development had taken place and there had risen spontaneously in a number of developed countries a demand to train lay personnel in a number of capacities to assist veterinarians in a variety of disciplines. Also in some developing regions, the use of Animal Health Assistants had been shown to be a successful method of utilizing and extending the services of the few highly trained veterinarians at the optimal level.

A pre-condition for building up and protecting a viable livestock industry was the establishment of an efficient veterinary service which was able to protect invested capital so urgently needed in the livestock industry of the Region; to protect protein losses resulting from animal diseases and to prevent the introduction of exotic, zoonotic, and food-borne diseases.

Experience in other developing regions had shown that the use of Animal Health and Veterinary Public Health Assistants was a successful method of utilizing and extending the services of highly trained doctors of veterinary medicine at the optimal level. Animal health services could be more economically provided by placing the AHA's and VPHA's under general veterinary supervision while performing specific duties for which they had been trained. This would free the veterinarians from routine technical activities, permitting more emphasis on programming, planning and administration.

The protection of the valuable animal resources of the region, as well as the protection of human health, required the presence of veterinary services sufficiently staffed to ensure a satisfactory surveillance of the animal populations.

The most practical solution to the problem (scarcity of veterinarians in

the Caribbean) appeared to be to train an intermediate level technician who could act as an extension of the veterinarian and under his supervision would make it possible to bring veterinary science and technology to increasing numbers of farmers without causing excessive financial burdens to the government's budget resources.

From "THE ROLE OF THE ANIMAL HEALTH ASSISTANT IN LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT" by Mr. Trevor Blackburn of the UK

-There are so many problems with no finite solutions.

-It is necessary to study all problems against a background of current events.

-The only real answer is eventual self-sufficiency. This is very difficult to achieve in some areas but is obviously the only long-term solution.

-It has been recognized by African leaders that without a solution to the region's food problems it would be impossible to achieve economic and social progress.

-Edouard Saouma points out that a frequent reason for the failure of livestock development projects has been the lack of involvement of local populations in planning and carrying out these schemes. He states that in the future such projects, must wherever possible use a 'bottom-up' rather than a 'top-down' approach.

-FAO figures indicate that over half the world's livestock is in developing countries. Unfortunately much of that livestock is of an indifferent quality.

-It is estimated that, in Sub Saharan Africa, some 40% of a population of 380 million depend primarily on livestock production and 58% depend, in varying degrees, on the productivity of animals.

-Livestock, particularly ruminants, can process forage and waste crop materials into nutritional desirable food products.

-Some 12% of the world's population live in areas where food crops cannot be easily grown and where people depend entirely on the products obtained from ruminant livestock.

-Livestock produce a range of extremely valuable by-products such as dung, hides and wool.

-Livestock provide a major source of energy in rural areas for ploughing, pumping water and transportation. Traditional forms of animal transport are becoming ever more important in some parts of the world.

It has previously been indicated that

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there has been a change in the attitudes of government towards agriculture. Nonetheless, the fact remains that the livestock production in many countries is in decline because of the failure of governments to maintain high quality of animal health care. In a review of animal health service in Sub Saharan Africa attention was drawn to the fact that the quality of the services is actually deteriorating. In many countries, veterinary services lack the means to operate because the growth in personnel has not been matched by a parallel increase in operational funds.

In a recent review of the position Freeman (1986) (now reported in the recent Newsletter) called attention to the fact that no longer are the veterinary services able to deal with the major outbreaks of disease as they have done in the past because of lack of funds and also he suggests lack of will on the part of some governments to impose regulations.

Government attitude towards the utilization of Animal Health Assistants varies from country to country both developed and developing. In some cases they are looked upon as a stopgap measure until such time as there are sufficient veterinary surgeons to carry out particular tasks. In other cases where there have been well-founded Animal Health Assistant training schools there has been the temptation to upgrade these to veterinary colleges, produce veterinary surgeons for which there is no work with a result that there are over-qualified people and no Animal Health Assistants to perform the tasks which they used to perform.

If the requirements for improved agricultural and livestock development are to be fulfilled then not only is an efficient veterinary service required, there must also be an efficient support service. We must have an intermediate cadre of highly trained staff who are capable of not only dealing with animals but also dealing with people and training farmers to look after their own stock. With the difficulties in communications, lack of transport, etc. lack of funds in general, it is essential that livestock owners are able to help themselves if they are to progress any further.

At the International Workshop for Trainers of Animal Health Auxiliaries and Livestock Farmers in Sri Lanka 1982, the section on training of trainers, specified target group as veterinarians

and allied professionals engaged in the training of animal health assistants and farmers. I would suggest that the target group should be the training of Animal Health Assistants to make them capable of training farmers. There are insufficient professional veterinary surgeons to train farmers in rural areas.

At the conference in Sri Lanka 1982, the Honourable S. Thondaman, Minister of Rural Industrial Development, in his opening address remarked, "I have attended international conferences for over 25 years and my experience is that very little meaningful action comes out of the volumes of reports prepared at these meetings. I hope your conclusions will not be like that but will lead to practical proposals for the improvement of the lot of disadvantaged farmers". I sincerely echo his remarks and hope that we also will produce something in the way of meaningful action.

COMMENTARY ON DELIVERING VETERINARY SERVICES

In some jurisdictions, veterinarians have become distanced from the primary animal care function such that animal health assistants have become responsible for first-level service. The necessity for veterinarians to rededicate themselves to deliver primary level care cannot be overemphasized; the Animal Health Assistant is trained to assist the veterinarian, not replace the professional person. To the extent that veterinarians have voluntarily withdrawn from their traditional role as basic animal health care practitioners, they should be encouraged to reestablish that relationship with animal owners; to the extent that

governments have allowed this to happen, they should move to correct it. It is possible that government policy may be required to facilitate change. This may, of necessity, take the form of legislation to define the role and responsibility of veterinarians separate and apart from those of Animal Health Assistants. There is confusion over the appropriate and legitimate functions that should be assigned only to veterinarians compared to those activities that can reasonably be expected of Animal Health Assistants in some countries; this is especially true in some states in India.

In some situations, there is evidence that delivery of care is limited, even constrained, by inadequate transportation. If veterinary professional and Animal Health Assistant services to livestock agriculture are to be optimized, a suitable transportation system must be given priority, not as a temporary measure, but as an integral part of the animal health care strategy.

The seminar was sponsored by the Commonwealth Veterinary Association and attracted approximately fifty participants representing many countries, especially from the CwVA regions of East/Central/Southern Africa and West Africa.

There were eight formal presentations representative of programs in Guyana, Canada, United Kingdom, India and from continental Africa, there were submissions from The Gambia, Kenya, Ghana and Nigeria. In addition, there was an overview submission by a representative of the Agriculture Training Board, United Kingdom dealing with the "training of trainers".

Advertising Space

Commonwealth Circulation

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Productive efforts in the United Kingdom

During his term as vice-president Trevor Blackburn, President of the CwVA and UK council member, accomplished much on behalf of the CwVA. Several years of low profile semi-dormancy on the part of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association had resulted in little being known about the CwVA. To identify the CwVA, to create an awareness of its presence, to establish its credibility were tasks that had to be done and CwVA coworkers are now well aware that Trevor succeeded in doing them. Because of Trevor Blackburn's determined and persistent efforts a great many people now appreciate the important role that the CwVA is striving to play in the development processes of developing lands of the Commonwealth. There is now an awareness that the CwVA is not only capable of playing important and vital roles in many areas of development but that the CwVA is needed for that purpose.

As with all CwVA workers Trevor Blackburn's time and efforts were and are given freely and voluntarily, with no personal remuneration in return. Numerous were his visits to Marlborough House for discussions with Sharon Robinson, projects officer of the Commonwealth Foundation, and with its director, Mr. Inoke Faletau. At Marlborough House, Trevor also met with officials of the Commonwealth Secretariat. Closer communications and a better understanding between all parties were brought about. Trevor attended meetings of the Commonwealth Professional Associations (CPA), he visited veterinary educational institutions in the UK, and he contacted, both in person and by correspondence, numerous pharmaceutical corporations. Of great importance to the CwVA are the closer ties that are now established with the British Veterinary Association.

Trevor Blackburn is a man of en-

thusiasm, energy and diligence. His work as vice-president produced an awareness of the existence of the CwVA, resulting in more understanding of CwVA activities and a much greater appreciation of what the CwVA is striving to do. Evidence of that was the increased support which made possible the very successful 1987 CwVA Pan-African meetings and seminar in the Gambia. The 'Book and Journal' program, under Bert Stevenson of Canada, has now the benefits of a cooperative hands-across-the-sea relationship with BVA's 'Book, Journal and Small Items' program, under Mike Teale. The CwVA News profited from Trevor's efforts. It now has a technical section, made possible by the generosity of the Centre for Tropical Veterinary Medicine at Easter Bush, Scotland.

Trevor Blackburn has made 'COOPERATION' a byword in the vocabulary of the CwVA.

Twinning - A pilot project

At the meeting of the Overseas Committee of the British Veterinary Association (26 October 1987) the first sets of "twins" were arranged. Various divisions within BVA are now twinned with veterinary associations in various parts of the Commonwealth.

What does this mean?

Perhaps it would be as well to start by defining what is meant by twinning.

In order to improve communications within the Commonwealth and to facilitate personal contacts the idea arose of twinning various associations within the Commonwealth.

The word 'twin' is used because this is intended to imply equal partners. The idea is that paired associations should exchange ideas, publications and, in the course of time, possibly personnel. The stated aims of the programme are: 1. The establishment of professional and social relationships for the furtherment of veterinary knowledge and social understanding. 2. To foster and facilitate the movement of veterinary students and graduates from one country to the other. 3. To develop the Book and Equipment Help Scheme. 4. To visit each other's countries for professional and social benefit and in particular to attend congresses and conferences. 5. To stimulate the development of personal relationships.

One thing which twinning is not, it is not intended to be paternal or patronising. It is not aimed at twinning the so called developing countries with the so

called developed countries. It is not the intention that countries should necessarily twin with Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand etc. We all have expertise, knowledge and information which we can share with each other.

It is hoped that as the programme progresses all countries within the Commonwealth will wish to twin with other countries, and obviously there is nothing to stop anyone doing this at any time whenever they like. Hopefully, eventually each country will twin with several other countries, preferably some countries similar to themselves and possibly other countries which have a different background to themselves. For example, it may be useful for some of the Caribbean Islands to twin with some of the Pacific Islands to share notes on some of their similarities and differences, but each in turn twinning with an association from a large country which will have a vastly different veterinary organization, for example, an African Association and perhaps one in India.

It is stressed that the whole point is to improve personal relationships and eventually setting up one-to-one relationships.

How does one set about doing this?

The British Veterinary Association, having many different Divisions, agreed to run a pilot project to investigate how best to set up this scheme. The Divisions were asked who

would be interested in twinning and Commonwealth veterinary associations were likewise asked. Lists of associations were prepared from both groups, and it is now possible to twin a certain number of them.

Twinning arranged to date includes:

- BANGLADESH — Goat Veterinary Society;
- THE CARIBBEAN — Southern Counties Veterinary Association;
- THE GAMBIA — British Veterinary Zoological Society;
- GHANA — Lancashire Veterinary Association;
- KENYA — British Equine Veterinary Association;
- MALAWI — Association of State Veterinary Officers;
- MALAYSIA — North of Ireland Veterinary Association;
- SIERRA LEONE — Scottish Branch;
- SRI LANKA — Lakeland Veterinary Association;
- SWAZILAND — South East Veterinary Association;
- TANZANIA — Western Counties Veterinary Association;
- ZIMBABWE — Mid-West Veterinary Association.

The pilot project will be assessed in 6 months' time and information gained, problems which arise, suggestions for improvement etc., will be passed on to facilitate extending the programme throughout the Commonwealth.

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Study on 2- and 3- day watering of Boran cattle

Source: CTVM's Newsletters and CTVM's Tropical Information Leaflets (TIL). Courtesy of Centre for Tropical Veterinary Medicine, Easter Bush, Scotland.

