The farmer plays a vital role in our economy as a supplier of food for the nation. Obviously, a healthy farm economy is dependent on healthy crops and food production animals. The veterinarian is indispensable to farmers in their attempt to maintain a healthy economy. In a very broad sense, veterinary economics is Dr. John Fetrow's specialization.

A field service veterinarian and a member of the teaching staff at New Bolton Center, Dr. Fetrow sees economics as playing an increasingly important role in the treatment of herd animal diseases and in research for better ways to maintain herd health.

Dr. Fetrow looks at disease from both clinical and business points of view. As a veterinarian, he is naturally concerned with the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of diseases in food production animals, primarily in the dairy industry, his specialty. From a business standpoint, he evaluates the economic impact of disease on the farmer's livelihood. As the number of farms decrease and the methods of raising food production animals become more sophisticated, the economics of disease prevention and herd health maintenance becomes a paramount concern for the veterinarian and the basis for continuing research.

"For farmers to get the highest return on their investments, it is critical for them to keep their animals healthy, producing milk and meat to meet the demands of the consumer market," explained Dr. Fetrow. "Today's farmer does this in the most cost-effective way possible. While certain diseases of epidemic proportion can devastate a farmer's herd, other diseases of a sub-clinical variety can also affect an animal's production. Curing the problem is not enough; we have to look at the causes and practice preventative medicine."

Parasites, mastitis, and even diseases of the hoof are examples of illness that can throw an animal off its feed, thus affecting its production. In many cases, the cause of the problem is difficult to detect since the animal appears to be healthy, but is not producing as it should. "As I tell my students, curing a common disorder in a cow is only useful if you can prevent it from occurring in the future. While the economic impact of disease is costly, so is research. Essentially, animal disease and death are measured in dollar terms," he added.

Dr. Fetrow teaches two courses. "Animal Health Economy," a first-semester elective, followed by "Production System Economy." In both, he incorporates microeconomic theory.

"We look at all aspects of food production and at the economics of the agricultural management system in the dairy, beef, veal, swine, sheep, poultry, and equine industries. We're also concerned with the breeding and farrowing industries and the methods employed to produce healthy offspring. I also tell the students how little money they're going to make as a practicing veterinarian," he said laughingly.

According to Dr. Fetrow, the practice of veterinary medicine over the years had a "seat-of-the-pants" approach. The philosophy was to diagnose it and fix it. But today more than (continued on page 11)
Research In The Basic Medical Sciences

The Basic Medical Sciences at the Veterinary School are organized into the Departments of Animal Biology and Pathobiology and are responsible for the education of veterinary students in the fundamentals of anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, pharmacology, microbiology, parasitology, and pathology. These disciplines are fundamental to the practice of veterinary medicine, providing the art of medicine with its rational or scientific basis.

The School is unique among veterinary schools in its commitment to basic science research. We believe research is essential to the profession and to the School for it inspires our teaching of veterinary students and it is from accomplishments in fundamental research that new avenues for treatment and prevention of both animal and human diseases are developed.

Veterinary medicine has a proud history in research. Veterinary scientists discovered filterable animal viruses, the first tumor virus, and the cause of viral encephalitis. They developed tuberculin and the test for tuberculosis, the first tumor vaccine, tetanus toxoid, and characterized Salmonella and Brucella (the latter organism causes undulant fever in humans). Veterinary scientists devised the first successful therapy for hookworm, the first electrocardiogram, provided proof of insect-borne disease and devised the first spinal anesthesia and cardiac catheterization.

Today, rapid advances in molecular biology, immunology, and the neurosciences increase the ability to use sophisticated techniques in fundamental research, which may generate exciting new information which will significantly improve the health and productivity of humans and their animals.

Fundamental research at our Veterinary School is broad and of such scientific merit that, despite the constriction of funds for research which has occurred elsewhere in the United States during the past several years, funding for research at the Veterinary School has continued to expand. This research strength is nourished by our close ties with the Medical School and the philosophy of "One University" promoted at Penn.

There are many current examples of our achievements in basic research. In the Laboratory of Physiology, Dr. Brinster's work involves recombinant DNA technology and the introduction of new, functional genetic material into the nuclei of eggs obtained from mice. The eggs are re-implanted into surrogate mothers and the regulation and expression of this new genetic information is followed during growth and development of recipient animals. This is of great scientific importance, and is made even more significant by the finding that the new gene is passed on and expressed in the recipient's offspring. Thus, with this powerful new research technique, there is the prospect that new genes can be introduced into economically important animals to increase their productivity and their resistance to disease. Dr. Brinster's work may also lead to methods of curing diseases caused by genetic defects in both animals and humans.

The field of genetic defects has also attracted Dr. Haskins in the Laboratory of Pathology and his colleagues, Dr. Zezyk and Dr. Patterson in the Department of Clinical Studies. They have identified the molecular error in several inherited diseases of cats. The mode of inheritance of these diseases has been worked out and these researchers are now devising methods of treatment through enzyme manipulation of the deranged systems in affected animals. As these feline diseases are models of certain human inborn errors of metabolism manifested as mental retardation, among other symptoms, the work of Dr. Haskins and his colleagues aims at improving the health of both animal and human populations.

In the Laboratory of Biochemistry, Dr. Avadhan is studying the sites of attack on the DNA molecule by aflatoxin, which is an important and lethal liver toxin affecting a wide variety of domestic species. Since it is also a potent cancer-causing agent, this property is being used to determine which are the critical targets on the DNA molecule responsible for transforming normal cells into tumor cells and how these new patterns of the gene expression are regulated.

In the Laboratory of Microbiology, Dr. Lawrence is employing sophisticated DNA hybridization techniques to study herpes virus infections in several economically important diseases in domestic animals. These diseases include infectious bovine rhinotracheitis, equine rhinopneumonitis, and pseudorabies in pigs, which is a disease currently sweeping through the United States. These studies are aimed at the detection of latent herpes virus genes in neural tissues of cattle, horses, and pigs, and characterization of immunologically significant components of herpes virus for development of diagnostic tests as well as the creation of vaccines from virus subunits.
The Veterinary School also enjoys a great reputation in cardiovascular research. Dr. Detweiler, head of the Laboratory of Physiology, has set an international standard with his research in hypertension and his knowledge of comparative electrocardiography. Dr. Chacko, in the Laboratory of Pathology, has also recently received worldwide recognition for his studies of the biochemical mechanisms which regulate blood pressure through arterial wall contraction and relaxation in normal and hypertensive animals. These comparative studies will be of use in the development of drugs to control blood pressure in animals and humans. In the Laboratory of Physiology, Drs. Moore and Spear have made a fundamental contribution to our knowledge of cardiac arrhythmias. Cardiac arrhythmias result in rapid, uncoordinated beats, causing the heart to fail as a pump, and this is a major cause of death in animals and humans. Arrhythmias often occur secondary to congestive heart failure and myocardial infarction. Drs. Moore and Spear have successfully developed a chronic model of cardiac infarction in the dog and, from this, have identified a number of the mechanisms which generate lethal arrhythmias. Their research has led to a successful surgical technique which limits the incidence of lethal arrhythmias after myocardial infarction in humans. Drs. Moore and Spear are presently investigating the efficacy of a variety of drugs for the same purpose, as well as attempting to develop computerized pacing techniques to control arrhythmias when they occur.

Though we are still woefully ignorant, understanding of the complex functions of the central nervous system has greatly accelerated during the past few years. This has been achieved from a synthesis of work in many fields of neurobiology including contributions concerning the regulation of behavior from our talented group of neuroscientists. Drs. Hand, Miselis, and Morrison, in the Laboratory of Anatomy. Dr. Morrison is an authority on neural regulation of sleep and of the ways in which sleep disorders afflict respiratory and cardiac function. This work has recently been extended to studies of the neural pathways of aggression. Dr. Hand uses sophisticated mapping techniques to study the pathways of somatic sensation, including pain, and Dr. Miselis is doing fundamental research on the neural control of drinking behavior and water and salt conservation by the kidney.

The Laboratory of Parasitology is the center for parasitologic studies in the University. It has acquired an international reputation from its studies in the field of immunoparasitology, research which focuses on the interactions between host and parasite, and particularly on the antigens parasites produce at various stages of their life cycle. The mechanisms controlling host immunologic responses to parasite infection are also under investigation. Furthermore, the experience gained by this and other research in the Laboratory of Parasitology places this group in a unique position to expand and initiate new research into the area of tropical veterinary parasitology. This field is neglected in the United States, but in countries of the third world is of immense economic importance to the animal industry. It is also of great public health importance, for in many instances animals act as reservoirs for human parasitic infection.

