

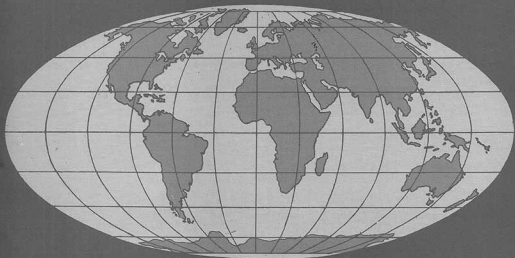
5
Volume 12

No.1



January 1997

COMMONWEALTH VETERINARY ASSOCIATION



NEWS

Editorial



With the passage of time the CVA has become more and more active with the implementation of the Workplan which it draws up at every Programme Review Meeting, the last one being held in London from August 21 - 25, 1995. This review meeting held once in two or three years is a brain storming session in which the entire executive thrashes out the goals and objectives of the CVA and ultimately draws out a plan of action which is meticulously implemented in the next two or three years. Already every region has been actively tackling the objectives set out by the executive at the London meeting. The year 1996 has been a hectic one with four regional conferences and a mini programme review meeting. Reports of these meetings are published elsewhere in this issue.

With South Africa joining the Commonwealth the national veterinary association was welcomed to the CVA. The South African Vet. Assoc. responded by inviting the CVA executive to hold a mini executive meeting in Capetown along with its annual meeting and the CVA executive had an opportunity to meet the veterinarians of South Africa and in turn South Africa has responded and pledged to play a more active role in CVA activities in the African subcontinent.

Preparations for the third workshop on management of Fertility problems in small village herds of cattle and buffalo are afoot and this time it will be in Kenya (the first two have been held in Malaysia and Sri Lanka). This prestigious programme is going on very well and highly successful and beneficial to the farming community. Preparations are also in full swing for the Second Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference to be held next year in Bangalore, India.

The CVA study fund and the Journal and Book Program is continuing to be popular and has benefited many veterinarians all over the Commonwealth.

It is envisaged that in 1997 the activities of CVA will continue but most of its efforts would be in the planning of the Second Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference in Bangalore during February 1998.

January 1997

S. Abdul Rahman
Secretary/ Editor

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Dr. Derek Timbs
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Editor

Dr. S. Abdul Rahman

CONTENTS

	Page
Editorial	Inside Cover Page
President's Column	2
CVA News	3
Commonwealth News	18
Regional News	
Asia	19
Australasia	22
Canada Caribbean	29
East, Central and Southern Africa	36
West Africa	44
U.K. Mediterranean	57
News	61
General Articles	61
Titbits	63
Abstracts	64



President's Column

This has been a very busy half year for CVA. During this period four CVA workshops or conferences have been held in four different regions and three of these are reported in this edition of CVA News.

One cannot help but be aware of the growing value of these regional workshops which in each case have been attended by very significant veterinarians of that region. Each of these was a joint meeting hosted by CVA and the home national veterinary association. I had the privilege of attending the meetings in Mauritius and Singapore and was very impressed by the quality of speakers and the support of the local veterinary groups. There is clearly a hunger among our CVA membership for more knowledge on improved technology and CVA is trying to respond.

The key issue of privatisation of veterinary services and practice development is a dominant issue in many Commonwealth developing countries whilst the general issue of adequacy of veterinary support services seems a key issue in member countries, both developed and developing. CVA has set up working groups to try and advance these issues additionally to its regular programmes.

In addition the Officers of CVA met in Capetown at the invitation of the South African Veterinary Association (SAVA) to finalise the work programme in the two Africa regions and plan the forthcoming Second Pan Commonwealth Conference. The warm welcome and support from SAVA made the occasion a landmark and CVA is looking forward to it playing a key role in programmes in Central and Southern Africa.

Also in this edition is news of the most generous donation of the AVA Gift Library by the Australian Veterinary Association to the Zambian Veterinary School. CVA acknowledges the very generous help of Dr. Bill Seanlan, President AVA, the Zambian Ministry of Agriculture and of our sponsor the Ralston Purina Company who provided finance to help meet the costs of the transfer. I feel this exercise typifies cooperation and networking at its best.

CVA will continue to serve its members with vigour and commitment based on workplans developed in close consultation with its members.

December, 1996

W.J. Peyer
President

CVA NEWS

Generous Donation Of Veterinary Library

The Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) under its President Dr. Bill Scanlan, recently made available an extensive collection of veterinary books, known as the AVA Gift Library, to the Commonwealth Veterinary Association for placement in a developing Commonwealth country.

This followed extensive work by Dr. Peter Mylrea of Australia to sort and pack the library for transportation. In all Dr. Mylrea processed two metric tonnes of veterinary books to create the AVA Gift library.

Dr. David Banks, the CVA Councillor for Australia, undertook responsibility for locating the most suitable recipient by writing to the 49 CVA members inviting expressions of interest. Following the receipt of a number of requests, CVA developed a short list of two countries Zambia and Bangladesh. It duly offered the library to Zambia where it will be housed in the School of Veterinary Science. Professor Pandey, CVA Councillor for Zambia, is to be congratulated on preparing such a compelling case in support of acquiring the books.

Arrangements are being made with the Convenor of the CVA Book Exchange Programme, Dr. Doug Mitchell of Canada, to help Bangladesh from other sources.

A major problem with transportation of such a library is its high cost. The President of CVA was able to secure financial support from its sponsor, Ralston Purina, to help in this process. Support was also obtained from the Zambian Ministry of Agriculture.

During the policy council meeting of AVA in

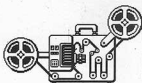


"The President of the Australian Veterinary Association, Dr. Bill Scanlan (centre) hands over the first book of the library to Dr. Bill Pryor, President CVA (left) watched by Dr. David Banks, CVA Councillor, Australia who made all arrangements for the library's transfer from Australia to Zambia."

Sydney on November 23, 1996 a presentation was made by AVA President, Dr. Scanlan, in which he said that his association was pleased to make the library available to a developing country and he thanked CVA for facilitating this process. "The AVA is delighted to be able to assist our Zambian colleagues in such a practical way," he said. The President of CVA, Dr. Bill Pryor, and the Councillor, Dr. David Banks, said that they felt this was an extraordinarily generous action on the part of AVA which will be widely publicised and used with appreciation by Zambian veterinary students and graduates alike.

CVA President, Dr. Pryor also paid tribute to the generous donation from Ralston Purina which made possible that which otherwise would not have been possible. To him, the whole project was typical of the way in which CVA works with member associations helping the development of veterinary services in these member countries.

24



Write To : Dr. Douglas Mitchell, Project
Co-ordinator, CVA JBVA Programme,
Animal Disease Research Institute Box 640
Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 3Z4, Canada

JOURNALS, BOOK AND AUDIO-VISUAL PROGRAMME

On November 1, 1996, the Canadian depots at Ontario Veterinary College, Guelph, Ontario, and Animal Diseases Research Institute, Lethbridge, Alberta, contained about 1500 used text books and manuals (more than 500 titles), which are available to graduate veterinarians and veterinary institutions in CVA member countries in good standing.

Beginning January 1, 1997, all requests for books must be endorsed by the member country councillor and must be submitted to the Programme Coordinator. Prior to this date, requests could be submitted directly and volunteer staff selected the books to be shipped. The following is a condensed list of the books available by category or discipline, as well as the titles of some popular texts of which multiple copies are held.

Category	No. of Books	Text Titles (No. Available)
Anatomy	169	1. Sisson - Anatomy of Domestic Animals (16) 2. Rooney - Guide to Dissection of Horses (18) 3. Miller - Guide to Dissection of Dogs (20)
Anaesthesia	17	
Animal Science	61	
Avian, Fish Wild and Lab Animal	37	
Biochemistry	6	
Chemistry/ Physics	29	
Clinical Pathology	47	1. Coles- Veterinary Clinical Pathology (10) 2. Duncan & Prose - Veterinary Laboratory Medicine (10)
Embryology	4	
Equine Medicine & Surgery	59	Adams - Lameness in Horses (20)
Farm Animal Medicine & Surgery	121	1. Blood & Radostits - Veterinary Medicine (20) 2. Dunne - Diseases of Swine (11)
Genetics	18	
Histology &		

Category	No. of Books	Text Titles (No. Available)
Haematology	77	Schalm - Veterinary Haematology (9)
Immunology	26	Tizzard - Veterinary Immunology (13)
Microbiology	85	
Miscellaneous Includes Statistics	43	
Neurology	11	Delahunta - Veterinary Neuroanatomy and Clinical Neurology (5)
Nutrition	48	Lewis, Morris- Small Animal Nutrition (12)
Parasitology	34	Gorgi - Parasitology for Veterinarians (8)
Pathology	113	1. Jubb & Kennedy - Pathology of Domestic Animals (24) 2. Smith - Veterinary Pathology (15) 3. Thomson - General Veterinary Pathology (12)
Pharmacology Therapeutics	36	Jones - Veterinary Pharmacology & Therapeutics (12)
Physiology	59	Dukes - Physiology of Domestic Animals (17)
Public Health Meat Safety	93	
Radiology	18	
Small Animal Medicine & Surgery	238	1. Muller & Kirk - Small Animal Dermatology (22) 2. Ettinger- Veterinary Internal Medicine Diseases of Dogs and Cats (30) Kirk - Current Veterinary Therapy (30)
Theriogenology Reproduction	74	Roberts - Veterinary Obstetrics & Genital Diseases (11)
Toxicology	15	
Veterinary Medicine	40	1. Merck Veterinary Manual (16) 2. Kirk - Bistner - Handbook of Veterinary Procedures (16)

The programme no longer receives or distributes unbound journals. A few audio cassette tapes, mostly on small animal topics, have been donated as well as a number of 2X2 Kodachrome slides, many of which have not been specifically classified or catalogued.

Shipments of books are made by surface/ sea mail, usually in postal bags and can be expected to take from 3- 8 months to reach their destinations when mailed from Canada.

COMMONWEALTH VETERINARY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the CVA Officers Programme Review Meeting,
Court Yard Hotel, Cape Town, South Africa, 30 September - 4 October 1996

Present:

Dr W J Pryor	President
Dr S A Rahman	Secretary
Dr R G Stevenson	Programme Director
Dr B N Touray	Past President
Prof P Msolla	Regional Representative East, Central Southern Africa
Dr E M B Koney	Regional Representative West Africa
Dr L J Bowen	Regional Representative UK/Mediterranean
Dr S Y Sinare	Councillor, Tanzania, (Observer)
Dr J L Caravera	President, Mozambique Veterinary Association, (Observer - 1 October)

AGENDA 1 - WELCOME

The President Dr W J Pryor welcomed all present and expressed particular appreciation to Dr Bowen who attended at her own expense.

AGENDA 2 - APPOINTMENT OF MINUTE SECRETARY

Dr Bowen was appointed as Minute Secretary (*Pryor/Rahman*)

AGENDA 3 - APOLOGIES

Greetings for a successful meeting were received from
Dr D K Amiel (RR Canada/Caribbean) and
Dr D V Timbs (RR Australasia/Oceania)

AGENDA 4 - REVIEW OF MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT RAMC, LONDON, AUGUST 21-25, 1995

The minutes of this meeting were reviewed (*Stevenson/Koney*)

AGENDA 5 - MATTERS ARISING FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT RAMC LONDON, AUGUST 21-25, 1995.

Agenda 6 - Item 5

Mrs Godwin has agreed to prepare the directory of AHA schools and has submitted a tentative budget.
This is to be funded from the Programme Directors budget.
The Directory of Veterinary Schools will be returned to Dr Touray for updating.
The need for a common format regarding the information supplied on each veterinary school was stressed and the need for RR's to cooperate with Dr Touray.

It was **resolved** that CVA should process and print the Directory of Veterinary Schools and AHA Schools (*Rahman/Touray*).

ACTION....Stevenson/Touray/Rahman

Agenda 6 - Item 6.4

The Editor stressed that insufficient articles were being received for consideration for the CVA News prize.
Prof Msolla recommended and the meeting **agreed** to further advertise this prize both in the CVA News and in RR communications.

ACTIONEditor/RR's

Agenda 6 - Item 12

Dr Stevenson tabled a proposal incorporating the criteria for selection of suitable candidates to be considered for CVA observer participation in Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada programmes

(Appendix 1)

Funding must still be investigated to support the nominees travel.
CVA moved to **adopt** the Guidelines for selection (*Koney/Touray*)

Agenda 6 - Item 15

Dr Rahman reported that a CVA silk tie is being designed for the Pan-Commonwealth Conference.
Dr Stevenson reported on the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association meeting where a raffle of a CVA batik and an oil painting was held in aid of the CVA Study Fund. This form of fund raising may be potentially very successful and is a consideration for the Pan-Commonwealth Conference (PCC 2).
The meeting agreed to provide the funding from the Conference budget to initiate tie and scarf purchase at Dr Rahman's discretion.

Agenda 6 - Item 16

Dr Rahman requested clear direction on the guidelines for distribution of the certificate adopted. President recommended that the support of the National Associations be sought prior to further action.
It was later **resolved** that CVA communicate with National Veterinary Associations to ascertain their attitudes to the issuing of a CVA certificate.

(*Touray/Rahman*)

ACTION.....Secretary

Agenda 10a - Report of work programmes in the regions

iii UK/Mediterranean

The RR will furnish Dr Rahman with further News items from the International Colloquium on Working Equines.

ACTION.....Bowen

- v Dr Stevenson noted that his report on the CVMA meeting has been published in CVA News. He also advised the meeting of the number of potential practitioners who expressed interest in providing support for CVA programmes. The full proceedings of the Symposium of CVMA involvement in international affairs is currently under production.

Agenda 10b - Recommendations from regional workshops 1993-5

- ii Dr Ray Butler has been approached by the Programme Director to take up the issue of a distance education programme on behalf of CVA.

Agenda 14 - Constitutional Amendments

The excellent work of the Secretary in producing the "Blue Book", which has now been published and which contains the new constitution, was applauded by the meeting.

The Executive is to be requested to ensure all information within the Blue Book is correct and to consider additional material for inclusion in future updates.

Agenda 15.

Revenue raising initiatives and maximising support from developed countries

The meeting expressed thanks to Dr Timbs for the production of the CVA brochure and agreed that every opportunity should be taken to widen its distribution and hence awareness of the CVA.

A further print run is required. In this reprint the photographs will be updated.

Agenda 18 - Any other business

- iii The President reported that he and the Secretary had had a successful meeting with the Auditor whilst the Secretary was in Australia.

AGENDA 6 - REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Dr Pryor presented his report and indicated that the Secretariat had been transferred smoothly.

(Appendix 2)

The report was **received** and **adopted** (Pryor / Bowen) (Touray / Stevenson) Dr Rahman wished to record the Committee's appreciation of the President's effort in securing substantial financial support for the Pan-Commonwealth Conference Bangalore 1988. (Rahman / Msolla).

AGENDA 7 - REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

Dr Rahman presented his report which was **received** (Rahman / Msolla)

(Appendix 3)

The meeting agreed to invite the sponsor of CVA News to advertise in the News.

Discussions followed on the development of the Report to the Commonwealth Foundation. The importance of registering "in kind" contributions of national associations and external bodies such that they can be reported to the Commonwealth Foundation was stressed.
(See Chapter 6 in Audited Financial Statements)

The Secretary's report was **adopted** (Pryor / Koney).

AGENDA 8 - REPORT OF THE TREASURER

- 8a It was noted that sponsorship (which is earmarked for the PCC2) accounted for the significant increase in revenue in 1996 compared to previous years. The President stressed the continued need to improve on accounting techniques with reference to receipts, vouchers and statements.

It was **resolved** that in future the "Blue Book" should contain more specific information to guide Regional Representatives and Councillors on accounting procedures. (*Pryor/Rahman*)

The report was **received and adopted**. (*Pryor/Stevenson*) (*Stevenson/Koney*) (Appendix 4)

It was **resolved** to reappoint, Mr Gary J. Wise for the period 1996-98 as Auditor (*Rahman/Bowen*).

ACTIONTreasurer

8b Other financial information & subscription status

Signatories to the CVA bank account.

The meeting were advised that two signatories are required for any transaction and those authorised are Dr W J Pryor, Dr D Banks (CVA Councillor, Australia) and Dr S A Rahman.

8c Indicative budget for 1996-1997

This had already been circulated to the Executive Committee. The President requested that all members keep in mind the need for ideas for further fundraising.

It was agreed that funding for Officers to attend national association meetings on behalf of CVA should be identified in the Budget wherever possible.

8e Asset register

The meeting was informed of the following CVA assets:

Computer & Upgrade	}	Editorial /Secretarial Office, India
Fax machine		
Filing cabinet		
Uninterrupted power supply (UPS)		
Fax Machine	}	President's Office, Australia
Photocopier		
Typists chair		
Answering Machine		
Filing Cabinet		

No additions have been made to assets in 1996.

Dr Rahman recommended that the indicative budget contain a facility to continually upgrade equipment as necessary and Dr Touray recommended that this be handled under the item, "contingency". This was **agreed**.

8g CVA Study Fund

The meeting was advised that Councillors have been informed of the availability of these grants and an article printed in the CVA News regarding them but as of July 1996 no applicants had emerged.

The Secretary has reissued this information to all Councillors. Dr Stevenson tabled a draft application form for a CVA Study Fund Grant. (Appendix 5)

Following discussion and minor amendment this was **adopted**
(*Stevenson/Rahman*)

The meeting **agreed** that in the implementation of the Study Fund programme, notification should include the information that under special circumstances application approval may be made other than at the deadline date.

The Treasurer advised that as no grant was awarded for the current financial year there can effectively now be two grants of \$A2000 available in 1997.

AGENDA 9 - REPORT OF EDITOR CVA NEWS

(Appendix 6)

In introducing his report, Dr Rahman reiterated his dependence on regional journals as he is continually starved of information from RRs and Councillors. He stressed the importance of the recent sponsorship acquired for CVA News as publishing costs are continually rising.

Dr Rahman is seeking addresses from Councillors of regular recipients so that he can send them their copies direct as this is generally more efficient as "returned" CVA News packages are a frequent problem and an unnecessary expense.

Similarly RRs and Councillors are requested to advise the Editor if they do not require as many copies, or similarly if they require more copies, the exact number of copies needed should be advised. The report was **received**

(*Rahman/Koney*).

ACTION....Editor/RR's

AGENDA 10A - REPORT OF WORK PROGRAMMES AND ISSUES IN REGIONS

i West Africa

Dr Koney tabled his report for the Region.

(Appendix 7)

Following discussion the meeting applauded Dr Koney's efforts within the Region.

The report was **received** (*Koney/Touray*). Dr Koney also advised the following:

1. The West African workshop held in September had been relocated to Ghana in place of Gambia.
2. Management training programmes that may be of interest to veterinary associations in the region are currently being held in Ghana.
3. Dr Koney also advised that ODA is sponsoring training for veterinary personnel in collaboration with the CTVM to be held in Ghana. National veterinary associations have been invited to submit applications.
4. Ghana now has a Veterinary Surgeons Act. Arrangements are going to be made to make copies available to other countries in the region.
5. Arrangements will be made to develop a West Africa regional newsletter to improve communication and as a news gathering source.
6. The position of councillor for Sierra Leone must be considered. Appointment of a councillor by this association is necessary to ensure liaison between the national veterinary association and CVA is effective.

ACTION....Koney/Councillors

ACTION.....Koney

It was agreed that the Secretary should write to Dr KEF Kamara requesting clarification of the present situation. (*Pryor/Touray*).

