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FACULTY OF VETERINARY SCIENCE.

CENTAUR, 1942

OCT 21 1942

EDITORIAL.

The third year of World War II. has appeared as a land mark on the path of our Faculty progress. With the great depletion of man-power for the fighting front and even greater requirements for the developing industries on the home front, as you all know University personnel has had to be curtailed to those essential to national necessity in a time of exigency. The authorities, with this point in view, recognised our small but vital Faculty with all its various pursuits as necessary.

Furthermore, in this connection, we might note a great depletion in our numbers. This is not alone due to an increase in University legislation; some found it their duty "to carry the standards." To these we say "good luck!" To those who remain we exhort, or rather should we say it is their very duty to put forward all the best that they have so as to help maintain a war-time necessity.

Considering the above necessity, we see the Veterinary Profession as one of the stoutest stanchions of the most fundamental war implement—food supply. World War I. also required our services on the fighting front, but with the advent of a new order of machines we have retired to the background to keep up the essential old order—animals.

At the moment, vast, formerly well fed populations are reduced to a ration of so many grammes per day, while Australia rests content with comparative abundance—but be assured this may not always be thus. With a decrease in Veterinarians and in man-power available for handling outbreaks of disease, trucking, slaughtering, animal industries, etc., we might prophesy great shortages and depletions. The gift of our profession to the defence programme are thousands of square miles of country free from infectious diseases which reduce the food supply these provide.

To our readers the mechanism of the Division of Animal Industry is already hackneyed, but when we consider a few of the major infectious diseases such as tuberculosis, pleuro pneumonia, anthrax, swine fever, etc., and the prevention of importation of such scourges as foot and mouth disease, dourine, glanders, etc., we see that the above Vet. duties are not exaggerated. As the Editor of a Veterinary Journal has said:

"Rationing, hunger, undernourishment, pestilence, famine and disease galore is the price paid for neglecting animal diseases."

"Itaque," a word about our journal. Later you will observe a few remarks relating to certain aspects of the contributions, but here we only wish to thank the contributors, both graduate and undergraduate, who have "taken up the stilus," bearing in mind the fact that this little volume travels far and wide all over the world to fellow Veterinary Colleges and Veterinarians leaving there, the impressions of the spirit of good fellowship and advance of the Veterinary School of the University of Sydney.

So carry on Vets.!

THE VETERINARIAN AND WAR TIME PRIMARY PRODUCTION.

During the first two years of the war, the veterinarian suffered from a sense of frustration. He was reserved, but for what? The army, which in the last war gladly found a use for all the graduates from Australia's two schools in Sydney and Melbourne, needed him less and less as the months went by. The army remount was being relegated to a melancholy role in the Auxiliary Horse Transport, while our primitive methods of army food inspection made no call on the veterinarian in contrast to the American Army where such inspection rests entirely in the hands of the veterinary officer. Though the veterinarian was not wanted in any numbers by the Army in his professional capacity many difficulties were placed in his way if he sought to enter the fighting services in any other. Some, it is true, by one subterfuge or another entered the ranks and went overseas. In the last few weeks one member of this small but devoted band, V. G. Cox, of Burrundulla, has fallen in battle, the first of our graduates to give his life in the present war.

For the most part, however, the veterinarian was not wanted in the fighting services nor was it easy to find any essential part for him to play in other branches of the war effort. His work in administration or research now appeared suddenly devoid of purpose since contracting markets and shipping difficulties seemed inevitably to lead to over production of almost all primary products: to strive to eliminate loss from disease or to increase production became apparently irrational and unnecessary. There was too much wool, too much wheat, too much butter, too much meat.

Then Japan took the plunge; the war which for the thoughtless was far away and remote came suddenly to our shores. There followed a vast expansion of the Army; tens of thousands of American troops invaded our country, and wherever there are armies consumption of food grows enormously. (In parenthesis it may be mentioned that whereas the peace-time imports of meat for the whole of France totalled 7,000 tons a year, the Army alone, after war was declared, consumed 245,000).

Consumption of meat in Australia is to-day greater than ever before, largely owing to additional Army demand, while civilian consumption, in spite of the hundreds of thousands in the forces, appears to be little smaller than it was in peace time. The reason is not far to seek; people have more money than at any time in our history, and many of them doing hard manual work have larger appetites, so that expenditure on food, and particularly the so-called luxury foods, meat and dairy products, grows.

Simultaneously with this increased demand came the effect of two factors diminishing production; one, and by far the most important, was adverse seasonal conditions resulting in widespread drought, the other, shortage of labour due to the enlistment of labour or the large scale transfer from ill-paid rural occupations to well paid employment in secondary industry. Thousands of dairy and poultry farms reduced or ceased production completely.

With startling suddenness the whole picture changed. From there being a supposed excess of foodstuffs, first one and then another

shortage developed. Some of these were not due so much to deficiency in supplies as to transport difficulties, as for example in the case of potatoes coming from Tasmania. Shipping was already short and the Japanese submarines added to the problem. In the case of other commodities there was still enough for local needs but not enough in addition for our hard pressed kinsfolk in Britain, who to-day are eating a fifth of the meat and the butter that goes to the making of our "austere" way of life. In addition to maintaining exports to Britain and the Forces in the Middle East as we are in honour bound to do, we may be called on to feed growing armies and also the peoples in the Pacific Islands and possibly India and Ceylon, whose normal sources of food supply from Burma and the East are now cut off. Reserves of foodstuffs, canned and dehydrated meats and canned vegetables have to be accumulated for any emergency. From wondering six months ago whether the sugar cane crop should be cut, we are now forced to ration sugar.