Recently, Dr. Grieve, a member of the Laboratory of Parasitology, developed a serologic test which detects antibodies produced against antigens of adult heartworms. From a diagnostic standpoint this is an important contribution to the veterinary profession. Using new techniques to recover antigens from early larval stages, Dr. Grieve is now studying ways of creating a vaccine for heartworm infection which, if accomplished, will have a significant impact upon the health of the dog population throughout the world.

Ed. Note: These few examples serve to give some perspective about the quality and range of research in the basic sciences in the School of Veterinary Medicine. In future issues of Bellwether we will report on basic research being done by other individuals.

This article was prepared by Dr. Alan Kelly, professor of pathology, Dr. Wilfried T. Weber, professor of pathology, and acting chairperson of the department of Pathobiology, and Dr. Leon P. Weiss, professor of cell biology and chairperson of the Department of Animal Biology.
The Palmerton Problem

Although the original and most obvious mission of the veterinary profession is the delivery of direct health care to animals, the profession has a growing list of other responsibilities. In fact, of all of the health professions, veterinary medicine has the most diverse responsibilities.

One area in which veterinarians are developing important roles is environmental pollution. Veterinarians are frequently in the position to be the first to detect health problems resulting from pollution since such disorders often surface initially in animals. This point is well illustrated in the case of heavy metal toxicosis resulting from soil pollution, in the region of Palmerton, PA, located in Carbon County, in the Allentown vicinity.

About five years ago, Dr. Rennie C. Shoop (V73), a practitioner, noted the occurrence of what he considered to be some strange metabolic problems in horses and cattle. The animals exhibited unthriftiness, fatigue, lameness, and, in some cases, spontaneous fractures. Horseowners complained that it was impossible for them to raise animals on local forage because foals developed severe lameness and unthriftiness.

As a result of Dr. Shoop's observations and soil surveys conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), some faculty members of the School of Veterinary Medicine became involved in the problem. These included Dr. Diane Gunson, assistant professor of pathology, Dr. David Kowalczyk, assistant professor of pharmacology and toxicology, and Dr. Charles Ramberg, associate professor of nutrition. Studies by this group are still in the early stages, but have progressed far enough to indicate that there is a link between zinc and cadmium contamination of the soil with the severe lameness and other disorders observed in Palmerton.

A large zinc smelting plant is located near Palmerton, and, in 1975, a USDA study showed that soil within a ten-mile radius of the plant contained sixty to seventy-five times the normal content of cadmium. It is known that cadmium is a byproduct of the smelting operation. Further studies, in 1975 and 1977, by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency showed significantly increased levels of cadmium in the hair and blood of children living in the area.

Recently, Dr. Gunson autopsied three horses from the Palmerton region. Two of these were foals that had been born and raised on locally-grown forage. They had a history of stiffness, severe lameness, and marked unthriftiness, with swollen and painful joints. An autopsy indicated severe osteochondrosis, with lesions similar to those observed in experimental animals that were fed high zinc diets.

The joint lesions consisted of rarefaction, sepa­ration, and loss of the pieces of cartilage, and swelling due to accumulation of synovial fluid. The foals also showed osteoporosis, and in one animal there was severe nephropaticosis. In another animal the bone marrow was gray and gelatinous, rather than the normal red color.

These findings are compatible with cadmium toxicosis. The dam of one of these foals had died following puncture of the lung associated with rib fractures, although there had been no history of injury. On autopsy the mare showed nephropaticosis which is consistent with cadmium toxicosis. High concentrations of zinc and cadmium were found in the pancreas, liver, and kidney of these horses.

Because various heavy metals, such as lead, sulfur, zinc, and cadmium exist together as pollutants from smelting operations, it is difficult to specifically identify which are involved in producing particular clinical signs or pathological changes. The picture becomes more complicated by the fact that these heavy metals have some complex interactions in the body. For example, it is known that prolonged high intake of zinc may lead to a copper deficiency. Despite these complexities, and the obvious need for further studies, the findings in these animals point to cadmium and zinc toxicity, and, probably, a secondary copper deficiency. Copper is involved in the production of collagen crosslinks in the body. Collagen is a necessary ingredient in the connective tissue, and one pathological change observed in copper deficiency is osteochondrosis. This study also illustrates the importance of considering species differences in evaluating environmental pollution. Horses, and some other species, are known to store cadmium in the kidney cortex, and this could explain the nephropaticosis in two animals, since cadmium toxicity leads to proteinuria and the formation of calcium phosphate crystals.

Appreciably cows do not store cadmium in this manner, and autopsies of cattle from the Palmerton area revealed an absence of nephropaticosis. Cattle also showed low levels of stored cadmium despite high levels of the metal in hay from these farms.

To further study the problem of soil pollution in the Palmerton area, Dr. Gunson and her group have acquired five pony foals which are being raised in the area on local herbage. Dr. Gunson indicates that the reduction of pollution level will be reduced. The problem is that heavy metals remain in the soil for many years and will continue to be present in herbage. One possible treatment for animals ingesting forage contaminated with cadmium and zinc would be to supplement the diet with copper. This is being tried on one Palmerton dairy farm.

A Special Cat

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A Special Cat

The cat living and playing in bright sunny quarters on the second floor of the new veterinary hospital are unaware of their importance to medical research. These Siamese and domestic shorthaired cats provide animal models for the study of lysosomal storage diseases, a rare group of disorders affecting humans. The colony was established several years ago after a young Siamese cat, seen at the clinic, was diagnosed as having mucopolysaccharidosis (MPS), a lysosomal storage disease caused by a defect in glycosaminoglycan (GAG) metabolism.

It was the beginning of an extensive, continuous research effort by the section of geneticists, and pathology at the Veterinary School, involving the support of virtually every department here, as well as researchers in the division of medical genetics at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, N.Y.

Mark E. Haskins, V.M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of pathology and medical genetics, is one of the investigators of MPS, its occurrence and manifestations in cats, and how this compares to the disease in humans. The research has caused him and the other investigators to delve into the function of the body, not only in terms of organs, but in terms of cells and molecules.

Dr. Haskins explained that the life of an organism depends upon a multitude of chemical reactions taking place in each cell. Cells are highly specialized chemical factories. Each, in order to fulfill its function, depends on the catalytic role of enzymes. These complex molecules form coiled, folded, three dimensional chains. Each enzyme differs in function, its properties determined by the number and type of amino acids it contains, their sequence, and the spatial arrangement of the chain.

Enzymes do not occur randomly but are specific to each cell type. The production of all enzymes is controlled by DNA, the genetic material.

Enzymes act as catalysts on specific chemical bonds; one can think of them as a key working a specific lock. Degradative enzymes break bonds in a set sequence and if one enzyme in a cell fails to work properly, the other enzymes needed to facilitate a complete chemical reaction will not function. A faulty enzyme may block the process of breaking down molecules and these, then, are trapped within the cell.

This happens in MPS. The DNA in affected individuals has changed slightly and a faulty enzyme is produced. MPS patients lack the ability to break down GAG. The cells cope with the dysfunction by storing the GAG molecules in their lysosomes. The accumulation of material causes the cells to enlarge and this may interfere with their proper function. The error, occurring on the cellular level, has serious consequences for the organism, be it human, cat, or another species.

MPS manifests itself with varying severity, depending on the enzyme deficiency.
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The ideal treatment would be genetic engineering, to repair the defective DNA, but that is not feasible at present. Another approach is the transplantation of healthy bone marrow cells which contain normal DNA.

It was this option which researchers at Penn selected. They plan to transplant healthy bone marrow into an affected cat. Before they could proceed additional research was, and is, necessary. Little information about the immune system of cats existed and the compatibility testing had not been done. The cat's immune system was investigated and the team is now developing the technology and protocol to accomplish bone marrow transplants in cats. They have transplanted bone marrow into a healthy cat and are now observing it for immune reactions. Once they feel they have all the information necessary, they will attempt transplants in cats with MPS I in the hope of arresting the disorder. This work has important implications for human patients with the disease.