ACTION....Secretary

In this communication the question of subscription payment by the Sierra Leone Veterinary Association will also be raised.

ACTION.....Secretary

ii ECS Africa, Mauritius Meeting

Professor Msolla tabled his report.

(Appendix 8)

It was **agreed** that Prof Msolla should continue with plans to hold the Deans meeting alongside that of SACCAR. This will enable the meeting to be organised within the approved budget. (*Rahman/Koney*)

At this point the issue of proportionate distribution of CVA funds was raised. At present each region receives the same financial allowance for workshops but there is great variation between regions in numbers of councillors and numbers of members. It was **agreed** that CVA budgeting needs to be based on the approved Workplan for the regions over the next four years. Identification of variation in requirements may thus be assessed.

Regional meetings are a specific issue where travel expenses need to be subsidised to encourage full attendance. In regions such as ECS Africa and Canada/Caribbean for instance this may be substantial. External sources of travel finance must be investigated. This is facilitated by arrangement of the meeting alongside other projects or meetings. The meeting concluded that each region has individual problems and must be considered separately.

It was **resolved** that the Secretary writes to all RR's with a copy to the Executive seeking their opinions on this issue and that this be used to plan future distribution of finances for regional meetings. (*Rahman/Stevenson*).

ACTION.....Secretary

AGENDA 10C - THIRD WORKSHOP ON MANAGEMENT OF FERTILITY PROBLEMS IN SMALL VILLAGE HERDS IN AFRICA (KENYA)

Dr Jainudeen the coordinator has written inviting five ECS African national associations to nominate one person for participation. To cover the travel and meeting expenses for these persons and for Dr Nadzri, a co-organiser, he has requested an increase in budget of AS 2000. The meeting **resolved** that this request be granted. (*Msolla/Rahman*)

ACTION.....Treasurer

The Secretary noted that this could be met as a result of the return of travel funds not utilised by the three ECS councillors who did not attend the Mauritius conference.

The Programme Director noted that only five of the possible ten countries had been invited to the Kenya Workshop and questioned whether more might attend, however this would involve additional expense and oversizing of the workshop group. Representation from the other ECS countries may be facilitated by the fourth workshop also to be held within the same region.

The meeting urged follow up on the success of these workshop by ensuring that when participants return to their countries they pass on this knowledge. It was **agreed** to raise this issue with Dr Jainudeen in reviewing the recommendations from the Workshop. It was also **agreed** that a review of the three workshops be made at the 2nd PCC.

CVA Executive representation at each workshop is preferred but expense is a consideration. Prof Msolla was requested to represent CVA at the opening of the 3rd workshop following clearance from Kenya.

The President is to provide the Secretary and Programme Director with additional documentation as supplied by Dr Jainudeen. **ACTIONPresident**

AGENDA 11 - REPORT ON JOURNAL/BOOK/AUDIO-VISUAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

Dr Mitchell's report was considered by the meeting. (Appendix 9)

The unsuitability of storing A-V material was acknowledged. Dr Mitchell will be requested to ascertain the availability of directories of A-V material for circulation and printing in CVA News.

The meeting applauded his continued efforts and supported his recommendation that electronic communication is the way forward.

The interest and support displayed by the South African Veterinary Association in the work of the CVA can only be facilitatory in the programme within the African region.

The meeting understood his reservations regarding the supply of books to Nigeria but feel that the policy of making the JBA-V programme available only in financial member countries is necessary.

The committee resolved to continually act to improve communication and feedback to Dr Mitchell. Dr Mitchell's report was **received** (*Touray/Koney*). **ACTION.....Secretary/ RRs**

AGENDA 12A - REVIEW OF WORK PROGRAMME

The Canada/Caribbean report submitted by Dr Amiel was considered. (Appendix 10)

The meeting noted that it reported generally on the situation within the region but did not include details of activities related to the Workplan. The progress of the Workplan and details of direct councillor involvement is to be requested by the meeting.

The agenda of the forthcoming CVA Regional Council meeting in Barbados was presented and refined. It was **agreed** that an increase in the subscription rate for some of the larger Caribbean countries must be considered.

The report was **received** (*Rahman/Msolla*).

ACTION....Amiel

AGENDA 12B - NEW PROPOSALS FOR NEXT TRIENNIUM

It was **agreed** that any new proposals must take into account the restriction in available funds in view of those required for the prospective PCC2.

AGENDA 13 - NEW CONSTITUTION FROM 1/7/1996

a) Identification and preliminary discussion of any issues requiring attention at the EC Meeting, Bangalore, 1998

Two changes were submitted covering the issues of subscription penalties and the need to ensure that the Programme Director is on the Executive Committee.

The following amendments were proposed and it was agreed that they be recommended for adoption at the appropriate time.:

i) Size of EC

BYLAW 3.02 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE to now read:

"(a) The Executive Committee shall be composed of up to ten (10) members as follows:

- i. One Regional Representative elected by and from the Council members elected or nominated by the national association or where none exists, by an approved body in each of the six Regions, and;
- ii. Up to three (3) independent members (President, Secretary/Treasurer, Programme Director) appointed by the Executive Committee and ;
- iii. The Immediate Past-President;"

Clauses 3.02 (b), (c), (d), and (e) shall remain as currently in operation

ii) Subscription Penalties

BYLAW 8.05 to now read:

"If the membership fees and a completed renewal application in the form prescribed by the rules are not received at the office of the Secretary/Treasurer on or before October 1st in any year the Secretary/Treasurer shall issue a statement to each delinquent Association informing them that a financial penalty may now be applied, and unless payment is received by a date authorised by the Executive Committee that they are no longer entitled to financial support or programmes, and their Association may be struck from the Register."

It was **agreed** that these amendments be submitted to members six months before PCC2 recommending them for adoption (*Stevenson/Rahman*).

ACTION.....Secretary

AGENDA 14 - PLANNING FOR THE SECOND PAN-COMMONWEALTH VETERINARY CONFERENCE (PCC2)

In introducing the subject the Secretary advised that the date of PCC2 would be 22-27 February, 1989. Issues discussed included the following:

a) FINANCES AND BUDGET

. The arrangements and general programme details, excluding the scientific programme content, which falls under the programme committee's remit, were discussed. The registration fees and exhibition fees are planned to cover all local expenses. A large portion of the external financial sponsorship will go to fund the scientific programme. Further external sponsorship will greatly improve the potential revenue to the CVA and avoid depleting CVA funds. This will be sought vigorously.

b) POLICY ON FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE

The President said that a policy regarding councillor attendance at the PCC 2 must be formulated. The potential cost of bringing all councillors to the PCC 2 is in the order of \$100,000. The CVA available money for this purpose however is about \$50,000.

The generous offer of Dr Rahman to provide subsidised accommodation for all CVA Councillors was gratefully accepted. This will reduce the cost significantly to travel and registration fee only.

The Secretary agreed to approach a travel agent to estimate the cost of making a block booking of all air flights of Councillors to Bangalore.

It was **resolved** that all RR's and Programme Director report back to the Secretary by the end of 1996 giving their recommendations as to how CVA implements the use of limited funding for councillors to attend PCC 2.

It was **agreed** that factors involving the number of veterinarians they represent, and past contributions to CVA by those councillors would need to be considered (*Stevenson / Touray*).

Urgent ACTION.....Stevenson/RRs

c) DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS

All sponsors from the Harare conference have been approached. At this stage, Ralston Purina are the only confirmed sponsors.

Exhibition revenue shows the highest potential for obtaining further sponsorship. All RR's and Councillors are requested to explore all possibilities.

ACTIONRRs

d) PROTOCOL CONSIDERATIONS

The meeting **resolved**:

- a That a Presidential chain of office be purchased before PCC 2.

ACTIONPresident

- b That Dr Rahman investigate obtaining a CVA flag. (*Bowen / Msolla*)

ACTION.....Secretary

It was further agreed that the Patron, Sir Dawda Jawara, and all past presidents be sent invitations to the conference. The Commonwealth Secretariat is to be advised of the PCC 2 and the suggestion made that a Chief Veterinary Officers meeting be held at the same time. (Secretary to approach JTB)

ACTION....Secretary

e) PROGRAMME

Advertising. The programme convenor Dr Blackburn recommended a full page advertisement be placed in the Veterinary Record. The estimated cost would be £1000 Sterling.

The various possibilities along these lines are to be explored.

ACTION....Secretary

AGENDA 15 - FURTHER DISCUSSION ON ADVANCING CVA IN AFRICA AND OTHER REGIONS

Potential New Members

MOZAMBIQUE

The Mozambique Veterinary Association has expressed its desire to join CVA as an associate member. The President will write to The President of the MVA and formally invite it to join CVA. The meeting warmly welcomed as an observer the President of the MVA who was in attendance for one day.

CAMEROON

Dr Hamadou Saïdo, Secretary-General Cameroon National Veterinary Association has been invited to join the CVA but no reply has been received.. The West African members had recommended that their RR travels to Cameroon to explore this issue further. The meeting was supportive and **adopted** this proposal.

ACTION.....Koney

SEYCHELLES, NAURU, NEPAL, BHUTAN AND LIBERIA

These countries were identified as potential future members or associate members. The appropriate regions agreed to explore all routes of communication with them..

ACTION.....Koney/Msolla/Rahman

Communication

Investigation into improving F-mail service between Executive Committee members is continuing and has already greatly improved communication.

.The meeting was advised that in West Africa, communication between all areas has significantly improved excepting Sierra Leone.

In ECS Africa communication with Botswana and Malawi is still poor.

AGENDA 16 - OTHER BUSINESS

a Internet Home Page

The meeting agreed that a compilation of the activities of CVA should be formulated.

Dr Darwin Fedorick, Canada, has agreed to formulate such a page. An estimated cost of \$500 has been identified. The meeting requested Dr Stevenson to proceed in implementing this proposal.

b Rabies Control

Correspondence has been received from Dr Dhanapala of Sri Lanka recommending that the CVA formulate a rabies control policy. Dr Rahman gave an account of existing projects on rabies control in Bangalore, India. This could provide a working model for potential expansion into other regions.

Extension of the programme onto a worldwide scale and the role that CVA could play were discussed.

After a comprehensive discussion the meeting **agreed** to Promote a session at the PCC 2 on rabies control

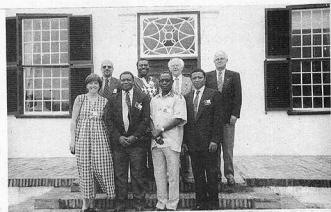


Prof. Bath, President SAVA (centre) meets the experts at the Programme Review Meeting

Members of CVA at the Programme Review Meeting.

1st Row - L - R - Laura Bowen RR (UK), Peter Msolla RR (ECS Africa), Bakary Touray (Past President), Dr. Sinare (Tanzania).

2nd Row - L - R - Abdul Rahman (Sec CVA), Kaney RR (West Africa) Pryor (President CVA), Bert Stevenson (Programme Director)



Dr. Pryor presenting a memento on behalf of CVA to Prof. Bath .



President Dr. Pryor Chairing the Programme Review Meeting. L- R Drs. Sinare, Koney, Msolla, Pryor, Bert Stevenson, Laura and B. Touray

Request Dr Rahman to keep it informed on the success of the Bangalore programme.

Request Dr Rahman to write up the Bangalore programme in CVA News.

Request that the Executive Committee be supportive of the Bangalore programme and that the President of the CVA confirm this in writing subject to receiving a briefing document from Dr Rahman..

ACTIONSecretary

AGENDA 17 - NEXT REVIEW MEETING AND FULL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE HELD DURING THE SECOND PAN-COMMONWEALTH VETERINARY CONFERENCE , BANGALORE, INDIA, 22-27 FEBRUARY 1998.

SA Rahman, Secretary
October 1996

Tit For Tat

Australian researchers have devised a novel method to deal with caterpillars that create havoc in the cotton fields. They have developed a variety of cotton that kills the caterpillars (New Scientist, Vol 148, No. 1998).

Genetic engineers at the CSIRO, Australia's national research organisation, have introduced a gene for a natural insecticide, produced by the soil bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis*, into Australian cotton varieties. The gene produces a protein that kills the cotton bollworm and the native budworm. It is felt that the new variety could effectively reduce the enormous expenses incurred by aerial spraying of pesticides every year.

Commonwealth News

Women Take Key Roles At Commonwealth Science Council

Esther Mede

Principal Secretary of the Ministry of Research and Environmental Affairs of Malawi, is Chairperson of the Commonwealth Science Council. The Chairmanship of the CSC rotates every two or three years; it is held by the country that is to host the next meeting of the Council, which decided last June that its 1997 meeting would take place in Malawi. Mrs Mede took over the chair in December 1995 when she was appointed by the Government of Malawi as CSC's member for that country.



When Kim Carpinter, Manager International Science, in the Ministry of Research, Science and Technology of New Zealand, took on the newly created role of Deputy Chairperson of the CSC in January 1996, it marked the first time the two most senior positions in the 20 year old CSC had been filled by women.

On 22-23 April, the Executive Committee of the Council met in London to discuss the Council's work programme for the next four years, giving special attention to gender issues and information exchange.

New Commonwealth Leaders

John Howard was sworn in as Prime Minister of Australia on 11 March. A former solicitor, he was first elected to Federal Parliament in 1974. During the seventies and early eighties, he served in various ministerial capacities, and was Leader of the Opposition from 1985 to 1989. In 1995 he was again appointed Leader of the Opposition, and led the Liberal/ National Coalition to victory in the general election of March 1996, defeating the Labor government of Paul Keating.



Lagumot Harris became President of the Republic of Nauru in December 1995.

Dr. Vaughan Allen Lewis is the new Prime Minister of St. Lucia. Formerly a University Professor and lecturer, Dr. Lewis has published extensively on political and economic matters, especially as they relate to small states.

Ahmad Tejan Kabbah was sworn in as President of Sierra Leone on 29 March, after the country's first credible parliamentary and presidential elections in nearly 30 years. The swearing in ceremony marked the formal transfer of power from the military government led by Brigadier General Julius Maada Bio, who was Chairman of the National Provisional Ruling Council.



Dr. Christine Gagnon Makes History Again !

The first female president of CVMA in 1989-1990, is now the first female president of the 1650 member l'Ordre des medecins veterinaire du Quebec. We wish her much success for her three year term at the helm. Dr. Gagnon has been a small animal practitioner for the past 19 years in St. Eustache, Quebec.

CVA Regional News

Asia

PAKISTAN

A National Conference on Veterinary Medicine will be held at Lahore on December 11 and 12, 1996. The theme of the conference will be "**Sharing Our Knowledge**". This conference is jointly organised by Pakistan Veterinary Medical Association and Pakistan Veterinary Pharma Association. Simultaneously with the conference there will be a workshop on "**Role Of Diagnostic Labs For Better Poultry Health**" and a Trade Exhibition. There will be a panel discussion on "**Farm Hygiene Biosecurity**" where Dr. M.S.

Jaffery, the former President of PVMA and an eminent veterinarian will chair the discussion. Dr. A.A. Qureshi, a world renowned poultry expert will deliver the lead paper. Mr. Afsar Qađri, Chairman Editorial Board, Pakistan Poultry will present a status paper and Dr. Abdul Karim Bhatii will conduct this panel discussion. Among the other prominent speakers will be Dr. Mustafa Kamal who will present a paper on "**Effects of improper use of veterinary medicines, biologicals on production and economy.**"

INDIA

XX World's Poultry Congress And International Poultry Exhibition

"Poultry Science & Technology - New Vistas"

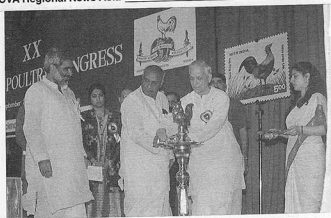
New Delhi, India, 2- 8 September, 1996

- A Report

The Honourable Prime Minister of India, Mr. H. D. Devegowda inaugurated the XX World's Poultry Congress at Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi on 2nd September, 1996. In his inaugural address, he said that modern technologies will be made available to the farmers to improve production and increase marketing opportunities.

The Prime Minister, expressing his concern on poultry development said that excellent poultry breeds

have been developed as a result of research by the Agricultural Universities and the Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR). However, he called upon agricultural scientists to take up the challenge of evolving appropriate technology needed by the small producers to enhance their incomes and productivity. He said that the Government of India would encourage ecologically sustainable mixed farming as a strategy for improving the nutrition and livelihood of the rural masses.

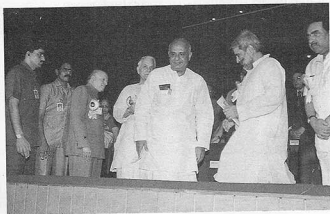


Inaugural Function, PM flanked by Union Ministers, Prof. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and Mr. Chaturanan Mishra

Prof. R.P. Singh, Union Minister for Animal Husbandry & Dairying & Union Minister for Agriculture Mr. Mishra at the Inaugural Function.



P.M. Mr. H.D. Deve Gowda releases the Commemorative Stamp



He stressed the need for major investments in the genetic improvement of poultry, control of diseases, upgrading research on feed and nutrition and on improving the efficiency and use of feed grains.

He said that the poultry industry must aim at increasing export earnings to 5000 million rupees by the end of the ninth plan period. Through the National Rural Infrastructure Fund, he assured all co-operation from the Government to provide essential infrastructure such as training, information dissemination, marketing, cold storage and refrigerated transport.

He stated that over 70% of the Indian population depended on agriculture for their livelihood. Crop diversification, intensive farming systems and value addition to primary agricultural products through agro-processing are all essential for ensuring that farming results in more food, more jobs and more income.

Releasing a commemorative stamp on the occasion, the Prime Minister said - "I am happy that India was chosen as the venue for the XX World's Poultry Congress and am confident that the deliberations will be purposeful for farmers in terms of productivity, profitability and sustainability".

Held once every four years, the World's Poultry Congress is the most significant event in the global poultry sector and is being held in India for the first time. Organised by the World's Poultry Science Association (India Branch), the function began with a homage to the late President of WPSA (IB), Padmashree Dr. B. V. Rao who has contributed significantly for modern poultry in India and played a major role in bringing the World's Poultry Congress to India.

The inaugural function which was well attended by dignitaries and poultry experts from all over the world began with the traditional ceremony of lighting the lamp. The welcome address was delivered by Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, Chairman of the National Organising Committee, WPSA (IB). The gathering was also addressed by Dr. Piet Simons, President, World's Poultry Science Association; Prof. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State for Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India and Mr. Chaturanan Mishra, Honourable Minister for Agriculture, Government of India. The vote of thanks was proposed by Ms. Anuradha Desai,

President, WPSA (IB) which was followed by a colourful cultural programme depicting the classical dances of India.

The congress which evoked a tremendous response, was attended by over 3200 delegates from India and China, U.S.A, U.K., Denmark, France, Brazil, Germany, Switzerland, Japan, Spain, Australia, The Netherlands, Poland, Taiwan and Malaysia.

The theme of the Congress was - "POULTRY SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY - NEW VISTAS" and the programme consisted of : Two Symposia, Six Plenary Sessions, Forty Technical Sessions, Poster Presentations

272 internationally reputed poultry scientists, technocrats and planners presented full papers at the sessions besides 900 abstracts were received, which are published in the Conference proceedings.

The symposia and plenary sessions were designed to include subjects of practical value and topical interests, particularly for the farmers, development organisations, planners and the industry.

■ Pet Maternity Unit Opens

The Blue Cross Maternity Unit was opened on July 7 at Kimpton Bottom, near Hitchin, Hertfordshire. A special appeal raised over 110,000 pound to build the unit and provide running costs for the first few years.