Increased production to record proportions of meat, particularly beef and pig meats; of dairy products, butter, cheese and dried milk; and of eggs, not to mention vegetables and rice, is now urgently necessary.

Now it appears that the veterinarian has a place in the war effort. To increase production of animal foodstuffs, loss from disease must be reduced to the greatest possible degree, improved methods of breeding and feeding must be rapidly adopted. New problems of livestock production and transport must be met; arrangements must be made for evacuating stock from threatened invasion areas both to feed the army and civil population and to prevent their falling into enemy hands. The veterinarian has a real and vital part to play in all these matters and one for which he is, or should be best equipped.

The Council of the Australian Veterinary Association is now engaged in preparing plans for a national scheme for the utilisation of every veterinarian in the drive for increased production of animal foodstuffs. Under a general regulation of the Director-General of Man Power covering all qualified scientists, no veterinarian may enlist or be called up, or change his civil occupation without his case being referred to the Deputy Director-General of Man Power of the State in which he or she resides, each case being submitted to the Scientific Man Power (Veterinary) Advisory Committee for guidance as to the capacity in which the veterinarian can make his best contribution to the war effort.

The contribution that the Veterinary Profession is making grows steadily.

One graduate is responsible for maintaining meat supplies for the army in Northern Australia, another is attached to the Department of War Organisation of Industry, another to the Directorate-General of Man Power, another is responsible for emergency food supplies for man and animals in the threatened areas of Queensland; by every graduate there is an important task to be performed.

The veterinarian to-day need have no doubt that in one capacity or another his services are needed and are of real importance to the country.

Every student should feel real satisfaction in fitting himself with the utmost possible speed and to the best of his ability for the part which he too will be called upon to play in the service of his country.

—I. CLUNIES ROSS.

A VETERINARY SURGEON IN AUSTRIA.

By Richard Strakosch, D.V.Sc., Vienna.

In those days, Austria was a very poor country. Large parts were mountainous, more than 1,000 meters above sea-level and not suited for agriculture. These mountains were covered from May till September with green pasture which provided excellent feed for stock, and the population there made a living from horse and cattle breeding. The breeds reared were well-known in Europe and sold readily. They were chiefly a medium-draught known as the Pinzgauer Horse, and a breed of cattle of the same name bred for milk and meat production. They derived the name from a country district situated in Austrian Tyrol; a district especially well-known for the fine type of animal it produced.

It was in such a district that I started some years ago as a private practitioner. The country village had no electric light and it was two hours' walk to the nearest railway station. The population amounted to 1,500. In the neighbouring villages, only a few miles away, were vets. who had left the university several years before me. We were good friends at the college but now I soon found that the friendship amongst vets. grows with the cube of the distance separating them. This was my second attempt in practice. The first start was a failure because I lacked the two principles necessary for each private practitioner—treatment of the owner is one and treatment of the animal the other. At my first start I treated the sick animal without watching the response of the owner to the treatment of his animal.

As the philosopher, Oswald Spengler, points out, the relationship of a farmer to his cow is quite a different one if he has only a very few animals or possesses a number. In the former case, and that was the type of farmer I had chiefly to deal with, there exists a kind of psychic connection between the animal and the farmer which has to be taken into account. When I saw, as I often did, that the whole family was crying because the cow had been sold, I realised that it was not the object "Cow" whose loss was deplored, but the disruption of the psychic connection which caused the tears. So I learned that the owner and his reactions to the treatment were important and to be considered. The "Captatio benevolentiae," as I saw it practised by some vets, was deplorable and never gave any results. In the treatment of the owner, Freud's book: "Introductory Lectures in Psychoanalysis" was a great help, and the more often I read it the more I enjoyed it. It gave me the key to the behaviour

of the farmer and I could act accordingly. An example may illustrate that—

When, after a case of dystocia in a cow, I came the next day to examine and treat the beast, I was able to determine before I even saw the cow the state of its health by the behaviour of its owner. If he stopped working and came up to me with a greeting, laughing and talking, I knew the cow was well. Another help in understanding people was the book of the Swiss neurologist, Jung, who divides people into a sthenic and asthenic type. The sthenic one is usually short, stout and round faced, and nearly always or often likes the beer; these features are associated with good temper while the counterpart—tall, thin, long-faced is related to a stern thinking and sometimes bad-tempered character.

It was years before I was able to judge people and then the practice improved, but all this knowledge would have been valueless if it had not been linked with experience in dealing with sick animals: theoretical knowledge was not enough for a private practitioner. The practical knowledge acquired at the college was not sufficient to withstand a severe and sometimes rough competition, though I would like to state that the University did much to make the graduate fit for practice under Austrian conditions where horse and bovine obstetrics and treatment of sterility were the main branches of practice and the vet's reputation was based chiefly on his ability to tackle obstetric cases.

At the five-year course at the Vienna University, attendance at lectures and practical classes in Medicine, Surgery, Obstetrics and Sterility was compulsory for the 3rd, 4th and 5th year students. After having graduated, the young vet. usually practised in one of the three Government hospitals and then started as private practitioner. Due to the horrible overcrowding in the profession it was impossible to get a Government position, and the Government even found it necessary to issue a warning in 1935 that there was no chance whatever of getting a Government position before 1950. The position in the medical and law professions was worse.