The two animal models are invaluable to the indepth study of lysosomal storage diseases. Many of the findings would not have been possible without these models. The discoveries made so far were made jointly by researchers in the department of medical genetics and pathology of the Veterinary School and at the Mount Sinai Medical Center.

Researchers found that the enzyme aryl-sulfatase B, defective in MPS VI, differs in structure in cats from the same enzyme in people. In cats it is a dimer and in people it is a monomer. The disease in cats appears due to an inability to make the two-part dimer structure and this distinct characteristic permits partial restoration of the enzyme's function through the administration of a drug, cysteamine. This drug, by breaking the disulfide bonds, restores partial enzyme activity for short periods of time in affected cats. Work is in progress to determine the dosage needed for a long term effect. While these findings help cats, the drug is not effective for people and the search for a solution continues.

Such a search is also under way for relief for MPS I patients, a form of the disease which affects the brain because GAG is stored in the neurons there. A second colony of cats, affected with MPS I, was established at the School after the disorder was identified in a domestic shorthaired cat. These cats show the same physical symptoms and cellular evidence as human MPS I patients, though they appear to be relatively normal in behavior. Dr. Haskins explained that it is difficult to assess mental retardation in animals.

In MPS I, the deficient enzyme is alpha-L-iduronidase. The disease occurs in three distinct clinical syndromes in humans. The most severe form is Hurler syndrome, with neuron involvement. The mildest form is the Scheie syndrome. Here the patient has corneal clouding and some bone involvement, however, retardation is not evident and these people have a relatively normal lifespan. The third syndrome is Hurler-Scheie syndrome which lies in severity between the other two. Once again, retardation may not be evident.

The Hurler syndrome, because of its severity, presents a special challenge. Dr. Haskins explained that one approach which might help such individuals would be the introduction of the normal enzyme into the body. However, there are a number of problems which must be solved first. It is difficult to obtain the enzyme, to purify it, and to prevent an immune reaction. Also, once the enzyme is injected, it is quickly taken up by the liver and very little reaches other cells. The injected enzyme, because it is a large molecule, cannot cross the blood brain barrier and thus cannot reach the affected neurons.

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The work with the two cat colonies was and is accomplished by utilizing the resources of many departments here at the Veterinary School and at the Mount Sinai Medical School. It is a multidisciplinary effort, reaching well beyond the boundaries of traditional veterinary medicine.
Microbes, Men, and Animals

Dr. Charles Benson (left) and Dr. Jon Palmer.

Unlike gregarious human beings, animals do not hold conventions, and are therefore spared the discomfort, and death, visited upon some of the people who convened in Philadelphia in 1976. As you probably recall, this was the infamous American Legion convention held at the stately Bellevue Stratford hotel and the disease outbreak brought about the demise of a Philadelphia landmark. Naturally, the malady was quickly labeled "Legionnaires Disease." Subsequently, there have been some well publicized outbreaks of this disease in other parts of the world, and the causative organism has been identified as Legionella pneumophilia.

It now appears that animals may be carriers of this organism, and Dr. Charles E. Benson has begun a screening study to determine whether this is true. Dr. Benson is associate professor of microbiology in the School of Veterinary Medicine, whose laboratory is located at New Bolton Center. Dr. Benson has been involved in some basic studies on the characteristics of L. pneumophila which is an organism that invades body cells. L. pneumophila itself has never been isolated from animals, but, antibodies produced in response to the organism, have been detected. Dr. Benson's work is concerned with direct isolation of the bacterium, a difficult chore. The organism can be isolated from human beings where it causes an atypical pneumonia, and Dr. Benson has it growing in cell culture in his laboratory. Dr. Benson's quest for this organism in animals is illustrative of one of his basic philosophies, to wit, "we only find what we look for." Despite some great strides, Dr. Benson points out that we are still on the frontier in our efforts to specifically identify bacteria that cause many infectious diseases in animals. There are a number of clinical syndromes in animals that appear to be of an infectious nature, but for which a causative organism has not been identified. With this in mind, Dr. Benson and various clinicians at New Bolton Center have teamed together in the hope of gaining a better understanding of the pathogenesis of certain of these perplexing syndromes. The clinicians with whom he has been working most closely are Dr. Robert Whitlock, Dr. Robert Dyer, and Dr. Jon Palmer. Prior to Dr. Benson's arrival at New Bolton Center in January 1981, this sort of cooperative effort in the study of infectious diseases had been neglected. Dr. Whitlock, who is associate professor of medicine and chief of medical services at New Bolton Center is quite enthusiastic about the future of this field.

Another major research interest of Dr. Benson is the study of the organism, Salmonella. This is a pathogen that has long been the plague of animals and humans. Interestingly, it was first discovered by a veterinarian, Dr. Daniel E. Salmon, who was the first Chief of the Federal Bureau of Animal Industry. One problem in the study of Salmonella is that there are over 1,200 strains of the organism. While certain strains have been identified as the cause of the disease in animals known as salmonellosis, it is possible that other, unidentified strains may also be involved. One of the objects of Dr. Benson's work will be to attempt to define mechanisms of pathogenesis. The particular strain now most commonly associated with colitis in horses is Salmonella typhimurium. The common clinical signs are hyperthermia, diarrhea, colicky pain, and occasionally a rapidly developing septicemia. One characteristic of equine salmonellosis is that it strikes horses that are in stressful situations, including transport, weaning, worming, or any other situation that lowers resistance. Surgery may predispose horses to salmonellosis, and one aspect of the work of Drs. Benson and Palmer is to examine horses post-surgically for the presence of Salmonella. Salmonellosis is highly contagious at the local level; it can be transmitted to a particular farm. Horses with salmonellosis at New Bolton Center are placed in isolation.

Dr. Benson states that some Salmonella strains have the capability of producing toxins. This is related to the genetic make-up of a particular organism. Some strains have toxins associated with salmonellosis, and thus associated with salmonellosis, have been isolated at New Bolton Center, and the search for strains that produce this phenomenon will be part of the Benson/Palmer study.

In the past ten years there has been an increased incidence of Salmonella infections in both humans and animals. Recently there have been outbreaks of the disease in humans following the consumption of cocked beef. One problem in the spread of salmonellosis is the fact that most species, including humans, can act as carriers of the bacteria without exhibiting overt clinical signs. It is estimated that at least ten percent of the horse population are carriers of Salmonella. Diagnosis of salmonellosis is based upon identification of organisms in fecal culture. This may be difficult in carrier animals, and Dr. Benson hopes to improve diagnostic methods.

A cooperative study in which Dr. Benson is involved with Dr. Dyer, concerns the etiology of "shipping fever" in cattle and horses. Dr. Benson is also conducting basic research on metabolic pathways in Salmonella and other organisms. While he is relatively new to the faculty of the School of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Benson has been at the University of Pennsylvania since 1975, with the School of Allied Medical Professions. In addition to research he teaches in the core and elective portions of the veterinary curriculum, and is administrator of the clinical laboratory at New Bolton Center.

Epilepsy is one of the most common canine neurological complaints, yet control of seizures in dogs remains a difficult, frustrating, and often unrewarding task for veterinarian, owner, and patient. In an effort to remedy this situation, the Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania has recently instituted an epilepsy foundation for dogs called the Canine Epilepsy Service under the directorship of Dr. George C. Farnbach, V.M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of neurology. This canine epilepsy center has the ambitious goal of uncovering the secrets of seizures in epileptic dogs, and, if possible, eliminating seizures altogether through a cooperative effort involving pets, their owners, their local veterinarians, and the facilities of the Canine Epilepsy Service (CES).

Dogs, like people, suffer from epilepsy of varying intensities and types. Like the physician, a veterinarian is generally forced to attempt to control epilepsy through the use of anticonvulsant drugs. The control of seizures in humans is more often successful than it is in dogs because considerably more information about the use and effectiveness of anticonvulsant drugs in humans is available to the physician. The process of controlling human seizures has been considerably advanced by the study of large numbers of epileptic patients on a variety of treatment regimes, which was made possible by centralized epilepsy study groups. These groups have developed a wealth of knowledge about the efficacy of specific drugs, the blood levels required, and the toxic and long-term effects of these drugs. Modern technology now permits relatively inexpensive monitoring of serum drug levels, enabling the physician to adjust or switch anticonvulsants for maximum effect and minimum toxicity based on the knowledge of each drug and the individual patient's blood levels. No such body of knowledge exists in veterinary medicine, leaving the practitioner to determine the appropriate anticonvulsant for the patient on a limited and basically blind trial-and-error basis. This can be a costly and frustrating process.