The unit has eight mother and pup pens and four cat and kitten pens and will provide space for as many as 30 puppies. The puppies will be kept in a separate area from the kittens so neither species become stressed.

Being completely self contained, with its own kitchen and washing area, unit staff can prepare special diets. Kittens and puppies are also prevented from coming into contact with adult stray animals which may carry infections.

Australasia

Queensland Vet Wins Nobel Prize For Cell Research

A former veterinary officer at Brisbane's Animal Research Institute last month became the first Australian Vet to win a Nobel Prize. Professor Peter Doherty and colleague Swiss Professor Rolf Zinkernagel were awarded the \$ 1.42 million Nobel Prize for Medicine for the discovery of how the immune system recognises virus infected cells. They carried out the research in 1973- 75 at the John Curtin School of Medical Research in Canberra.

Currently chairman of the Department of Immunology at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, Professor Doherty grew up in Oxley, Queensland and attended Indooroopilly High School. He completed a Bachelor of Veterinary Science at the University of Queensland in 1962 and went on to complete a Master of Veterinary Science in 1966.

After taking a PhD in Edinburgh in 1970, he returned to Australia on a post doctoral fellowship at John Curtin, where he switched his research emphasis from animal to human pathogen studies.

Fellow immunologist and former colleague Professor David Hume, in an interview in last month's University News, said Professor Doherty's work had revealed one of the most fundamental aspects of how the immune system worked.

"The Doherty - Zinkernagel discovery is one of the first things taught to immunology students and one of the foundations of the whole subject of immunology. Basically the observation made was that T - lymphocytes, which give the body immunity against viruses, kill virus infected cells but only self virus infected cells," he said.

* The ramifications are that pretty much everything we know about T- Lymphocytes and the immune system stems from that observation."

In Canberra, Doherty and Zinkernagel used mice to study how the immune system and particularly T - lymphocytes protected animals.

Infected mice developed "killer lymphocytes", which in a test tube could kill cells that had been infected with a virus.

The two men made another unexpected discovery -



Professor Doherty

that the lymphocytes were only active against a specific virus in a specific mouse and would not protect a different animal.

Chickens Tackle Ticks

A Common sight in Africa and Asia is to see cattle and wild buffalo roaming about with birds such as cattle egrets or oxpeckers perched on their backs. These birds are providing a vital service in keeping the animals free of ticks.

In Kenya, veterinarians have taken the idea and translated it to a domestic setting. Their idea is to build a row of pens, each one being three meters by four which gives a cow or goat enough room to lie down in a pen of its own. Along the rear of the pens is a corridor or runway for the chickens, with small doors into each pen. The chickens have access to the pens and the cows allow them to look for ticks on their backs and inside their ears. One chicken can consume 200 ticks in three hours. The vets recommend that the chickens are taken out of the pen from time to time to help their digestion and maintain their appetite and that they should also continue to be fed their normal diet.

The Agriculturalist, Vol 7 No2, May 1996

New President of Veterinary Association of Malaysia -

Dr. Anwar Hassan



Dr. Hassan has been elected as the President of the Malaysian Veterinary Association for 1996 - 97. Dr. Hassan graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College (OVC), University of Ontario, Canada in 1969 with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and in 1970 did

his Diploma in Diagnostic Pathology.

He has worked in the Department of Veterinary Services, Malaysia, Diagnostic Laboratory Service, Human Resource Development, Planning and Development (Animal Industry), Management of Research and Disease Control - Regulatory Enforcement.

His main interests are

Disease Control - regulating cross border illegal movement of animal. Regional interactions on animal health issues. He is actively involved in professional involvement (current) and has been VAM President since August 1996. He has been a member of OIE Regional Commission on FMD control in South East Asia and Vet Drug Control issues.

■ APBC Success

The Association of Pet Behaviour Counsellors is now six years old and its impact on pet behaviour therapy has been tremendous. The APBC now holds 55 regular clinics around the country including four at veterinary schools. The past year has seen advancements in the understanding of cat behaviour problems and the association is currently looking at weaning in cats and dogs.

FAO Appointment For Australian Vet.

Dr. Denis Hoffmann has been appointed Senior Officer, Animal Production and Health at the Regional Office of FAO in Bangkok.

Dr. Hoffmann, a veterinary graduate and PhD. from the Queensland Veterinary School, who took up duty in September 1995 has recently completed seven years as Regional Program Coordinator (Animal Sciences) at the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), Canberra. He was previously Officer-in-Charge of the Oonoonba Veterinary Laboratory in Queensland and an officer of CSIRO both in Brisbane and Indonesia. His career also includes periods in Papua New Guinea, Hong Kong and many other SE Asian and African countries.

Dr. Hoffmann has actively participated in a number of CVA Workshops as recently as in 1996 both in Mauritius and in Singapore. CVA congratulates him on his appointment and looks forward to a period of close cooperation with him in any way that can advance animal health and production in the region. Dr. Hoffmann commenced in his new FAO post in September 1996.

Australian Woman Contracts New Virus From Bat

An Australian woman scratched by a fruit bat was seriously ill in hospital after being diagnosed as having a new type of rabies related virus.

It is the first known case of a person contracting the yet unnamed virus, which belonged to the Lyssavirus group which included rabies, Queensland's Chief Health Officer Dr. Diana Lange said. She said that the new virus was first identified earlier this year during a survey of native Australian fauna to search for the Equine Morbillivirus, which killed Queensland horse trainer Vic Rail and 14 horses in September 1994. The 39 year old unidentified woman who belongs to a voluntary group which cares for sick animals, was admitted to the Royal Brisbane Hospital. She had the symptoms of encephalitis a potentially fatal infection of the brain which causes vomiting, headache and fever. Australian Health Minister Michael Wooldridge issued a warning, urging people who might have been scratched or bitten by fruit bats to seek urgent medical attention.

But he added that the Lyssavirus group presented a very low public health risk in rabies free Australia. He said "Although a new finding, it is likely this new virus strain has been present in Australian bat populations for over thousand years. The Queensland Health Department said that other strains of Lyssavirus were present in European bats and rare fatalities had been recorded after bites.

The Woman has since died - Editor

Straits times 9/11/96

Singapore Regional Conference A Resounding Success

A Commonwealth Veterinary Association - Singapore Veterinary Association Joint Conference on Contingency Planning and Disease Control was held in Singapore from 7 to 9 November 1996.

CVA Councillors were present from Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Cook Islands, Western Samoa, Tonga, Vanuavatu and the Solomon Islands. The President of the CVA Dr. Bill Pryor also attended.

The conference was attended by 188 delegates from 18 countries ranging from most of the Pacific Islands to the Singapore - Malaysia region. Disease control procedures and contingency plans were presented for a number of countries and a workshop session discussed emerging diseases of importance.

In opening the conference, the Singapore

Minister of Labour Dr. Lee Boon Yang, who is also a veterinarian (BVSc Qld 1971), highlighted the long



Dr. Lee Boon Yang Min. of Labour opens the Conference

ranging effects of disease outbreaks by quoting the plight of a Singapore beef noodle seller put out of business by the adverse publicity arising from the UK BSE scare even though Singapore has no significant cattle industry.



Dr. Pryor chairs the workshop on contingency plans for exotic animal diseases L-R Drs. Murray (Aust.), Mohd. Nordin Mohd. Nor (Malaysia) and F. Fata (W. Samoa)

The conference was alerted to the possible effects of fish disease as evidenced by the recent widespread and devastating episode of pilchard deaths which occurred around over 3000 km of coastline in Australia and New Zealand. The emergence of old diseases in new disguises was also discussed with particular reference to the relatively mild forms of foot and mouth disease seen in many Asian countries.

Modern methods of



Dr. M.E. Mogajane Director Animal Health South Africa making her comments

The Malaysian Delegates

L- R Dr. Nor, Prof. Sheikh Omar Abdur Rahman, Dr. Nadzri Bin Salim and Prof. Syed Jalaludin former RR



Dr. Chua Sin Bin (centre) President Singapore Veterinary Association hosts the final luncheon flanked by Dr. Derek Timbs, RR Australasia (left) and Dr. Pryor President CVA (right)



disease management, planning and analysis using computer assisted techniques were also presented. Examples were presented where disease outbreaks had occurred in some countries where no clear plan of attack existed with very untoward results. It was also stressed that mechanisms for management of previously unknown disease were also required.

Delegates were also taken on a visit to Singapore's famous Night Safari zoo experience where animals are seen in a natural environment in the early evening. Delegates agreed with the comment of a world authority that this was one of the best safaris of this type anywhere.

The Singapore Veterinary Association sponsored a pet week display during the period of the conference stressing responsible pet management, this was also visited.

The Australasia/ Oceania CVA Regional Representative Dr. Derek Timbs stated that the conference had attracted outstanding contributors with papers and discussion of high quality. The workshop had led to a clear commitment to further CVA activity in the region.

Dr. Timbs expressed deep appreciation for the assistance given by the Singapore Veterinary Association under the guidance of President Dr. Chua Sin Bin. He also thanked the Commonwealth Foundation for its continuing support for the CVA in the region and the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) who provided funding for some of the Pacific Island participants. He said that the attendance and results of the conference had exceeded all expectations.

Proceedings of the conference including workshop conclusions and participant information will be published as a special edition of the Singapore Veterinary Journal and will be available from the Secretary, Singapore Veterinary Association, Primary Production Department, National Development Building, Maxwell Road, Singapore. This will be a



Dr. Chua Sin Bin, Dr. Timbs, Mrs. Timbs and Dr. Pryor discussing the trade exhibit at the Conference.

valuable source of information on Contingency Planning and Disease Control.

**Report by Dr. Derek Timbs
RR- CVA Australasian Region**

Office Bearers of Singapore Veterinary Association

The following have been elected as office bearers of Singapore Veterinary Association

President : Dr. Chua Sin Bin

Vice- President : Dr. Kelvin Soh

Hon. Secretary : Dr. Tan Lee Kin

Hon. Treasurer : Dr. Wong Hon Mun

Committee Members : Dr. Giam Choo Hoo

Dr. E.R. Jwee Chiek

Dr. Leow Su Hua

Dr. Sing Kong Yuen

Dr. Eugene Chan

CVA Councillor : Dr. Giam Choo Hoo



**Dr. Joseph Fifita, CVA Councillor
Tonga presenting his country
statement**

**The Australasian Region Council
Members L- R Drs. Nordin (Malaysia),
Khoo Teng Huai (Singapore), Puana
(PNG), Deo (Fiji), Cave (Cook Islands)**



**Dr. Chua Sin Bin and Dr. Pryor at the
stand stressing responsible pet
ownership at the Petweek Exhibition
in Singapore**

Vaccine Adds Value To Village Economy



Professor Spradbrow keeps a simulated village flock at the University farm, Pinjarra Hills.

Veterinary Pathology Department Staff of Univ. of Queensland, Australia are helping people to help themselves in developing countries by protecting one of their basic economic elements - the village chicken flock.

Professor Peter Spradbrow, Dr. Ian Wilke, Dr. Zuhara Bensink and Sally Grimes have developed a new vaccine, suitable for use in Asia

and Africa, against Newcastle disease in chickens. The disease has a 100 percent mortality rate and can wipe out unvaccinated flocks in a week.

They are now running workshops showing workers in rural laboratories how to make the vaccine themselves.

Professor Spradbrow said village chickens scavenged in environments useless for other animals and were a valuable resource available to all villagers.

"Most animal aid programs look at big animals that only richer families can afford to buy and own," he said.

"To the villager who owns nothing, being able to sell six chickens a year makes a tremendous difference to

quality of life."

Chickens' rapid breeding cycle made them a quickly renewable resource, particularly valuable in countries such as Mozambique where long running wars have severely depleted stocks of larger animals - a situation which would take many years to recover.

Professor Spradbrow said existing commercial vaccines were unsuitable for conditions in many developing countries, where refrigeration was unavailable, and chickens were too hard to catch and vaccinate by traditional methods.

Commercial vaccines were also available only in prohibitively expensive large quantities, while the new vaccine could be produced in small batches.

A workshop, showing technicians from 14 African countries, the method, was held in South Africa last December. Other African countries including Malawi, Namibia, Zambia, Botswana, South Africa and Zimbabwe now plan to produce and test the vaccine.

The team has already been involved in vaccine trials in Malaysia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Indonesia, Vietnam, Mozambique, Tanzania, Ethiopia and The Gambia. All these countries have rural population dependent on village chickens and serious problems with Newcastle disease.

The Vaccine took 10 years to develop and the research was funded by more than \$1 million from the Australian Centre For International Agricultural Research.

■ Dealing With Noisy Dogs

A barking dog can be a nuisance, but over 180 in one place can really give you a headache. The National Canine Defence League has had to look at this problem at its rescue centres. It decided to adopt a 'good neighbour' strategy by improving and expanding its facilities regularly.

One important part of this has been the innovative 'parasol' kennel, a circular building with 11 sections in each, capable of holding 22 dogs. The concept behind this design is that dogs bark

when they see other dogs or people, so the individual kennel sections face outwards and are separated by solid sound proofed walls. The concept was originally conceived by the Wood Green Animal Shelter and has been adopted by the NCDL. Earth' bunds' (raised barriers) can also be created to help reduce noise.

A chorus of barking dogs can often exceed levels specified in the noise at work regulations and have been measured up to 96 decibels, which means that kennel staff have to wear ear defenders when working inside the kennels.

Canada Caribbean

Veterinary Services In Dominica

Dominica is the largest of the Windward Islands located between the French islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe in the Eastern Caribbean. The island is of volcanic origin with a land mass of 751 km sq. Due to its high rainfall and rugged terrain, the island has a tropical climate with lush green vegetation including unspoilt tropical rain forest. The high diversity of flora and fauna which Dominica offers has earned the island the title of "Nature Island of the Caribbean".

According to the last census figures of 1991, the population was recorded at 72,000 people.

Economic activities center around agriculture and to a lesser extent tourism, with bananas accounting for approximately 60 - 70% of foreign exchange earnings.

Livestock production has lagged behind in comparison to the other subsectors of the economy with production basically undertaken at a subsistence level. Commercial livestock activities have revolved around pig and poultry production.

The agricultural census of 1995 estimated the livestock production figures for the various subsectors at the following : Cattle : 4000, sheep : 3000, goat : 11600, pigs : 4300, rabbits : 3300, poultry : 65400, horses 50 and donkey 100.

For the period 1993- 1994, Dominica imported a total amount 5,817,019 kg worth of meat and meat products valued at \$EC 17,535,482.

Despite the continuous drain on the country's foreign exchange capacity, animal health and livestock production in general up until recently remained a non priority area for development. Over the years services in the area of animal health were provided by overseas agencies through technical assistance in that field. A small laboratory facility was established in the mid 70's for undertaking some basic diagnostic tests, but as a result of damages sustained during hurricane David in 1979, combined with the lack of trained personnel, the laboratory facility has never assumed its true diagnostic capabilities and requires upgrading. Reference laboratory services available in the Caribbean provided diagnostic assistance in support of the local veterinary services whenever the need arose.

To reduce the incidences of zoonotic disease transmission by small animals, in particular dogs and cats, the implementation of vaccination and other health care programmes have increased tremendously over the years. The most common disease affecting small animals mainly dogs are Parvoviral infection and a few seasonal cases of Leptospirosis. Cats in Dominica are relatively free of most of the common cat diseases. However, routine vaccination programmes are available upon request.

In the late 70's and early 80's the training of nationals in the field of veterinary medicine and animal husbandry at both diploma and degree levels commenced. Various livestock projects were also implemented geared towards increased production for local consumption. During that period improved breeds of both small and large animals were imported with the objective of broadening the genetic pool of these animals. An Artificial Insemination (AI) programme was also introduced designed at upgrading the existing local stock and increase milk production at the local level.

To date, Dominica has three Veterinarians with greater interest being shown in the fields of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Medicine by recent high school graduates.

The Veterinary and Livestock Development Units are charged with the responsibilities of rendering livestock services to farmers throughout the country. These services are highly subsidized by Government through various outreach programmes targeted specifically at food producing animals. The programmes are administered in the form of farm visits, production clinics as well as seminars and "on farm" demonstrations. Disease surveillance is limited due to lack of diagnostic facilities. However, in some instances assistance is provided by the laboratory services at the General Hospital located in the capital, Roseau.

For administrative purposes, the island is divided into a number of production districts with field (ambulatory) services provided for at the level of Animal Health Assistants (AHA's). The AHA's are graduates with a two year Diploma in Animal Health/ Veterinary Public Health from the Regional Education Programme for Animal Health Assistants (REPAHA) with campus located in Guyana. The AHA's function under the direct supervision of the two veterinarians employed by Government. Dominica has no major livestock diseases and therefore this creates the opportunity for increase livestock production.

Apart from ambulatory activities, the veterinary services are also charged with regulatory functions at the

ports of entry, both air and sea. Recently, both import and export regulations relating to meat and meat products as well as live animals were upgraded to strengthen the surveillance capabilities of the national Veterinary services.

Plans are underway to improve existing veterinary and animal husbandry facilities to complement some major livestock projects which the Ministry of Agriculture is presently implementing.

However, if livestock production is to achieve anticipated levels, continuous broadening of the human resource base in various areas of animal production will be crucial to the development of the livestock subsector.

In the meantime Dominica continues to rely heavily on imported meat as well as milk and dairy products to satisfy the protein requirements of its population.

However, despite the limited financial resources available, the veterinary services are still in a position to maintain animal health care at a satisfactory level.

- Charles J. Corbette, DVM &
John C. Mc Intyre, DVM

Office Bearers of Jamaica Veterinary Medical Association

The following have been elected as office bearers of JVMA

- President : Dr. Michael Whittingham
- Vice- President : Dr. Trevor Dewdney
- Secretary : Dr. Sarah Wilkinson - Eytel
- Treasurer : Dr. Cliff Grey
- Asst. Secretary : Dr. Panampilly Vijayan
- Chairman of Judicial (Parliamentary) Committee : Dr. Winston Schloss
- Chairman of Nominations and Membership Committee : Dr. Headly Edwards
- Chairman of Public Relations Committee : Dr. Grace McDonnough- Lyon
- Chairman of Education and Research Committee : Dr. Cedric Lazarus
- Chairman of Disciplinary and Ethics Committee : Dr. Paul Cadogan
- Representative to PSAJ : Dr. Nigel Elliott
- CVA Councillor : Dr. Keith Amiel

New CVA Councillor For St. Vincent

Dr. Colin Boyle has been nominated as the new CVA Councillor for St. Vincent. His Address is :
Animal Health and Production Division
Ministry of Agriculture and Labour
Richmond Hill, Kingston, St. Vincent,
West Indies.

The 20th Biennial Caribbean Veterinary Congress

The 20th Biennial Caribbean Veterinary Congress of the Canada Caribbean region which was held in association with the Commonwealth Veterinary Association has been concluded. Dr. Bakary Touray, Past President and Dr. Bert Stevenson, Programme Director attended this congress and presided over the regional meeting of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association. The details of the Congress will be published in the next CVA issue.

New RR Elected For Canada Caribbean Region



Dr. Val M. Mohabir, Council member Trinidad and Tobago has been elected as the RR of Canada Caribbean Region. He replaces Dr. Keith Amiel. Dr. Mohabir is an active Veterinarian in the region involved in various professional and other activities. He has been the District Governor of Rotary International in 90-91. The following have been elected to the New General Council :**President** : Dr. Mark Trotman (Barbados) **Vice President** : Dr. Dolly Semple (Guyana) **Secretary/ Treasurer** : Dr. Gus Reader (Barbados) **Asst. Secretary/ Treasurer** : Dr. Burnell Nisbett (St. Kitts/ Nevis)

The Guyana Beef Project

Glenn Flaten of National Products Marketing Council Canada has linked up with Dorothy Poole a Guyanese-Canadian to form Flaten Associates Inc. Poole for many years co-ordinated the international development activities of the Agricultural Institute of Canada (AIC).