The Cost to Productivity and the Potential Benefits of 2- and 3- Day Watering of Boran Cattle

The Borana pastoral tribe in southern Ethiopia and northern Kenya water their cattle every three days. In the past, the Maasai and other pastoral tribes also adopted this practice, but have discontinued it, presumably due to increased water supplies. In other pastoral regions of Africa, alternate-day watering is resorted to in the dry season.

No experiment has previously studied the effect of infrequent watering on breeding cows and their offspring. This study was conducted to determine whether watering cattle every third day constituted a constraint on productivity in the Borana system. The effects of two- and three-day watering needed to be quantified, since it was assumed that there is a trade-off bet-

ween the expected lower animal productivity and the possible benefits of the practice. The main factors studied were the effects of three-day watering on cow performance, and on calf and subsequent weaner growth.

A 28-month trial was conducted under extensive grazing conditions to examine the effects of watering Boran cattle once daily, once every two days and once every three days, with cattle watered *ad libitum* serving as the control. In the dry season, the weight and condition of lactating cows watered every three days declined more rapidly than that of cows watered daily. There were no significant differences in calving rates and birth weights were depressed by 2.5 kg in all treatments compared with the control. Thirty steers showed no treatment differences in 27-month weights despite animals watered every three days having a significantly lower DM intake during the dry season. In contrast, 210-day weaning weights were significantly depressed by 9 kg under two-day watering and by 14 kg under three-day watering when compared with calves watered daily. The total amount of

water consumed was reduced by 5-10% in all classes of stock under two-day watering and by 25-34% under three-day watering compared with cattle watered daily. The results show that watering every three days can be carried out indefinitely with all classes of stock with only minor effects on cattle productivity under the climatic conditions in which the trial was conducted.

The benefits of two- and three-day watering are fourfold.

Firstly, grazing resources further from water can be exploited.

Secondly, where water resources are limiting, a saving of 30% is considerable.

Thirdly, water intake is normally controlled by DM intake. Under 3-day watering, however, water intake dictates DM intake, resulting in fodder reserves being conserved.

Fourthly, since cattle need to trek to the watering point only every third day, the potential erosion in the vicinity of water is lessened.

Source: Til Vol 21 1986 No. 13 (Nicholson MJ (1986) ILCA bulletin N25 pp 2-8)

Sheep integration under rubber

Ani bin Arope, Tajuddin bin Ismail and Chong Dai Thai (1985). Planters' Bulletin, Rubber Research Institute of Malaysia. Number 183, pp. 33-42.

In Malaysia the livestock industry, particularly the small ruminant such as sheep and goat, had always been a backyard industry where the small farmer kept not more than 10 head of sheep and goats. This traditional village system of sheep or goat rearing is characterized by extremely low production cost, minimal investment and using family labour. The farmers slaughter some of their animals for home consumption and occasionally sell some for cash. The manure produced by animals is usually used to manure crops. However, the development of such small-scale sheep or goat rearing will contribute very little in meeting the country's rising demand for mutton. Large-scale mono-culture of sheep or goat rearing that required opening of land for pasture cultivation faced many constraints and problems pertaining to its economic viability and the availability of land, labour and capital.

Presently, Malaysia is importing 70% of its mutton consumption from New

Zealand and Australia. In order to increase local mutton production to meet the national requirement, organized and profitable sheep rearing has been developed on the zero-land concept whereby integration of sheep under a primary tree crop such as rubber or oil palm is increasingly being recognized as an imperative approach for the successful expansion of the industry. The zero-land concept of sheep rearing under a primary tree-crop not only minimizes land cost, but most important of all, saves costs of weedicides used in chemical weed control, thus maximizing the net income per unit of land as well as enhancing the recycling of organic matter through the animals' urine and manure deposition.

The results of a 10 year experiment by the Rubber Research Institute of Malaysia on sheep rearing under immature and mature rubber areas show that the project is viable by providing additional income to the farmer as well as providing effective biological weed control. Sheep rearing is suitable for the estates as well as for smallholdings.

The sheep graze nearly all types of natural vegetation under rubber, with

particular preferences for *Bracharia mutica*, *Mikania micrantha*, *Asystasia coromandeliana*, *Paspalum conjugatum* and *Ottocloa nodosa*. Most of the leguminous cover crops are also preferred, except for *Calopogonium caeruleum* which is usually grazed last.

In immature rubber planting areas, where *Calopogonium caeruleum* was infested with mixed weeds, the introduction of sheep grazing was used to advantage. The selective grazing habit of sheep mainly for *Mikania micrantha*,

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Pilot project

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As already stated, this does not preclude any Association from arranging a "twinning" programme with whoever they wish whenever they wish, but it would be useful to maintain a list of countries which are twinned and BVA would be willing to draw up and maintain a "central register" if national associations who are twinned wish to keep BVA informed.

J.T. Blackburn

5.11.87

African Trypanosomiasis

Roelants, G.E., Furnoux, F., Pinder, M., Queval, R., Bassinga, A. and Authie, E. (1987). *Acta Tropica*, 44, 55-66.

It is generally admitted that African trypanosomiasis impedes the use of 7 x 10⁶ km² of land adequate for cattle raising in intertropical Africa and constitutes the major constraint to increasing protein production in that area. Vector eradication, albeit successful in certain locations, cannot be realistically extended to the whole area infested. Trypanocidal drugs have helped maintaining cattle in areas of *Glossina* infestation but under high challenge the frequency of prophylactic or curative interventions rapidly leads to drug resistance. The extreme antigenic variability of trypanosomes makes development of a vaccine unlikely. Thus efforts are made to study and promote some West African breeds of cattle which appear naturally resistant to trypanosomiasis.

It has been shown that some individuals of the Baoule breed of taurine cattle (*Bos taurus*) were able to withstand natural *Glossina* challenge while others died as fast as zebu cattle (*Bos indicus*). Data confirming this first report by extending it to a larger number of animals observed over a period of four years and evidence on the genetic nature of the resistance is now presented.

Cattle were exposed to natural

Re-emergence of Rinderpest

The re-emergence of rinderpest (RP), a highly contagious and usually fatal disease of cattle and buffalo in Africa, the Middle East and Asia has prompted many investigators to develop and apply new diagnostic tests which have been considered suitable for the detection of antibodies to RP virus (RPV) in cattle sera. Of these techniques, the enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) has proved to be highly sensitive and capable of assaying a large number of samples in sero-epidemiological studies. However, until now the application of ELISA, like other serodiagnostic tests, has been limited to well-equipped laboratories with expertise in this method. A simple, inexpensive and reliable serological test that could be conducted without specialized facilities and techniques has been sought for screening field sera for the presence of anti-RPV antibodies. Recently, based on the general principles of indirect enzyme im-

munosorbent assay (EIA) a simple and rapid Dot-EIA technique for visual detection of antibodies to pseudorabies virus in swine serum has been described. The development of a similar Dot-EIA test for detection of antibodies to RPV in sera from experimentally infected cattle and goats has been recently reported.

Source: TIL Vol 22, 1987, No. 5.

Six N'Dama/Baoule indigenous to Samandeni remained resistant to trypanosomiasis when moved to another area of high *Glossina* challenge. Seven N'Dama/Baoule calves, conceived in Samandeni but

Source: TIL Vol 22, 1987, No. 5.

Dermatophilosis

Dermatophilosis is an acute, subacute or chronic exudative dermatosis of animals and man described first among cattle in the Belgian Congo. This dermatosis occurs primarily in cattle and is of economic importance because of damage to hide, reduced production, increased culling and death rate when the disease is severe and generalized. The disease is widespread in tropical and subtropical countries but has been sporadically reported

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born and kept for 2½ years in a *Glossina*-free area, also proved to be resistant to challenge. Twelve Baoule calves, born from cattle selected under natural field challenge and which had not come in contact with trypanosomes for the first 10 months of their life, proved to be resistant when exposed in the field.

These observations show that some, but not all, cattle from the Baoule breed are naturally resistant to African trypanosomiasis, that this resistance does not need repeated exposure to trypanosomes early in life but appears to be inherited and functional against many types of antigenically different trypanosomes. Thus, selective breeding of trypanoresistant animals and their successful introduction, without trypanocidal drug protection into areas of high *Glossina* density appears feasible.

Source: TIL Vol 22, 1987, No. 4.

Sheep integration

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Paspalum conjugatum and *Ottocloa nodosa* helped to purify the legume and increase persistency of the legume stand.

By using sheep as weeders, the overall cost of weeding can be reduced by 15% to 25% compared to chemical means used alone. The sheep graze on almost all the major weed species, and allow leguminous cover crops to regenerate.

With the use of solar powered electric fencing system a shepherd can either return to the homestead area to do other duties or remain with the herd slashing the weeds which are not preferred by the animals. The grazing area can be allocated systematically according to weeding requirements. This system of sheep rearing has the following advantages; reduced use of chemical herbicides; erosion is controlled; through selective weeding, nitrogenous cover crops become dominant and nitrogen is fixed for the benefit of the rubber trees; soil structure is improved due to return and accumulation of organic matter whilst dung and urine are re-cycled to fertilize the ground; meat is produced from an area that would otherwise be wasted; the system is complementary to nature and environment, it is a flexible system and can easily be altered as the need arises.

Source: TIL Vol 22 1987 No. 8

Dermatophilosis

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more recently in the UK, Ireland, USA and Canada. It has been identified as well in France in horses and sheep. The causal organism is *Dermatophilus congolensis*. The epidemiology and the pathogenesis of the disease are still poorly understood. In many parts of Africa there is a well-marked seasonal variation in the disease incidence. Dermatophilosis is a "rainy season disease", moisture enhances transmission of infection. Ticks, flies, biting insects, mosquitoes and various other agents are involved in the transmission of the disease, since they break the skin barrier creating an opening to the infection.

It is obvious that some degree of natural immunity to dermatophilosis does exist. This varies from breed to breed ranging from extreme susceptibility for European breeds to complete immunity as the N'Dama cattle, under normal conditions. As described for the N'Dama in West Africa natural immunity exists within the Dinka cattle from East Africa. This fact should be given careful attention by those who improve the local cattle by importation of European sires for crossbreeding.

Source: TIL Vol. 22, 1987, No. 5

Trypanotolerance

Trypanotolerance in goats. A study involving indigenous East African goats and crosses with Galla and Toggenburg goats indicated that the trypanotolerant quality was highest in the indigenous goats, followed by the Toggenburg x East African cross and then by the Galla x East African cross.

Heartwater Disease

The duration of the immunity to heartwater disease in the sheep has not been clarified. It has been reported to vary in sheep from seven to 34 months after recovery or up to at least four years if the sheep were challenged within two months of recovery.

Source: TIL Vol. 22, 1987, No. 1.

Sheep infection

Infections of sheep by *Sarcocystis* spp. are a cause of concern to the meat industry mainly because certain species of the parasite form macroscopic cysts in the striated muscles. These cysts are classified as carcass lesions in many countries and infected carcasses may be rejected from export or condemned for human consumption.

Source: TIL Vol. 22, 1987, No. 4

Marek's Disease

Vaccination has been of considerable benefit to the poultry industry in reducing the worst losses from Marek's disease (MD) but over the last few years MD has increased in incidence in several parts of the world, including the USA and Europe. This has resulted from infection with very virulent biotypes. New and more effective vaccines are appearing on the scene, however improving the genetic resistance by breeding is also being advocated.

Probiotics

Probiotics are cultures of specific microorganisms, usually *Lactobacillus* species, which when fed to an animal establish themselves in the alimentary canal and influence the establishment of other organisms.

Source: TIL Vol. 22, 1987, No. 6

Q Fever

Q Fever in nomadic cattle. Q Fever is considered to be more a medical than a veterinary problem. Dr. A.A. Adesiyon and his colleagues at Ahmadu Bello University, Nigeria, screened milk for *Coxiella burnetii*, the causative rickettsia, by inoculating mice. Eighty per cent of the herds tested contained cows shedding the organism in milk. The herds included both semi-intensively husbanded animals on governmental and institutional farms, and nomadic Fulani cattle. Only milk from the former is pasteurized, thus these workers concluded that the human health risk from raw milk or unheated fermented milk products from nomadic Fulani cattle was substantial.