"There are a variety of drugs and drug combinations which can be used in control protocols, yet accurate information about the effective and toxic blood levels of these drugs or about their long-term side effects in the dog does not exist," Farnbach explained. "At the CES we hope to collect this kind of information over a long period of time. Our goal is to monitor at least 1,000 dogs for at least three years."

To illustrate the importance of drug information, Farnbach cited Dilantin, a drug commonly used in both humans and dogs to control seizures. "In humans, Dilantin is effective in many patients, but to control seizures, blood levels above 10 ug/ml are required. An effective concentration in the dog is about 300 mg/day. We do not know
Service

"Anyone with a loved one—pet or human—that suffers from epilepsy has serious medical and emotional problems to face. In the past, we (the veterinarians and pet owners) have faced them alone and basically in the dark. If we can get together both people and information we will not be alone and, hopefully, the future will be brighter."

if Dilantin is effective in the dog, but we do know that the dog metabolizes Dilantin about 10 times faster than humans. In over 100 serum dilantin assays sent in from epileptic dogs, none showed more Dilantin than 7.2 ug/ml and none of the dogs were controlled. Three hundred mg/day might be an effective dose for a small dog like a Chihuahua, but a German Shepherd would need about 3,000 mg/day to reach 10 ug/ml in its blood. And we don’t know yet whether that would be effective.

In humans, where effective blood levels of Dilantin are known and patient blood levels can be monitored, the daily dosage can easily be adjusted to fit the metabolic characteristics of each individual patient. If a human patient has adequate blood levels of Dilantin but continues to seize, it becomes immediately clear that a new drug and not a new dose should be tried. The veterinarian, however, without blood level measurements, must arbitrarily decide when to stop increasing dosages and change to or add different drugs. To improve the techniques in veterinary seizure control, the Epilepsy Service utilizes information collected from three sources: 1) the pet owner, 2) the local veterinarian, and 3) the routine monitoring of blood levels of anticonvulsant medications in epileptic animals.

A computer-based data management facility has been established to carefully record and monitor each patient. Initial information about each patient is recorded as their name is sent to the registry by the local veterinarian. Pet owners are sent explanatory literature and forms to record the characteristics of each subsequent seizure. These forms are filled in as seizures occur and are mailed to the CES in order to monitor both frequency and severity of each pet’s seizure pattern. When an anticonvulsant drug protocol is started by the local veterinarian, the name of the drug or drugs and their dosages and blood samples are sent to the CES. The name and dosage of each drug and the corresponding serum level is added to the data base for each individual patient. In this way, changes in seizure patterns (or lack thereof) can be correlated with serum drug levels and dose patterns in hundreds of individual animals and the efficacy and toxicity of drug protocols can be evaluated.

The computerized data management system has been developed by Dr. Farnbach specifically for the CES. Drug level measurements are made using the EMIT system which has been validated for use with dog serum by the SYVA Co. of Palo Alto, CA in conjunction with the Canine Epilepsy Service. This system represents a technological advance which has proven advantageous in monitoring human anticonvulsant therapy and which will be cost-effective in monitoring veterinary anticonvulsant therapy.

"Computers and high technology are not the answer,” Farnbach emphasized. “What is needed is a massive cooperative effort between animal lovers, veterinarians and research workers. Anyone with a loved one—pet or human—that suffers from epilepsy has serious medical and emotional problems to face. In the past, we (the veterinarians and pet owners) have faced them alone and basically in the dark. If we can get together both people and information we will not be alone and, hopefully, the future will be brighter."

Owners of epileptic dogs are a very important part of the program. They not only provide the veterinarian with the initial information but they also provide the CES with continuing information about the dog and its improvement or the nature and frequency of recurring seizures. The CES provides more than record keeping for the owner. It provides support and information and answers questions on both an individual basis and through a Newsletter which will be published shortly. In this way owners can see that they are not alone and that their pet’s problems are not unique. Further, the questions and observations of the owners may provide clues about seizure patterns and triggers which may have been previously missed and ignored.

Participating veterinarians also play an obviously important role. Their observations regarding efficacy, toxicity and long-term side effects are essential to the development of more rational drug protocols. In return for their participation, veterinarians receive several benefits: serum drug level measurements are provided inexpensively; each animal’s seizure and drug history is immediately available by computer for consultation with the staff of CES, if they desire; and new concepts regarding seizure control are disseminated as soon as they are extracted from the collected records of all dogs in the program. A Veterinary Newsletter is also being published for professional members of the Canine Epilepsy Service.

The services of the Canine Epilepsy Service are available to all pet owners free of charge. Veterinarians are asked to make a small annual contribution to cover the costs of publications and computer maintenance. Serum drug level measurements are provided at cost for member veterinarians. The medical data (but not the personal data) are available to any legitimate research organization wishing to use them in medical research. Those interested in more detailed information or in contributing to the program should contact George C. Farnbach, V.M.D., Ph.D., Director, Canine Epilepsy Service, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, 3800 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19104.
Cat Behavior:

Facts and Myths

Cats have been companion animals for thousands of years. Ancient Egyptians held them sacred and protected them by law. Throughout history people in many parts of the world have valued them for companionship and their ability to control rodent pests. Cats figured in fairy tales, and in modern times have inspired cartoons and many books.

Today, cats, ranging in size and color from the domestic shorthair to the exotic Persian, rank among the most popular pets in American households.

Despite the popularity of cats there are many misconceptions about them. They are thought of as aloof, independent, and not affectionate. Nothing could be further from the truth, according to Victoria L. Voith, D.V.M., director of the Animal Behavior Clinic at the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania. "Cats are affectionate, they greet their owners and follow them around. Some cats are so attached to their owners that they will delay parturition until the owner is present."

Some cats are affected by stress and suffer so severely that they will pull out large portions of their fur. To treat them, the behaviorist prescribes antidepressant or antianxiety drugs. Together with the owner, it is explored how the stressful situation can be identified and eliminated. If that is not possible, the cat is kept on drugs for a prolonged period to help it adjust.

Stress was thought to play a role in the occurrence of urinary blockage in cats. Dr. Voith and Debbie Ganster, research assistant, department of psychology, University of Pennsylvania, conducted a limited survey among fifty-three cat owners. The stress hypothesis was not confirmed, but they uncovered some rather interesting facts about the interaction of cat owners and their pets. Additional questionnaires have been distributed to obtain a broader, more definite sample.

In the preliminary study, the researchers found that 98 percent of the respondents considered the cat a family member, 36 percent thought of it as a child member, and 64 percent saw it as an animal member. They also found that 34 percent of the owners celebrated their cat's birthday, that 96 percent thought that they were aware of the cat's moods, and 92 percent thought that the cat was aware of their moods. All respondents talked to the cat, 51 percent as though it were a child, 49 percent as though it were a pet, and 25 percent at times talked to the cat as though it were an adult. A large percentage shared table and snack foods with the cat, and a number of owners attributed guarding instincts to their cats, describing them as "watch cats.'

Cats are an important part of the daily lives of many people; they provide companionship not only to those living alone but also to families with children. The behavioral clinic helps these owners to correct problems which may threaten the human/animal relationship. "It is a small investment when one considers that in most cases the problem can be solved and the cat be retained as a pet and family member," Dr. Voith explained.

Consultation for a cat problem usually takes from one hour to ninety minutes. The owner brings the cat to the clinic and Dr. Voith observes it and discusses the problem. Owners are advised of a course of treatment and training to follow at home. The clinic visit is followed up by phone calls from Dr. Voith until the problem is resolved. The cost for a one hour consultation is $40 and cases are handled by reservation only. These can be made by calling 243-4325. Cats comprise about thirty percent of the cases seen at the Animal Behavior Clinic. Dr. Voith has been able to help most of them, restoring them to a loved, affectionate companion and family member.

Dr. Voith has studied and written about animal behavior for many years, and her doctoral dissertation dealt with the maternal and sexual behavior of the female cat. She received her D.V.M. degree from Ohio State University and came to Penn in 1978 after completing studies in animal behavior and psychology at Ohio State University, and post-doctoral research in animal behavior at the University of California, Davis. She sees dogs, cats, and other pets at the clinic.