Poole describes herself modestly as Glenn Flaten's secretary, but she is a full partner in the firm. While she doesn't travel much overseas, her links with the Caribbean and her years of experience in international development are essential to the success of the business.

Flaten says there is work today for small companies such as theirs because international development donor agencies recognize that successful rural development has to be farm oriented and farmer - friendly.

During the four years that Flaten was president of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP) he visited every one of the then 58 member countries and pushed the grassroots, democratic farmer organizations in the developing countries particularly the sub-Saharan Africa.

He says that even the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), much criticized for its top-heavy bureaucracy in Rome, is beginning to emphasize the need for more work in the field. The new secretary - general, Dr. Jacques Diouf from Senegal, is pushing the FAO in that direction, which Flaten calls a very positive move.

The Guyana Beef Project, undertaken by the International Livestock Management School at Kemptville, Ontario, was funded by the Canada - Guyana Futures Fund administered by the Canadian organization Partners in Rural Development (formerly the Canadian Hunger Foundation). The money is from a counterpart fund of CIDA. Canada gives fertilizer to Guyana which is sold to Guyanese farmers and the proceeds go into the Futures Fund. A large savannah area of the interior of Guyana is home for a number of large beef ranches. But cattle population is declining due to difficulties in getting the beef to market. It has been made more difficult recently by the closure of the only beef killing plant in the area.

The farmers are now developing a market in northern Brazil. Flaten's team set up livestock management seminars and recommended genetic improvement in the cattle herd. Roads into the area are poor and there are no telephones. The team recommended a radio based

telecommunications system. After visiting Jamaica, to do a study funded by the Commonwealth Secretariat, Flaten recommended policies to encourage more milk production by small farmers.

The main milk supply in Jamaica is reconstituted milk powder which is bought at subsidized prices. Only 20% is provided by local farmers and commercial farms milking up to 1,200 cows each.

One of the big producers is ALCAN, which uses land reclaimed from its bauxite mines. Flaten says ALCAN also helps small farmers get established. He estimates there is enough land to increase the domestic cow herd by three or four times, provided there is improved pasture management.

The glut of skim milk powder on the market is declining and the price has gone up from \$400 a tonne to about \$2,200. Cost of production is about \$4,000 a tonne. Flaten says Jamaica will probably never be self sufficient in milk production, but there is enough potential that domestic milk could be the primary production with imported powder making up the balance.

For Glenn Flaten his volunteer activities have always been just as important as his commercial work. Under his leadership the Nepean- Kanata Rotary Club has shipped more than 225,000 books to libraries and schools in developing countries.

Books are donated by companies and individuals and include unsold new books provided by publishers as well as donations of used books. They are packed 25,000 to a container and the ninth container just left for South Africa. Two each went to Tanzania and Kenya, and one each to Zimbabwe, Jamaica, Philippines and the Czech Republic. The next two will go to Uganda. The \$ 5,000 to \$ 7,500 required to pay the freight is raised by Rotarians with matching grants from Rotary International and CIDA. Flaten says each container represents some 400 hours of voluntary work by Rotary club members. Flaten is also a member of the International Policy Council on Agriculture, Food and Trade, an international non - governmental organization set up by Sir Henry Plumb, a British member of the European Parliament and a former President of the National Farmers Union in the U.K.

Flaten and Bill Miner are the only two Canadians among the 32 councillors from 20 countries.

Electro Immobilization of Deer and Elk, Unacceptable to Veterinarians

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association is totally opposed to the use of electro - immobilization as a restraint procedure and is pressing the game - farming industry to end this inhumane practice.

"Electro - immobilization is becoming a nationwide problem as the practice has spread from the western provinces right across Canada," explained Dr. Allan Preston, Chairman of the CVMA's Animal Welfare Committee. "Controlled scientific studies on electro immobilization have shown that it may cause unnecessary pain and distress and that no significant analgesic or anaesthetic effect is demonstrated. This unacceptable practice simply cannot continue and we are making an appeal to the relevant government authorities and the industry to take immediate action."

Controversy surrounds the issue of velvetting deer and elk, primarily because of the surrounding animal welfare concerns. The velvet antler is marketed primarily to Southeast Asia where it is used extensively in traditional oriental medicines. Velvet antler is a valuable commodity, selling at the farmgate for \$ 85 - 125 per pound of harvested antler.

The CVMA is the national organisation representing the veterinary profession in Canada. The association is committed to excellence within the profession and to the well being of animals. The CVMA has a long term commitment to the welfare, human treatment and care of animal; Animal Welfare advocacy is a major component of the CVMA's mandate.

For additional information on the CVMA's Animal Welfare Position Statements .

Please call Dr. Allan Preston (204) 945-7640.

- CVMA Communication

Putting "ADVOCACY" in Animal Welfare Program - Four CVMA Priorities identified

With animal welfare advocacy as one of its three top priorities, the CVMA has now identified four welfare priorities on which it will focus its efforts. The priorities are:

1. Electro - immobilization
2. Genetic defects
3. Humane Transportation
4. Humane Trapping

Electro - immobilization is one of the priorities on which the CVMA has taken recent action. The Association has been pressuring the farm deer and elk industry to end this inhumane practice. Correspondence to government agencies and the industry was sent by the CVMA, and a national news release entitled "Electro - Immobilization of Deer and Elk Unacceptable to Veterinarians" was distributed to media outlets across the country in early May. The main purpose of the release was to inform the Canadian public that the veterinary profession is totally opposed to the use of electro - immobilization as a restraint procedure because of the unnecessary pain and stress caused to the animal.

On other fronts, the Association continues to take positions on issues ranging from cosmetic surgery to euthanasia. Two new position statements on non-ambulatory (recumbent) livestock and on the spaying and neutering of pets were recently adopted. A new booklet featuring all of the CVMA's Position Statements has been produced and is available for distribution to the profession, welfare groups and the general public upon request. This publication features the most up to date statements from the association, and will be updated when required. The CVMA's Animal Welfare Committee has a long term commitment to putting "advocacy" in its animal welfare program. In a recent survey, Canadian veterinarians clearly indicated that the promotion of animal welfare should be a key activity of the CVMA.

To obtain copies of the two new statements, the new CVMA Position Statement booklet or information on the work of the Animal Welfare Committee, please contact Miss Angela Muir, the CVMA liaison to the Animal Welfare Committee at 1- 800-567-CVMA (2862)

- CVMA Communication

Tremendous Response To CVMA Pet Food Certification Publication

Over 20,000 copies of the new "Dishing Out The Facts" questions and answer booklet have been distributed at no cost to the Canadian Veterinary Clinics since its launch in the Fall of 1995.

"Dishing Out The Facts" is part of the Pet Food Certification Program's Communications strategy which includes the distribution of "Something to Chew On", a series of articles on pet nutrition, "Of Consuming interest," a quarterly newsletter intended for small animal practitioners, the Commonsense Guide to feeding your Dog and Cat, the Pet Food Certification Program summary document, the desk reference manual on nutrition and a new high visibility poster promoting the Program.

"Dishing Out The Facts" is primarily designed

to answer straightforward questions about the purpose of the CVMA Pet Food Certification Program, why the CVMA chose to fulfil this role, how the CVMA Program is unique compared to that of other organizations, and what are the main benefits of the Program to both pet owners and veterinarians.

The Pet Food Certification Committee has been dedicated to the promotion of the Program and its many benefits to both the veterinarians and the public. It is the goal of the Committee to gain and maintain the support of the veterinary profession.

For additional information on the CVMA Pet Food Certification Program, please contact Suzanne Lavictoire, Manager of the CVMA Pet Food Certification Program at 1- 800-567-CVMA (2862)

- CVMA Communication

CVMA's PR Campaign Reaches Millions -

A two page CVMA* Spectacular* appeared in the May issues of Chatelaine, Modern Woman and Chatelaine Magazines, just in time for Animal Health week. This was the second phase of the CVMA's national advertising campaign.

The Spectacular, produced in cooperation with AVID Canada, featured one of the CVMA's three advertisements, editorial material on veterinary medicine, the importance of proper animal health care, a message encouraging animal owners to visit their veterinarians regularly, and information on the importance of proper identification for animals.

In addition to the special advertising feature in magazines, the CVMA produced

100,000 extra copies of the two pages with a self cover, and distributed a number of copies to every veterinary clinic in the country. Veterinarians were encouraged to display the flyers in their clinics as an additional Animal Health Week Promotion.

The CVMA Communications Committee's PR campaign goals for 1997 includes the solicitation of sponsors for an eight - page pull - out editorial supplement in May.

For additional information on the CVMA's public relations initiatives, please contact Michelle Caldwell, the CVMA Communications Officer at 1- 800-567-CVMA (2862)

-CVMA Communication

Where Will You Be In 5 years 10 Years ?

- CVMA Conducts National Survey On Career Changes -

The CVMA will soon have the necessary data to identify noticeable employment trends and determine if and why veterinarians are making major career changes within or outside their chosen profession. The national association will conduct a survey on career changes, which will allow it to determine if there are structural barriers to a successful career in veterinary medicine. Graduates of three veterinary colleges will be surveyed (AVC does not yet have sufficient number of graduates to be included in the survey).

The survey will probe such issues as :

- the proportion of alumni who leave the veterinary field prior to retirement and the main reasons for their decision.

- the changes that could have been made that

would have encouraged veterinarians to continue practising.

- the proportion of veterinarians who have considered leaving the profession prior to retirement and the reasons for considering and ultimately rejecting such a change;

- and, the improvements that would be required to encourage veterinarians to stay within the profession and what organisations should play a role in implementing these changes.

The study will be conducted by a professional survey firm over the summer months. Veterinarians selected are urged to respond, as the results will be extremely useful to colleges, veterinary associations, and individual veterinarians.

Crab Paste May Mend Cracked Bones

Crabs have been shown to be the richest source of granules of a mineral that may solve the problem of repairing cracked bones in humans. Professor Ken Simkiss and Dr. Marina Taylor of the school of Animal Microbial Sciences at Reading University in Southern England have isolated and studied the granules (less than 5mg in diameter) found in crabs' liver cells and also excreted in large quantities by them. Investigation of the structural chemistry has shown that the particles are composed of calcium phosphates occurring in an amorphous, glass like form.

The crab, which has no skeleton of its own, excretes large amounts of this bone precursor as a waste product, packaging it in a glass-like substance to facilitate its removal from the body. The presence of magnesium and/or pyrophosphate inhibits the formation of the more usual crystalline

form of the compound. The Reading team has now produced synthetic forms of the amorphous material. Further studies have shown that, on contact with a saline solution, the material is transformed into bone. Experiments have revealed that a similar phenomenon occurs when the particles are exposed to body fluids such as blood. Tests to determine the potential use if the material in repairing cracks in human bones or in hip replacement operations are in progress. By altering the composition of the amorphous paste, it is also possible to vary the time it takes to turn into bone from a few hours to several weeks.

For more information, contact : School of Animal and Microbial Sciences, University of Reading, Whiteknights, PO Box 228, Reading, Berkshire RG6 AJ, United Kingdom. Tel : 1734 875123. Fax : 1734 316562

- Spectrum Sept-Oct '96

Update :National Issues

- CVMA liaises with Government -

The Bureau Of Veterinary Drugs To Be Re- Engineered

The introduction of cost recovery initiatives at the Bureau of Veterinary Drugs (BVD) has led to a move to have the entire operation of the BVD re-engineered. A Joint Management Advisory Committee has been established to review the operations of the BVD with the goal of lowering the cost of operations, and ultimately the cost of drug approvals. The Committee is made up of representatives of the BVD, the Canadian Animal Health Institute (CAHI) and the CVMA, which represents the interests of the veterinary community.

Equine Infectious Anaemia Program To Be Restored

The CVMA continues to meet with the stakeholder group on Equine Infectious Anaemia (EIA). An agreement in principle has been reached by the key players, including Agriculture and Agri- Food Canada, to restore most of the EIA control program on a cost-recovery basis. To cover the cost of the program, accredited laboratories will be adding a \$2.00 fee to the fees charged to horse owners for the testing services.

HACCP On The Farm

The CVMA participated in a national workshop of stakeholders to discuss the development of HACCP (Hazard Analysis of Critical Control Points) systems on the farm. The workshop provided an opportunity to share views and concerns, and there was agreement among government and industry that more research was needed as well as an increased commitment to moving HACCP principles to the farm.

Remaining vigilant about RRSP Contributions :

Although the government has now introduced its budget, the RRSP Alliance, made up of 12 national associations including the CVMA, is maintaining its efforts to ensure that the government does not neglect or forget the interest of self-employed professionals.

The Alliance, which includes the national associations representing physicians, dentists, pharmacists, etc., wants to remain visible and vigilant so it can continue to make effective representations not only to senior government officials, but also to Members of Parliament and media. The alliance is considering expanding its mandate to advise the government on the upcoming pension reform and the future of the Canadian Pension Plan.

Single Food Inspection Agency For Canada Established

The Federal Government announced that it will establish a single food inspection agency that will be shaped by an inter-departmental implementation team with representations from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Health Canada and Fisheries and Oceans. Most of the Food Protection Branch of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, including the Animal Health Division, will be transferred to the Agency.

A Must Read For Veterinarians By One Of Their Own

An Anecdotal, Fascinating and Very Readable Account of Veterinary College, The Army Veterinary Corps, Private Exotic Practice And The Workings Of An Old Fashioned Zoo In Central Park, N.Y.

Tim Zimmerman's Book

They Can't Talk But Never Lie

The Making Of A Zoo Vet
Action Arts Press
P.O. Box 3192 Lake Worth,
Lantana Br. Fl 33465-3192
Fax : 1-407-588-6970
\$25.00 Incl. P & H & Tax

East, Central and Southern Africa

"Untamed " African Elephants Learn To Help Speed The Plough

Every day Nyasha the bull elephant plods through the fields to trample on one of Africa's last great myths.

For generations, Africans believed that the powerful beasts could not be trained for work. But a small game ranch in Zimbabwe is proving the sceptics wrong.

Nyasha is one of the two elephants working in the maize fields of Imire Game Ranch 60 miles east of Harare, confounding years of myth that the beasts are useless to man.

Peter Musavaya, 22, a game rancher said : "I think the first white settlers were fond of shooting elephants for their tusks and didn't realise that elephants live in family units and this stress was passed on to future generations making them aggressive to humans.

At this 11,500 acre ranch the sins of the past have been buried with the help of an animal psychologist, Dr. Marthe Kiley - Worthington of Exeter University, who wanted to prove, through training, the intelligence of the African elephant. Three weeks of

schooling was enough to put the elephants into harness to till the ranch's maize fields.

Barbara Travers, 45 the owner of the ranch said, "The elephants love it. They need to use their highly developed brain and this is the best way of doing it."

Three tons of pulling power mean the elephants have to draw a deeper furrow at greater speed. Farmers estimate an elephant can do the work of six cattle.

Game rangers want to train more elephants and establish a training school at the ranch.

It is also hoped that training elephants may reduce bush and crop destruction caused by overcrowding among the growing herds.

After the day's work, the elephants play their favourite game, also taught by their psychologist, kicking a football thrown by their laughing drovers. Another sign that , once taught, an elephant never forgets.

- The Daily Telegraph London 23rd July'96.



President Of Mozambique Veterinary Association

- Dr. Jose L. Caravela - A Profile

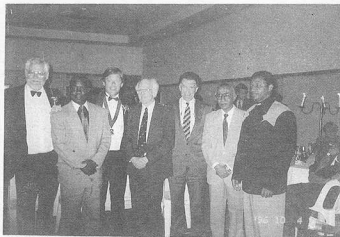
Dr. Caravela graduated from the Veterinary Faculty of Eduardo, Mondlane University, Mozambique and obtained his M.Sc. in

Animal Production, at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland. He has attended a number of post graduate courses at Holland, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Sweden and Mozambique. He is currently employed as Head of the Animal Production Dept. Direccao Nacional de

Pecuaria, Min. of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mozambique. He has been the Project Manager of the Family Farming Livestock Rehabilitation Project, Director of the Dairy Development Centre and also lecturer of Ruminant Production in Veterinary faculty at Mapato, Mozambique. He has also worked as the managing director of many Dairy companies in and around Mozambique. He has been the President of the Mozambican Veterinary Association since 1993. Dr. Caravela attended the CVA Programme Review Meeting at Capetown South Africa as an observer.

South African Veterinary Association Biennial Congress, 1-4 October 1996, Cape Town, South Africa

The South African Veterinary Associations Biennial Congress was held at the River Club, Cape Town, South Africa from 1-4, October, 1996. More than 300 delegates participated in the four day conference. The unique feature of this year's congress was the participation of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association's executive members Dr. W.J. Pryor, President, Dr. Bakary Touray, Past President, Dr. Bert Stevenson, Programme Director, Dr. E.B.M. Koney, Dr. Peter Msolla and Dr. Laura Bowen, the Regional Representatives of West Africa, East, Central and Southern Africa and UK Mediterranean respectively and the Secretary and Editor Dr. S. Abdul Rahman.



The Presidents Past and Present!

L-R Dr. Bath, Dr. Touray, Dr. Erasmus, Dr. Pryor, Dr. Stevenson, Dr. Anwar and Dr. Sinaré.

Invitees at the congress also included Dr. Bob Stevenson, President British Veterinary Association, Dr. Caravela, President Mozambique Vet. Asso. and Dr. Anwar President of Malaysian Veterinary Asso. Another prominent invitee was Dr. Avi Deshmukh of Ralston Purina.

The conference was inaugurated on 1st October with a welcome by Dr. Isak Rust, Vice President of the SAVA and the welcome address was given by Dr. Colin Cameron. Mr. P.M. Mostert of Mostert Consultants Pietersburg, presented a key not address on "The Veterinarian in South African Context".

The scientific sessions were divided into Small Animals Section, Large Animal Section, a section on Wildlife, Exotic Animal and Diagnostics. A large number of papers on varying topics were presented including some by overseas participants from UK, USA, Australia, Namibia and New Zealand. Number of papers on varied topics had the rapt attention of all the participants and the ensuing question and answer sessions were highly stimulating.

On 1st October Prof. Bath, President of SAVA hosted the Presidents luncheon at which the executive

of the CVA was presented to selected invitees and office bearers of South African Veterinary Association. On the 3rd, the CVA reciprocated by hosting a dinner (sponsored by Ralston Purina) for the SAVA President and executive members of SAVA. The conference culminated with an Award Winners Night in which various citations and awards were presented. The Gold Medal of the South African Veterinary Association for 1996 was awarded to Prof. Ivan Gerhard Horak for his outstanding contribution to parasitology. The Clinical Award for 1996 was presented to Jacobus Stefanus van den Berg and the Research award to Prof. Alan John Guthrie. The Boswell Award was given to Peter Charles Belonje and the young veterinarian of the year award to Dr. Gary Albert Bauer.

The outgoing president of SAVA Prof. G. Bath and his colleagues made tremendous efforts to make the members of the CVA executive more than welcome to South Africa and get to know the veterinarians there and interact with them.

The CVA executive held a mini executive meeting, the details of which are also published in this issue.