Q Fever, a disease of man and a widespread infection of ruminants, has a considerable public health significance, transmission of the causative rickettsia to man usually occurs in ruminant birth fluids and milk.

Source: TIL Vol. 21, No. 10.

Hydatidosis

Hydatidosis is dromedaries. Hydatidosis is of considerable economic and public health importance in Morocco. In abattoires at Rabat and Ain Aouda hydatid cysts were found in 80% of 35 dromedaries examined for hydatid cysts. Infection of the lungs was more common and more significant than that of the livers. Dromedaries apparently play an important role in the epidemiology of hydatidosis in Morocco.

Climate, topography and nematodes. *Haemonchus*, *Trichostrongylus*, *Ostertagia* and *Nematodirus* worm populations of Angora goats, based on dif-

ferential egg counts, was considered in relation to climatological and topographical data. Egg counts indicated that the estimated worm populations in goats that experienced wet circumstances were higher than those exposed to dry conditions.

Source: TIL Vol. 21, No. 15

Rift Valley Fever

Rift Valley Fever in the Sudan. It is not definitely known how or when the disease was introduced into the Sudan. Sheep, cattle, goats and humans are affected, with heaviest losses in lambs. Serological evidence suggest that the disease also exists in camels and donkeys and circumstantial evidence suggests that mosquitoes are involved in transmission.

Rift Valley Fever in Zimbabwe. Factors which precipitate epizootics are poorly understood but there is an association with abnormally heavy rainfall. It is believed that an epizootic occurred in 1957 and subsequent epizootics were diagnosed in 1969/70 and 1978. In interepizootic periods infection occurs in an enzootic form in a discontinuous area lying along the northern half of the central watershed plateau. Infection was suspected to be the cause of five human deaths during the 1978 epizootic. Rift Valley Fever was first demonstrated as the cause of abortion in cattle in Zimbabwe in 1955.

Rift Valley Fever in South Africa. In South Africa epizootics of Rift Valley Fever usually occur during summer when climatic conditions favour the breeding of large numbers of mosquitoes. The area along the East Coast represents a true enzootic area which probably serves as a focus from where the disease spreads when conditions are favourable.

Source: TIL Vol. 21, 1986, No. 9.

Brucellosis

Reports received from 48 countries constitute a representative sample which demonstrates the universality of the problems created by brucellosis and the wide range of control measures which have been adopted.

Among the 48 countries, 13 have obtained complete eradication of the disease, 17 are in the process of more or less advanced clearance, eight have a vaccination programme primarily designed to decrease prevalence of the disease and 10 do not yet have well-defined applicable measures.

Twenty countries apply strict disease control measures, and 18 apply a combination of vaccination and disease control measures. Strain B19 is almost exclusively used for vaccination, either

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Clinical Syndromes in Veterinary Neurology

Review by Janet E. Steiss

When I graduated from veterinary college, Hoerlein's *Canine Neurology* (now, *Veterinary Neurology*) was the standard neurology text to take into clinical practice. Since then, several single- or dual-authored texts on veterinary neurology have appeared. Each one offers the diagnostician a slightly different viewpoint.

neurological diseases into 14 syndromes, e.g., neuropathic, myopathic, lumbosacral, cerebral, multifocal, etc. The clinical features and common causes of each syndrome are covered.

In another chapter, 141 specific neurological diseases of dogs and cats are presented in alphabetical order. Each disease is succinctly summariz-

By Kyle G. Braund,
257 pages; illustrated.
Williams & Wilkins,
428 E. Preston St.,
Baltimore, MD 21202, 1986
Price \$37.95

ed, including etiology, breeds affected, clinical presentation, diagnostic aids, treatment and prognosis; the reference list is extensive.

Other chapters are *Neurological Examination*, which is well-illustrated with photographs, and *Diagnostic Techniques*, which includes brief reviews on radiography, electrodiagnostics (electroencephalography and elec-

tromyography, but not evoked potentials), CSF examination, muscle and nerve biopsy techniques and also neurosurgery. The index is excellent because it also lists breeds.

In general, although *Clinical Syndromes in Veterinary Neurology* is not a comprehensive reference on all aspects of veterinary neurology, the approach by clinical syndrome is new. Students and clinicians who feel uncomfortable with diagnosing and localizing diseases of the central and peripheral nervous systems may well want to learn this method.

Editors note: Dr. Steiss is a neurophysiologist at the University of Auburn, Alabama, USA.

Good Samaritans

The Indian Zoo Veterinary Association is India's only professional zoo association. It was started some years ago by a doyen of zoo veterinary medicine, Dr. Mir Gower Ali Khan.

'Wildlife Health' is the official journal of the IZVA. However, due to the economic realities of everyday life in India, Dr. Ali Khan, try as he does, is not able to publish it on a regular basis. This situation came to the attention of Zoo Outreach Organization (ZOO). ZOO offered to sponsor one issue using their word processor and xerox machine, providing Dr. Ali Khan would do the cover. ZOO was able to do this by drawing on a reserve of money which had been donated for general use by an American veterinarian.

ZOO with their own publication, a monthly magazine for the general zoo and wildlife establishment, to produce were not in a position to give further help to Dr. Ali Khan's group. That, however, did not lessen ZOO's concern about the dilemma of IZVA's journal, *Wildlife Health*. ZOO then wrote to Mike Teale, Chairman of the British Veterinary Association's Overseas Subcommittee. They asked if the BVA would consider sponsoring one issue, of 200 copies, of *Wildlife Health*.

The reply came back that the Overseas Subcommittee of the British Veterinary Association would be pleased to sponsor 200 copies of an issue of *Wildlife Health*. Mike Teale's commit-

tee also showed a little extra interest by sending a copy of ZOO's letter to the British Veterinary Zoological Society.

As 1987 draws to a close the CwVA News knows that 1987 was just a little better because of the concern and the efforts of Dr. Mir Gower Ali Khan, ZOO, an American veterinarian, and the British Veterinary Association. Should some reader wish to send a gift to struggling and worthy causes we have included the following addresses:

- Dr. Mir Gower Ali Khan; 19-2-81/3/8 Tadbhan-Khaja Pahadi; Hyderabad 500 264; India.

- Zoo Outreach Organization; 222 Kumaravara; 9th Cross; 12th Main; Kuvempunagar; Mysore 23; India.

CwVA was official observer in Montreal

The CwVA had official observer status at the XXIII World Veterinary Congress, held in Montreal, Canada, in 1987. This was due largely to the efforts of Trevor Blackburn. He was at that

time CwVA Vice President and attended the Congress as the British Veterinary Association representative on the World Veterinary Association's Permanent Committee.

Trevor, now President of the CwVA, took the opportunity of bringing together attending veterinarians of the Commonwealth countries. Thus several unofficial mini-meetings of the CwVA came about.

Attention ladies

The CwVA News was informed that the Indian Association of Lady Veterinarians (IALV) would be holding their Second Annual Meeting during July of 1987. The two day convention was to be held at the Veterinary College in Bangalore and included was a scientific session.

Parties wishing more information about the IALV would write to its vice

president, Dr. Mrs. Nalini Pradeep, Dept. of Pathology, Veterinary College, U.A.S., Hebbal, Bangalore 560 024.

There is no doubt that Dr. Pradeep and her colleagues would be very pleased to hear from lady veterinarians in other parts of the Commonwealth.

Brucellosis

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just for heifers, or for adults as well, using reduced doses of the vaccine administered by subcutaneous or conjunctival routes.

Source: TIL Vol 22, 1987, No. 4

The importance of import controls

A vivid example of what can happen when undesirable organisms (in this case a plant) slip across borders is described in the following story. The setting is in Papua New Guinea. The story is also a graphic illustration of successful biological control. 'Applied Biology: *Salvinia* (an aquatic fern) and *Cyrtobagous* (a weevil)'.

Salvinia molesta is an aquatic fern native to South America and inadvertently introduced into the Sepik River in the early 1970's, probably through release from an aquarium (Laup 1985). It spread rapidly through this river system, and a biological control programme, which appears to be effective (Anon 1985), was begun against it in 1980.

Salvinia molesta can double its mass in as little as two days and rapidly cover large areas of calm fresh water with dense free-floating weed mats. These mats impede the movement of boats, interfere with all types of fishing, choke irrigation canals, and reduce the biological carrying capacity of affected waterways. It spread quickly through the Sepik River and associated lake systems, covering more than half of some 500 square km of lakes of the river's floodplains by the late 1970's. The weed significantly disrupted traditional subsistence lifestyles which rely on the waterways for transport, access to sago (the staple carbohydrate) and fishing (the only significant source of protein).

Early attempts at controlling *Salvinia* in the Sepik relied on repetitive aerial application of herbicides (at K40-50 per ha per application) and various methods of mechanical control. None proved practical or cost-effective. The Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (C.S.I.R.O.) investigated the native range and biology of *Salvinia* in Brazil, and tried a range of insect predators to identify a suitable method of biological control.

After extensive testing a small weevil, *Cyrtobagous salviniae*, was selected for field evaluation in a 400 ha *Salvinia*-infested lake, Lake Moon-darra, in Queensland in 1980 and 1981. The weevils proved to be effective and efficient in field cages in a *Salvinia*-infested lake in the Sepik in 1982. The first site was low in nitrogen, and the weevils died out. A second release of 600 weevils in cages and supplemented by weekly applications of urea was successful, and the weevils multiplied rapidly. Within 10 weeks, *Cyrtobagous* weevils were placed on an open weed

mat in the lake - after 20 weeks the weevils had multiplied enough to enable distribution to other lakes.

Weevil-infested *Salvinia*, collected in sacks and transported by boat or air, was seeded (at the rate of 100-300 kg and 2,000-12,000 adult weevils per release), and was distributed to other *Salvinia*-infested lakes in late 1983. These releases were highly successful, despite low levels of nitrogen in the *Salvinia* at many sites. (Experimental evidence now suggests that feeding by *Cyrtobagous* modifies the plant nutritionally, in favour of the weevils).

The adult weevil selectively feeds on buds, slowing growth of the plant, while weevil larvae tunnel through the floating rhizomes, causing the plant to rot and sink. The adult weevils' destruction of plant buds reduces competition for available nutrients (including nitrogen) among surviving growing points, so that the plant actually becomes richer in nitrogen. Decay of weevil-damaged weed tissue and accumulated frass (insect and larval excrement) also add to the nitrogen available. It appears that the mass of weevils used in the first attempted cage releases in the Sepik was less than the critical mass sufficient to trigger the nutritional conditions for a weevil population explosion but that subsequent releases exceeded this mass).

The Banjul Declaration

It is a sobering reflection that in a relatively short period of our history most of our larger wildlife species have disappeared together with much of the original forest cover.

The survival of the wildlife still remaining with us and the setting aside of protected natural habitats for them is the concern of us all.

It would be tragic if this priceless natural heritage, the product of millions of years of evolution, should be further endangered or lost for want of proper concern.

This concern is a duty we owe to ourselves, to our great African heritage and to the world.

Thus I solemnly declare that my Government pledges its untiring efforts to conserve for now and posterity as wide a spectrum as possible of our remaining fauna and flora.

Signed-Sir Dawda Jawara
Banjul, The Gambia
18 February 1977

By March 1985 more than 850,000 adult weevils (and unknown number of eggs, larvae and pupae) had been distributed among more than 130 lakes, and natural dispersal had spread them to a further 200 lakes and many kilometers of connecting waterways. More than 50 lakes appeared to be completely cleared of the weed and weed mats were in various stages of destruction in the rest. More than 170 square kilometers of water surface had been cleared and some 1.4m tonne of weed destroyed. Residual populations of weevils appear to be surviving on scattered plants growing at the edges of lakes and to date are holding the weed in check.

Although *Salvinia* is unlikely to be eradicated, it is clear that it is effectively under control. The effects of its control are considerable: "People are able to collect sago again and report that they are catching many fish, both for their own use and for sale in local markets. This, and other sources of revenue, such as crocodile hunting, means that school fees can be paid and that money is available in the villages. People can once more move about freely and have expressed their pleasure at the return of their traditional lifestyles." Source: PNG Newsletter No27 Feb/86.