Another myth, that cats are antisocial with other cats, is also discounted by Dr. Voith. "Most cats are social in households, they enjoy the company of other cats, they groom each other and eat and sleep together." Sometimes, though, there is a cat which may fight with another in the group. It is then that Dr. Voith is consulted. "Fighting can be the result of different things. A cat may have been frightened by the other cat and fights as a defense." In this case, the animal can be desensitized through a training and counter-conditioning process and the problem can usually be solved. Dr. Voith explained that a cat which fights as a result of territorial instincts is harder to treat, and that it is usually better to find a new home for it. "It is normal for some cats to want to be the only one [in the house]. They are more solitary and they make fine pets if they are the only cat in the household."

Cats are intelligent and, like dogs, they can be taught tricks. Dr. Voith told of one cat which was trained to jump over an object, shake hands, and roll over, all on command. The owner took a little time and had the patience to teach the cat by applying the standard method of positive reinforcement by using food rewards during each step of the training.

Standard training and reconditioning methods are also employed by Dr. Voith when solving a cat behavior problem. "Most problems are chronic, and the most common complaint is that the cat won't use the litter box. This behavior develops gradually as the cat shows a preference for a new location or a new substrate to scratch on." The undesirable behavior can be caused by a change in the litter product, though often the causes
are not known to the owner or the behaviorist. However, the problem can still be solved by identifying the factors that are maintaining the behavior. The owner is usually advised to cover the surface with plastic or foil and to move a litterbox nearby. When the cat finds its favorite scratching surface inaccessible, it will use the litterbox. Gradually the box is moved back to the desired location. Food and toys placed in the previous area further discourage its use as a litterbox.

Some clients consult the clinic because they believe their cat is aggressive toward people. This is frequently a case of misunderstanding between the feline and the human. “These cases usually turn out to be cats who play too roughly,” Dr. Voith stated. “They may scratch or bite the owner who interprets the behavior as aggression.” Dr. Voith explains to owners how to redirect the cat’s play to objects such as moving toys which can be pounced upon.

Another frequently-heard complaint is that cats awaken their owners earlier and earlier each day. Dr. Voith explained that usually these owners, unwittingly, have conditioned the cats to expect food the moment the owner gets out of bed. “The first thing they do every morning is feed the cat. Treatment is simple. Ignore the cat when getting up, feed it later in the day and change the schedule. In a short time the cat will no longer associate getting up in the morning with being fed.”

Supporters of ADOPT include a wide range of people: school classrooms, Todd Rundgren, SmithKline Corporation, and Mrs. George Bush. According to Mrs. Novak “parents” become very attached to their “zoo children.” Animals often receive letters and holiday cards. One woman even composed a poem for her aardvark, consisting entirely of words beginning with the letter a.

The Communications Department has not attempted poetry yet. But they have a picture of Tom hanging on one of their walls and they visit him as much as possible.

Tom’s home is the Small Mammal House. At one time he was on display in the rotunda of the building. Unfortunately, the rotunda area echoes greatly and Tom’s six inch ears are extremely sensitive. Once when a number of school children were exploring the Small Mammal House, Tom became excited by the commotion and jumped out of his African habitat. Senior Keeper, George Konopka, finally caught him amid screaming children and teachers. Ever since this escapade Tom has been housed in a glass cage.

Soon a female fennec fox will join Tom in his house. If all goes well they will mate. Anyone interested in adopting the new fennec fox or any other animal should dial B-A-B-O-D-N-S and ask for Mrs. Novak.
Veterinary Medicine as a Career

There are twenty-six Veterinary Schools in the United States. Four of these have not yet graduated their first class. There are between nine and ten thousand students enrolled and about one-third of these are women. It has been estimated that only about 25% of the qualified applicants are admitted each year. There has been a marked increase in the number of schools and students in response to a shortage of veterinarians. There are indications that this could result in a surplus in the next decade or so, but expanding opportunities in the field may change this outlook.

Over 30,000 veterinarians in the United States are working in private practice, teaching and research, regulatory work, military service, public health, and other professional activities. Veterinarians may specialize in a number of different fields such as internal medicine, radiology, dermatology, reproduction, ophthalmology, cardiology, surgery, neurology, microbiology, pathology, aquatic animal medicine, avian medicine, zoological animal medicine, orthopedics, and others. Actually about 75% of the veterinarians are in private practice and half of these treat only small animals (dogs and cats). There are some practices limited to large animals (horses, cattle, and other farm animals) and the "mixed" practice which includes both small and large animals. There are some individuals specializing in cats and a few with practices limited to birds.

Admission to a veterinary school requires at least three years of college work, although four years may be needed to complete the required courses. Any one who plans to apply for admission to a professional school should check with that school to be sure the proper pre-veterinary courses are taken.

Veterinarians are required to pass state board examinations before they will be licensed to practice. Internships are required but are available for a limited number of graduates. The University of Pennsylvania grants a V.M.D. degree, while the graduates of other schools are D.V.M.'s. The Veterinarian's Oath, in part, states "I solemnly swear to use my scientific knowledge and skills for the benefit of society through the protection of animal health, the relief of animal suffering, the conservation of livestock resources, the promotion of food production, and the advancement of medical knowledge." This is the spirit of veterinary medicine.

Disqualifications

There are times even as a veterinarian you are not able to make your pet to the show ring. This usually happens when some well-meaning friends say, "That's such a beautiful animal, it could be winning prizes." A little investigation is wise before proceeding.

Even though a dog or cat may be registered and eligible for entry in shows, there are disqualifying faults which make it ineligible to win. Many novice owners do not know this and are embarrassed when the judge excuses their entry from the ring. Each breed has a standard and any disqualifications are listed. In many breeds of cats, faults which are not allowed are kinked tails and incorrect number of toes; five in front and four in back is correct. In dogs, some breed standards have definite upper and lower limits of height and weight, require specific colors, do not allow over- or under-shot bite, have rules about ear carriage (some may not be held erect and others may not droop) and disqualify vicious dogs. A Newfoundland must have webbing between the toes, a Briard must have dewclaws, but dewclaws on the hind legs disqualify a Kerry Blue Terrier. All of these, except viciousness, would not prevent the animal from being an excellent pet.

If you want to show your dog or cat, attend a few shows as a spectator and talk with those who are exhibiting your breed. Study the specific requirements for your breed. A Dog or Cat Show where championship points are given is not a Pet Show, although many of the contestants may be part of a household. Their purpose is improvement of the breed. There are too many animals shown which are poor examples of their breed but qualify under their breed standards. However, you must be sure your animal conforms to the standards before it is shown.

"Hot Spots" is the commonly used description of a reddened, moist area on the skin which seems to appear overnight. It is a particularly annoying problem in show dogs. An irritant causes the dog to scratch, resulting in an open sore. The treatment, of course, is to remove the source of itching and "dry up" the sore spot before it becomes infected.

There are dozens of remedies for local application. All seem to have some value if used promptly. Preparations containing steroids are good anti-inflammatory agents. Recently, much publicity has been given to DMSO (dimethyl sulfoxide). This has potent anti-inflammatory as well as bacteriostatic qualities. However, it can be irritating and may cause scaling skin. Use it with caution. It is advisable to use only FDA-approved products.

Flies probably are the most important cause of "hot spots" but anything that makes the dog scratch may result in skin lesions. The best treatment is to remove the cause of the scratching. This is easier said than done.

If your home remedy does not produce results quickly consult your veterinarian. The longer the condition persists without correct diagnosis and treatment, the more difficult it will be to control.

Hot Weather Precautions

Heat Stress occurs most frequently when dogs are confined without sufficient ventilation in hot weather. An automobile with the windows closed can become a deathtrap in just a few minutes. Excitement and forced exercise in hot, humid weather may result in heat stroke. Other contributing factors are lack of available water, obesity, and the anatomic peculiarities of the brachiocephalic breeds (Bulldogs, Pugs, etc.) The most important first aid measure is to lower the body temperature as quickly as possible. This can be done by cooling the animal with a garden hose or a tub of cold water, or by packing it with ice. The quicker the body temperature is reduced, the better the chance of avoiding permanent injury.

Prevention requires a well-ventilated crate while travelling in hot weather. Ice bags may help make the short-nosed breeds more comfortable. If excessive panting is noted, do not force the animal to exercise—keep it as quiet as possible. Offer water frequently. There is some question about the value of salt tablets for dogs. If they are eating a normal diet and drinking adequate water, it probably does not help to give extra salt.