E.C.S. Africa Regional Meeting -31st July 1996, Mauritius

Minutes

Present : Prof. Peter Msolla Tanzania, Regional Representative, Chairman, Prof. Gareth Bath Councillor, South Africa, Dr. S.Y. Sinare Councillor, Tanzania, Dr. R.M. Busayi Councillor, Zimbabwe, Dr. G. S. Pandey, Councillor, Zambia, Dr. H. Schnieder Councillor, Namibia, Dr. W.O. Ogara Councillor, Kenya, Dr. M.R. Jaumally Councillor, Mauritius-Recorder. **Absent :** Dr. John Mukibi Councillor, Uganda, Dr. L.N. Mateyo Councillor, Malawi, Dr. Chimbombi Councillor, Botswana. **Late Arrival :** Dr. Gerard Mahloane Councillor, Leotho **In Attendance :** Dr. W.J. Pryor CVA President, Dr. S. Abdul Rahman CVA Secretary/ Editor CVA News.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 14.15 hours by inviting all members present to the meeting.

Appointment of Minutes Secretary

Dr. M.R. Jaumally, Councillor for Mauritius was chosen to be the minutes secretary for the meeting.

Adoption Of Agenda

The Agenda was adopted as presented by the Secretariat

Confirmation Of Minutes Of Arusha Meeting - Tanzania And Mokuti Lodge Meeting - Namibia -

Minutes of Arusha

The minutes were confirmed as true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting after adding the name of Prof. Gareth Bath in the list of observers and the names of the Chairman and recorders as follows :

Chairman - Dr. Bakary Touray

Recorder - Dr. J.M. Kamau

Minutes Of The Mokuti Lodge

The minutes were confirmed as true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting after correcting the name of Dr. Dena Bruce to read Dr. Doug Bruce and after adding the name of Dr. Gumede under those absent with apology.

Matters Arising From Those Minutes

-Arusha Meeting

Regional Financial Report - It was noted that since the region covers more countries than other regions, it was

suggested that the CVA reconsiders allocating more funds to the ECS African Region.

Proposal for workshop on Veterinary Education

To note that due to lack of funds, the workshop was yet to take place. Recommended that the workshop be jointly held with the one of fertility problems of small village herds in Africa to be held in Nairobi in 1997.

Suggested to approach SADC (SACCAR) and FAO for possible funding of the proposed workshop.

Commonwealth Foundation Fellowship Scheme

Informed that once the fellowship comes out, councillors will be requested to nominate participants from their respective countries. The fellowship usually lasts for three months and is worth about US\$ 10,000 - 15,000.

CVA Study Fund

Funds are available for short visits by young veterinarians to neighbouring countries in quest for further development and experience.

Mokuti Lodge Meeting

Annual Subscription -Noted that all associations were financial upto 30th June, 1996. and that Mauritius, South Africa and Kenya had already paid for 96/97 financial year. Other Associations were urged to pay before the 1st October, 1996.

Oversupply of Veterinarians Agreed that all national associations were urged to discuss whether or not they feel there is an oversupply of veterinarians in their respective countries.

Report From Regional Representative

Introduction - The East, Central and South African region is constituted by twelve countries namely Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Swaziland, Lesotho, Botswana, Namibia, Mauritius and the Republic of South Africa. Efforts are underway to get the exact number of Veterinarians in the Region. The Region is however endowed with a total of seven veterinary schools (Nairobi - Kenya, Makerere - Uganda, Sokoine University of Agriculture - Tanzania, Samora Machel School of Veterinary Medicine - Zambia, University of Zimbabwe - Zimbabwe, Onderstepoort and Medunsa - Republic of South Africa) in addition to the Faculty of veterinary Medicine at Eduardo Mondlane University in Mozambique. Their total annual output is approximately 250. As will be evidenced by this report, the region has been very active and most member Association are financial. The following activities had taken place in the Region since the last CVA Committee meeting held in Ottawa/ Guelph- Canada on 8th - 16th March 1993.

Meetings - The Regional Commonwealth and

11th Tanzania Veterinary Association Scientific Conference

This joint conference was held at the Arusha International Conference Centre Tanzania from 30th November to 3rd December 1993. The Conference which was officially opened by the Hon. John S. Malecela (MP), then Prime Minister and First Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania was attended by thirty six countries from within and outside Africa. The four day Conference was closed by Hon. Jackson Makweta (MP), Minister for Agriculture. A total of fifty scientific papers were presented and eleven recommendations drawn.

Namibia Veterinary Centenary Congress 1994

The **Wildlife Rehabilitation Symposium** organised jointly by the South African Veterinary Association and Animal Rehabilitation Centre was held at Onderstepoort from 27th to 28th October 1995.

The **Tanzania Veterinary Association** held its Annual General Meeting and Scientific Conference at Arusha International Conference Centre from 5th to 7th December 1995.

Commonwealth Veterinary Association Workshop For 1996

The ECS African Regional Representative travelled to Mauritius between 3rd to 7th July, 1995 to assist in the

arrangements for the CVA Workshop held in Mauritius from 31st July to 2nd August, 1996. The theme of the Workshop was "The role of the Veterinarian in the 21st Century" and the workshop was attended by 17 countries with a total of 75 participants.

Regional Work Programme

Privatisation of Veterinary Services

In order to speed up the write up of the report Prof. Gareth Bath of South Africa was elected as co-ordinator for the privatisation scheme and his report to be submitted to the Regional Representative by the 31st March, 1997.

Establishment of Livestock System

Dr. R.M. Busayi of Zimbabwe was elected as co-ordinator and requested to submit his report by 31st March 1997.

Survey And Encouragement On The Keeping Of Non Traditional Livestock

Dr. G.S. Pandey from Zambia was elected as the co-ordinator and his report to be submitted by 31st March, 1997.

Questionnaires from co-ordinators to be sent to councillors by 31st September, 1997, so as to allow co-ordinators to submit their final conclusions.

Introduction of Wild Life Management

Recommended that this item be discussed at the Deans Workshop to be held in 1997.

Country Reports

Councillors presented an overview of the present situation in their respective countries with particular emphasis to privatisation of the Veterinary Services. Councillors were requested to submit a copy of their reports, for publication in the CVA/MVA Conference proceedings.

New Work Programme Initiatives For The Region

It was decided to concentrate on programmes which are underway rather than start new ones.

Any Other Business - Arrangement of Pan Commonwealth Conference in India 1998

Informed that the Organising Committee was

finalising arrangements for the Bangalore Conference for February 1998 and details would be sent to member associations as soon as they were ready.

Max Henry Memorial Library

Informed that Member Associations willing to receive books and manuals would have to pay for the postage of books.

Training of Animal Health Assistants - ex. Exec. Meeting, London

Informed that Dr. Jainudeen is still working on the programme. Once arrangements are finalised, member associations would be informed.

Location And Theme Of Next CVA Regional Conference

The proposal of Dr. W.O.Ogara, for Kenya to host the next CVA Regional ECS Conference was accepted. The theme would be chosen at a later stage by the Kenya Veterinary Association. South Africa was chosen as an alternative venue should the Kenya venue, not materialise.

Election of Regional Representative

Dr. Jaumally CVA Councillor - Mauritius was unanimously chosen to be the next Regional Representative from the ECS Region. Candidature of Mauritius was proposed by South Africa and seconded by Zambia.

As there was no other business for discussion, the Chairman called the meeting to an end at 19.30 hrs after thanking everybody in attendance.

■ Lost Camel Returns

A missing - in - action camel returned to her bearing Kuwaiti owner five years after the 1991 Gulf War. "Camels are known for loyalty but this is a miracle," Kuwait news agency quoted Mohammed - al - Auwaisheer as saying. It said he wrote a poem praising his camel's loyalty. The lost camel returned home in good health and pregnant, he said. It was one of several which strayed during Iraq's 1990 - 91 occupation of Kuwait after Iraqi troops declared the area in which Auwaisheer owns a farm a military zone.

- Deccan Herald

When Noodle Man Was Hit By Mad - Cow Scare

The recent mad-cow disease might have happened in Europe, half way round the world from Singapore, but the health scare was enough to put a beef noodle seller here out of business.

Dr. Lee Boon Yang, Minister for Labour and a trained Veterinarian, gave this example at the veterinary conference in Singapore to show how disease control and contingency planning in one country can affect other countries.

He said that the noodle seller had approached him a few months ago to stop media reports on the disease. The middle aged man had lost all his customers although he had posted signs to say that he used only good wholesome Australian beef.

Dr. Lee was addressing 188 participants from 19 countries at the Commonwealth Veterinary Association - Singapore Veterinary Association Joint Regional Conference on Thursday at Goodwood Park Hotel.

During the four day conference, speakers will present papers on topics such as disease control programmes and computer applications in controlling exotic diseases. The minister added that an outbreak of an exotic disease could also result in tremendous economic losses and social disruption such as an increase in the cost of food supply and higher unemployment.

It is therefore vital for countries with important livestock industries to map out a disease control strategy to prevent the introduction and spread of disease. They also need to ensure that imported food is safe. This is especially so now because of increased world trade in meat products and increased travel for business and leisure, which can cause products or people to become unknowing carriers.

But he cautioned that measures regulating import should not be used as disguised barriers to free trade.

Veterinarians also should not be over cautious and go beyond what is needed for public health protection.

- Straits Times Singapore 9/11/96.

UGANDA

The Uganda Veterinary Association (UVA) held its Annual General Meeting on the 19th and 20th September, 1996 at the Uganda International Conference Centre.

The meeting was attended by over 200 Ugandan Veterinarians and was opened by H.E. The Vice President of Uganda who is also the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Dr. Specioza Wandira Kazibwe.

The Minister remarked that although the Uganda Veterinary Association was getting more organised, there was need for its members to become more assertive to make their presence felt in all spheres.

A key note Address on Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy was given by Associate Professor J. Opuda Asibo of Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (FVM) Makerere University.

Welcoming the Chief Guest, the Outgoing President of the Association Dr. Kafumisi informed the Chief guest that Privatization of Veterinary Services was in high gear. Already the first batch of 22 Veterinarians who would benefit from the Credit, to establish themselves into Private Practice had received an incentive training in both Business and Financial Management. The Outgoing President also introduced two eminent Veterinarians who had been recommended for the UVA awards for their excellent contribution to the profession both at home and abroad. The two Vets presented with the honours are Dr. Yakobo Bbosa, Prof. Herbert Kanaabi Nsubuga.

After the presentations of the awards there was a special session of presentation of a series of papers as listed below

1. ECF Vaccine, its efficiency and practical use - by Dr. Mike Moran, Integrated ticks and Tick Borne Diseases Control programme, Epidemiology and Diagnostic Centre, Entebbe.

2. Genetically discrete populations of *Theileria parva* from livestock in two ecological areas in Uganda - by Dr. Wafula and Dr. Rubaire Akiiki Department of Veterinary Parasitology and Microbiology FVM Makerere University.

3. Privatization of Artificial Insemination Services - by Prof. Kyomo Artificial Breeding Centre Entebbe.

4. Contracting out Vaccination Programmes to PVP - by Dr. P. Ociba and Dr. J.B. Kasirye, Department of Veterinary Services.

5. Experiences of Private Veterinary Practice - by Dr. Musisi Kigula, Private Veterinary Practitioner.

6. Highlights of the proposed National Cattle Breeding Policy and its implication to the Veterinary Profession - by Dr. F. Mbuza Department of Animal Production and Marketing.

7. Diagnostic tools in Veterinary Medicine - by Prof. Ojok Lonzy, Department of Pathology FVM Makerere University.

The following short papers were also presented.

1. Prescription Writing - by Mr. Kaddu-President Pharmaceutical Society of Uganda.

2. Information about CVA - by Dr. John Mukibi, Councillor CVA.

3. Introduction of Vermiton (Dewormer)- by Dr. Paul of SANOVA Ltd. France.

The CVA councillor for Uganda Dr. John Mukibi highlighted the role of the CVA with special reference on how the UVA does benefit from the CVA programmes.

The last session was devoted to UVA affairs where the members reviewed the Associations

activities of the past two years. There were general elections and the following were elected

President : Dr. Florence N. Masembe Kasirye

Vice President : Dr. Simon Jean Onyait

Secretary : Dr. Fredrick Kalungi

Treasurer : Dr. M.M. Onega

As. Secretary : Dr. B.K. Mwesigye

As. Treasurer : Dr. Daisy Namono

Committee Members :

Dr. Joseph Byamugisha, Dr. Lee Koma, Dr. Rwekikiga

The FVM of Makerere University is currently celebrating its Silver Jubilee (1971 - 96) with a series of activities including a Clinical Week where free Veterinary Services are provided to farmers in the Faculty Ambulatory Clinic Area, farmers forum and a farmers workshop, an open day, Public Lectures etc and a scientific Conference to be held in April 1997.

SOUTH AFRICA

New President of South African Veterinary Association

Dr. Anthony Erasmus was elected as the new President of SAVA. He replaces Dr. Gareth Bath. Dr. Erasmus completed the B.V.Sc. degree from Onderstepoort in 1978.



After 2 years of national service with the Equestrian Centre and a stint in England and Europe he returned to join a two man practice

in Pretoria to become a full partner a year later and buying the practice 5 years later. Initially it was a mixed practice including a large amount of equine work. In 1988 he completed B.V.Sc. Honours degree in small Animal medicine, pharmacology and clinical pathology

after which the activities of the practice were limited to small animals and birds.

Since 1987 he has taken a special interest in medical and surgical conditions of wild indigenous birds and small wildlife. He is now involved in consultancy referral work from rehabilitation centres and veterinarians in and around Pretoria and Johannesburg. Has been involved in the professions affairs since early 1980's. He was chairman of the Pretoria Veterinary Practitioners group for 4 years. Chairman of the Northern Transvaal Branch of the SAVA for a 2 year term. Served as a nationality elected member of Federal Council for 2 years. He has been Chairman of the remuneration committee and is presently Chairman of the Vet News Committee and Vice Chairman of the South African Veterinary Foundation. Has filled the position of Vice - President of the Association over the past two years.

NAMIBIA

50th Anniversary Of the Veterinary Association Of Namibia And International Scientific Congress : 10 - 13 September 1997 : Swakopmund

Date of Congress : Wednesday 10 September to Saturday 13 September 1997

Annual General Meeting : to coincide with the 50th Anniversary on 12 September 1997.

Venue : Conference Centre : Fisheries

Research Institute and Alte Brucke Swakopmund.

This congress will also act as host to the 2nd Africa Conference of World Veterinary Association Africa members. A special commemorative stamp, first day cover and special date stamp will be issued by Namibia Post to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Association.

Scientific Congress And AGM 1995 : Windhoek

The AGM elected the President, Vice President and six other office bearers according to the changed Constitution and ExCo elected the other office bearers for the 1996/ 1997 Executive Committee of VAN. The following are the elected members.

President	:	Dr. Herbert Schneider
Vice President	:	Dr. Diethardt Rodenwoldt
Secretary	:	Dr. Donnie Smith
Treasurer	:	Dr. Rainer Hassel
Members	:	Dr. Beate Voigts Dr. Hartmut Winterbach Dr. Ulf Tubbesing Dr. Theo van der Merwe
Editor "Manga"	:	Dr. Herbert Schneider
Councillor Commonwealth Vet. Assoc.	:	Dr. Ulf Tubbesing
National Member : World Vet Assoc.	:	Dr. Herbert Schneider

As required by VAN's Constitution, ExCo has appointed a Disciplinary Committee for 1996/97. The Chairman is Dr. Theo van der Merwe (Tel : (off.) 061- 202 2047 (res.) 061 - 227101.

KENYA

Veterinary Services Privatisation Scheme In Kenya

A preloan training program was conducted on October 23rd to 24th 1996 at Nairobi. Inaugurating the programme Dr. Ogara, Chairman, KVA outlined the history of the program.

The Chairman of the KVA Privatisation Scheme Dr. Steve Kinyiwa briefed the participants on the current status of the project. He further reported that the EU through the Pan African Rinderpest Project (PARC) has recently carried out an evaluation and has ranked the project very high. The project was described as a success story in the entire region and in the Subsaharan Continent of Africa.

The Director of Veterinary Services Dr. Kimanzi who also officiated in the opening of the workshop also had positive comments to make about the

management of the workshop. The pre - loan training workshop had very stimulating presentations and discussion. These included such topics as : understanding your business, Financial and Management controls, Business recording systems and KVAPS reporting systems. Other topics of Veterinary scientific interest included Genetic Management Systems, Semen Handling, Feeding and Nutrition which were conducted by Dr. Makoni, Esther Kirugi and K. Josephine Ongoma of American Animal Breeders Society (Kenya).

The Kenya Vet. Association Privatisation Scheme continues to grow from strength to strength and the number of Veterinarians supported by the scheme continues to increase.

West Africa

GHANA

New Executive Of The Ghana Veterinary Medical Association



Dr. Joseph Gaari-kweku

Position : National

President : Dr. V.T.K. Agbali

Vice President : Dr. G. Aning

Secretary : Dr. Joseph Gaari-kweku

Vice Secretary : Dr. Clement A. Akwei

At the 22nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Ghana Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA) a new executive was elected for the next two year term of office. The list of the New Executive is given below.

Treasurer : Dr. Alice Atta

Regional Representatives

Ashanti Region : Dr. C. Opare

Brong Ahafo Region : Dr. S. Mark - Hansen

Central Region : Dr. Kofi Kwansah- Filson

Eastern Region : Dr. J. Bogue

Greater Accra Region : Dr. K.B. Darkwa

Northern Region : Dr. K. Adomah

Upper East Region : Dr. C.T. Quist

Upper West Region : Dr. A. Ghamli

Volta Region : Dr. S.H.M. Opaku

Western Region : Dr. H.I. Koray

Save The Koala : Put It On The Pill

Koala bears, it turns out, are too cuddly for their own good. They are so fond of hugging one another that their population has exploded, threatening the eucalyptus tree habitat which sustains them. Plans were announced in Victoria, Australia's second largest state, to curb their numbers by giving them vasectomies and a version of the birth control pill. The state minister for conservation and land management, Marie Tehan said: "if we don't face up to this issue, several areas will suffer long - term ecological damage and koalas will starve.

The tiny bears, second only to kangaroos as an Australian emblem, have had a chequered history since Europeans arrived 200 years ago. In the last century they were hunted for their fur almost to extinction. More recently, as their colonies have revived under protective legislation, political battles have been fought across state lines over their status.

New South Wales last year tried to ban tourists from cuddling because such handling is believed to

cause the animal stress. The plans were quietly dropped when it was realised that Japanese tourists who represent a multi million dollar industry and for whom koalas are one of Australia's biggest draws, would flock instead to Queensland where there is no cuddling ban. The average koala bear is lazy, gentle creature that spends most of its life at the tops of eucalyptus trees, foraging for leaves at night and dozing by the day. Each koala eats about half a kilogram of leaves a day. Therein lies the problem : as Australia's human population has expanded into traditional koala habitat along the east coast, demand for eucalyptus leaves is outstripping supply.

If the plan goes ahead wild life officials will have little trouble administering the pill and vasectomies. The marsupials' gorging of eucalyptus oil is thought to make them "high" leaving them slow and easy to catch.

Robert Milliken, Sydney
The Independent, 20th September, 96.