A busy man

CwVA workers, who have had the pleasure of meeting Dr. S. Abdul Rahman Asia's regional representative, know him to be a talented and energetic colleague. He is congenial, extremely interesting and possessed of a great sense of humor. It is an understatement to suggest that he had a busy spring (1987).

Dr. Rahman was present at the CwVA March (1987) meetings in The Gambia. He attended the executive meetings, gave a paper at the seminar and took part in many of the discussions. Returning home via the United Kingdom and Europe Dr. Rahman visited the British Veterinary Association in London and met with Mr. Bernard T. Wells, President of the BVA. Also while in England he visited the veterinary school at Cambridge. In Vienna, Austria, he gave a lecture at the veterinary school. Vienna's veterinary school was opened in 1756 and is reported to be the world's oldest veterinary school **. Dr. Rahman visited Bayers Laboratories in Cologne,

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XXIIIrd World Veterinary Congress on cassette

Audio / cassette coverage of the 1987 World Veterinary Congress is available. Included on a very large number of tapes are all the plenary sessions. The 90-minute tapes cover hundreds of sessions, and are grouped per section of the scientific program. For more information please contact: - Conference Tape, 8 Woodburn Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1B 3A7.

The Proceedings of the Plenary Sessions of the 1987 World Veterinary Congress, including question and answer periods, are also available. For more information on these proceedings contact: - Kenness Canada Inc., PO Box 120, Station B, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3B 3J5. Source of above information - Can Vet J. Oct/87.

A centre for continuing education

The Unit for Veterinary Continuing Education (UVCE); The Royal Veterinary College; Royal College Street; London NW1 0TU; England, was started in 1980 as a result of generous grants from the Leverhulme Trust and several British veterinary professional bodies.

The Unit's main aim is to provide a library of self-instructional materials suitable for home study by busy veterinary practitioners in the UK. The Unit produces its own programmes (over 48 to date), mainly on tape/slide with accompanying workbook. These materials are relatively cheap, do not require elaborate playback equipment and can be used for individual study as well as discussion material for small group use. With the help of the University of London Audio-Visual Centre, the UVCE has also started to produce videotapes and will be expanding the section in the future.

The UVCE publishes a Large Animal Catalogue and a Small Animal Catalogue, each containing about 100 titles. Apart from its own programmes, UVCE's library also stocks material from other organizations.

Further information, about the UVCE and its services, can be obtained by writing to Dr. J. Poland at the above address.

Did you know that:

Holiday rain insurance is available. We read, with interest, a TAA advertisement in the Australian Veterinary Journal (Vol 63, No. 9, September 1986). The following is quoted from that ad:

"Only TAA has Rain-check./ Which means that if rain spoils your next TAA holiday, we'll give you another one free./ The first guarantee of its kind in Australian travel to protect you and your holiday automatically against rain, at no extra cost./ If the unpredictable happens, and rain should spoil any three days on your TAA package holiday of seven days or more, we'll simply give you another one free."

In somewhat finer print it is indicated that a minimum daily rainfall of six mm. (as determined by the Bureau of Meteorology) between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. would be considered to have spoiled the day.

In the region around Bombay, by the Arabian Sea on India's west coast, the monsoon of Bombay seems to be the most prone season for mastitis in the buffalo.

Source: Indian Vet Jour. June/86.

Despite India's self-sufficiency in grain production and an annual agricultural growth rate of 2.6 percent, about 1/4 of her 750 million people are unable to afford enough food and consequently suffer from severe malnutrition. Diseases like malaria, polio, leprosy and tuberculosis are common. Though 64 million people are handicapped in some way, mostly as a result of malnutrition and preventable diseases, rehabilitation facilities are almost non-existent.

Source: CUSO Fourm Jan/87 author - Janet Durno.

The helminth fauna of feral goats of South Australia includes 20 helminth species, 18 of which are nematodes the other two are cestodes. Regional differences in the occurrence of these worms indicate that *Chabertia ovis*, *Haemonchus contortus*, *Muellerius capillaris*, *Nematodirus filicollis*, *Oesophagostomum venulosum*, and *Trichuris skrjabinii* is limited to higher rainfall areas.

Source: Aus. Vet. Jour. Apr/87 V64 N4 p.111.

Did you know that:

Three recently declassified but heavily censored reports for the years 1965 to 1977 show that the US Navy experienced 381 nuclear weapons accidents and incidents. Some incidents were reported as the 'actual or inadvertent release' of a nuclear weapon, and such incidents occurred in 1965, 1968, 1969 and 1970! Because of censorship, the reports do not indicate how many weapons were released, where or whether they detonated.

The United States has lost two nuclear powered submarines at sea, the Thresher in 1963 and the Scorpion in 1968. Some authorities believe that the loss of the Thresher was due to a reactor accident. According to CIA reports, the Soviet icebreaker Lenin suffered a meltdown and was lost around 1965. Several Soviet nuclear powered submarines are reported to have been lost at sea.

Source: NZVA Subcommittee on Nuclear and Natural Disasters/NZ Vet. Jour. Vol.34 No.9.

In the rice fields of Asia there are about 800 species of friendly insects. They outnumber the insects pests, who attack crops, by five to one. The tragedy for the beneficial insects is that many farmers consider all insects harmful.

Source: CUSO Forum Jan/87.

People at work

from page 35

Germany and Ciba-Geigy in Basle, Switzerland. At Basle he gave lectures on 'The Role of Parasitology in India'.

Back in India he was, in April, elected President of the Karnataka Veterinary Association (a state vet. assoc.). During May he journeyed to New Delhi, there he finalized the purchase of the Indian Vet. Assoc. building.

Dr. Rahman has a family, is a national soccer referee, edits and publishes a monthly veterinary magazine, and is a professor and head of a university veterinary parasitology department. No mention was made of Dr. Rahman's spare time pursuits.

Source: The Veterinarian May & June 1987.

** This editor has some doubts about that. Hazy recollections hint at the Arabs and the Egyptians having veterinary schools long before the 18th century rolled along. ANY COMMENTS?

News from Bangladesh

During this period the Bangladesh Veterinary Association (BVA), with Dr. Monjurul Hoque Bhuiyan as Secretary General, made very substantial progress on several fronts. This progress was made during very difficult times and members of the Bangladesh Veterinary Association are to be congratulated for their efforts. It is evident that they deserve the support and concern of the CwVA and veterinarians everywhere. Everyone must be well aware that Bangladesh, like so many developing countries, is plagued by financial and material shortages.

Early in 1985 the Bangladesh Veterinary Association (BVA) was registered, as a national association, with the Government of Bangladesh. This was followed by the veterinary practitioners ordinance and then the notification of a veterinary council. Now, in Bangladesh, a Veterinary Council is functioning.

Determined efforts were made to keep abreast of professional developments. In 1985 a scientific seminar on veterinary microbiology was held in conjunction with the 5th Annual Conference of the Bangladesh Society of Microbiologists. The seminar was held at the Bangladesh Agricultural University in Mymensingh. Also in 1985 BVA representatives attended the CwVA poultry seminar in Calcutta, India, and the CwVA seminar in Sri Lanka, which was held in conjunction with the Annual Conference of the Sri Lankan Veterinary Association. The BVA was represented at the World Congress on Cattle Diseases, held in Dublin, Ireland, in August of 1986. Dur-

ing the last days of 1986 the BVA held a successful annual conference. This conference included a scientific seminar.

Other activities during these two years included:-

-A campaign for the enrolment of new members.

-The organization of a relief team to assist in the tidal bore devastated area of Urrur Char in the Chittagong region.

-The donation of TK.94,000/ to the President's Relief Fund. In addition to this individual members of the BVA each gave a day's salary to this same cause.

-The BVA successfully applied pressure on the Bangladesh Government for the employment of 135 newly graduated veterinarians.

-In November of 1986 the BVA held a press conference in the National Press Institute in Dhaka. There, progress and problems in the animal production and animal health fields were highlighted for the press and the public.

In June of 1987 an important event occurred. This was the visit of Dr. S.A. Rahman, the CwVA (Asia) Regional Representative. Dr. Rahman is also India's CwVA council member. Dr. Rahman met with Dr. Bhuiyan, CwVA council member for Bangladesh, and with other members of the BVA. He also had discussions with the Director of Livestock, concerned ministers and senior veterinarians of the government.

It is obvious that the Bangladesh Veterinary Association is an active and progressive group, struggling against a tide of persisting problems. Its efforts make Bangladesh a fertile field for urgently needed development projects, programs and assistance.

BVA in for productive era

From efforts early in the year (1987) it is quite evident that the Bangladesh Veterinary Association, under the leadership of Secretary-General Dr. Fazlul Hoque, is in for a productive and progressive era.

-Preparations are well underway for hosting the 1988 CwVA regional seminar.

-A vigorous membership drive is being conducted.

-The Bangladesh Veterinary Journal is again being published.

-Since January (1987) a BVA monthly newsletter has made its appearance. It is entitled "Veterinary Darpan" and it is turning out to be a very popular addition to the veterinary scene.

In his report on BVA activities Council Member Bhuiyan notes that the

BVA enjoys cordial and valuable relations with the Bangladesh Medical Assoc.; the Krishibid Institution; the Institute of Engineers; and several other organizations. Dr. Bhuiyan also indicates that veterinary textbooks, journals and audiovisual aids are urgently needed in Bangladesh.

There would seem to be little doubt that Dr. Bhuiyan and CwVA worker Dr. Bert Stevenson, who correlates CwVA's 'Book and Journal' program, will be working together to alleviate this situation. Dr. Bhuiyan's message serves to emphasize the importance of the 'Book and Journal' program. Its potential for good is unlimited. It merits the vital support of veterinarians throughout the affluent countries of the Commonwealth.

Council Members

Asia

Bangladesh - Monjurul Huq Bhuiyan
India - S. Abdul Rahman
Sri Lanka - D.D. Wanasinghe

Interesting facts about Bangladesh

-In 1972, after independence, the erstwhile provincial East Pakistan Veterinary Association was reconstituted as the Bangladesh Veterinary Association (BVA).

-There are now 1500 veterinarians; 1200 are members of the BVA. There are 25 lady veterinarians.

-There is one centre of veterinary training. The Faculty of Vet Science, Bangladesh Agricultural Univ., PO Box 4191, Mymensingh. Annually 80 students are admitted. An average of 60 students graduate each year. Each year 50 students are admitted into postgraduate classes and five are admitted to Ph. D. studies.

-There are 2800 animal health assistants and four training institutions for subtechnical personnel. These are located at Mymensingh; Alamdanga (Kustia); Tilagarh (Sylhet); and Gaibandha.

-Census figures show: - 100 million people; 23 million cattle; ½ million buffalo; 11 million goats; ½ million sheep; 64 million fowl; and 28 million ducks. Source: Communication from Council Member Bhuiyan.

Animal health camps

The first trimester of 1987 saw many of the veterinarians in India busy at extension work in villages and rural areas. Being emphasized was preventative medicine and increased productivity.

During February calf rallies and infertility camps were held at Yeusangi and Telakuni, a dairy seminar at Kodlahalli, and another infertility camp at Ramagendhanahalli.

During March animal health camps were held at Vittalpur, Devarapura, Paragod, Sirigiripura and Paphahli.

During April animal health camps were held at Rajahatta. Also in April several veterinarians were in attendance at the cattle shows at Kylanchara. Source: The Veterinarian May & June/87.

Cattle in the Asian Region

More than half of the world's cattle population is found in the Asian region. India alone has 180 million cattle and 80 million buffalo. Most of the cattle in this area are predominantly of *Bos indicus* type and are usually less productive than *Bos taurus* type. For example, the age at first calving for *Bos indicus* cattle is around 5 years, they have a calving interval of about 1½ to 2 years and their genetic potential to produce more milk and meat is very low compared to *Bos taurus* cattle. Efforts to increase livestock production in developing countries utilizing methods such as increased feed production, improved animal health, better husbandry and infusion of new genetic material have generally been unsuccessful due to factors such as social and religious practices, lack of genetically superior animals and the inability of the farmers to utilize the improved methods of livestock production.