Dogs kept in air-conditioned homes and kennels seem to have a decreased tolerance to heat when out in the sun. Do not expect them to be as active in very hot weather and exercise them in the cooler part of the day.

Remember that chronic heart disease predisposes to heat stroke. Very young and old animals also need extra attention in very hot weather. The signs of heat stroke are staggering, collapse, and even unconsciousness. Be prepared to act promptly.

The Pet Bird Handbook by Patricia Sutherland (Arco Publishing, Inc., New York) provides useful information for bird owners as well as those considering a bird as a pet. It gives an important warning: if a bird is wanted for decor, it should be ceramic. Bird ownership is as serious a responsibility as dog or cat ownership and obtaining a bird should not be a casual decision.

Various species of birds are described, including canaries, finches, pigeons, budgies, lovebirds, cockatiels, and parrots. The book's prescribed diets are excellent with the exception of the parrot diet. Our experts feel parrots require half the basic seed mix and half what the book lists as extras, such as sources of protein. First aid and handling of parrots is covered. Signs of trouble are runny or blocked nostrils, frequent sneezing, diarrhea, sudden loss of weight, disinterest in food, difficulty in breathing, wheezing, or soreness. The most important first aid measure is warming the bird. Use a low wattage light bulb or a heating pad to raise the temperature to 90°F, but not higher than 95°F. Immediately call your veterinarian for advice and treatment. In addition to heat, encourage the bird to eat, peanut butter, oranges, or honey and water from a dropper or syringe.

Taming programs are given in detail. The basics are proper management: "bird sense," routine, and patience. An important requirement is daily freedom. For small birds this means flight in a designated space, for large birds the cage should be cleaned daily to remove the confinement of the cage. A consistent, systematic, daily routine is essential. A bird can learn to leave and enter its cage in addition to becoming hand-trained. Window screens are impermeable—if a bird escapes, the chances of retrieving it are poor. Problems with tame birds include biting and noise. However, the tame bird does give great pleasure. Parrots often outlive their owners and many small birds live ten years. The book can prepare you and help you decide if you really want a bird as part of your family.
Veterinary Economics

“...ever before, the emphasis is on disease prevention and health maintenance at whatever cost. Along with medical research, the key to prevention may mean a complete upheaval of the traditional methods of raising food production animals. ‘Factory farming,’ a term applied to modern farming machinations, is a concept that is being simultaneously praised and vehemently opposed.

Growing up on a Maryland poultry farm where the eggs rolled off the assembly line, Dr. Fetrow is a passionate defender of cost-effective farming methods. On factory farms, animals have restricted freedom, are raised in close confinement, often indoors under artificial conditions, and are frequently kept in farrowing crates which don’t permit the sows to roll over. Maintains such facilities actually contribute to healthier animals. ‘The so-called inhumanity claim is not the fault of the production system, rather, it lies with the consumers who demand anemic white pork for their dinner. The pork producer is caught in the middle of satisfying a demand for the product. It’s the individual you have to re-educate,’ said Dr. Fetrow, who added that he is, however, opposed to conditions that are stressful and destructive to the animals, an effect that is counter-productive.

Production at New Bolton Center is another area of concern to Dr. Fetrow, who said that the business operations of the large animal facility have been done in the ‘green eyeshade world’ too long. Soon the business operations will go ‘on line’ as computers assume the tasks of billing, accounting, medical and laboratory records maintenance, and other business functions. ‘We were fortunate to find a donor to fund New Bolton Center’s step into the computer age,’ he said. ‘I’ve been pushing for computers here for years, but money was a factor.’ The next step involved selecting the appropriate computer system to handle the diverse functions at New Bolton Center. Dr. Fetrow said he stumbled on a company that developed a computer language called ‘Metallic,’ that allows for great user capability. He is in the process of implementing a word processing system and hopes to establish an intelligent computer users network in the near future. ‘Word processing will save repetition and eliminate a lot of drudgery for the secretaries,’ he said. ‘It will have a tremendous impact on teaching and research reports. A paper that requires a paragraph change won’t have to be completely retyped. It will also help us write better grant proposals.”

Computerizing the business of the hospital will streamline the various functions that are now laboriously done by hand. Functions like admissions, discharges, clinician follow-up, pharmacy, pending laboratory work, and other information will be programmed into the system and provide a printout of pertinent data for every clinician and others who have a need to know. Medical records can be stored for call-up as needed. ‘My objective is to build a system that a relatively computer-naive person can use,’ explained Dr. Fetrow. ‘Eventually, students will work with the computers too.

The machines will be able to ‘speak to one another,’ from the front desk to medical records, for example,’ he added. ‘Instead of feet and fingers, we’ll communicate via flying electrons.”

Dr. Fetrow hopes to have New Bolton Center’s business functions computerized in six months and will implement the system that will utilize four desk-top terminals. Word processing is currently being introduced and it is hoped that it will be functioning on its own within two months. Noting that medical records is the most complex task, he estimates that it will take at least a year to computerize this operation. Aside from New Bolton Center’s business operations, Dr. Fetrow foresees the possibility of keeping herd records for farmers and even computerizing the client’s entire business operation, which might, for instance, be kept in the veterinarian’s office. ‘Computers are a wave of the future that I want to be a part of,’ he said, adding that computers will greatly facilitate the practicing veterinarian’s record-keeping as well.

At the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Dr. Fetrow carried a double major in biology and German literature. He spent his junior year in Germany reviewing his career options. After working for a veterinarian one summer, he decided that he would like to pursue a career in the field. He received a B.S. in biology in 1973, then entered the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, earning a V.M.D. in 1977. Dr. Fetrow balanced out his technical education with an M.B.A. from the Wharton School in 1981.

On the New Bolton Center faculty for five years, Dr. Fetrow, 30, is the youngest person to receive the Norden Award for Distinguished Teaching, an honor he is ‘very proud of.’ Soon there will be two veterinarians in the family. Dr. Fetrow’s wife, Susan Crane, graduates from Veterinary School this spring and plans to establish a small animal and equine practice. The couple live in Westtown in Chester County.

As a field service veterinarian, Dr. Fetrow makes a lot of ‘house calls,’ so catching up on lost sleep is one of his at-home priorities, along with conversation with Susan. He also does a little woodworking, some non-medical reading, and plays squash once a week.

Dr. John Fetrow

The Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) sponsors an annual competition that involves hundreds of higher education institutions. This past Spring, Bellwether received an Exceptional Achievement Award in the Newsletter Publishing category of this competition.
Although the first class that graduated from the Veterinary Department had only ten members, these new veterinarians represented an important contribution to the welfare of the country. At this time the United States was suffering great losses due to animal disease and there were few trained veterinarians to cope with the problem.

Considering most of the students in the first class had little formal education, the completion of the three-year veterinary course must have represented a real milestone. The fact that the School itself not only survived but began to grow almost immediately was also highly significant, since a number of previous attempts to establish veterinary schools had failed because of a lack of students. By 1888-89 the total enrollment in the Veterinary Department had reached seventy-eight, and by 1909 it had grown to 150 students. Tuition remained at $100 per year for the first twenty-five years but there was a move on the part of the University to raise it in 1908. In October of that year Provost Charles C. Harrison wrote a memorandum to Dean Leonard Pearson inquiring as to whether "the time has fairly come when we can announce an increase in the tuition fee to $150." Dr. Pearson's reply is preserved in the form of a note he penned on an envelope to the effect that "we should prefer to reduce tuition to $75" and that "ultimately tuition should be free." So much for the state of the economy in 1908!

Like the student body, the faculty grew. In 1884, the original faculty had thirteen members and by 1909 it had grown to twenty-four. There was a gradual increase in faculty having veterinary degrees but there remained a strong representation from the Medical School and other University departments. One trend that was established early was the inbreeding of the faculty. Most of the new appointments were graduates of the School, and this rather unhealthy state of affairs continued until the 1950s.

During the first twenty-five years there were three deans: Rush Shippen Huidekoper, M.D., V.S. (1884-89), John Marshall, M.D., Nat. Sc. D. (1889-97) and Leonard Pearson, B.S., V.M.D. (1898-1909). Dr. Huidekoper provided the leadership and enthusiasm needed by the new department in its infancy. Dr. Marshall was a good administrator, but essentially a caretaker; Dr. Pearson provided the vision and the prestige needed to point the School to future greatness.