Having received all the education and advice, the vet. started in one of the small villages and waited until the first case occurred, usually during bad weather, at midnight, and at a place somewhere in the mountains some hours riding away. If the first cases recovered with his treatment or despite his treatment he was set, otherwise the result spread faster than he thought and the only thing to do was to start somewhere else, and that was usually the story of the second start, and it was mine too.

So I settled down and waited for the first case. It took about a month before one farmer tried the "new vet." I remember it clearly. I was rather nervous; it was a roan cow which had shown labour pains for several days without any further progress. The examination revealed Torsio uteri, which incidentally was a common occurrence in that mountainous district—some say that the uterus is more susceptible of becoming twisted when the beast is grazing on steep slopes. I tried the method Dr. Benesch, lecturer in

obstetrics at Vienna, had recommended as ultima ratio at one of the last post graduate courses. I tied the hind legs together and lifted the hindquarters up by means of a pulley and succeeded. The result was soon known and the practise developed satisfactorily.

The chief occupation remained horse and cattle obstetrics. The farmers valued their breeding stock very highly and called for veterinary assistance even in normal cases of delivery in heifers and mares. Difficult cases of horse dystocia were always connected with a big demand on my physical strength and it often took me several days to recover.

Sterility cases and castrations were the other things which kept me busy. The removal of persistent corpora lutea was especially well known among the stock men and the owner called for the vet. if the cow did not come on heat three months after calving. Spaying of pigs is an operation much practised in Central Europe, mostly done by laymen who became adept at removing the ovaries of sows. In order to overcome the difficulties which each beginner has to face, I bought ten pigs and practiced the operation and was able to secure another field for vet. practice. As mentioned previously, even in the smallest country villages graduates were practising, and the beginner had a hard time.

About two thousand vets. were working in that small and poor country and that was only possible by making use of every branch of Veterinary Science. Some worked only in poultry, others specialised in sterility, others in vet. insurance, etc. The Department of Agriculture was interested in the large vet. population and did a lot to help the private practitioner. It was responsible for sponsoring some of the laws which provided work for qualified men. Amongst these was one which compelled each country and town council to have a graduate as meat inspector, if one was available within five miles of the area. Also the law compelling the use of anaesthesia for any kind of castration provided work and eliminated the competition of laymen. Finally, the law stating that only graduated surgeons were allowed to vaccinate stock provided one hundred vets. with seasonal work in the months of March, April and May when swine are vaccinated against erysipelas. Much Sobernheim vaccination against anthrax was done, and only by graduated men.

Once a year I attended the post-graduate course at the University, which lasted two days. All the new developments in veterinary science and their importance for the practitioner were lectured on there. It was always very useful, and I always learnt something for the practice and also met competition. The latter is a rather disagreeable thing for the individual practitioner, but, taken as a whole, it prevents slackening of the veterinary effort.

Swine fever and foot and mouth disease caused much distress. In these cases the Government provided free veterinary service and, in the poor districts, even serum without charge, and the vets. were kept busy. These plagues came in waves and sometimes the virus was very virulent and much valuable stock was lost, especially in foot and mouth disease followed by fibrous degeneration of the heart

muscle. *Brucella Abortus* was another scourge of the district and removal of retained placentae brought additional work.

Those years were very strenuous and I always looked for the winter months as a time of rest. The snow was a metre deep and for weeks all traffic was interrupted. The farmer came only in very urgent cases for veterinary assistance.

So the time passed, I had a good practice and I liked it. I liked the veterinary profession and I liked those mountains with the edelweiss flower, the flower that grows only in the Alps above 1,200 metres, with her velvety coat to protect her from cold. I often stood and enjoyed this beautiful mountain landscape and thought: the Lord made a lovely world

Then, overnight, all was ended; Hitler marched in. Due to heterozygosity of several of my ancestors, I was forbidden to practise; I had to leave the country the Lord made a lovely world but not a very wise one.

THE DELICATE ART OF DISSECTION.

To the uninitiated laymen, the mystic word, "Dissection," conjures up visions of blood-stained corpses, disarticulated limbs, and various other equally gory and nauseating sights. However, to do initiated and weary student this term brings different thoughts, some of boredom, some amusing.

There is, of course, that enterprising, canny citizen of Edinburgh, who showed his foresight and business acumen by composing a series of "best-sellers" (in the Veterinary world, at least) dealing with the intricacies of the art. For this venerable gentleman the student has great respect and can never show his gratitude sufficiently.

The successful dissector must necessarily be armed with his tools of trade. A scalpel is necessary, but the advantages of a sharp-edged instrument are offset by the simple fact that it is just as simple to slice off one's fingers as it is to sever some important nerve or blood vessel in the poor martyr to Science, be he horse or dog. Thus, always use a blunt scalpel. The Editor could tell of an occasion, when, in a fit of professional jealousy, he made an attack—per scalpel—on a fellow dissector, but, the scalpel being blunt, very little damage was done—fortunately for the writer.

The choice of co-dissectors is an important problem: a man who can spin a good yarn is frequently an asset, especially when the work becomes tedious—which is pretty well always.

An important phase of dissection is the part it plays in training guerilla warriors to fight the Japanese gentlemen should they be foolish enough to attempt an invasion of the school at the bottom of the hill. The periodic meat-fights which take place in the Dissection Room train the student in the art of being accurate with a missile and also in avoiding a juicy chunk of formalinized horse-flesh which just skims the student's ear. Once expert with horse and dog meat, it would be no time at all before the student would become an expert at throwing Molotof cocktails and hand grenades. This is perhaps one of the most valuable points that the dissector picks up, even tho' old Charnock neglected to add a chapter on the subject.