In spite of these limitations, growing awareness in this region for the need to produce more milk has led to the initiation of dairy development programs such as "Operation Flood" in India and the "National Dairy Development Program" in the Philippines. Such programs have been aimed at producing more milk through cross-breeding programs and importation of high milk yielding breeds from developed coun-

tries. In India, the establishment of cross-breeding programs such as the "Indo-Swiss project", the "Indo-Danish project", "Key-Village Schemes", "Semen Banks" and "National Frozen Semen System" has led to the widespread use of artificial insemination to up-grade the local stock. However, the rate of genetic improvement with artificial insemination alone is slow. Besides, the technique of artificial insemination is not being widely practiced in other countries of this region. As a result, most countries in Asia are still importing milk and milk products from developed countries. There is regular importation of dairy cattle from Australia, New Zealand, Netherlands and other developed countries. Such imports result in a significant drain in the foreign exchange resources of these countries.

Due to an alarming increase in human population in these countries; the improvements made in the area of animal production, either by establishing various cross-breeding programs or by importing temperate breeds of live-stock, have not been able to produce enough protein to meet the demand. It is pleasing to note that some countries in the Asian region are attaining self sufficiency in cereal production, thanks to "Green Revolution". International Institutions such as IRRI in the Philippines and ICRISAT in India

have done an excellent job in helping the countries in this region to attain self sufficiency in cereal production. This might eliminate hunger to some extent. The problem of malnutrition, however, has still to be tackled as there has not been a concomitant increase in the production of animal protein.

Despite the "Green Revolution", the rate of cereal production in Asia has just about kept up with population growth. And there is a long way to go before this stage is reached with regard to protein production. It should be remembered that food problem in the Asian region is of caloric as well as of protein deficiency. For instance nationwide surveys conducted in Thailand and the Philippines ("Operation Timbang") have shown that the prevalence of protein malnutrition in pregnant and lactating women, and in children under 4 years of age is alarming. The high infant mortality rate and the shorter life expectancy in this region has been attributed to protein-energy malnutrition. Therefore, it is plausible to run "White Revolution" parallel to "Green Revolution" to set up the production of milk and meat simultaneously with cereal production in order to eliminate the problem of hunger and malnutrition.

Source: The Veterinarian May/87 VII N 5 pp. 1-5. Extracted from an article by Dr. Daniel Jillella.

The 40th Annual Convention of the Sri Lanka Veterinary Association (SLVA) was held in Kandy on Dec 5-6, 1986. The premier guest, who by lighting the traditional oil lamp declared the scientific sessions open, was the Hon. S. Thondaman, Minister of Rural Industrial Development. The Hon. Minister is also in charge of animal husbandry and veterinary services.

Professor M.R.M. Pinto, Head of the Dept. of Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine, Univ. of Peradeniya, delivered the guest lecture. The subject of Professor Pinto's talk was 'Tuberculosis testing in Sri Lanka'.

Some 200 SLVA members attended the scientific sessions. At these sessions 32 scientific papers and 13 posters were presented. The various fields of interest included microbiology, virology, nutrition, animal management and breeding.

The annual general meeting of the SLVA was presided over by Dr. G.A.P. Ganegoda. After a thorough discussion of general business the election of office bearers for 1986/87 was held.

This 40th Annual Convention was brought to a close by the annual dinner.

SLVA Convention

This final event was well attended by the members and their wives. Several guests were also present.

Office Bearers of the SLVA

Dr. M.C.L. de Alwis - President; Dr. M. Kopalasunderam - President Elect; Dr. D.D. Wanasinghe - Vice President; Dr. D.H.A. Subasinghe - Vice President; Dr. M.M. Haniffa - Hony,

Secretary; Dr. M.G. Jeyaruban - Hony, Treasurer.

Committee Members

Dr. R.A. Ranasinghe, Dr. R.K. Wimalasooriya, Prof. B.M.O.A. Perera, Dr. S.S.E. Ranawana, Dr. (Ms) Chandra Kodikara, Dr. D.J. Weigama

Ex. Officio Members

Dr. G.A.P. Ganegoda, Dr. K.M.T. Kendaragama, Dr. (Ms) Thula Wijewardena; CwVA Council Member Dr. D.D. Wanasinghe.

Red letter day for Indian VA

May 26, 1987 was a red letter day in the history of the Indian Veterinary Association as it was on that day that the Association housed the Indian Veterinary Journal, its Official Organ, in a building of its own. At a pleasant function on the lawn of Hotel Ashoka, Madras, Dr. A.K. Chatterjee, Animal Husbandry Commissioner, Government of India, declared open the new building.

Readers may be aware that in 1958 a reserve fund, converted subsequently to the IVJ building Fund, was started

its own building is now realized. With the collection of about three lakhs of rupees and the allotment of a site by the benign Government of Tamil Nadu for the building, the construction was started with the foundation stone laying function on 26th May 1985. The small but elegant building with the ground floor plinth area of 1740 sq. ft. stands on the site of 2.75 grounds (6600sq. ft.). The ground floor could be completed and the office equipped to some extent with a further collection of rupees one lakh. Source: IVJ May/87.

A distinguished doyen steps down

The official opening of the Dr. T. Vinayaka Mudaliar Building (the new Indian Veterinary Journal building) in Madras was on May 26 1987. One of the highlights of this historic inauguration was the bidding farewell and the paying of well-deserved tributes to Dr. R. Krishnamurti, the retiring IVJ editor. It is an honour and a pleasure for the CwVA News to carry Dr. Krishnamurti's reply to the call for some words of farewell.

QUOTE-Dr. Rao, Dr. Chatterjee, Dr. Kalyanasundaram, Dr. Rahman, dear colleagues, respected friends, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am in the same predicament as I was in 1963 at the public function organized by the Indian Veterinary Association to felicitate me on my eighty first birthday. Words fail me to thank you all adequately for the honour done to me and for the kind words spoken about me. I am deeply touched by the valuable memento presented to me for my services rendered to the Indian Veterinary Journal which I do not know how far I deserve. Whatever I had achieved as Research Officer Rinderpest at the Institute of Veterinary Preventive Medicine at Ranipet or as an administrator while I was the District Veterinary Officer in Madras, or as an organizer when I was veterinary officer at the newly started Madhavaram Milk Colony, was in no small measure due to the encouragement and support given to me by my superiors then.

From the day of my induction in 1962, as Managing Editor, by Dr. T. Vinayaka Mudaliar, then Editor of the Indian Veterinary Journal, President of the Indian Veterinary Association and a great doyen of the profession, I have been engaged in editing the journal till today, continuously for 25 years. No doubt the work entails heavy responsibility, round the clock with long and odd hours of labour and extreme carefulness. Dedication and devotion are the prerequisites for this kind of honorary job. As the subscription to the journal is kept to a bare minimum, there has always been a threat of financial crisis; such a situation still persists. I thank the Almighty, I could overcome the obstacles and successfully carry out my responsibilities.

I feel proud that two notable events — enactment of the Indian Veterinary Council Act 1984 by the Central Government and the construction of the

building for the Indian Veterinary Journal have taken place during my tenure as Editor of the Journal. The first has added stature to the profession, while the second has given status to the national organization and its journal. Eight states have already opted for the Indian Veterinary Council Act. I wish the remaining States would also join the main stream in the near future. I eagerly await the establishment of the Indian Veterinary Council. Though it has been planned to have a ground floor and a first floor for the Indian Veterinary Journal Building, construction of only the ground floor was possible with the finances on hand. I envisage the putting up of the first floor which is needed badly in the near future. Our thanks are due to the Government of Tamil Nadu for allotting the site for the building in a prestigious locality and to the colleagues, especially veterinarians of Tamil Nadu, and well-wishers for their generous contributions to the building fund. Our thanks are also due to Sri P.S. Subramanian, engineer, for his expert technical advice, Messrs, M.A. Constructions and their engineer Mr. V.S. Padmanabhan and Sri R. Natarajan, our supervising engineer.

On this occasion I will be failing in my duty if I do not acknowledge the invaluable help and cooperation I have been getting from the successive Presidents and General Secretaries of the Indian Veterinary Association, Associate Editors, Office Staff, contributors, referees, M/s Kapali

Printers, M/s Premier Studios and all those connected with the publication of the journal. My special thanks are to Dr. V.S. Alwar and Dr. M.S. Jayaraman who have been continuously assisting me to the maximum in editing the journal from the time I took over the editorship. I have been living alone with my wife in Madras, while my two sons are working outside. With all the physical disabilities and old age and without help, she has stood not only company to me, but has been hosting gladly the visitors to the office of the Journal even at odd hours. I, on my own behalf and on behalf of the profession thank her for the same. Last but not the least, my grateful thanks are due to the members of the profession who are evincing great interest in the growth of the journal.

Very shortly my wife and myself will be going to Bombay to join my son and his family. I have every confidence my successor Dr. Alwar will take the journal to greater heights of glory with all the help from Dr. Jayaraman, Associate Editor. It is high time a second line of defence is built up. I invite some dedicated members of the younger generation to join the team of workers engaged in the selfless job of editing the journal. I once again thank you all and wish a glorious future for the journal, the Indian Veterinary Association and the profession in India. With blessings I bid you all a farewell. Namaste. End Quote.
Source: IVJ May/87

Info on Indian Veterinary Journal

The address of the Indian Veterinary Journal (IVJ) is 7 Charniers Road, Madras-600 035. Its new editor is Dr. V.S. Alwar. The IVJ was born in 1924 and has faithfully served the veterinary profession for over six decades. To those who view it from a distance the IVJ is a mighty giant, to those viewing it from close quarters it is an example of efficiency and dedication to a cause.

While the veterinary profession in India has grown enormously in numbers and stature during the last 15 years, its contribution to the Indian Veterinary Journal has been marginal. With about 30,000 veterinarians, India boasts of being the second largest country in the world in veterinary manpower.

The status of the veterinary profession in India today is in a large measure

due to the solid support and the crusading efforts of the IVJ over the past six decades. The IVJ has fought many battles with the State and Central Governments for the veterinarian. It is rightly referred to as the mouthpiece of the IVA.

Whenever an injustice was done to the veterinary profession in any corner of India, the IVJ roared, like a wounded lion, through its powerful editorials. But for the relentless fights that the IVJ has put up with several State Governments quite a few positions of the Directors of Animal Husbandry would have been annexed by generalists. Certainly the Indian Veterinary Journal, which has fought so many battles for the veterinarian, deserves the dedicated support of every veterinarian in India. Source: IVJ May/87.