Commonwealth Veterinary Association West African Region -

Minutes Of Regional Council Meeting Held In Accra - September 26th and 28th, 1996

Members Present

Dr. B.N. Touray	Immediate Past President CVA - Observer	Gambia
Dr. E.B.M. Koney	Regional Representative, CVA	Ghana
Dr. K.E.F. Kamara	Representative	Sierra Leone
Dr. S.F. Carew	Representative	Sierra Leone
Dr. J.K. Taylor	Registrar, Veterinary Council of Ghana - Observer	Ghana
Dr. D.S. Fofana	Representative	Gambia
Dr. J.K. Obinim	Director - VSD Observer	Ghana
Dr. J. Gaari- Kweku	Secretary, GVMA Observer - Secretary	Ghana

Absent : Dr. B. Lourn, Council Member, Gambia

Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was presented by the Regional Representative of West Africa and was accepted.

Address by Regional Representative

Dr. Koney welcomed the participants to the Regional Council Meeting of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association West African Region. He introduced the new Secretary of the Ghana Veterinary Medical Association Dr. Joseph Gaari- Kweku to the members and requested that he should take the minutes of the current meeting. He mentioned that the Director of Veterinary Services of Ghana, Dr. J.K. Obinim, and the Registrar of the Veterinary Council of Ghana, Dr. J.K. Taylor, were invited to the Council meeting as observers because of their unique positions in the veterinary profession in Ghana and to contribute to the discussions. At this juncture Dr. Touray clarified that the meeting was in fact a Regional Council Meeting which is normally attended by one Representative each from the member countries. He said that the presence of the two gentlemen as observers was in the right direction since they were in positions to implement certain decisions.

As a follow-up to a meeting held in London in 1995,

the Representatives had sent out copies of the report to Council members. Issues that came up for discussion included :

- Poor patronage of the books facility for member countries, except Nigeria.

- Poor contribution to the CVA Newsletter. It was therefore agreed that members should be encouraged to send in more articles for publication which could also include pictures. He mentioned that the Editor of the CVA Newsletter is Dr. Rahman of India.

- **Regional Workshop** - which was to be held in Gambia in 1995, but due to the political situation in that country this could not be held. Therefore it was agreed that the workshop should instead be held in Ghana.

- **Study Fund** - the regional representative said that invitations from Dr. Rahman Secy, CVA for nomination of candidates for the study fund were sent to the Gambia and Sierra Leone, as it was their turn to enjoy the facility. Only Gambia had received their letter but had not responded. For Sierra Leone it was not clear who was the Council member. Dr. Touray suggested that the issue of who represents Sierra Leone as a Council member should be clarified by Sierra Leone.

■ **CVA Constitution** - Dr. Koney said that the constitution of the CVA was being amended through Regional Representatives and Council Members. He was, however, not sure if Gambia and Sierra Leone had taken action in that regard. Dr. Touray said that Gambia had accepted the Constitution, the amendments were expected to be completed by 1st July, 1996. Dr. Kamara said that Sierra Leone had not received the constitution, Dr. Touray thought that the Council member for Sierra Leone would have received it but could not circulate it to the local members due to the prevailing circumstances. He maintained that there was total confusion in Sierra Leone as to who represents the country as a Council member on CVA. It was agreed that this impasse could be addressed only by veterinarians in Sierra Leone and it was decided that time be allowed for them to come up with one Council member to represent them.

New Programme Initiatives

Combined Training

Ghana receives support from ODA for in - service training of veterinarians. It was agreed by members that this type of training should be expanded to involve member countries as **Joint In - service Training** . For the ODA to sponsor this type of in - service training, both Gambia and Sierra Leone were requested to write to the Director of Veterinary Services, Ghana, indicating their willingness to participate in the training programme. This information could then be forwarded to ODA, UK, for consideration and assistance. It was suggested also that these countries could write to the British Council (British High Commission) in their countries for assistance to send participants to Ghana for such training.

Subscriptions

On subscription, Dr. Touray said that Nigeria was suspended from CVA due to non - payment of subscription fees. He said the East, Central and Southern African (ECS) countries had voluntarily increased their fees. Dr. Touray read the new rates for the West African sub - region to members :

Nigeria	: A\$ 1,000.00
Ghana	: A\$ 300.00
Gambia/ Sierra Leone	: A\$ 150.00

After some discussion the new fees were accepted by members.

Dr. Touray reminded the Council members that financial support from individuals and companies for

national association activities should be reported to CVA and any other revenue generating venture undertaken by the Associations should be indicated.

Invitations To National Association Congresses

It was decided that the member countries should explore the possibility of having national associations invite other national associations to their congresses/ workshops. This would go a long way to enhance co - operation and free exchange of methods and approaches in organising and running such associations. The host national associations could spell out conditions for such invitations. In fact it was highly emphasized that Ghana should assist both the Gambia and Sierra Leone in the area of organization of their Associations.

Launching Of Regional Newsletter

As a new initiative it was suggested that the Regional Representative should explore the possibility of launching a newsletter for the West African sub - region, taking into account the costs of such a venture. The information should be prepared and sent to CVA for consideration and support. This could be a source of information for the CVA newsletter.

Expansion Of Membership Of WACVA

It was suggested that the Regional Representative should be provided with funds to enable him to travel to the Cameroon, Nigeria and Sierra Leone to encourage their active participation in the Commonwealth Veterinary Association programmes. This decision was arrived at in view of the fact that the sub - region currently has few members and therefore there was the urgent desire to increase the membership.

Election Of Regional Representative

The Ghana Veterinary Medical Association elected a New Executive to replace the old one in September, 1996 for a two year term of office. The secretary of the Association is Dr. Joseph Gaari - Kweku who is to represent GVMA as Council member for Ghana.

On submissions from Dr. Fofana of the Gambia, Drs. Kamara and Carew from Sierra Leone, it was agreed that for the mean time election of Regional Representative be deferred. The outgoing Regional Representative, who is the past Secretary of GVMA, was asked to continue to serve in that position until such time that the national associations of Gambia and Sierra Leone come up with substantive council members before a new regional representative is

appointed in consultation with member countries. Dr. Touray who was representing the President of CVA at that meeting assured members that he would convey their sentiments to the President.

It was also stressed that any association member could be elected Regional Representative if that person is found to be committed to the ideals of the CVA as this association is a voluntary one which requires dedication and sacrifice.

Location Of Next Regional Council Workshop

The Gambia was elected venue for the next regional council workshop. The date and theme for the workshop would be agreed upon by the Gambian Veterinary Medical Association and this should be communicated to Council members as well.

Book Programme

Dr. Koney mentioned that the GVMA had received nineteen (19) books from CVA. In order to facilitate the distribution of books Dr. Touray said that collection points/depots have been identified across the globe. He therefore advised Council members to prepare lists of the books that have already been received to be made available to members of national associations. It was agreed that Training Colleges could apply for these books (e.g. Pong Tamale) and even audio visuals.

Other Matters -Workshop On Infertility and Artificial Insemination

Dr. Koney informed members that a workshop on

infertility and AI will be conducted in Kenya. Member countries were invited to send in nominations. According to Dr. Koney, Ghana had sent in two nominations from whom one will be selected for the workshop. It is intended that follow-ups will be carried out in the West African area in the future.

Request For Assistance From Ghana By Sierra Leone

Dr. Kamara informed members that Sierra Leone had received a loan from the World Bank to implement a livestock services project. He therefore requested that veterinarians would be invited from Ghana to assist in the implementation of the programme.

Acknowledgement

The Director of Veterinary services, Ghana, thanked all the Council members and representatives from the Gambia and Sierra Leone for attending the WACVA workshop and the GVMA congress and wished that there should be greater co-operation among the member countries.

Others also expressed their thanks to the organizers and the host country for the hospitality showered on them. On behalf of the President of CVA, Dr. Touray, the immediate past president, thanked the organizers of the workshop and the Director of VSD, Ghana. He enjoined council members to be conscious of who they elect as Regional Representative since that position demands a lot of personal sacrifice and commitments and should not limit the choice of a regional representative to only Council members.

Commonwealth Veterinary Association Workshop, Accra, Ghana, September 23rd - 28th 1996

Theme : International Trade In Livestock, Poultry And Their Products : Need For Harmonization Of Regulations Governing Trade And Disease Control

Country Report - Sierra Leone

In keeping with the theme of the Conference, the Sierra Leone delegation is to indeed emphasize that there is a need not only to harmonize the regulations governing trade and disease control but that there is also the need to enforce these regulations. Certainly all Commonwealth countries in West Africa have their various regulations governing trade and disease control in Livestock and their products, but we have yet to ascertain whether in fact these regulations are being applied.

With the growing expansion of trade particularly in livestock products with European countries and the related health risks, we in our profession as Veterinarians carry the moral responsibility to safeguard the health of our various populations that consume these imported products. In Sierra Leone, the regulations governing international trade in Livestock and their products are often either flouted or glossed over; resulting in skewed benefits in favour of individuals rather than the nation. Our delegation is

considering fish as Livestock incidentally.

Objectives

The context of our discussion here shall include economics and public health. The Sierra Leone delegation has two main objectives which include :

A. Protecting and Promoting the health of the population with a view of prolonging the lives of the human beings consuming internationally traded Livestock and their products.

B. Improving or boosting the economy of Sierra Leone (and other Commonwealth Countries in West Africa for that matter), through the proper and rigid collections of revenues related to all income generating activities linked with the international trade in Livestock and their products.

Related Problems Of Trade In Livestock

Cattle, Sheep and Goats come into Sierra Leone from Guinea through the long border we share with them. Actually , it is a one way situation as the animals come from Guinea. Although there are four market centres situated along the border most of the animals are smuggled into the country.

The inability of the country to properly control the above mentioned issues due to lack of capacity needs urgent intervention. Because many economists have the view that if properly organized, the fishing industry alone can sustain Sierra Leone.

Livestock Products Imported And The Related Problems

Sierra Leone imports a huge quantity of Livestock products mainly from EEC Countries. Between January 1994 to December 1995 the following products were imported.

Product	Year & Quantity Imported (Kg.)	
	1994	1995
Beef	8611908	103095
Poultry Meat	106272	1581141
Eggs	1611628	8958567
Pork	6100	1518352
Pigs Feet	247321	2687106
Pigs Tails	250197	1269885
Pigs Ears etc.	540600	5281478

Butter	269308	2984711
Milk	5714885	7363445
Cheese	289500	1205201

The above mentioned items are most of the time considered safe for consumption by the population because the products are from European countries and therefore must have been properly checked. Although some superficial quality control is done by what we consider as inappropriate personnel (i.e. Department of Health Staff), this is not good enough and the health hazards posed to the population consuming these livestock products include the following:

a) The survival of pathogens in such products.

b) The production and persistence of microbial and metabolic products and toxins.

c) The presence of chemical residues and radioactivity in such products.

Incidentally, there was an instance in early 1995 when condemned eggs from Britain because of Salmonella infection, were sold in open market in Freetown. In another situation in 1993 cheap contaminated beef from some obscure origin in Europe was sold cheaper than the local beef and this created a suspicion that this must have been a case or ploy of dumping undesirable product from Europe into some third world country. Unfortunately before the beef was withdrawn from the market , many families had consumed it.

Disease Transfer Into Sierra Leone Through International Trade

In the Sierra Leone situation, one can say that disease transfer from Europe and other Western Countries and beyond; whenever it happens, is mainly through livestock products.

We essentially trade in live animals only with our neighbours i.e. Liberia and Guinea. But all the same the problem of disease control still has not been properly handled because of :

a) Lack of enough and properly trained personnel to handle the disease control measures in traded Livestock country wide.

b) Lack of adequate and appropriate facilities to cover public health monitoring exercises related to international trade in Livestock and their products.

c) Erratic or non - existing institutional support for running the already existing facilities in the public health sector.

The Need For Harmonization

All the limitations mentioned for Sierra Leone may be more or less similar to those in our sister Commonwealth countries in West Africa. So the need to harmonize the existing regulations cannot be overemphasized.

The international code for trade in Livestock and their products has been established by the FAO, a World body of which we are all members. It is now left with us to adopt some or all of the recommendations depending on how we agree as individual friendly countries on a regional basis which still will be infact preferable.

The harmonization of trade and disease control regulations is considered by the Sierra Leone delegation most appropriate to achieve the objectives of :

a) Making Livestock and their products being a reliable source of revenue to improve the economies of the Commonwealth Countries in West Africa.

b) Protecting the health of the consumers of these Livestock and their products by making sure that they are free from materials deleterious to human health.

Conclusion Statements/ Recommendations

1. Capacity building (i.e. training personnel, setting up infrastructure etc.) is necessary to absorb the various responsibilities related to issues concerning traded Livestock and their products.

2. There is need for each country to establish the appropriate authority for monitoring traded Livestock/ Fish and their products, using a similar approach. Or a need to establish such authority on a regional basis.

3. In relation to capacity building, public health laboratories of international standard must be set up to carry out routine tests or specifically requested tests on local and imported livestock products.

4. Proper training is also required for the personnel involved in Public Health exercises related to monitoring Livestock and their products.

5. Encourage the fluidity of trade between Commonwealth Countries in the West African region in the first place, and also with other Commonwealth countries in other regions of Africa e.g. Kenya, Zimbabwe, Botswana.

Kenya - for butter & Cheese

Botswana - for Corned beef, Beef and Carcass meal.

The above mentioned countries are not heavily industrialized so their grazing grounds are fairly "clean". Therefore the Livestock are less likely to ingest toxic materials. Livestock products from such countries are in our opinion less likely to contain undesirable substances as compared to those from Germany or Luxembourg.

6. Our various Governments are advised to establish agro - based industries as these are less likely to cause contamination of environment with toxic waste.

7. Governments are advised to be realistic about agriculture and not just pay lip service while paying more attention to mining. If we can feed ourselves then the importation of food and related loss of foreign exchange can be avoided.

8. The various Governments should institute Livestock policies that would encourage livestock farmers to reduce or infact eventually stop nomadic and transhumane movement. These movements can be of advantage to smugglers particularly if it involved across border movement. At the same time it makes it difficult to institute disease control measures and direct Veterinary interventions.

9. Communication links (i.e. Roads and Railways between and within African Countries should be improved or instituted as the case may be; because this will encourage easier and cheaper flow of trade commodities between and within African countries as it is happening in Europe, America and other developed countries.

■ **Widening Chasm** The Indian subcontinent and Australia are moving away from each other. This is the result of cracking up of the massive Indo Australian crustal plate just south of the equator beneath the Indian Ocean. The study carried out by scientists at Columbia University's Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory, New York, US goes on to say that the crack is the result of accumulated mass of the Indian subcontinent, which started some eight million years ago. Data obtained from sound images suggests that the huge Australian plate is rotating and pushing against the Indian plate in a northward counter clockwise direction .

- Down to Earth August 15' 96.

Country Report - Ghana

Harmonizing The Movement And Disease Control Regulations Guiding International Livestock And Poultry Trade

Mr. Chairman, distinguished invited guests, fellow Colleagues from the Gambia, Sierra Leone and Ghana, Ladies and Gentlemen, I deem it a great honour to be the one presenting this country report on behalf of the host country Ghana.

Already so much has been said on the above topic by the two honourable speakers this morning. However, please permit me to add some salt and pepper to what has already been said to enhance proper digestion.

Even though the common saying goes that diseases know no boundaries, I shall beg to differ. This is because with sound movement and disease control regulations guiding the international livestock and poultry trade, this can create a barrier for disease transmissions.

Livestock Movement

In Ghana the regulations governing the movement of livestock within the country are :

1. All animals to be moved for slaughter must be examined by Veterinary personnel and they should all be free from infectious disease at the time of examination.
2. The animals should not also come from an infected area.
3. If these conditions are satisfied, then the Veterinary personnel who did the examination can then issue a Veterinary movement permit to cover them.
4. In case animals are to be moved for breeding purposes, they must first satisfy the above two conditions. Additionally they should have been vaccinated against Rinderpest and tested negative for brucellosis and CBPP.

With regard to importation of live animals into the country, they must be quarantined at the ports of entry. The quarantine period for the different species are : cattle 9 days, pigs, sheep, goats and horses 24 hours. That explains why quarantine stations are functional at all the ports of entry.

Disease Control

According to OIE directives scheduled diseases

have been grouped into two groups based on their prevalence, economic effects and public health significance. Therefore the response to an outbreak differs between the two groups (types). Group One or A is made up of diseases described as High Priority notifiable diseases such as Anthrax, Brucellosis, Rabies, Tuberculosis, Rinderpest etc.. Group Two or B are the low priority notifiable diseases such as Fowl pox, Haemorrhagic Septicemia, Mange, Trypanosomiasis.

In the event of a suspected outbreak of a disease in list A, the District Veterinary Officer must use the fastest possible means to inform the Regional Veterinary Officer and the Director of VSD. The District Veterinary Officer then proceeds with clinical pathological and other diagnostic investigations. Meanwhile, appropriate samples should be sent to the Regional Veterinary Laboratory for confirmation. The laboratory test must confirm or deny the field diagnosis and the results transmitted to the Directorate. Control measures should be instituted immediately, including isolation of the affected stock, tracing of possible in-contacts and / or the source of infection. Regular progress reports should be sent to the Regional Veterinary Officer who should keep the Directorate informed. The Directorate must be notified when an outbreak is considered successfully controlled. The outbreak must also be reported in the monthly returns.

In case of a list B outbreak the only requirement is to report it in the monthly returns. Control measures should be instituted immediately, including isolation of affected stock, tracing of possible in contacts and/or the source of infection. Every effort should be made to obtain specimens for laboratory confirmation of the outbreak. This will provide important information for wider control programmes if necessary.

In Ghana it is interesting to note that, most of the cases of outbreaks of list A diseases such as Rinderpest and Foot and Mouth Disease, the source is always traced to an animal/ animals which were imported into the country from a neighbouring country. For example in 1987, after Ghana had enjoyed almost 12 years of Rinderpest free environment, a breeding bull which was imported from Togo to Aveyime Farms caused the outbreak of Rinderpest.

Mr. Chairman, this leads us to the theme of this conference - harmonising movement and disease control

regulations guiding international livestock and poultry trade. Mr. Chairman, invited guests, fellow colleagues permit me to give you an example of how movement and disease control regulations are harmonised in EU with regards to international livestock and poultry trade.

The highest authority of the European Community (EC) with legislative power is the "Council of the European Community". This council is composed of the ministers of the EC member countries whose ministry is concerned on the issue at hand. It passes legislation in the form of "Council Directives"(CD) which are binding to all member countries and must be transformed into laws and regulations in the respective country.

Veterinary Legislation Of The European Community

The main objective of this legislation is to promote free trade of livestock and livestock products among member countries without sacrificing disease control measures to protect livestock and safeguard the consumer.

Major concerns of the EC Veterinary Legislation are

- a) Movement of animals and animal products within the EC.
- b) Importation of animals and animal products from outside the EC (third country trade)
- c) Disease control strategies.
- d) Hygiene and marketing of meat, milk, egg, fish and their products as well as other animal products.
- e) Protection of farm and laboratory animals.

Council Directive 89/662/EEC and CD 90/425/EEC provide the principles on veterinary control of trade within the community for animal products and live animals respectively. Since 1st January, 1993, the start of the common market, intra - community veterinary frontier ports were lifted. This means that there is now unhampered movement of live animals and animal products.

However, certain policies have to be followed, like:

- a) Strict veterinary control at the place of origin
- b) Certification on the compliance of concerned council directives by the controlling veterinary office, i.e. animal health/ disease status of the herd and area of origin, and for products, the hygienic way of production.

c) Proper animal or product identification to allow trace back of source herd or factory.

d) Notification of the veterinary office at the destination through an EC wide computerized information system.

Council Directive 72/462/EEC lays down the general conditions to allow importation of biungulate domestic animals and their meat and meat products from a third country. Before a third country is allowed to export to EC, criteria stipulated in article 3 of the above Council Directive must be met.