So, worthy freshers, be not afraid to enter Second Year and commence upon your dissecting career. Charnock is really a very entertaining author and you will find that his footnotes on the Greek and Latin derivations of anatomical terms are very enlightening: a short course, in fact, in these ancient and very much dead languages.

—Aorta.

THE LIVING TEMPLE or THE ANATOMIST'S HYMN.

Included as being of interest to students of anatomy.

Not in the world of light alone,
Where God has built His blazing throne;
Nor yet alone in earth below,
With belted seas that come and go,
And endless isles of sunlight green.
Is all thy Maker's glory seen;
Look in upon thy wondrous frame—
Eternal wisdom still the same!

The smooth, soft air, with pulse-like waves,
Flows murmuring through its hidden caves;
Whose streams of brightening purple rush,
Fired with a new and livelier blush,
While all their burden of decay
The ebbing current steals away,
And red with Nature's flame they start
From the warm fountains of the heart.

No rest that throbbing slave may ask,
Forever quivering o'er his task;
While far and wide a crimson jet
Leaps forth to fill the woven net,
Which in unnumbered crossing tides
The flood of burning life divides.
Then kindling each decaying part,
Creeps back to find the throbbing heart.

But warmed with that unchanging flame,
Behold the outward moving frame;
Its living marbles jointed strong
With glistening band and silvery thong.
And linked to Reason's guiding reins
By myriad rings in trembling chains;
Each graven with the threaded zone.
Which claims it as the master's own.

See how yon beam of seeming white,
Is braided out of seven-hued light;
Yet in those lucid globes no ray
By any chance shall break astray.
Hark how the rolling surge of sound,
Arches and spirals circling round,
Wakes the hushed spirit through thine ear,
With music it is heaven to hear.

Then mark the cloven sphere that holds
All thought in its mysterious folds;
That feels sensation's faintest thrill,
And flashes forth the sovereign will.
Think on the stormy world that dwells,
Locked in its dim and clustering cells!
The lightning gleams of power it sheds
Along its hollow, glassy threads.

O Father! grant Thy love divine,
To make these mystic temples Thine!
When wasting age and wearying strife,
Have sapped the leaning walls of life.
When darkness gathers over all,
And the last tottering pillars fall,
Take the poor dust Thy mercy warms,
And mould it into heavenly forms.

—*Oliver Wendell Holmes.*

A CANINE Dr. JEYKLL AND Mr. HYDE.

By K. Raymond, B.V.Sc.

Dr. Jekyll was a Welsh Corgi male dog aged four years, known to his owner as "Taffy." He was good tempered and obedient to word of command, quiet about the house, although a good watch dog, and certainly not a "nervy" excitable dog. He lived a normal healthy life for two years. Then he was knocked by a car and suffered probable concussion, being semi-conscious for 24 hours. He recovered and appeared quite normal. About six months later he was again knocked by a car and was again semi-conscious, this time for about one week. He didn't recover fully from this accident for nearly two months, exhibiting during this time some loss of memory. For some months he was quite healthy and normal—then the first signs of Mr. Hyde appeared.

"Taffy's" owner was a semi-invalid who moved about in a wheel-chair. The dog started to show extreme excitement when he knew she was about to move. After a meal, his owner always had a cigarette and "Taffy" knew that she would soon be moving. He would race round in circles always going in a clockwise direction, barking shrilly—his bark was quite abnormal during these times—until his owner was settled in some other position. If scolded during these times he took no notice and if spanked he would attempt to bite.

These fits were infrequent at first but got more and more numerous. Occasionally he was shut in a tennis court at the back of the house and this also became a signal for Mr. Hyde to appear. He was put on a bromide-chloral hydrate mixture for a time, but this only made him sick. "Luminal" was also tried, but this made Dr. Jekyll very dopey and sick, while it had no affect on Mr. Hyde. His owner felt she would have to get rid of him and decided on euthanasia. Just prior to death he was given "luminal" and seemed very quiet, but as soon as he was handled Mr. Hyde appeared and he proved one of the hardest fighters ever put on a table for injection. After death he relaxed and Dr. Jekyll returned.

WHEN SHALL WE BE MAKING A 100 PER CENT. WAR EFFORT?

September 3rd, 1939, to September 3rd, 1942—three years of war. Three years during which one might reasonably have expected that every step would have been taken to ensure that Australia would have been placed on a 100 per cent. war footing, unessential industries eliminated or cut to the very bone, war industries working at top speed and with maximum efficiency, and all necessary man and woman power adjustments made to guarantee that every man and woman was filling the job he or she was best fitted to fill.

No one is competent to judge just how far short we have fallen in attaining that ideal in every activity of our national life, but each person, in his own sphere, will have some ideas concerning the problems which should be overcome. In this short article the writer advances a few suggestions which could make for greater efficiency in our primary industries.

Feedstuff Supplies.

Efficient stock management and efficient feeding go hand in hand. In a country, so diverse in its soil and climate as is Australia, supplementary feeding of stock will always be an important problem.

Is the veterinary profession tackling this problem adequately? Is every effort being made to provide sound nutritional advice and propaganda to the man on the land? Could and should a greater effort be made to emphasise the value of fodder conservation? Should processing of feedstuffs for stock be permitted under a system of war time economy? Is pasture improvement work being extended as rapidly as is desirable and what effect can such a development have on feed supplies for our stock? These are a few of the questions to which the veterinarian of to-day is expected to know the answer and concerning which his knowledge should be helpful in our war effort.