CwVA - ADAB 1988 Conference

CONFERENCE ON VETERINARY SERVICES FOR THE SOUTH-WEST PACIFIC

Honiara, Solomon Islands, June 14th - 17th, 1988

Draft Programme

Organizing Committee -

W.J. Pryor (Chairman), I.G. David (Convenor), J. Hayhoe, P. Boland, G. Polke (Solomon Islands),
C. McQueen (Solomon Islands)

- Day 1**
- 9 - 9:30 Opening of Conference
Welcome - W.J. Pryor, Regional Representative CwVA; Opening, Minister of Agriculture, Solomon Islands. Appreciation, T.J. Blackburn, President, CwVA
- 9:30 - 10:30 Animal Industry Status and adequacy of veterinary services.
Country statements:
Western Samoa K. Lameta
Tonga M. Hussein
Solomon Islands C. McQueen
Vanuatu P. Bazeley
- 10:30 - 11 Morning Tea
- 11 - 12:30 Papua New Guinea M. Nunn and Y. Yunamu
Other SW Pacific countries which have no formal veterinary services
- 12:30 - 2 Lunch
- 2 - 3:30 H.G. Osborne (Aust.) 'History of establishment of Veterinary Services in the Solomon Islands'
Ahmad Mustaffa bin Babjee (Malaysia) 'Innovation in the Development of Animal Industries and Government Support Services'
- 3:30 - 4 Afternoon Tea
- 4 - 5:00 Discussion period to evaluate and compare regions' animal industries and veterinary services.
- 5:30 - 9 Visit to Livestock Station and Barbecue
- Day 2**
- 9 - 10:30 David Banks' (PNG) 'Important Parasitological Diseases of Animals in the SW Pacific Region'
Giam Choo Hoo (Singapore) 'Special Problems of Provision of Veterinary Services in Small Island Countries'
- 10:30 - 11 Morning Tea
- 11 - 12:30 E.H. Shortridge (NZ) 'Veterinary Laboratory Service Needs in the SW Pacific Region'
I.G. Davis (Aust.) 'Movement of Animals between Countries of the SW Pacific Region'
- 12:30 - 2 Lunch
- 2 - 3:30 G. Polke (Solomon Is) 'Training of Indigenous Personnel for the Delivery of Support Services for Animal Industries'
B.K. Soni (APHCA, FAO Bangkok) 'Global Experience in Delivering Veterinary Services to Small Island Countries'
- 3:30 - 4 Afternoon Tea
- 4 - 5:30 'Social Perspectives of the Development of New Animal Industries in the SW Pacific Region'
R.I. Roe (Aust) 'Economic Aspects of the Development of New Animal Industries'
- Day 3**
- 9 - 10:30 W.J. Pryor (CwVA)
Abdul Rahman (India) 'Analysis of Adequacy of Veterinary Support Services for Present and Planned Animal Industries - and Outside View'
G. Moengangongo (Western Samoa) 'Perspectives from within the Region'
- 10:30 - 11 Morning Tea
- 11 - 12:30 Open Forum
Conference View - Can any deficiencies of veterinary support services in the region be clearly established?
- What measures can be taken to overcome these eg. co-operation or new developments?
- Recommendations to be adopted by conference to give effect to the above.

Antinobacillus suis

Actinobacillus suis was isolated from suckling piglets from seven farms in southwestern Ontario over the past year (1986-87). Affected piglets were between four days and three weeks old, except for one which was five months old. Respiratory distress and/or trembling were noted in a few, but most affected piglets were found dead.

The significant necropsy findings in descending order of frequency were: 1 - Multifocal fibrinohemorrhagic pneumonia. 2 - Petechial hemorrhages in other organs, e.g. liver, kidney, heart. 3 - Serofibrinous exudates in pleural, pericardial, and peritoneal cavities. 4 - Hemorrhagic myocarditis.

Actinobacillus suis is sensitive to many antibiotics including penicillin, ampicillin, streptomycin, and tetracyclines.

Source: Can Vet J Oct/87. Cross-Can Dis Report - S Ernest Stanford.

Trouble making birds

Migratory water birds are thought to be carriers of avian influenza viruses, including fowl plague strains pathogenic to domestic poultry. They may spread it to other wild birds, such as sparrows and starlings, which spread infection to domestic poultry. Preventative measures which might reduce such transmission include bird-proofing sheds, sanitation of water supplies, and careful storage of feed to minimize contact between wild birds and domestic poultry and their feed and water.

Source: PNG Newsletter No. 24 Aug/85.

Peritonitis treatment

Peritonitis is a serious disease requiring aggressive management in the hope of effecting a cure. Stabilisation of the patient's condition is important. Immediate fluid therapy and systemic antibiotics are essential. Surgery is always indicated, not only to locate and correct the causative lesion, but to allow mechanical cleansing of the peritoneal cavity by debridement and irrigation. The need for antibiotics or antiseptics in the irrigation fluid is questionable and appears to be less important than early, vigorous irrigation with warm, normal saline. The decision to use postoperative lavage, drainage or the "open abdomen approach" will be dependent on the surgeon's preference. However, open peritoneal drainage shows promise for the treatment of peritonitis in the small animal patient. The technique is without the

complications of drain management and appears to provide efficient drainage from the peritoneal cavity as the entire incision line is dependent. Source: Aus Vet Practitioner Mar/87 V17 N1 p3-8: Peritonitis Part II - Principles of Treatment by Dr. Giselle Hosgood (summary is quoted).

Stephanofilariasis

Twelve head of cattle, were affected with a skin problem. Except for the youngest, a yearling heifer, none had more than one lesion. The lesions were located on the face down from the medial canthus of the eye, on the mid line of the back, on the flanks, and in one case on the right carpal joint.

A lesion would start as a raised lump and apparent itching would result in extensive rubbing. Within two weeks the first lesion measured 10 cm. across. The lesions penetrated only the subcutis. There was a severe fibrous reaction and the centre would exude pus and necrotic tissue.

The animals were treated with Ivomec (MSDAG) at 1cc per 50 kg. administered subcutaneously. This produced a reduction in the size of the lesion after three days and complete healing in 14 days. Decatix (Coopers) was used for fly control. This management strategy was effective in halting the outbreak.

Source: SVA Newsletter Mar/87.

Phalaris stagers

In the early 1970's, in the Province of Newfoundland, many community pastures located on reclaimed bog were seeded with Reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*). Due to a combination of soil type and weather, there has been a continual problem with 'stagers' in sheep grazing one particular area. Both adults and newborns are afflicted with a jerky gait, bobbing head, and generalized trembling.

Dietary cobalt supplementation has been effective when adhered to, but remains a difficult preventative measure.

This problem recurs each year despite efforts to control the spread of the plant. This is apparently a rare condition in Canada.

Source: Can Vet J Oct/87. Cross-Can Dis Report - Hugh G. Whitney & Ken M. Charlton.

Interesting observations

In India cattle calves, born during wet summer months, were carried for a shorter period than during spring and

winter seasons in first parity. In pluriparous cows the shortest gestation period was recorded in summer months and the longest gestation period in the winter months. Buffalo heifers calving in winter had the longest gestation period, while those calving in autumn had the shortest.

Sex of the calf, both in cattle and in buffalo, was found to have no significant effect on the length of the gestation period. However, it is noted that in primiparous cows the male calves were carried for two more days than the female calves, and in pluriparous cows male and female calves were carried for similar periods. It is also noted that in primiparous nondescript buffalo male calves were carried for a shorter period of about four days than female calves.

Source: IVJ May/88 p41, S. Kumar, S.K. Agarwal, and R. Prakash.

Ammonia

There is evidence that, in laboratory animals, ammonia paralyzes the respiratory cilia and causes the secretory cells to become less active. This combines to reduce the removal of foreign material, including dust particles and bacteria, from the respiratory tract.

The American Conference of Government Hygienists have established some values for human contact with ammonia. If working in an environment containing ammonia for eight or more hours, the ammonia level should not exceed 25 ppm. If total daily exposure is less than one hour, 35 ppm is allowable. It is assumed the 50 ppm is the level needed to be readily detectable by the average person. The bottom line is that if you can smell it, it is too high.

Studies involving pigs show that growth is depressed when ammonia levels exceed 76 ppm. Fifty ppm reduces the pig's ability to clear its lungs. Levels of 50-70 ppm of ammonia resulted in reduced rate of gain.

Source: Vet Prof topics; Univ. of Ill., USA.

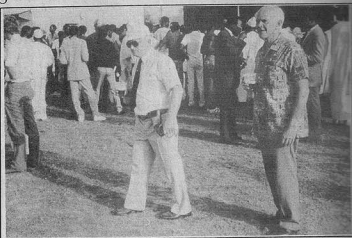
Did you know

Advertising space is available in the CwVA.

Contact: Dr. J. Archibald,
CwVA Sec. Treasurer,
35 Lynwood Place,
Guelph, Ontario,
Canada, N1G 2V9.
Phone 519-824-1304.

Lead-containing eye cosmetics

The use of eye cosmetic containing lead appears to be widespread in many countries. In India, Bangladesh and Pakistan it is called 'surma', in Arabian countries it is called 'kohl'. The lead content in them is high and it has been recognized that when mothers use these cosmetics serious developmental damage can occur in infants and children. It is recommended that pilot screening programs be encouraged in these countries and that educational programs aimed at professionals and the public be mounted to prevent further use of lead-containing eye cosmetics. Governmental action should be recommended to prevent lead-containing eye cosmetics from being manufactured or sold.



The Pause that Refreshes - Two CwVA workers, Trevor Blackburn of the UK (left) and Bill Pryor of Australia (right) enjoy some iced tea during a break at the official opening of the International Tyranpotolerance Centre in The Gambia.

1988 Activities in Australia

For veterinarians planning to visit Australia during 1988 the following schedule of Australian Veterinary Association related events will be of interest: —

Feb. 13th/14th
15th - 19th

Western Australia Division AGM, Murdoch University
Post Graduate Fauna Course, Sydney

March 3rd
4th - 6th
19th/20th

AVI AGM, National Headquarters, Sydney
Queensland Division AGM
South Australia Division AGM

April 9th
15th

New South Wales Division AGM, Intercontinental Hotel
Victoria Division AGM, Werribee

May 10th/11th
17th
18th - 22nd
23rd - 28th

National Pig Fair (AAPV), Toowoomba
ACVSc Epidemiology, Canberra
AVA Annual Conference, Canberra
AEVA Bain Fallon, Adelaide

July 18th - 21st

AVMA Conference, Portland, Oregon

Aug. 8th - 12th
13th
15th - 19th
19th - 21st
28th

Postgraduate Companion Animal Reproduction, Sydney
Postgraduate AI Workshop, Sydney
Postgraduate Sheep Health, Sydney
Postgraduate Sheep Advisory, Leura
ACVSc, Anaesthesia Refresher, University of Queensland

Aug. 29th - Sept. 2nd

ACVSc Anaesthesia Congress, University of Queensland

Sept. 23rd - 25th
26th - 30th
28th

Asian Poultry Conference (AVPA)
ASAVA Conference, Perth Sheraton
Western Australia Division Trade Fair

Oct. 15th - 19th

6th FAVA Congress, Bali, Indonesia

Oct. 30th - Nov. 5th

Western Australia Vetweek

Nov. 28th - Dec. 2nd

Postgraduate Diet Management, Sydney

Noteworthy Comments

International gatherings of scientists produce a huge quantity of information usually at a fairly general and superficial level in order to cater for diversity — a characteristic of the papers, the speakers and the audience.

Crucial to their success is the organizations. The benefits largely relate to the information and renewal of friendships, and to marketing. Both thrive in a relaxed environment.

Source: NZ Vet J Apr/87 V35 N4 Dr. Peter Trim.

Not A New Opinion

Despite frequent political statements of the importance of agriculture, government funding for agriculture declines. Of course, funds alone do not determine the efficiency of government services. The effectiveness of such service hinges on a variety of less tangible factors, such as leadership, motivation, opportunity, knowledge and experience.

Source: Many and oft repeated.

Timely Definitions

(a). A microconcern - someone at a nuclear power plant forgetting to lock up their coveralls.

(b). A milliconcern - tapwater OK to drink but children should keep out of the rain and not play in mudpuddles.

(c). A concern - luminous livestock at pasture.

(d). A kiloconcern - a disaster that a government says wasn't one. e.g. Three Mile Island.

(e). A megaconcern - a disaster that everyone knows damn well was one. e.g. Chernobyl.

Source: PNG Vet Newsletter Nov/86.

Did you know that:

The Government of the State of Tamil Nadu has sought approval of the Central Government of India for starting a veterinary university. Tamil Nadu already has a technical university and an agricultural university. A bill has also been passed for the establishment of a medical university. It is considered very appropriate by many that the progressive government of Tamil Nadu should establish a veterinary university in Madras where the well-known Madras Veterinary College has been functioning since 1903.

Source: IVJ May/87

In India ingestion of foreign bodies is quite common among ruminants especially in buffaloes.

Source: IVJ May/87 p419.

Items of interest for all

Observations of Interest

In those countries where animal management is relatively good there is a move towards purebred Bos taurus cattle for maximum performance. There is the obvious proviso that disease control has to be effective.

In some countries, such as Taiwan, intensive pig and poultry units are of enormous size. In such enterprises disease control, genetics and nutrition are each critical for success.

Source: NZ Vet J Apr/87 V35 N4 Dr. Peter Trim.