- a) Health status of livestock and game, especially occurrence of exotic diseases.
- b) Regularity and promptness to report the list A and B diseases of the OIE.
- c) Legislation on disease prevention and control
- d) Structure and authority of veterinary services
- e) Organization and execution of disease control and preventive measures.
- f) Regulations concerning certain drugs and hormones.

An on - the - spot veterinary inspection mission of the EU shall be conducted to verify compliance of the laid down conditions. A specific part of a country which fulfills these conditions may also be accepted by the EU, however, it is only this part of that country which is included in the list allowed to export to the EU. Preconditions for importation of equine , poultry, livestock embryos, semen and other products are given in separate CDs.

After a country or a part of it has been accepted in principle, a separate decision giving detailed requirements and certification shall be issued. Only after this decision, particularly for trade of live cattle and swine and its fresh meat, a third country can export to EU.

As at now, Ghana and some countries in the sub - region (Burkina Faso, Togo and La Cote d' Ivoire) are harmonising the movement and disease control regulations of certain diseases such as Rinderpest (PARC) and Trypanosomiasis in the sub - region through regular inter - border meetings and workshops. There is still the need for the whole ECOWAS sub- region to come out with a similar harmonisation of movement and disease control regulations guiding international livestock and poultry trade which shall be binding on all member countries.

This can be done if all the Ministers of Food and Agriculture together with their Directors of Veterinary Services of all member countries constitute some form of "Council" with the mandate of passing legislation in the form of "Council Directives" (CD) on movement and disease control regulations guiding international livestock and poultry trade within the sub-region. These Council Directives should be binding on all member countries and should be translated into laws and regulations in the respective countries. Information on livestock and poultry disease situation in member countries should be available

to the Veterinary Services of members countries through INTERNET. This kind of co-operation was exemplified during the recent outbreak of African Swine Fever in La Cote d'Ivoire when the Directorate of veterinary Services Department was invited to an emergency meeting on the outbreak in that country. Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, this will enable the theme of this conference to become a reality. At the same time it will enable all member countries to deal swiftly with any new emerging disease or disease syndrome such as in the case of BSE outbreak in Britain.

- Dr. Karimu

22nd Ghana Veterinary Medical Association Congress And Second West African Commonwealth Veterinary Association Workshop - September 24th - 27th 1996, At Accra

Opening Remarks by Chairman Nii Pobee Tefsey Tsuru La Mantse

As La Mantse and *ipso facto*, the traditional custodian of the land on which the venue for this workshop is situated, it is fitting and proper that I should first, on behalf of my Chiefs, Elders and People, extend to you all a warm welcome to La. I welcome more especially our friends from outside Ghana. It is my hope that you will find the surroundings and facilities here satisfactory and conducive to fruitful deliberation.

I would also like, in my own personal behalf, to thank the hosting Association for inviting me to attend your meeting and, in particular, to chair the Opening Ceremony, this morning.

If I may say so, although the invitation to me came rather late, I decided with pleasure to accept it, not for ceremonial reasons, but because I found the topic for your workshop interesting, important, relevant and timely.

Living as we do today in a "global village", the aphorism "No man is an island entire of itself" has never been more true than now.

The current BSE or "Mad Cow Disease" predicament in which Britain finds herself and the tough unrelenting precautionary measures being adopted by her European Community partners (not to mention other non-European beef-importing nations) dramatise vividly how interdependent we have become.

We relate to other people at the inter-personal level; there is also our dependence on the animals we rear or

hunt; and, above all we have to contend with eco-system of our environment, the balance of which we disrupt at our peril. Indeed, to go back to our quotation from John Donne, "Every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main."

I have been led to these reflections by the very suggestive theme of the workshop "Harmonising The Movement And Disease Control Regulations Guiding International Livestock And Poultry Trade".

Population growth in Africa continues to outstrip the pace of economic growth, leading to a situation where our best efforts at self reliance and overall development are frustrated; by our inability to meet the mounting needs of our peoples in the critical areas of Education, Health and Food.

With regard to the latter, while general agriculture has to contend with the vagaries of climatical change and poor farming practices in the face of plant diseases and pest infestation, we find that the twin-field of Animal Husbandry is also not without problems of its own.

In particular, given the trend towards regional integration and cooperation and the attendant desire to enhance the "free flow of goods and services" across borders - (as in the case of ECOWAS in our sub region) - it means that one can also expect a corresponding "free flow" of problems, including diseases and pestilences in spite of our best national efforts at control and regulation.

To repeat the continuation of our initial quotation from John Donne, we now find that, truly, "Every man is a piece



L- R Mr. N. Bilijo, Deputy Minister, Mr. Nii Pobe Tettey Tsurulli La Mantse and Dr. A.M. Laryea Deputy Minister at the Inauguration.



L- R. Dr. J.K. Obinin, Director of Veterinary Services, Dr. B.N.Touray, Immediate Past President CVA, Dr. Sawa Arvumbila, Acting President of GVMA and Mr. N. Bilijo, Mr. Nii Pobe



Dr. E.B.M. Koney RR CVA West Africa with the participants

of a continent, a part of the main." In other words, with particular reference to the field of veterinary science individual national efforts are no longer sufficient. Since animal diseases are no respecters of national borders and frontiers (which in any case, are already very porous in our African setting) we need to face our problems at the transnational level.

Moreover, inspite of our best efforts to expand our coverage and yield, we are increasingly becoming dependent on imports from international sources to supplement food requirements of our people. There is therefore no escape from the need to view our problems from a wider perspective.

It is because of our concerns relating to these issues that, as I said at the beginning, I find the Theme for this Workshop " interesting, important, relevant and timely".

Rules and regulations sometimes have a tendency to be contradictory in their effects. And in instances of rigid bureaucratic approach in their enforcement, rules and

regulations can even defeat the very ends for which they were designed. In any case, there are always people who believe that " rules and regulations " are meant to be "disobeyed" and who therefore resort to all sorts of stratagems to beat the system. This is even so in international trade today.

One would like to hope, therefore, that this workshop, will, indeed, explore all the positive awareness to harmonize our separate efforts to regulate livestock movement as well as disease control in your area of expertise to that we can make visible progress both nationally and internationally. We shall all await the outcome of your deliberations and especially, your practical recommendations with the keenest interest.

With these observations, it is now time for us to go on.

My opening words of "welcome " were purely personal and informal. I now call on Dr. C. Acquaye to deliver the formal Welcome Address.

Welcome Address By Dr. Bawa Awumbila - Acting President of Ghana Veterinary Medical Association

Mr Chairman, the La Mantse, Honourable Deputy Ministers of Food and Agriculture for Greater Accra Region, Honourable Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture in - charge of livestock, Representative of the President of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association, Members of the Veterinary Council of Ghana, Heads of Department of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Honourable Farmers, Colleagues from the Gambia and Sierra Leone, Fellow G.V.M.A. Members, invited Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is my greatest pleasure to welcome you all to the 22nd Congress of the G.V.M.A. and to the second workshop of the West African Commonwealth Veterinary Association at La Accra.

At the first workshop which was held at the Accra International Conference Centre in September 1992, we deliberated on "Small Ruminant Production - The Role of Women". Today our theme is: "Harmonizing the Movement And Disease Control Regulations, Guiding Livestock And Poultry Trade."

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, taking into account recent events such as the outbreak of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (Mad Cow Disease) and reports that the traditional meat and poultry products

exporters from Western Europe are now turning their attention more and more to the lucrative markets of Eastern Europe, especially the former Soviet Union the indications are that we may soon have to depend more on our own sub region for our meat and poultry supplies. The theme of this workshop could therefore not have been more opportune. Indeed the theme is so important and relevant to the livestock industry that I wish the workshop involved all ECOWAS countries and not only Commonwealth West African Countries, especially considering the recently held conference on the outbreak of the African swine fever in La Cote d'Ivoire.

Mr. Chairman, livestock production has never been the strong point in the four former British colonies forming the West African Commonwealth Veterinary Association. Emphasis during the colonial era was either on mining or cash crop production. It was only after independence that serious efforts were made to improve on livestock production. Without proper regulation of livestock movement and disease control between our countries, much of the attempts being made to improve on livestock production will yield very little positive results.

Despite some of the problems that have faced the GVMA as an association, some progress has been made towards solving some of the issues raised at the last Annual

General Meeting held in Kumasi. For example some progress has been made towards obtaining further training for veterinary surgeons in the system and representation of the veterinary profession on the National TB Control Board. Through the hard work of the GVMA Secretary, a good number of books on veterinary medicine have been received by the Association and there are plans to establish a library in Accra and in the regions in the near future.

Mr. Chairman, Honourable Deputy Ministers,

Colleagues from the Gambia, Sierra Leone, Ladies and Gentlemen, allow me once again as Ag. President of GVMA to welcome you to this congress and workshop. It is my hope that the issues to be raised and the recommendations to be made would contribute towards finding solutions to livestock production in the sub - region. I wish you all a pleasant stay in Accra.

Thank You.

Address by Dr. Bakary N. Touray, Immediate Past President, CVA (On behalf of the CVA President)

Mr. Chairman, Hon. Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture, My Dear Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen

For the second time, I have the honour and pleasure to stand before you and address you on behalf of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association. In September 1992 I addressed you in my capacity as the President of the CVA. Following the expiry of my term of office at the end of last year, Professor William (Bill) Pryor of Australia took over from me from 1st January this year. He has therefore asked me to express his deepest regret and sincere apologies for his inability to personally attend this workshop.

For me, coming to Ghana is like coming home because it gives me the opportunity to meet my professional mentors, my classmates, my colleagues and friends. It reminds me of my time at Pong - Tamale and various other places in Ghana and the opportunity to relish the authentic dishes of fufu and kenke. It is the time to renew acquaintances and to recall the good and perhaps the irresponsible aspects of student life which I enjoyed in those formative years.

This combined CVA regional workshop and 22nd Congress of the Ghana Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA) should have taken place in the Gambia but because of the prevailing circumstances, it was agreed to hold it for the second time in Ghana. This is clearly a reflection of the activeness of your association within the West African region. On behalf of the President of the CVA, I would like to commend the GVMA for this and also for the goodwill towards the CVA in agreeing to host this meeting.

As many of you are aware, CVA is one of several professional organizations within the Commonwealth which, among others, seek to promote the welfare of their membership and strive to enhance the contribution of the

professions to national development for the peoples of the Commonwealth. In this regard, the CVA can proudly claim centre - stage since we have been one of the most active and I have no doubt that, that will continue to be the case.

Mr. Chairman, Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen, in trying to achieve our objectives, we embark on a variety of activities such as the books and journals programme, awarding travel grants, organising seminars and workshops and the publication of a newsletter, all aimed at enhancing the capacity of the profession to meet the challenges of national development. We are working with veterinary faculties and institutions to encourage the elaboration of appropriate and relevant curricula, and for the mutual recognition of degrees especially within the Commonwealth Africa. CVA member associations are also invited, and do participate in the Commonwealth Foundation Fellowship Scheme for Commonwealth understanding. In fact, as I address you, we are now seeking nominations for both the CVA travel fund and the Foundation Fellowship Scheme. These activities form the core of the annual work programme of the Association, which is developed and monitored by the Executive Committee comprising of the Regional Representatives from the Six regions of the Commonwealth. The work programme is reviewed biennially to ensure timely implementation and continued relevance of the activities. We therefore accord greater emphasis on regional activities which permit the sharing of common experiences, discussing mutual problems and learning solutions which are pertinent to one's circumstances. Such close interaction also provide the opportunity to share our thoughts and experience on the advancement of our profession.

Mr. Chairman, In January, next year, another such regional workshop, the third of its kind will be held in Kenya and that five African countries will have representatives there. This workshop which will be the third Fertility

Workshop for Small Farmers in Kenya, will also explore follow-up workshops in subsequent years in other parts of Commonwealth Africa, including West Africa. I have been informed that Ghana will be represented at the Kenya Workshop and could therefore assist in any subsequent follow-up in the region.

In the above context, CVA is desirous of expanding its activities in the West African region. As we all know, the political and economic situation in Sierra Leone until recently, was such that with the best of intentions, our colleagues could not have fulfilled their membership obligations. We are therefore extremely pleased that their association has been resuscitated and they are able to participate in this regional workshop. On the other hand, I have to say with regret, that Nigeria has been suspended for having failed to meet its financial obligations to the CVA, despite numerous efforts and even a visit to Nigeria by our Regional Representative. This is a great loss to our colleagues in Nigeria because CVA receives more requests for services we offer than all the other members put together. We therefore aspire to the return of Nigeria when it gets its financial and Commonwealth membership obligations in order.

With the accession of Cameroon to the membership of the Commonwealth, we look forward to welcoming that

country as the fifth member of the West African Commonwealth Veterinary Association. However, I am aware of the difficulties and problems that already exist with just the four associations in the region. I do hope that we will double our efforts to ensure that these problems are not magnified by the expansion but minimised or even eliminated by our determination to succeed.

In concluding, Mr. Chairman, it is my pleasure to bring to you greetings from Prof. Bill Pryor, the President, and the entire Executive Committee of the CVA, and their sincere best wishes for a successful and productive workshop and regional Council Meeting. All of them are looking forward to the report and recommendations that will emanate from your deliberations. Please be assured that we would welcome any suggestions as to how to improve the role and functioning of the CVA. Finally, I would like to thank the Government of Ghana for the support they have consistently given to the Veterinary profession in this country, to the Ghana Veterinary Medical Association for hosting this workshop and for the excellent facilities put at the disposal of the participants as well as the traditional Ghanaian hospitality that is universally acknowledged. I cannot forget all the individual members of the association without whose participation this type of activity cannot be a success. I am privileged to welcome all of you and to wish you all an useful and enjoyable collegial interaction during this GVMA Congress and CVA Workshop.

Thank You.

Modelling Aerosol Activity In Lungs

Drugs such as those used to control asthma can be more effectively targeted by electrically charging the aerosol particles, according to British researchers.

A team of scientists from Southampton University's departments of electrical engineering and nuclear medicine and the General Hospital and Medical Faculty have found that electric charge has a significant effect on how and where the drugs are delivered in the essential areas of the lungs.

The British scientists have been studying how the electric charge influences small particles produced by therapeutic nebulizers and atomizers

used in asthma treatment.

They have developed mathematical computer models of the lung which allow them to mimic a range of situations using particles of various sizes and charge and work out where they end up when they are inhaled.

"The model is based on known lung shape and structure breathing conditions and particle deposition mechanisms and can painlessly simulate the processes that go on inside the lung when the aerosol is inhaled," said Professor Adrian Bailey of Southampton University.

- Deccan Herald, 9/9/96

U.K. Mediterranean

The New RCVS President



Professor Ronald Jones, was elected President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons at its annual general meeting on July 5. Dr. Jones is professor of veterinary anaesthesia in the University of Liverpool and currently head of its department of anaesthesia.

He was Dean of the faculty of veterinary science from 1987 to 1991.

After studying veterinary science at Liverpool University and qualifying in 1960, he acted as a long term locum in the local practice and then moved to Glasgow Veterinary School as house surgeon. In 1962 he returned to Liverpool as lecturer in veterinary anaesthesia and was promoted "through the ranks", culminating in a personal professorship in 1990.

Professor Jones has served as treasurer and editor for the Association of Veterinary Anaesthetists and was its president from 1979 to 1982, during which time the 1st International Congress of Veterinary Anaesthesia was held in Cambridge. He is a foundation diplomat of the European College of Veterinary Anaesthesia and is treasurer of that body. He has also taken an active interest in the affairs of the Lancashire Division of the BVA and served as its treasurer and president.

BVA Overseas Travel Grants 1996

The following Veterinary undergraduates have been awarded the BVA travel grants to the developing countries.

Michelle Barrows, from Biddenden in Kent, has just completed her third year at the University of Glasgow Veterinary School. She will spend six weeks

during July and August 1996 in Uganda where she will carry out an intestinal parasitological survey of the primates of the Budongo Forest Reserve. This project is timely and relevant because literally nothing is known regarding the helminth parasites that infect primates in the Budongo Forest Reserve. As the primates are under constant observation, this project provides an excellent opportunity to collect faecal samples over time for the assessment of helminth intestinal burden. The project is scientifically important as it will provide novel information regarding important and common pathogens in primates and will provide a starting point for the particular group of primates under study.

Richard Mellanby, is from Darlington, Co Durham. He has completed three years at the University of Glasgow Veterinary School and is now in his second year of a two year intercalated degree in zoology. He will be spending fourteen weeks from the end of June to the beginning of October 1996 on the island of Mahe in Seychelles. The Department of the Environment invited Richard to assess the distribution and the status of the Seychelles Fruit Bat. The project is an urgent priority - the fruit bat is one of only two endemic mammals on the Seychelles. The other endemic mammal, the sheath tailed bat, has a population size of around ten individuals. To prevent a similar decrease in the population of the fruit bat an assessment of the population size, distribution, foraging and roosting preferences and threats is urgently required. Richard's work will provide valuable data which will assess the vulnerability of an island endemic species.

Delia Grace qualified from University College, Dublin in 1990. She is working as Livestock Development Adviser on a Voluntary Service Overseas posting in Moheswarpasna, Bangladesh. Delia is working with Prodim (a non - governmental organisation with many years of livestock related work) whose main objectives are to improve the capability of very poor people to maintain healthy livestock. She is responsible for upgrading the animal husbandry skills of technicians, advising and training village groups and the overall development of the livestock programme. Her posting will last for two years.

Cats Long Journey Home

A Seven year old cat walked 200 kilometers home after going missing on a camp site during the summer holidays at Lisbon. Her owners were astonished when she turned up a month later on their doorstep after she had been given up for lost.

New President Of British Veterinary Association



Dr. Karl Linklater, the new BVA President has a particular interest in sheep. He is currently director of SAC Veterinary Services, which provided veterinary diagnostic and consultancy

services all over Scotland.

Dr. Linklater did his veterinary medicine at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies in Edinburgh where he graduated in 1962.

The next four years were spent in large animal practice in Tarland, Aberdeenshire. In 1966 he joined the Veterinary Investigation Service briefly before returning to Edinburgh to take up academic life. He was a research assistant and lecturer in the department of animal health until 1973 and while there, obtained his Ph. D., for a thesis entitled 'A Study of some blood cellular elements and iso immunisation in pigs.'

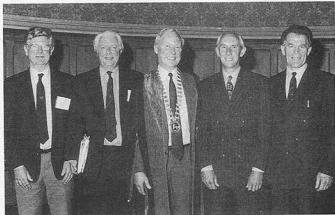
In 1973 he returned to the Veterinary Investigation Service as senior veterinary investigation officer at St. Boswells in Scottish Borders, in the heart of a sheep rearing area, and it was here that he became absorbed in the problems of sheep diseases.

In 1986 he was promoted to director of Veterinary Services at the SAC's headquarters in Edinburgh.

Demonstration Against Dangerous Dogs Act

Opponents of the Dangerous Dogs Act staged a demonstration outside the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons' headquarters on November 8 and attempted to leave the carcass of a pit bull terrier in the foyer of the building.

They were protesting about the involvement of some of the members of the profession in administering the Act and demanded to know the name of the veterinary surgeon responsible for euthanizing the dog. The small group of about a dozen protesters were friends and supporters of Mr. Sam Crothers, a pensioner from West London. Mr Crothers dog, Buster was seized by Fulham police on October 26, 1991. Although Buster was released after an appeal in March 1992, he was re-seized and recharged under section 5(4) of the Act for being an unregistered and therefore illegal, pit bull terrier. Since then he had been kept in captivity longer than any dog held under the Act and was eventually euthanised on November 2. The owner was 'too upset' to attend the demonstration.