The Dairying Industry.

Many complaints have been made recently concerning the plight of this industry. Consideration of the man-power problem on dairy farms, the system of tenure under which many of them are managed and the artificially high prices paid for land in some of the dairying areas are outside the scope of this short article. But there are a few obvious and simple ways in which the industry could be assisted. A universal, compulsory system of herd testing would help to eliminate scrub animals and so reduce labour and feed costs.

Advisory officers could compile lactation curves from monthly butter fat or milk returns and make useful recommendations as to how annual returns could be increased. The delivery—not the promised delivery—of cheap grain to dairying districts could and would boost pig production; also its use in maximal quantities would increase the efficiency of utilisation of skim-milk and incidentally increase the economic return for skim-milk obtainable by the dairy farmer.

Pig Production.

Here, too, there is ample room for increased efficiency.

A recent survey made by one well-known American Agricultural Experiment Station showed that their mortality rate in pigs up to weaning at eight weeks of age was 47 per cent. Other workers have reported that at the Dominion Experimental Farms in Canada the mortality in litters during the first three weeks was 29.2 per cent. Is the loss as great in this country? If it is should we complacently accept such leakages in our efficiency—in our war effort.

If pig production should be increased—and we have been told that it must be—how should such an expansion of the industry be encouraged? We have already stressed the need for supplying cheap grain to the dairying areas. But what about the grain areas? Why not make them pig producing centres?

They would require protein supplies and green feed (or a suitable substitute) to satisfy the nutritional requirements of pig raising. Why not utilise old killer sheep as the protein concentrate and high quality lucerne chaff as a green feed substitute. An average of three sheep per day could satisfy the extra protein needs on a grain farm producing 500 baconers annually.

It might be desirable to establish breeding centres so that those embarking in the industry for the first time would not be faced with the worries of pig husbandry up to the "kindergarten" or weaner stage. Such centres would be responsible for the production of weaners for their own district. Such a policy as a war-time measure would have much to commend it.

In all these activities the veterinary officer could play a helpful part. That he is not doing so at present means that our war effort is not yet 100 per cent.

—M. E. FRANKLIN.

GASTROTOMY IN A DOG

By K. Raymond, B.V.Sc.

An Australian terrier male dog aged about eight months was presented for examination with a history of loss of appetite, increased thirst, vomiting and general dullness. The dog had been seen playing with a wooden bead about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter two days before and was believed to have swallowed it. Examination showed lassitude and slight weakness, and a rectal temperature of 102°.0 F. The abdomen was tucked up and empty but not painful. The stomach could not be palpated. X-ray examination in left lateral recumbency revealed a rounded foreign body just ventral to 10th and 11th ribs and operative treatment was decided upon.

The following morning morphine sulphate $\frac{1}{2}$ grain and atropine sulphate gr. 1/150 was given subcutaneously as preanaesthetic medication. The ventral abdominal wall was clipped, shaved and disinfected. Ether anaesthesia was induced and maintained by the open method. The abdomen was opened just behind the costal arch, slightly to the left of the mid line. The foreign body was located in the stomach by digital exploration and stomach, plus foreign

body, brought to the surface through the abdominal incision. After packing in position with sterile cotton wool, the stomach was opened and the foreign body, a round wooden bead, $\frac{4}{5}$ inch in diameter, removed. The stomach was closed with a single layer of Czerny sutures, followed by a layer of Lembert sutures, its peritoneal surface then being gently swabbed. The peritoneum and muscles of the abdominal wall were closed with continuous "O" gut sutures and the skin with simple interrupted horse-hair sutures. The wound was painted with 2% mercurochrome solution. The length of anaesthesia was about one hour and the time of operation about 45 minutes.

The morning following operation the rectal temperature was $100^{\circ}.6$ F. The dog was bright and was allowed to run in the sun for a short time. The afternoon temperature was $101^{\circ}.2$ F. The temperature remained normal throughout convalescence. The lower skin sutures were removed on the fourth day and some pus evacuated.

After the first day, the dog was given glucosaline to drink, then glucose and milk, and broth. On the eighth day, some meat was allowed and on the twelfth day the dog was taken home with a small granulating wound about the size of a threepenny bit in the skin.

SWING NOTES.

By *Bul Bul*.

On days in first term and some of second, but definitely not this one, could be seen an assorted band of keen fans wending their way up to the Badham Room with record cases under their arms. Once in, corny long-hair artists were rudely yanked from the best seats and their rotten records removed to make way for the Hotcha. To the strains of Benny Goodman's "Bugle Call Rag" the session would begin. After parts one and two of the maestro's twelve inch "Sing Sing Sing" to clear the room, we were generally left to ourselves.

Now in the groove, and with the ether cleared for swing, Artie Shaw introduced his throbbing solos to be followed by a rhythmic "Clarinet Lament" of the Duke's. The open mouth of the radiogram hungered for more, so Bob Crosby's "March of the Bobcats" with Louis Armstrong's "Melancholy Blues" as dessert were flung in. As Woody Herman's "Golden Wedding" drummed out its pulsing rhythm, beautiful thoughts rose before my eyes of a vast and golden banquet hall, a happy couple, slaves bearing heaped masses of golden fruit to many a haughty and resplendent Roman. Then a graceful line of beautiful dancing girls, reminiscent of the Tiv. came wending in and out of the happy throng.