Sage Advice

By taking a responsible position on issues of concern to both the general public and the veterinary profession, veterinarians present an image of dependability and integrity that rubs off on all veterinarians.

Source: Dr. Tom Sanderson, Pres. Canadian Veterinary Medical Assoc.

Food for Thought

Much of what you eat turns into you, but dietary fiber just goes through.

Source: ZVA News Sept/87.

Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm is that "ecstasy of mind" in which anything appears possible. It must be cultivated if it is to be kept alive — and keeping it alive is so vital to all.

Source: The Royal Bank Letter Nov-Dec/87.

Something To Reflect On

The clock of life is wound but once
And no man has the power
To tell just where the hands will stop
At a late or early hour.

Source: ??

Worth Noting

(a). Teamwork is essential. It allows you to put the blame on someone else.

(b). Things get worse under pressure.

(c). Those who are most moral are furthest from the problem.

(d). Where there is a 'can' there will always be a 'can't'.

(e). In a work of genius we often recognize our own rejected thoughts.

(f). When it is not necessary to make a decision, it is wise not to make one.

(g). Most things good in life are either illegal, immoral or fattening.

(h). When you dial a wrong number you never get a busy signal.

(i). Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.

Source: PNG Vet Newsletter Nov/86. (CwVA editor's note: - Thank you, Editor Mike Nunn).

A Sound Idea

A display has been produced by the Deer Branch of the New Zealand Veterinary Association for the purpose of promotion of the veterinary profession and the services it can offer to the deer industry. The display includes the activities of MAF veterinarians. This display is for use at any appropriate venue, eg: local seminars, field days, A&P Shows, and discussion groups. It is readily dismantled and comes in two easily transportable containers. It is made available for use by Deer Branch members free of charge. Source: NZ Vet J Apr/87 V35 N4.



Commonwealth Veterinarians at World Veterinary Congress: left, Collin D'Souza (Kenya), centre, Trevor Blackburn (UK), right, L. Ayanwale (Nigeria). Photo Courtesy of Canadian Veterinary Journal.

Quite a Start

EDITOR'S NOTE

This is a true story. Its author is Dr. M.N. Shandomo of Swaziland. Its unique value is that it presents that side of the coin that sometimes authorities, concerned with development, neither see nor think about. It tells the tale of workdays in the Hhohho area, near Mbabane, in Swaziland. It brings to life some of the everyday problems that so often plague the implementers but not so often the planners of development programmes.

Dr. Shandomo is obviously a worker and not a complainer. He writes with candor and humor. We have edited Dr. Shandomo's story only to the extent of eliminating some extraneous material. Many of the expressions and phrases used are not only colorful and the way in which they are used fascinating, but above all they are valid because the author was there.

The title, "Quite a Start", we believe refers to the launching of Dr. Shandomo's career as a practicing veterinarian. We hope readers enjoy his story as much as we did when we read it in a SVA Newsletter.

"QUITE A START"

Early one August morning, in 1986, I arrived at the Regional Veterinary Offices for Hhohho in Mbabane. That was when I met Eunice, the clinical assistant. It was this Eunice that started the whole business by calling me to the clinic whenever there was a case.

The following week began with a parvo virus disease case. A puppy was brought in with a history of vomiting and dysentery. On examination it was found to be so dehydrated that a drip was prescribed. After three days of drip therapy and supportive medication there was marked improvement and the treatment was discontinued. Later on the owner was met in one of the shops and on greeting us she reported that the puppy had died suddenly after it had fully recovered. This news was painfully taken as this owner had shown so much love for the puppy. She had looked after it properly during the course of treatment and had come back whenever she was requested to. For her to have gotten the same results, as a man who brought in a litter mate of the puppy on the same day, was very disappointing. The man's puppy also had parvo and the same treatment was prescribed. The man did not come back the following day and it was wondered as to what happened to him and the puppy. Later on it was learned that his puppy had died. A heated debate then went on as to how some people will not take care of their pets. This was viewed as

one of the reasons many pets do not recover. It was insisted that if the owner followed the vet's instructions properly the recovery rate would increase. A typical example was of another man whose puppy had come back with very little progress. When he was questioned, as to how he had carried out the instructions, it was discovered that he had only managed to administer two out of eight tablets. There are, however, very few owners who admit their faults as this owner did. Most of them will insist that they gave all the tablets as advised when in actual fact they did not. Others even fail to bring the pets back or report on the progress of the animal in order for a follow-up treatment to be prescribed. This man was therefore praised for telling the truth.

Yet, other owners leave their pets or animals to die or suffer terribly because, they claim, they do not know that vets exist. A case to this testimony was encountered in Siteki. There a case of advanced infectious Keratoconjunctivitis was reported. When we arrived the calf was found to have become already blind. The owner, a lady, insisted that she did not know that there was a vet office at Siteki. She had, however, got advice from a friend and purchased some medicine in Manzini. She had used this medicine until someone else told her that vets operated from Siteki, but by this time the calf was blind. We advised her to, in the future, approach the vet office at the earliest so that cases could be attended to before they deteriorated. She then immediately reported that seven goats were coughing. After these were treated, a calf with a swelling on its udder was examined. It was amazing to learn that people so close to the vet offices, as this homestead was, did not know of the availability of the services.

What owners can do to help their pets was demonstrated by an Asian lady. Her Alsatian dog was suspected of having babesiosis and treated accordingly. She brought it back the next day, it was worse. It now had pneumonia and distemper was diagnosed and treatment for that started. It was dehydrated and a drip was given. The next day the dog was weaker and couldn't get up. However, she returned with her dog for the next three days so that it could be treated. On the third day, it was walking and had improved tremendously. She was asked to bring it back in three or four days. This she did and both she and the dog were in their happiest moods. Some weeks later the lady was met in town and she reported

that the dog died suddenly after it had long made a fine recovery. This was very disheartening.

On Fridays work ended at 4:30 p.m. One Friday at about 4:00 p.m., a farmer burst into the office to report his sick Nguni bull. The bull, along with other cattle, was under the care of a lonely old man some 20 km west of Mbabane. When the owner visited he was told the bull had been sick for three days, but since the old man was alone, he could not leave the cattle to report the case. This annoyed the owner and one could understand his reason for bursting into the office. He expressed how much he loved this bull and feared it would die if no immediate attention was given. It would have been therefore committing a sin if his request was turned down on grounds it was too late. Besides, he had offered his transport to and from the farm. On accepting to go he begged to rush home to change into his farm gear and collect a few boys to help in the handling. He was back shortly after 4:30 p.m. It was quite a pleasant journey as he never ran short of stories. By the time the farm was reached all necessary information about the bull, and his farm and family was known.

The bull was found standing dejectedly some safe distance away. It was then driven to the kraal. Its general condition was poor and due to weakness it swayed as it walked. Unlike most bulls it did not give any resistance as ropes were passed around the horns and hind legs. It was breathing heavily and fast, and salivated quite profusely. Its temperature was 41 degrees Centigrade and the mucous membranes were pale. After we treated the bull, the owner was advised to report any further complications.

On Monday he reported that the bull was making a good recovery. Two days later, on Wednesday, he burst into the office once again to report that the condition of the bull had worsened. It was now passing black faeces, which resembled the material used to tarmac roads. The state of the farmer was such that any further delays in attending to his bull could have meant carrying out first aid on him. This was made worse when a calving case was reported in his presence. It was obvious that this was to be attended to first before his bull. The cow was found to have delivered without complications and a hasty roundabout was made to go and treat the bull.

The bull had lost further weight, was weaker and passed some of the

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Quite a Start

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reported tarlike faeces, which came out in strings. Its temperature had dropped to 37 degrees Centigrade and the mucous membranes were yellowish. We again treated it but our prognosis was a guarded one. It was then reported the lonely old man had given the bull some herbal medicine before the farmer called us and we wondered if that could have caused complications.

We revisited that farm later to attend to a calf with diarrhoea. At that time we saw the bull. It had recovered without further treatment and had already gained some weight. This time the farmer had sent his nephew to drive us. The journey was almost terminated just near to the Swaziland Broadcasting Services Office when the nephew failed to negotiate what seemed an obvious clear corner. His vehicle threatened an incoming lady-driven car. To our delight the cars managed to miss each other, though narrowly. The lady shouted something to which our driver mumbled an apology. The journey continued, however the nephew did not seem to have learned much of a lesson. Before leaving the farm to return to the office we told him in no uncertain terms that he had to drive carefully.

One day we were called to Dlangeni. Two gilts had farrowed and were now reported unwell three days after. It was pointed out that this place was far, but none said the road was terrifying, so preparations were made to go. When we approached Ezulwini the driver pointed out that there on the top of the hills was the winding road we were to take. My bowels loosened immediately as I could not imagine that I could survive up there. Since Eunice was with us I could not show this, so I just kept on commenting about how flat it was back home and how my wife would not like driving up these hills as she was usually scared of such places. After some time and courageously holding my peace we climbed yet another hill. Before the descent we branched off the main road and there, suddenly, was the homestead with these pigs.

The images of the terrifying road disappeared and were replaced by the sight of nice gilts with their well-developed piglets. The beauty of these pigs was improved by the presence of a Ngabisa lady. She was the manager but she was apparently scared of pigs the way a man would be scared of a hungry lion. As a result she had very little knowledge of pig management. This was immediately seen as a challenge. She must be taught how to manage the pigs, but before that her fear of pigs had to be got rid of. With this challenge in

mind the journey back on the road was no longer terrifying. "One had to come back to that homestead and so the road must be O.K."

Indeed a week later another report was received that more piglets were sick. There were some mixed feelings when considering this request as the thought of that road had become more vivid during the past week. And yet it was necessary that one goes to treat the piglets at least, if not to help the Ngabisa in her methods of pig handling and management.

Just before departure a small problem of who was to sit in the middle of the seat, whether Eunice or myself, had to be resolved. Eunice for some reason liked sitting on the outer side. She used to delay in coming to the vehicle so as to find me already seated in the middle. This day we reached the vehicle at the same time, and therefore the problem. However, she managed to get her outer side and off we went. This time the road had improved and looked safe enough. The homestead had also improved as another, and even younger, Ngabisa lady was there. She was in ceremonial dress but stood, with an unsmiling face, by the piggery. The treatment went on as usual then some advice on management was given to the manager. It is important that such people should receive such instructions a bit at a time. This time we talked about the importance of record keeping and also about the provision of bedding to the pigs to avoid unnecessary injuries, such as the ones we had just treated. This thought was good as it meant that one had to go back to that homestead again. The manager had become more interested in the pigs, and perhaps in us too. Who knows?

We were called back to that homestead five more times. By that time the lady manager had learned how to inject and clean the pigs. Her record keeping was recommendable. The biggest problem now was that her assistants were being changed frequently. At one time there was an elderly lady who, because of the influence of alcohol, had such courage as to even wash the pigs happily. By the time of our last call that lady was gone. It is amazing how many of our farmers have very little knowledge of what they should do. This adds to the many veterinary problems that emanate from management failures.

There are times when the stockowners are overanxious and call for the vet too early. It is felt that this is better than those that do not call at all or who do so too late. This happens

sometimes with calvings. On two occasions we found, on arrival, that the cow had already calved. This happened once on a cold wet Monday morning. Since four of us had to go it became necessary that two should sit in the open back of the van. The road was very rough but we finally arrived, only to find that the cow had delivered. The owner, a lady, was however very happy that we had come. She proudly told us how she went in and pulled the leg that caused the dystocia and then delivery took place without further complications.

Another time it was when a cow had just begun straining a bit. On arrival it was found that the cow had gone grazing with the rest. It took the owner about an hour to get it to the kraal. On examination all that could be observed was that calving was imminent.

It seems that sometimes stock and pet owners just like the company of vets. One morning two white ladies burst into the office at Mbabane. They smilingly made enquiries about dog vaccinations. Soon after they were told that it was possible to meet their requirements so they hurried home to fetch the dogs. After the dogs were vaccinated and while the vet was completing the certificates the two ladies talked and talked. In the end one commented on how nice it was to have brought the dogs to the vet and that the time had been really well spent. The dogs looked very relaxed, I wondered what would have been their reactions if they had known that they were being used as reasons for a visit to the vets.