In 1885 a large animal hospital was added to the original building of the Veterinary Department which stood at 36th and Pine Streets. In 1882 a small animal section was attached to the hospital, the first of its kind in the country. From the outset there were sufficient cases for the hospital to fulfill its teaching function. During the first three decades of the School's existence there were many farms in the Philadelphia environs so that transportation of farm animals to the hospital was no problem. Also, the horse still provided most of the transportation power. In 1886, a total of 352 cases were seen in the hospital; by 1901 this had increased to 4,755. The hospital fees were somewhat less than today! The charge for hospitalizing animals was: horses and mules, $1.00/day; donkeys and dogs, 50 cents; and cows, sheep, pigs, cats, and birds, 25 cents. Prior to 1891 the clinicians were paid directly by the client, but after this time a free clinic was established.

During these early years there was little money available to support research. Through the efforts of Dr. Leonard Pearson, some funds were obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and there was some research on forage poisoning, osteoporosis, and foot and mouth disease. Dr. Pearson himself conducted the first practical tuberculin test in America when he tested a large herd of Jersey cattle belonging to Mr. Joseph Gillingham, president of the Board of Managers of the Veterinary Hospital. At about the same time, Dr. Pearson introduced the use of mallein for the diagnosis of glan­ders in horses.

In 1901 the Veterinary Department received what could have been a mortal blow, except for the loyal persistence of faculty and students. At this time the University Trustees decided that the site occupied by the Veterinary Department was needed for expansion of medical facilities. Consequently, the original building of the Veterinary Department was demolished and the Department was moved to an old two-story structure located on Woodland Avenue between 38th and 39th Streets. This building had been previously as a barn and it was almost totally unsuitable for a veterinary school. Actually, when this move was made it was believed that the School would be in these quarters for only two years. As it turned out, a new building was not ready until 1907, and the barn location became rather bitterly known as the "temporary-permanent" quarters.

Despite the hardships of functioning in the barn building, the School held on and enrollment increased along with the hospital census. Finally, in 1907 the first portion of the quadrangle building was ready for occupancy and by 1913 this structure was complete. This would be the home of the Veterinary School for over forty years.

With the graduation of the class of 1908, there were 395 alumni of the Veterinary Department of the University of Pennsylvania. Most of the graduates went into practice and made important contributions to the health of the country's growing livestock pop­ulation. Some early graduates became leaders in other areas of professional work. Dr. John R. Moher (V '96) became Chief of the Federal Bureau of Animal Industry and Dr. T. Edward Munce (V '04) became State Veterinarian for Pennsylvania. Dr. George Hart (V '03) went west to the University of California where he built up an outstanding career in nutrition, physiology, and reproduction, and eventually became dean of the Veterinary School. Dr. John H. McNeil (V '08) was dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State University from 1902 until 1909. Three other graduates during the first quarter century became deans of the Veterinary School of the University of Pennsylvania: Leonard Pearson (V '90), Louis A. Klein (V '97), and George A. Dick (V '04).

In 1909 the School received one more shattering blow, with the death of its energetic, young dean, Dr. Leonard Pearson. He had become dean in 1898 and in his few years in office he had accomplished some amazing things. Dr. Pearson was a national figure in the young veterinary profession and this, along with his being State Veterinarian for Pennsylvania and president of the A.V.M.A., brought the School the prestige it so badly needed in its early years. Dean Pearson was the architect of the quadrangle building and had excellent connections in the state government and in leading agricultural societies. It is reason­able to believe that if Dr. Leonard Pearson had lived, the School, now housed in a new building, would have entered a period of prosperity. Instead, the important beginnings made by Dr. Pearson were allowed to languish and for the next four decades there was little growth.
### Events

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### University of Ibadan

This spring the School of Veterinary Medicine hosted Professor O. O. Dipeolu, dean of faculty of veterinary medicine at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. Professor Dipeolu met with the dean and with department heads to discuss closer cooperation and the possibility of developing joint research and educational programs between the two schools.

The visit was a direct result of the agreement of cooperation between the University of Ibadan and the University of Pennsylvania, signed in February 1981. This agreement, the most comprehensive one between an American and an African university, involves almost every school at the University of Pennsylvania. Robert Rutman, Ph.D., professor of biochemistry at the School of Veterinary Medicine, played an important part in bringing about the agreement. Dr. Rutman first visited Nigeria during 1973-74 to teach at the University of Ibadan. "When I was there it was clear to me that there were many areas where Penn and Ibadan could exchange scholarship on an equal basis," said Dr. Rutman. "There were other areas where they could use our assistance." He returned to Nigeria in 1978 as an external Ph.D. examiner for the University of Ibadan Ph.D. program. Prior to this trip he discussed the possibilities of an exchange program with Penn officials. In Nigeria he continued these discussions with officials and reported favorably to Penn's administration on the prospects of a formal exchange program. Negotiations between the two universities took several years, culminating in the signing ceremonies in February 1981 in Philadelphia.

For the Veterinary School the implications of the agreement are vast as they open doors to new areas of research, and, according to Dr. Rutman, provide the school with access to the worldwide network of health organizations. He explained that Nigeria, although rich in oil resources, has difficulty feeding its population of eighty-million people and must import meat and other foodstuffs.

Nigeria is attempting to raise food supplies by increasing livestock production. Cattle are raised in the northern part of the country, and farmers in the south keep swine and goats. The government is encouraging the establishment of swine and chicken farms to increase their source of inexpensive meat, and is looking to its lakes and rivers as sites for fish culture. Stockfish, a salted, dried fish, is an important staple in Nigeria.

Professors Dipeolu and Rutman discussed the possibility of establishing an aquatic veterinary medicine program at the University of Ibadan, similar to Aquavet. It would be the first in Africa and would be of great benefit to the marine industry which is beginning to establish fish culture on a commercial basis in the vast Niger delta.

The efficient raising of livestock in Nigeria is hampered because many tropical and parasitic diseases afflict and destroy animal life. Losses are great and cut deeply into food supplies. To combat these diseases and to conduct more research in causes and treatment, veterinary schools at Penn and Ibadan will consider cooperative studies in tropical veterinary medicine. "Here at Penn's veterinary school, we study comparative medicine. In other words, what do certain diseases mean for the animals which carry them and what do they tell us about human disease? The tropical environment in Nigeria will allow us to study some of these diseases with our colleagues from the university there," said Rutman.

The field of animal nutrition is another area where the school here can be of assistance. Dr. Rutman also explained that interest in companion animals is increasing in Nigeria and that Penn could provide training and help in that field to University of Ibadan students.

The exchange of knowledge has already begun. Dr. Dudley Johnston, professor of surgery in the department of clinical studies, recently traveled to Ibadan to deliver a series of lectures. During the visit here, Professor Dipeolu held a full-day seminar on advances in controlling parasitic diseases of livestock in Nigeria. He also conducted a faculty seminar on veterinary education and the profession in Nigeria.

Dr. Rutman explained that the University of Ibadan, the graduate university of the twenty-branched federal university system in Nigeria, was founded in 1948 as a British Commonwealth University. It began granting its own degrees in 1962 and presently has 8,000 undergraduate and 4,000 graduate students. The university trains the academic leaders of the country and anticipates an increase in graduate student numbers to 8,000. It is located near Ibadan, the country's largest city, on a 2,500-acre campus. The faculty is primarily Nigerian, educated in that country and in Europe. According to Dr. Rutman, the amenities offered the faculty are many. He recounted that the university provides nice spacious housing and that the campus has many recreational facilities and two international schools for the children of faculty. In order to attract and retain faculty of international status, he explained the federally funded university makes life on campus as attractive as possible.

Dr. Rutman is most enthusiastic about the cooperative agreement and he sees Penn and the School of Veterinary Medicine at the forefront of helping the University of Ibadan to become the leading institution in Africa. He also feels that the institution has much to contribute to Penn, particularly in the field of tropical diseases in humans and animals. He believes that researchers here will benefit from being able to observe first hand the problems and conditions in the tropics.

The relationship between the two universities will not only occur on a school-to-school basis but will encompass the interdisciplinary approach so prevalent at Penn. Dr. Rutman spoke of a March conference, that explored the use of medicinal plants in Nigeria. Participants included chemists, biologists, and anthropologists who studied, in depth, the pharmacological properties of plants indigenous to Nigeria and the powers of folk medicine still widely practiced there.