Unfortunately we were brought back to earth by the tick of the clock, reminding us of our waiting lectures. As we left the hyenas dashed back and we were farewelled by the *adantino*, *presto* and *prestissimo* of a never-ending violin.

Answer to Correspondent—

Q.: What is a Swing Fan?

A: Definition—One who can enjoy “Sing, Sing, Sing,” has heard the “Golden Wedding,” does not like Joe Los, piano accordians, nor tenors and who would rather listen to several symphonies than Victor Silvester.

Sites of Occurrence: Found in the Union Pictures, the Badham Room, various select parts of the outside world. (At Redfern parties? Ed.)

Macroscopic Characters: Definitely short haired, likes going to the Troc., generally a bit of a jitterbug.

Microscopic Characters: Enlarged acoustic area in the brain; well developed tracts of grey matter from the cerebrum to the feet.

Clinical Characters: Treat him carefully and never criticise his records.

RABIES AND ITS CONTROL IN THE DUTCH EAST INDIES.

As rabies does not occur in Australia, but frequently breaks out in the Dutch East Indies, I think it might interest you to tell of the measures the Dutch Government have taken to fight this scourge.

Firstly, the area in which a case of rabies is reported is placed under rabies regulations for three months and these are not lifted until three months after the last reported case. Some towns, e.g., Bandaeng, are always quarantined, as three months never passes without one or more cases of rabies being reported. Batavia was even quarantined for three years and Surabaya for one and a half years. These rules force every dog owner to keep his dog within his garden and muzzle it when taking it for a walk. All stray dogs are picked up by one of the special dog cars which patrol the roads constantly. These are taken to a quarantine station where they are kept three days and then killed. These three days give the owner a chance of claiming his dog. When he wants to retrieve it he has to pay a high penalty as well as the board for the dog, which is kept under observation for six weeks. During the six weeks of observation the dog is not kept separate from other dogs in the hospital and usually comes home with other diseases or puppies.

When a dog is suspected of having rabies it is at once sent to the Pasteur Institute, where it is kept under observation and returned, if healthy. A rabid dog is recognised when it either bites or does not drink. The dog may exhibit both these symptoms, which strengthens the diagnosis of rabies. It then refuses its food and reaches the stages of complete insanity, when it runs around chasing its tail, frothing at the mouth, not recognising anyone and biting indiscriminately. The disease is usually transferred from one dog to another by biting or licking and the disease occurs nearly always in strays, hardly ever in pet dogs, thus the reason for “picking up” all stray dogs as mentioned before.

In the Pasteur Institute they usually prefer the dogs to be sent alive, as the only means of detecting whether a dog has rabies or not after death is by opening the skull and examining its brain. Now the characteristic brain lesions for rabies and distemper are similar so that a post mortem may result in an area being quarantined because of a case of distemper.

People who are bitten by suspected dogs, and every dog that bites is suspected, are also sent to the Pasteur Institute, which is the only place where rabies vaccine is available.

The Pasteur Institute carries out research on the disease continuously, using apes and dogs for its experiments.

It is hoped by these strict regulations to reduce the incidence of rabies in the East Indies.

EXPERIMENTS ON NUTRITION.

DROUGHT FEEDING OF SHEEP

By K. Baker,

In Queensland, during the ten year period ending 1940, an annual average of 1,264,864 sheep were lost from drought. Sufficient data is not available in other States but the problem there is also a serious one. Particularly will this be so in the North-Western districts of N.S.W. where conditions have been comparable to those in certain parts of Queensland.

Some Drought Feeding Problems.

Where supplementary feeding is practised in an endeavour to reduce drought losses, some of the many important factors to be considered include availability of feeds, cost of feeds and labour involved in feeding.

Labour Involved In Feeding.

Many regard this as one of the major problems in drought feeding. On many properties daily feeding can be considered impracticable. In an attempt to solve this problem there has been the extensive use of salt fodders. Included in these is a large percentage of salt varying from 15% to 30%, the object being to reduce the palatability to such an extent as to automatically regulate the amount consumed per day. However, many are opposed to this method of drought feeding.

The problem we set out to investigate in this experiment was whether twice weekly feeding of a good feed mixture would produce the same result as daily feeding.

Experimental Details.

Eight two-tooth wethers were selected and divided on the basis of live-weights, into two even groups. All animals were penned and fed separately.

The experiment was commenced on 7th May, 1942. One group has been fed 1½-lbs per sheep daily and the other has been fed on Mondays and Thursdays, receiving 3¾-lbs. per sheep and 5-lbs. per sheep on these days respectively. This second group then receives the same quantity of feed weekly (viz.: 8¾-lbs.) as those fed daily. The mixture fed is lucerne meal 60 parts, oats 20 parts, meat meal 10 parts, and linseed meal 10 parts.

The group fed twice weekly have consumed their ration in a little over a day, so that when fed on Monday morning they "fast" from Tuesday mid-day to Thursday morning and from Friday mid-day to Monday morning when fed on Thursday. The sheep in both

groups have been weighed weekly. From these recordings and from appearances, the sheep appear to have maintained their condition equally well in both groups.

	May 12	June 2	June 24	July 15	Aug. 5
Average weight of wethers fed daily ..	52 lbs.	55.9 lbs.	58.5 lbs.	59.9 lbs.	63.7 lbs.
Av. weight of wethers fed twice weekly ..	52.2	57.5	59.8	61	62

Admittedly, the experiment is a small one but it is interesting to note that both the daily-fed group and the twice-weekly fed group have done equally well.