One day there was TB testing to do. Date and time were arranged and communicated to the owner. On arrival at the arranged time it was found that the people were on break and there were no cattle in the crushpen. Nobody was there to help. Finally one man came up from where the paddocks were. He was requested to call the farmer from out of the house. This he did but no farmer came out until some 15 minutes later. He apologized and said that it was breaktime and therefore everybody was taking a meal. We threatened to go back without carrying out the testing but when the farmer became so apologetic it was decided that the testing would go on. After testing we were invited for tea and soft drinks. These were enjoyed so much that 72 hours later, when the reactions were to be read, bread was brought along in anticipation. But to the disappointment of our group no invitations were extended.

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Letter to the editor

From Robert G. Mares (retired overseas veterinarian), 4 Grotton Place, Boxford, Colchester, England, C06 5EE - tel. Boxford (0787)211318.

Quote "I was very pleased to get a copy of Vol 2 Number 2 of the CwVA news as a complimentary copy from the British Veterinary Association. It is full of most interesting material. I was, as Malawi's representative at the time, a founder member of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association along with David Jawara from the Gambia and others at the Stockport Conference of the BVA. I am hoping to renew my African links at the BVA Conference Overseas Division inauguration next month (Sept/87)."

Mr. Mares was kind enough to include some very interesting and informative personal observations.

Quote:-

Role of Auxiliary Staff

The report on the 1984 Burundi Seminar on the role of auxiliary staff talks of "recent observations" suggesting that livestock producers can and will pay for veterinary inputs. I venture to suggest that there is nothing

very new in this. When I arrived in Somaliland in 1950 I took over a veterinary service that was part of the Agricultural Department and was already retailing "Antrypol" as a treatment for Surra in camels at a price of, I think, three Rupees per intra-venous dose. During my two years in the Protectorate I added to our "range" and bottles of white disinfectant fluid and bottles of "Gamatox" paste for ticks.

In Nyssaland (now Malawi) when I arrived there was already a service, particularly under Mike Dexter in the Northern Province, actively selling anthelmintics and other simple remedies. We built on this during the years that followed until by 1973 there was in effect a nationwide state subsidized scheme of private practice.

In Botswana in Jack Falconer's long period as Director he built up, with a lot of support from the late Ken Ward, a wide network of veterinary sales units linked to the farmers' cooperatives.

In Transkei, very much a "Third World" country although unrecognized, the South African scheme of cooperatives selling drugs to farmers

has been expanded, and more closely supervised, by a multi-racial and multi-national team of veterinarians inspired by a Portuguese Chief Veterinary Officer working with a Xhosa Secretary for Agriculture.

All of these schemes were built on existing "colonial" services and worked as well as most things work in an imperfect world without any major restructuring. The training, for the auxiliaries concerned was from three weeks for Somalis, only literate in Arabic, to one or two year courses for Junior School Certificate boys in the other places named. The Somalis in particular fulfilled the criteria laid down in your editorial of having "no formal education but significant practical knowledge and experience". In all cases there was, and doubtless still is, "Continuous supervision by state veterinary officers".

In all those countries I have had the pleasure of seeing enthusiastic local farmers lining up at dip tank or local cattle crush, money in one hand and the leading rope for camel, horse or ox in the other, waiting for treatment.

Important message from CwVA

Some 4000 copies of each issue of the CwVA News are distributed throughout the Commonwealth. Several national, provincial and state veterinary associations have generously and willingly accepted the task of distribution within their jurisdictions. Without this help the CwVA could not effect the present wide circulation of its newsmagazine. In Australia, for example, the national office of the AVA and the executive offices of several of its state branches bear the expense and labour involved; in Canada the provincial veterinary associations supply this same generous and essential support. In New Zealand it is the NZVA that plays this vital role and in the UK it is the BVA. To other CwVA member associations, bundles of the CwVA News are sent to CwVA council members. They then, with the help and cooperation of their local and national veterinary associations, various government agencies, veterinary institutions and other interested parties, are able to complete as effective a circulation as is now possible.

Several individual mailings are made to persons, whose names have been suggested by CwVA executive and council members, and to others who have requested it. All possible economies, including the extensive use

of surface mail, are practiced to keep the CwVA News within its operating budget. This budget is based on a very definite allotment, of the Commonwealth Foundation's supporting funds, which is earmarked for this endeavour. Increasing postal rates, exacerbated by increasing (but certainly welcome) correspondence, are threatening this whole structure.

A subscription fee would be a retrograde step. It would but threaten the CwVA with a lessening of communication from vital areas of the Developing Commonwealth. It is with these areas that the CwVA strives to form a creative partnership.

However, contributions from in-

terested readers (whoever you are and wherever you may be), who would and could accommodate a subscription charge is an entirely different matter. An annual contribution of \$5 Can. would cover a copy of each issue mailed directly to the contributor, and a bit would be left over to help another copy on its way to some reader in a developing region. A contribution beyond the \$5 would assist with other CwVA activities.

Contributions should be directed to 'the Commonwealth Veterinary Association' and sent directly to Dr. J. Archibald; Sec/Treas CwVA; 35 Lynwood Place; Guelph; Ontario; Canada N1G 2V9.

Generous donation

Through the efforts of CwVA worker Bert Stevenson (Canada) and the sympathetic cooperation of Dr. C.M. (Red) Frazer, editor of The Merck Veterinary Manual, 100 copies of The Merck Veterinary Manual, 5th edition, are being made available to the CwVA. These will be distributed to veterinary and agricultural libraries throughout the developing Commonwealth. These will be libraries that could not normally afford a book of such quality and usefulness.

The Merck Veterinary Manual is considered by many authorities to be the elite of 'handbooks of diagnosis and therapy for veterinarians'. The CwVA is proud that its work is regarded by Merck & Co. Inc. to be worthy of this degree of support.

These books will be shipped from the Merck & Co. offices in The Netherlands therefore CwVA worker Trevor Blackburn (UK) will be coordinating their distribution.

A friend indeed

Dr. George Somerwill of Tarrytown, U.S.A., is indeed a friend. He is one of the earlier correspondents to the CwVA News and one who chose to show his interest in the most practical and generous of ways.

Dr. Somerwill served, for many years, as a veterinarian in Swaziland. He still enjoys close ties with Swaziland and also with the British Veterinary Association. Dr. Somerwill was the author of the first CwVA Special Feature (Dr. Somerwill's memories of Swaziland) which appeared in the Jan/87 issue.

Because of increased CwVA activities, stemming from the office of the Secretary/Treasurer, Dr. Sommerwill became aware of the existence of the CwVA. He contacted Secretary/Treasurer Jim Archibald requesting information about CwVA activities. The information he received included a copy of the CwVA News. George Somerwill then requested that his name and the names of two friends be put on its mailing list. This request was accompanied by a generous financial contribution to the CwVA. This gesture gave us the idea that some readers might be interested enough in having the CwVA News mailed directly to them that they would consider financial contributions to the CwVA.

Dr. Somerwill also plays an active role in the CwVA 'Book and Journal' program. He sends his copies of the Veterinary Record to the Swaziland

Veterinary Association. The mailing costs and the frequency and regularity of sending this journal to Swaziland add up to another very substantial contribution to CwVA activities. It was apparently Mike Teale, coordinator of the BVA 'Book, Journal and Small Items programme', who made George aware of the CwVA program. The CwVA acknowledges, with much appreciation, Mike's interest and cooperation, and George's support and contributions.

Meetings promote comradeship

At the March/87 conference in The Gambia, meetings of the CwVA Executive Committee and of the CwVA Council Members of the East/Central/Southern Africa and West Africa regions were held during the course of the conference at times that would not interfere with the seminar or scientific program or other joint activities. For the executive and council members it was breakfast meetings, evening meetings and meetings at times when no other activities were scheduled.

This arrangement was particularly pleasing to the African delegates who expressed their appreciation at being able to meet and discuss matters of common professional concern with colleagues from other countries. It also gave them the opportunity to meet the officers of the CwVA, who until these Pan-African meetings had been faceless names. These formal and in-

Important Notice

CwVA/ADAB Conference on Veterinary Services for the South-West Pacific.

Date: - June 14-17, 1988

Venue- Honiara, Soliman Islands

For information write to:-

-Dr. W. J. Pryor, Galwiji, Pryor'd Rd, Scotsburn, RMB 141, Buninyong, Victoria 3357, Australia.

formal gatherings engendered a feeling of comradeship, and promoted a better understanding of the Commonwealth Foundation and the objectives of the CwVA.

Quite a Start

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The next client was at Sigangeni. She was requested to make tea so that the bread could be consumed and this she obliged.

Editors's note (CwVA News) - Dr. Shandomo completes his article with several interesting case histories. These case histories are such as might be found in any veterinary journal therefore we have not included them here. Source: Swaziland Veterinary Association Newsletter Mar/87.

BRITISH SMALL ANIMAL VETERINARY ASSOC. CONGRESS

April 7-10, 1988 / Hammersmith, London, England Enquiries - BSAVA Registration Office, 5 St. Georges Terrace, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL50 3PT, England.

KENYA VETERINARY ASSOC. ANNUAL CONGRESS

April 21-22, 1988 / For details write to:- Dr. C.G. Ndiritu, Kenya Veterinary Assoc. P.O. Box 29089, Kabete, Kenya.

AUSTRALIAN VETERINARY ASSOC. ANNUAL CONFERENCE

May 18-22, 1988 / Canberra, Australia Enquiries - Dr. J. Hayhoe, "Boonderoo", Tharwa, A.C.T., 2620 or Aus Vet Assoc. P.O. Box 371, Artarmon, N.S.W. 2064, Australia.

Coming Events

CwVA (ASIA)

REGIONAL SEMINAR

May 1988 / Dhaka, Bangladesh. For details write to:- Dr. M.H. Bhuiyan, 48 Kazi Allauddin Road, Dhaka 1000.

BAIN/FALLON MEMORIAL LECTURES

May 23-28, 1988 / Adelaide, South Australia Enquiries - Miss A.M. Best, Australian Equine Veterinary Assoc. P.O. Box 371, Artarmon, NSW 2064, Australia.

SHEEP & BEEF CATTLE SOCIETY SEMINAR

July 6-8, 1988 / Lincoln College, Christchurch Enquiries - Dr. Allan Pearson, P.O. Box 24, Lincoln, New Zealand.

CANADIAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOC. ANNUAL CONVENTION

July 10-13, 1988 / Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Enquiries - Dr. R.S. Butler, Continuing Vet. Educ. Section, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, Univ of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada S7N 0W0.

CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS OF THE INDIAN VETERINARY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

1989 / India. For information write to: - Indian Veterinary Journal, IVJ Bldg, 7 Chamiers Road, Madras 600 035, India.

6TH TANZANIA VETERINARY ASSOCIATION SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

December 6-8, 1988. For information write to: - Tanzania Vet Assoc. P.O. Box 3021 Morogoro, Tanzania.

THE COMMONWEALTH VETERINARY ASSOCIATION

Serving the Commonwealth for 20 years.

A creative Commonwealth partnership, of small and large veterinary associations, searching for pragmatic responses for the problems of its developing members, large and small.

Working cooperatively so that its developing partners may become self-reliant and developing countries self-sufficient.



A New Year's Message for All: "Don't Quit"

When things go wrong, as they
sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging
seems all uphill,
When the funds are low and the debts
are high,
And you want to smile, but you have
to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a
bit-
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.

Life is queer with its twists and
turns,
As every one of us sometimes learns,
And many a fellow turns about
When he might have won had he
stuck it out.
Don't give up though the pace seems
slow-
You may succeed with another blow.

Often the goal is nearer than
It seems to a faint and faltering man,
Often the struggler has given up
When he might have captured the
victor's cup;
And he learned too late when the
night came down,
How close he was to the golden
crown.

Success is failure turned inside out-
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
And you never can tell how close you
are,
It may be near when it seems afar;
So stick to the fight when you're
hardest hit,-
It's when things seem worst that you
mustn't quit.

Source???