Future joint approaches will include the School of Veterinary Medicine. The prospects for Penn and Ibadan are exciting and far reaching.
Development Office Activities

Mrs. Gerard B. Lambert of Princeton, NJ, has established the Grace Lansing Lambert Professorship in Cell Biology at the School of Veterinary Medicine.

Mrs. Lambert, a member of the Veterinary School’s Board of Overseers since 1978, is a long-time breeder of Morgan horses and Flat-Coated and Labrador Retrievers.

In 1974 Mrs. Lambert gave the Orthopedic Engineering Laboratory in the C. Mahlon Kline Orthopedic and Rehabilitation Center to the School of Veterinary Medicine.

The Lambert chair will be held by Dr. Leon Weiss, professor of cell biology and chairperson of the Department of Animal Biology. Profiles of Mrs. Lambert and Dr. Weiss will appear in Bellwether V.

The Veterinary School has received a grant of $180,000 from the Mabel Pew Myrin Trust for the operation and maintenance of the Alarik Myrin Memorial Research Building at New Bolton Center. New Bolton Center also received a grant of $40,000 from the Stroud Foundation and an unrestricted gift of $10,000 from the Ohrrstrom Foundation for the Friends of New Bolton Center.

The Animal Rescue League of Philadelphia has awarded us another $2,000 for equipment for the Wildlife Service and the Intensive Care Unit. The New York Farmers contributed $2,000 to the Scholarship Fund, and the Kennel Club of Philadelphia donated $1,000 to the Friends of the Small Animal Hospital.

A bequest of nearly $20,000 from the Estate of Salem G. Fine, V.M.D., Class of 35, will be used for student loans, and a bequest of approximately $100,000 from the Estate of Charlotte Everingham will provide equipment for oncology and radiology, establish a new Senior prize, and enhance the student loan fund.

An anonymous gift of $70,000 has enabled New Bolton Center to computerize all of its client/patient records, and an anonymous gift of $5,300 has been added to the School’s unrestricted endowment fund.

Through the end of May, 513 donors have given $144,717 to Veterinary Annual Giving. The Friends of the Small Animal Hospital have received $44,887 from 967 donors, and 99 donors have given $38,293 to the Friends of New Bolton Center, including gifts for the Kline Center. The total for private gifts and subscriptions to the School of Veterinary Medicine from July 1981 to May 1982 was $5,944,247.

Dr. Donald F. Patterson, Charlotte Newton Sheppard Professor of Medicine, and chief, section of medical genetics, was presented with the American Animal Hospital Association Award of Merit at the association’s annual meeting in Las Vegas in April, 1982. The award was made in recognition of Dr. Patterson’s “pioneering and continuing research in identifying specific types of cardiovascular disease in canines.”

Dr. Colin Harvey, professor of surgery, has been named as the new editor of the Journal of Veterinary Surgery.
Alumni Day, on May 15, 1982, was blessed with beautiful weather, and was a huge success. The annual festivities were attended by 220 alumni and their family and friends. The oldest alumni in attendance were Dr. Evan L. Stubbbs (V '11) and Colonel Jesse D. Derrick (V '16). Dr. Carlos Rojas Maldonado (V '42), having traveled from Bogota, Columbia was the individual who came the greatest distance.

In the morning the regular meeting of the Veterinary Medical Alumni Society was held in the spacious classroom of VHUP, with President A. Cleveland Brown (V '59) presiding. Dr. Josephine Deubler (V '38), historian, reported some interesting statistics about graduating classes. Did you know that the Class of 1919 had only three members? The first woman graduated from the School was Dr. Deubler herself (1938). As of this year the total number of graduates is 3,736, with 405 women. Since 1978, each class has had more than forty women.

Dr. Brown introduced various individuals, including the Fifty Year Class which had five members present. Dean Robert R. Marshak addressed the meeting, and stressed that 1982-83 will be a year of extreme financial stress for the School. Various faculty groups are hard at work to determine how we shall best deal with the problems. On the brighter side, Dean Marshak reported that the School has received two new, and very prestigious chairs, (see elsewhere in this issue of Bellwether) and that both VHUP and the Widener Hospital for Large Animals are being operated very efficiently and are generating considerable income. In closing, the dean expressed confidence that the faculty and staff will be able to meet the problems of the coming year and also expressed his appreciation to the state government for the financial support we have received.

Another encouraging note was the report of Dr. Donald G. Lee (V '36), chairperson of Alumni Annual Giving. A total of 493 donors have contributed $137,536. Thank you for your support!

A highlight of the meeting was the presentation of Alumni Society Citations to four distinguished alumni. Those honored were Dr. Mark W. Allam (V '32), Dr. John E. Gadd (V '32), Dr. Robert L. Leighton (V '41), and Dr. Charles W. Raker (V '42). These awards were followed by the presentation of plaques to two former faculty. Dr. David K. Detweiler spoke briefly about Dr. Roger S. Amadon, former professor of physiology who died in September, 1980, at the age of ninety. Dr. Detweiler then unveiled a handsome plaque. He was assisted in this by Dr. Amadon’s widow, Dr. Mary Amadon (V '39) and his son, Terry. Funds for the plaque were contributed by a number of Dr. Amadon’s former students. Following this presentation, Dr. Adrian Morrison, professor of anatomy, informed the Society that a plaque had been erected in the area of the anatomy laboratory to honor Dr. Donald G. Lee (V '32), former professor of anatomy. The Nominating Committee presented its report, and the following people were nominated and then unanimously elected as officers for the year 1982-83: president, Dr. Nancy Brown (V '73); first vice-president, Dr. Kenton Stokes (V '68); second vice-president, Dr. William Handy (V '66); historian, Dr. Josephine Deubler (V '38); and representative to the General Alumni Board, Dr. William Eccleston (V '61).

President Cleve Brown then expressed his appreciation for the cooperation given to him during the past year. He obviously enjoyed serving as president and did an excellent job. Thanks Cleve! In her first official act as new president, Dr. Nancy Brown presented the class banner to the president of the Class of 1982, Mr. Tony DiCarlo. There were 99 graduates in this class. Welcome to the Alumni Society and to the profession!

The business meeting was followed by a delicious luncheon and tours of VHUP. In the evening, alumni and families gathered in the parking pavilion of VHUP for dinner and dancing.

On Sunday, May 16, Dr. Mark Allam hosted a champagne brunch for the classes of 1932 and 1942 at New Bolton Center. On the previous evening, the members of the Class of 1942 had a sumptuous dinner at the Chadd’s Ford Inn. This was arranged by Dr. Walter Hastings and was attended by thirty-five alumni and family. Both of these affairs provided the opportunity for some old-fashioned reminiscing and plenty of good cheer. It was a glorious Alumni Day. See you next year!
On May 19 and 20, 1982, eleven members of the House Agricultural Committee of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania visited New Bolton Center. While at the Center the Committee held a formal meeting on a pending bill, and toured the facilities with Dean Robert R. Marshak and Dr. Richard McFeeley, associate dean for New Bolton Center.

Committee Chairperson, Joseph V. Grieco of Lycoming County indicated that the Committee "had heard much about New Bolton Center, but wished to see the teaching, research, and treatment facilities with [their] own eyes." He went on to say, "We are very impressed with what we have seen here. As the only veterinary school in Pennsylvania, it is now needed more than ever." Representative Grieco said that the Committee was particularly impressed with the emphasis on preventative medicine and on the cooperative ventures between the School, industry, and private individuals to develop teaching facilities for swine and dairy cattle husbandry.

Dean Marshak informed the Committee that, being a private school which generates considerable research funds and builds and maintains most of its buildings with private funds, the School of Veterinary Medicine is a good investment for the Pennsylvania agricultural community.

The members of the Committee (and their home counties) who visited New Bolton Center were: Joseph V. Grieco, chairperson (Lycoming); Noah W. Wenger, vice-chairperson (Lancaster); A. Carville Foster (York); June N. Honaman (York); Edwin G. Johnson (Blair); William K. Klingaman, Sr. (Schuylkill); William R. Lloyd, Jr. (Somerset); Roger A. Madigan (Bradford); Samuel W. Morris (Chester); Joseph R. Pitts (Chester); and John Showers (Union).