The new officer team of the BVA line up following their election at the Annual General Meeting: from left : Professor Peter Biggs (Vice President), Mr. Keith Baker (Junior Vice President), Dr. Karl Linklater (President), Mr. Ted Chandler (Senior Vice President) and Mr. Bob Stevenson (Past President)

Veterinarian Chairs Overseas Charity

A Veterinary based charity chaired by a West Linton(U.K) man is expanding its overseas work with the help of a burgeoning million pound budget that has more than doubled in a year.

Penicuik based VETAID is overseen by a board of voluntary directors chaired by West Linton man Archie Hunter, a senior lecturer at Edinburgh University's Centre for Tropical Medicine (CTVM).

Set up seven years ago, the charity is now firmly established and expanding at an accelerating pace.

Last year its total budget, funded by the European Union and British Government, hit 630,000 pounds while this year it has more than doubled to about 1.3 million pounds.

The charity - run by only two administrators, National co ordinator Jeremy Davies and Fund raiser Louise Risk is currently based in a disused nutrition lab in Penicuik's Bush Estate provided by Edinburgh University's CTVM.

But with the worn building in line for demolition and charity work expanding, VETAID is now set to move next door to the new Pentlands Science Park financed by Moredun Foundation.

A building similar to VETAID's present offices has already collapsed and the University has decided to demolish the condemned lab. Rather than face the huge charges of repairing it.

The Moredun Foundation has stepped in with a grant of about 6000 pounds annually for three years to subsidise the new premises.

A badly needed third administrator, CTVM graduate Ruairaidh Petre, has also been helping to alleviate some of the mounting workload.

The international organisation was launched in 1989 by three enthusiastic Edinburgh University Vet students, two English and one French.

After work overseas, the trio were aware that many development programmes were not reaching the world's needy and poorest farmers.

"With naivete they decided to do something about it

and organised the charity originally calling themselves "Vets of the World," Mr. Davies explained.

The first project funded by the Government's Overseas Administration Department provided loans to some of the poorest caste of people in India to buy milking buffalo. The money was repaid on subsequent sale of milk.

In 1990, a second project was set up in war torn Mozambique where the students worked with the country's Government Veterinary Department to re-establish a training farm which had been shut down during fighting.

The charity also helped to replenish stock as farmers, who had abandoned their homes during fighting, returned to empty fields.

More recently charity workers have re-established cattle dips and veterinary laboratories.

The organisation continued to expand yearly taking on projects in other African countries including South Sudan where volunteers are working with a local tribe to vaccinate against cattle plague, contagious disease now eradicated in Europe.

With similar symptoms to those of Foot and Mouth Disease, it is the number one killer of cattle - upon which the local tribe depends for survival.

Meanwhile in Somalia vets are working with local organisations to help set up small community based animal health care programmes.

The charity workers are also training up "barefoot vets" to care for livestock among local clans.

"We target the needs of each area relative to its particular circumstance, so each project is different," Mr. Davies said.

This year the charity hopes to launch a new initiative in Tanzania working with the Maasai to set up projects like bush pharmacies and training programmes.

Maintaining its close links with the University, many of VETAID's 50 overseas field workers are post graduates from CTVM, which attracts students from across the globe.

Mr. Hunter explained the benefit to the University of

the informal link. "It is increasingly difficult for young people to develop careers in this line with funding in general becoming more restricted globally. And as Eastern European countries qualify for money, it is being spread more thinly with less for the African countries where our efforts are concentrated. So charities like VETAID are working to fill in the gaps left by larger funding agencies and through the link with the charity, CTVM is able to give its graduates a chance for employment."

Meanwhile the University provides specialist advice to VETAID when required by the administrators.

According to Mr. Hunter the Penicuik based initiative has helped to launch a similar network across Europe.

He himself became involved in VETAID through his lectureship at CTVM. His overseas experience after working in Botswana, North Yemen and Somalia, rendered him an ideal candidate for the Charity.

So when the war ended in Somalia in 1991 he was sent by VETAID, under the auspices of Action Aid, to draw a rehabilitation programme for the natives who, more than any other in Africa, are dependent on livestock for survival.

The programme that was recommended is still on going and Mr. Hunter has returned twice to check its progress.

Although the Charity's budget has more than doubled in a single year, local fund raising is still crucial to its work and organisers are always grateful for donations of any size.

Recently, for example the charity raised money through a sponsored pink elephant running the London Marathon, while Edinburgh Vet Fred Nind, who walked 400 miles raised 6500 pounds.

- Peeble Shine News 26/7/96

WHO Regional Meet Opens

The World Health Organisation opened its 49th South East Asia regional meeting yesterday by drawing attention to the changing trends of diseases in the region.

"There is ever present threat of emerging and re-emerging diseases. All these factors necessitate a common approach to tackle the situation effectively," said Dr. Ulton Muchtar Fafei, WHO's regional director for SEA.

With over 1.3 billion population, the 10 member states - Bangladesh, Bhutan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand - face the double burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases, he said.

Deputy Health Minister Soraat Klinpratoom said re-emerging diseases of most concern to Thailand and elephantiasis and tuberculosis which are returning as important health problems from neighbouring countries.

A number of immigrants from Burma living in Tak province have been reported to be carrying the parasite that causes elephantiasis, he said. Mr. Soraat said one way to prevent further spread of these re-emerging diseases is to register illegal immigrant workers from countries like Burma, Laos and Cambodia and making health checks compulsory for them.

Dr. Rafel said collaboration between countries of other regions should be expanded because epidemics can move across countries and continents with the constant movement of goods and people. He said the recent occurrence of diphtheria in Laos and the possibility of the disease spreading to Thailand is a reminder of the scourge such diseases pose.

Dr. Rafel said though countries of the region have achieved significant success in their immunisation programmes against diseases such as polio; leprosy, guinea worm and neo natal tetanus, there should be no room for complacency.

- Bangkok Post Sept 10, 1996

NEWS

Into Africa - New Scientific Links Forged For NARC

It was two years ago that the International Advisory Committee of the National Avian Research Center (NARC), Abu Dhabi, first proposed that links be established with East Africa and, in particular, that NARC's expertise in the field of satellite tracking might be applied to the Kori bustard (*Ardeotis kori*) which inhabits the Rift Valley and elsewhere. During the intervening period, negotiations have been held with the authorities in Kenya, in particular, the Ornithological Department of the National Museums of Kenya and the Kenya Wildlife Services (KWS). Professor John Cooper was working in East Africa at the time and was able to expedite this process. At the same time preliminary discussions were held with ornithologists in Tanzania who were anxious to survey their own population of bustards, particularly the Denham's (*Neotis denhami*) and hoped that NARC might be able to participate in this work.

Early in June Professor Cooper and Dr. Fred Launay, Head of the Department of Ecology, flew to Kenya in order to open a new chapter in NARC's international programme by establishing scientific links between NARC and the National Museums. Permission had been given by the KWS to catch two kori bustards for satellite tracking and to take blood and other samples from these for examination in the U.A.E.

Following the success in Kenya, John Cooper went on to Tanzania where he had meetings with the Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania, the IBA (Important Bird Areas) programme, and both Dar es Salaam and Sokoine Universities. The pilot study on the status of the Denham's bustard was planned with Mr. Neil Baker on behalf of IBA and this will involve sending two Tanzanian ornithologists into the field for an initial period of six months in order to survey this species. As in Kenya the work will be collaborative with NARC working in partnership.

These visits mark an important step in NARC's aim to work closely with neighbouring countries. There are strong historical and cultural links between the Arabian Peninsula and East Africa. Kenya and Tanzania are homes to bustards of several species and some are declining in numbers. NARC's experience in such fields as satellite telemetry coupled with the experience and enthusiasm of East African ornithologists could help to reverse this trend.

**For further information contact
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Rare Rhinos Electrocuted

Poachers are electrocuting rare rhinoceroses, wildlife experts revealed. Bodies have been found with severe burns from cables rigged upto 33,000 volt power lines. The animals die of terror after blundering into the wires in the foothills of the Himalayas in India. But by the time their carcasses are discovered the poachers have hacked off their horns for sale in the black market. There are fewer than 2,500 Asian rhinos left in the wild - with the Sumatran rhino down to just 300 and its Javan cousin reduced to only 70. World Wide Fund for Nature expert Vivek Menon warned yesterday: "If measures are not taken now the rhino will certainly become extinct"

General Articles

A Donkey Which Behaved Like A Human Being

On one fine summer Monday morning, we woke to find Buhera dead in the verandah of an oblong shaped, thatched and cow - dung plastered house that was used as a kitchen, dining room, sitting room and a bedroom for all parapuberty siblings. We cried. That was in 1959. I was in the then standard one, i.e. 3 long years of primary school education.

Buhera was the christian name of a donkey gelding bought for a fortune in Buhera district of Masvingo province, Zimbabwe. The asking price was three pounds, but daddy somehow managed to beat that to an all - time record of two pounds and ten shillings. That is how Buhera became part of the family. Buhera was transported on hoof with his inseparable mate, Chari (Charlie). The Buhera to Chipinge journey was covered in 7 days, as the crow flies. Kindy, our conscientious dedicated "herdboy" and big brother Josefia were assigned the duty to guide and chaperon the donkeys from Buhera to Dimire in Chipinge. If only they knew that both the donkeys had been tamed for riding, they could have had fun - riding and racing donkeys for 7 days!

Upon their arrival both donkeys turned out to be everybody's favourites, with Buhera gaining the upper hand steadily. He was gentle especially with us kids, very tame, obedient, submissive and hard working. However sometimes, only sometimes, he sulked particularly when he was denied access to his favourite meal, salted butu (maize bran). Life almost revolved around Buhera. All errands, including going to the general dealer's store against the shrill protests of my mother were carried out with Buhera; otherwise we rode Mamvura's bull calf.

You called Buhera once; he came to your feet and waited patiently to carry out the order. Your rattled harness chains and Buhera knew it was time to pull the disc plough. If you sounded a gong Buhera knew it was time to pull the sleigh to go and fetch water, in a drum. Put 3 buckets of maize in a bag on Buhera's back and he headed straight to the hammer mill and waited there for you. If the bag of mealies slid and fell off Buhera's back, unlike Chari, Buhera would wait there until we arrived and replaced the bag where it was. Nor did he seem to mind that we rode on his back.

If he did not like being ridden, particularly during his grazing time, he would stand there and wait until 3 of us (pre school goers) placed ourselves astride his back.

Buhera would canter into a lantana bush and leave us there. Nevertheless he would wait for us to finish crying. We would be surprised to find Buhera emotionlessly looking at us and probably laughing. Using his tail as an anchor and hocks as a ladder we would ride again. Buhera would never resist. Buhera never kicked anybody. He reserved his kicks for other livestock. He however enjoyed biting us. He would lift us off the ground using any fold of skin he could find, and hoisted us up long enough to cause pain and the natural reactionary flow of tears. Only then would he place us down gently, snort twice and wait for fresh orders as if nothing had happened.

All livestock (and wild animals) even poultry, like eating crops especially maize. Buhera never grazed crops. If Chari opened the kraal at night (he was an expert at this) all the animals but Buhera would take liberty to eat their fill and also cross over to sample the talkative neighbour's crops as well. Buhera would take upon himself to come and report the unruly behaviour of the flock by walking incessantly around our hut sneezing and snorting and if need be neighing until we woke up. Sleepily we would know that if Buhera is out so is the whole flock.

True, good things never last. Buhera died. Prematurely you may say. He died of "natural causes". Looking back through the rear view mirror of time, the cause of death was colic. True to his character Buhera displayed the textbook signs of colic which nobody understood or recognized. I think wherever Buhera is now, he will never forgive us for not coming to his aid when he needed us most. We miss his company, we remember his good ways, we treasure the span of life we shared but we could have done better than offering Buhera a hero's burial. Where were the veterinarians any way?

Buhera was laid to rest under a gumtree at the outskirts of our homestead, much to the chagrin of Four Eyes, a prolific black and white, colie looking mongrel which could not conceal its interest in donkey meat. She tried to exhume the carcass without much success and was not ashamed to leave the evidence of her nocturnal efforts to try and feast on a donkey which behaved like a human being.

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Tibbits

Indian Invention To Get US Patent

An Indian invention which detects poisonous gases and has the potential for defence applications has been cleared for the grant of US patents. Its Delhi based inventor Sandeep Jaidka, had originally designed the device to protect people riding in cars from noxious gases emitted by other vehicles on the roads.

"Several car manufacturers including the Korean Hyundai have already shown interest in the device, but I have been waiting for the grant of patents from the United States, United Kingdom and India." Mr. Jaidka said.

While Mr. Jaidka's attempts to get an Indian patent for his device have proved fruitless, the US patent examiners have allowed outright six out of ten claims made against the device and accepted the other four with amendments.

Similarly, Mr Jaidka's application has found a favourable response from British patents office, which in its publication has described his invention as a "device for use in a predetermined space with a sensor which supplies a signal with a conditioning circuit and amplifies it." - **Deccan Herald** '96

Bear Necessities Down Under

Birds do it, bees do it, even cuddly koalas do it. It seems that both the people of Britain and the koalas of Australia are enjoying themselves without regard for the procreative consequences. According to the Pill manufacturers almost a million women are having unprotected sex despite the fact that they don't want babies. Meanwhile, on the otherside of the world, fast and furious koala copulation has led to a population explosion. Down under, the bears are getting contraception to help them cope. Here Family Planning Clinics are facing a financial squeeze. Perhaps human beings just aren't cute enough to win state support for their sexual liberty. - **The Independent** 20th Sept '96

Facing Backwards Reduces The Stress Of Transport For Horses

Measurements of physiological and behavioural parameters in horses have shown that road transport is stressful even for animals which have become accustomed to travelling. Horses are normally loaded on to the transporter facing forwards, but for various reasons facing backwards may be preferable. It may allow a more natural posture and let the animals use their well padded rumps against the vehicle bulkhead to cushion the effects of breaking. Dr. Natalie Waran and colleagues assessed the stress experienced during the one - hour road journey by six horses transported facing both forwards and backwards. Heat rate was recorded continuously as a measure of physiological stress and was found to be lower in horses when loaded backwards on to the transporter. Heart rate also remained significantly lower throughout the journey in the horses facing backwards. Furthermore, recordings of the behaviour of the horses showed that backwards facing animals adopted a more natural posture, probably because they were able to adjust their balance more easily against the movement of the vehicle. The authors conclude that the backwards facing posture could benefit the welfare and subsequent performance of the animal. - **Vet Record** 139, 1996

Death by Misadventure

A Coroner has recorded a verdict of 'death by misadventure' in the case of a 20 year old man who died of the new variant of CJD earlier this year.

Mr. Geoffrey Burt, the coroner for North Durham, U.K., recorded the verdict at an inquest into the death of Mr. Peter Hall, who died in February. Although Mr. Hall had been a vegetarian since 1992, Mr Burt said, "I am satisfied that it is more likely than not that Peter contracted this disease prior to 1990 through eating some form of contaminated beef product, such as a beef burger." He added, "It cannot be proved scientifically that there is a link between CJD and BSE. We base our decisions on the level of proof and basis of probabilities. The verdict is considered significant as the coroner did not rule that Mr. Hall had died of "natural causes", which would normally have been the case if he had died of the more common form of the disease, sporadic CJD. - **Vet Record** Oct '96

Abstracts

Disseminated Fungal Disease In Dogs

The medical records of 10 dogs with fungal infections were reviewed. In each case a single species of fungus was involved, *Aspergillus terreus*, a *Penicillium* species, a *Paecilomyces* species, a *Chrysosporium* species or *Pseudallescheria boydii*. The dogs were all German shepherds and nine of them were female. The most common clinical signs were neck or back pain, weight loss, anorexia, pyrexia and paresis or paralysis, and all dogs had evidence of multiple sites of discospondylitis. Examinations of urinary sediments and aspirates from the vertebral lesions were used to differentiate the condition from bacterial discospondylitis. It appears that German shepherd dogs may be predisposed to infection with filamentous fungal organisms, possibly because of a specific inability to mount an effective response. Itraconazole may alleviate the clinical signs and prolong the life of some dogs

Watt, P.R., Robins, G.M., Galloway, A.M., & O'Boyle, D.A. (1995) *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 207, 67.

Treatment Of Urinary Incontinence In Bitches

Thirty two spayed bitches, which were incontinent owing to incompetence of the urethral sphincter and had not responded with phenylpropanolamine, were given injections of glutaraldehyde cross-linked collagen into the submucosa of the urethra. In 19 of the bitches the incontinence resolved after a single injection, although some medication with phenylpropanolamine was necessary in five, two of which also required additional medication. Seventeen of the 32 cases (53%) were cured by the collagen injections alone, and there were no postoperative complications as a result of 41 injections.

Arnold S. Hubler, M. Lott Stolz, G., & Rusch, P. (1996) *Journal of Small Animal Practice* 37, 163.

Urolithiasis In Cats

A retrospective case - control study was made of 3498 urolith forming cats to evaluate breed, sex, age and the site of the uroliths as risk factors for calcium oxalate and magnesium ammonium phosphate urolithiasis. Burmese, Persian and Himalayan cats all had a greater than average risk of developing magnesium ammonium phosphate uroliths. Neutered male cats had a greater risk of developing calcium oxalate uroliths than females, but they had a lower risk of developing magnesium ammonium phosphate uroliths. The risk of the cats developing calcium oxalate uroliths increased with age. One to two year old female cats had the highest risk of forming magnesium ammonium phosphate uroliths. Uroliths in the kidneys were more likely to be composed of calcium oxalate than magnesium ammonium phosphate.

Thumchai, R., Lulich, J., Osborne, C.A., King, V.L., Lund, E.M., Marsh, W.E., Ulrich, L.K., Koehler, L.A. and Bird, K.A. (1996) *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 208, 547.

Neuropathological Changes Produced By The Non - Penetrating Captive Bolt Stunning Of Cattle

The head injury inflicted on cattle by a blunt, non-penetrating captive bolt stunner resulted in an immediate loss of consciousness, a depressed fracture of the frontal bone and widespread sub-arachoid haemorrhage, practically beneath the site of impact, in temporal and frontal lobes and around the brainstem, there were also petechial haemorrhages in the basal ganglia and thalamus. The large concussive force applied by the stunner, and the vascular damage and sudden ventrocaudal acceleration of the brain induced by this force, were probably responsible for rendering the animal insensible. It is suggested that these findings indicate that this mode of stunning, followed by exsanguination, is an acceptable form of slaughter for cattle.

Finnie, J.F. (1995) *New Zealand Veterinary Journal* 43, 183.

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1997

International Veterinary Society, Veterinary Accreditation Course. **20th - 23 February, Albuquerque, New Mexico.**

22nd Annual Congress of the World Small Animal Veterinary Association, **3rd - 6th April, Birmingham, UK.**

22nd Congress of the German Veterinary Medical Society, **8th - 11th April, Badnaheim, Germany.**

10th Congress of Federation Of Asian Veterinary Associations (FAVA), **24th - 28th August, Cairns, Australia.**

The 7th International Theriological Congress, **6th - 12th September, Acapulco, Mexico.**

50th Anniversary Congress of the Veterinary Association of Namibia, **10th - 13th September, Swakopmund, Namibia.**

The British Veterinary Association Annual Congress, **25th - 28th September, Edinburgh, U.K.**

1998

Second Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference, **22nd - 28th February 1998, Bangalore India.**

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