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Time Capsule for the Dairy

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Death of Dr. Israel Live

For more than 60 years, Penn's School of Veterinary Medicine played a central part in the life of Dr. Israel Live, V'34. He joined the pathology faculty upon graduation and taught for quite a few years beyond his appointment as emeritus professor in 1977. He continued working on small research projects at the School until 1993. Dr. Live died on December 23, 1995 at the age of 87.

Dr. Live, born in Austria in 1907, had studied at the University of Vienna prior to coming to the Veterinary School. Dr. Live became the first veterinarian to earn a graduate degree from Penn, a masters degree in 1936 and a Ph.D. in 1940. He was appointed assistant professor in veterinary pathology in 1943, though his main interest was in bacteriology. He supervised the work in the clinical pathology laboratory until 1946 when he moved to the Department of Bacteriology and Immunology and was appointed assistant professor of bacteriology and immunology. He became professor of microbiology in 1953 and held similar appointments in the Graduate School of Medicine and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Live enjoyed teaching and encouraged student participation in his classes. He taught for more than fifty years. He also supported student scholarships through annual donations and was a member of the University's Benjamin Franklin Society.

Dr. Live's research interests centered around brucellosis and then later around the characterization of human and canine Staphylococcus aureus and his work contributed important basic information. On sabbaticals Dr. Live pursued the study of staphylococci at other institutions, in 1961 at the Pasteur Institute in Paris, France, and in 1969 at the Statens Serum Institute in Copenhagen, Denmark. He also conducted some research at the University of Bergen, Norway.

In 1953, Dr. Live served as president of the American Association of Veterinary Bacteriologists. In 1950 he became a member of the expert panel on brucellosis, World Health Organization, and was chairman of the National Brucellosis Conference in 1976. Dr. Live was a charter diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Microbiologists, a fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology, and a member of the following associations: the American Society of Microbiologists, the American Association of Immunologists, the American Public Health Association, and the Association of Research Workers in Animal Diseases in North America.

A memorial service was held June 10, 1996 at the Bodek Lounge of Houston Hall.

Dr. Live is survived by his wife, Anna Harris Live, and two sons, David and Ted.

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The new solar dairy facility, rising now from the field along Byrd and Line roads at the School's New Bolton Center campus, was the reason to let oracles speak about the state of dairying in the year 2020 and to mark the renaming of the facility to the Marshak Dairy. Former Dean Mark W. Allam, after whom the facility was to be named originally, requested that it should be named after former Dean Robert R. Marshak "who did a great deal to develop New Bolton Center and it is fitting to celebrate the dairy in his honor."

Predictions ranged from cows with improved and better placed udders, made be Secretary of Agriculture Charles Brosius to the development of mini cows for city dwellers, delivered by a pupil from the Upland Country Day School. All the predictions were placed in a gleaming milk can that will be sealed behind plexiglass in the new dairy and will be opened in 25 years.

Among the oracles were Dean Alan M. Kelly, Senators Clarence D. Bell and Roger A. Madigan, Representatives Arthur D. Hershey and Joseph R. Pitts, Leon H. Wilkinson. Richard W. Newpher, William C. Nichol, Dr. Stephen Syken, Dr. David Nunamaker, Dr. Richard McFeeley, Dr. David Galligan, Dr. Raymond Sweeney, Dr. Mark Allam. Dr. Robert Marshak, Mr. Bruce Rappoport, Mr. Barry Stupine, and Lindsay Bodey, Peter Dunby, Michael Melton, Gary Seese, Stephen Taylor, representatives from the Fourth Grade Class at The Upland Country Day School.

The construction of the dairy is proceeding on schedule and a dedication is planned for October.