Under field conditions unequal competition by individual animals might produce very different results from those obtained in our experiment. However, we consider the results obtained of sufficient interest to warrant further investigation in the field where the exercise of reasonable care in grouping of animals, ample trough space and feeding in small mobs, might give similar results under drought conditions where sheep are fed say, once or twice weekly on the same level as those fed daily.

CONCENTRATES FOR SHEEP.

By B. Sleeman.

At present the high price, per pound of starch equivalent, of roughage fodders, compares very unfavourably with the price of concentrated feeds, such as cereal grains, oil-meals, etc. If it were practicable to maintain hand-fed sheep and cattle on a wholly concentrated ration, then considerable saving in feed costs would accrue. Many people consider this impracticable, but experiments have shown otherwise. To gain further information upon the subject, the following experiment, which is still in progress, was commenced.

On the 20th May, this year, two 6-tooth Merino wethers were placed in a small pen, and fed a ration made up as follows:—

- Crushed yellow maize, 3-lbs.
- Linseed oilcake, 1-lb.
- Calcium carbonate, 1-oz.
- Common salt, 1-oz.

Each sheep received one pound of the mixture per day. They were weighed at the commencement of the test and have been weighed since at weekly intervals.

The findings of the test, so far, are interesting. The weights are as follows:—

Date of Weighing	Sheep A.	Sheep B.
22nd May	86-lbs.	105-lbs.
29th May	87-lbs.	100-lbs.
17th June	89-lbs.	100-lbs.
24th June	89-lbs.	101-lbs.
1st July	87-lbs.	99-lbs.
8th July	89-lbs.	99-lbs.
22nd July	88-lbs.	98-lbs.
29th July	88-lbs.	98-lbs.
5th August	88-lbs.	99-lbs.

Thus it may be seen that the bodyweights of the animals have remained on a fairly constant level, and as the ration being fed is based on maintenance requirements only, this is satisfactory, indicating fairly good utilization of the ration.

Also, from general impressions, it is indicated that the animals are in good health and no signs of nutritional deficiency have yet appeared. The sheep find their ration extremely palatable, and consume it with eagerness and voracity; in fact, more readily than sheep in adjacent pens which are being fed on a normal ration containing roughage. This observation is in contradistinction to the results obtained by another worker, from a trial with dairy cattle. He reported anorexia, dullness of coat, and other indications of unthriftiness.

Since being fed on the concentrated ration the sheep have been watched and it has been observed that rumination has ceased, but with apparently no disadvantage.

It is proposed, at the conclusion of the experiment, to slaughter one of the sheep and determine any changes in the rumen which have occurred, due to diminution in function of that organ. The other animal will be put back on to a normal roughage diet to determine whether these ruminal changes interfere with subsequent utilization of roughage.

The results of the trial, if successful, will throw further light upon the question as to whether a ruminant must be fed on a ration containing roughages for maintenance of normal health and production.

At present, with chaff being sold at £10/12/- per ton, the cost of roughage, calculated on a starch equivalent basis, is round about 3d. per pound of starch equivalent. Current prices of concentrates work out at only about a penny per pound of starch equivalent. Thus, if the roughage in the ration could be entirely or even at least to a considerable extent, be replaced by concentrates, much more economy in feeding would result.

The applications to the drought-feeding of sheep are obvious but an application to dairy cattle might also be made. Most of the cattle utilized in the production of the Sydney city milk supply have to be hand-fed for long periods of the normal year and also for considerable periods in drought time. If no home-grown fodder is available, which is frequently the case due to adverse seasons, etc., fodder must be bought, and if concentrates are cheaper than roughages, and give equal results, great benefit will obtain to this important branch of the dairying industry.

Acknowledgment is made to the McMaster Laboratory for loan of pen and animals.

PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF RABBIT DESTRUCTION.

By N. B. King.

During drought periods the rabbit problem assumes major proportions. Rabbits select only the most nutritious portions of the pastures, usually the finer types like Bent, Danthonia and "Blue" grasses. Moreover, farmers calculate that several rabbits will consume as much grass as an individual sheep.

By selective grazing the most nutritious grasses disappear as seeding is prevented and the sward is eaten very close to the ground.

Damage due to burrowing, especially where large warrens are established, may become of considerable importance.

In planning a campaign against rabbits, the following points are necessary:—

- (1) All surface harbour, where practicable, should be removed. This is possible in the case of logs, blackberries and lantana in some districts, but rabbits often become established among rocks and at the bases of trees.
- (2) The area should be netted, the wire sunk at least 8 inches in the ground, with a sufficient number of supporting wires spaced at 7 to 8 inch intervals from the ground.
- (3) A good pack of dogs to complete the job once the rabbits are becoming reduced in numbers.

Destruction may consist of many forms; among the most common are:—

- (a) *Poisoning*.—Strychnine is the commonest bait and is incorporated in thistle root, carrot cubes, etc., and spread by a poison cart, usually towards nightfall. Care should be taken to insure that stock do not ingest the baits. Water-holes, troughs and tanks may be poisoned but this renders the water unfit for subsequent stock use.
- (b) *Gas*.—Cyanide and carbon bisulphide are mostly used. The gas is blown into the burrows by means of pumps or bellows until it issues out from the other exits. These are then closed and rabbits are asphyxiated. The dogs are useful here as some rabbits attempt to escape. Gas is relatively expensive and is only used in rocky country, on sides of river banks and inaccessible areas.
- (c) *Trapping*.—Useful to clean up the remnants in heavily infested areas. One man can manage 60 to 80 traps; this necessitates at least one night visit as a large area has to be covered and frequently rabbits are removed by foxes. In trapping, a small depression is dug at the entrance to the burrow sufficient to hold the trap. A steel peg is driven in to hold trap in position and a slip of paper placed over the "plate." The whole trap is then covered very expertly with fine soil.
Due to the high price of skins at present, the trapping industry is very popular. Six to eight skins weighing one pound and market price 6/- per lb. means a very remunerative living in heavily infested areas.
- (d) *Ferrets*.—These are losing favour due to the uncertainty of their actions unless well-trained. Ferrets will often remain in the burrow and eat the young rabbits ("kittens").
- (e) *Rabbit Wire Traps*.—Usually situated along rabbit-proofed fences. They consist of netting enclosures which prevent escape once the rabbit has entered. These traps are useful in eradicating hares.
- (f) *Digging Out*.—Probably the most laborious method yet quite effective. The limitations of this method are met with in river banks and in rocky terrain.

Finally, when eradicating rabbits co-operation with neighbours is necessary to prevent re-infestation of "clean" areas.

The formation of mutual assistance groups to erect netting fences, clean surface harbour and dig out warrens greatly aids in recovering the original carrying capacity of the pasture and ensuring the full benefit of the grazier's efforts.

VETS. IN THE FORCES

We regret that this year when so many of our undergraduates and graduates are in the Forces it has been found impossible to compile a complete list, as there are no records available of enlistments from the Faculty.

STUDENT REPORT ON THE FACULTY OF VETERINARY SCIENCE, SYDNEY.

Presented to the National Union of Australian University Students and the Faculty of Veterinary Science.

Introduction:

The object of this report is to offer such constructive criticism as is deemed fit and to present the Student viewpoint on various matters vitally affecting the outgoing graduate.

The numerous recommendations which are made in the report are made with the idea that should the course come under re-consideration at any time, some at least, of these recommendations may be considered.

An extensive reorganisation of the whole course would appear warranted on the grounds that the course has now reached a stage when its foundation is beginning to appear somewhat unstable. It would appear that the foundations have been gradually built on through the years until the course has now reached a stage when the whole superstructure has reached extensive proportions on somewhat unstable foundations.

Considerations of the numbers of failures at annual examinations during the past few years shows that these have reached no mean proportion. Whilst it is admitted that this position may be partly due to the student himself, it is felt that the responsibility does not rest entirely with the student and that part of the trouble does lie in the course itself.

With the vast advances in all branches of science during recent years the student at present is having to learn far more than in years past and it is felt that too often fundamentals are sacrificed to allow the course to cover the increasing field of work. The omission of these fundamentals makes the work far more difficult and the graduate is at a loss because of it. It is strongly recommended that in all subjects the fundamentals must be concentrated on, for without these the student cannot clearly understand the more advanced work, even though he may still know sufficient to satisfy the examiner.

Many of the subjects in the earlier years of the course appear to the student to have very little application to the work of the Veterinarian. In order to overcome this it is recommended that where possible the practical applications of various parts of different subjects be quoted during lectures in order to maintain the students' interest—which is a very large factor and one which does not always appear to be realised. It is felt that throughout the earlier years of the course the practical applications of the work could be given much greater prominence.

This report is presented under the following headings:—

1. Subject matter of the course.
2. Relationship between staff and students.
3. Facilities for extra work.

Subject Matter of the Course:

It is not intended to discuss the first year of the course here because this is largely covered by other faculties.

Most lecturers refer very little to other States and New Zealand. As members from these areas constitute no small proportion of the Faculty it is recommended that references to conditions in other States would be advantageous.

1. *Anatomy*: The principle which appears to have been adopted in the Dissection Room, viz.: that the easiest way to learn such work is by repetition has much to commend it and little to be said against it.

The subject of Anatomy is extremely large and is generally one of the main "bug-bears" of most students. It is felt that more emphasis could be placed on the more important aspects of the course, such as surface and surgical aspects of anatomy, or in other words, those aspects having a more direct practical application. This increased emphasis to be done at the expense of portions of the work of lesser importance, rather than any total increase in the course.

The section of work "Osteology" appears to take a great deal of time, as it is that dealt with in the early stages when progress with new students must essentially be slow for some time. The importance of osteology does not appear to warrant the expenditure of this time and it is suggested that this time be greatly reduced.

On the other hand "Embryology" is not very extensively dealt with and much is left to the students' extra reading. A clear knowledge and understanding of this aspect of Anatomy is of great assistance to other work, and it is felt that more time could be spent on this aspect. It is not suggested that the extent of the embryology should be greatly increased, but rather more time spent on the subject and generally more clarified.

It is suggested that embryology may replace much of osteology and that it be dealt with early in first term when it follows closely after that done in First Year. Of course, the whole course cannot be covered in one series of lectures, but the principles and early stages could well be covered earlier in the course.

Due to the very limited application of neurology in Veterinary practice it is thought that this could be greatly reduced.

2. *Physiology, Biochemistry and Animal Nutrition*: The Veterinary Physiology of Third Year appears to be rather a weak

point in the year. The notes are not particularly good and are of very little value to the student. The lectures are not delivered in a manner that is to the students' best advantage, nor does the lecturer appear to cover the work in a systematic manner.

It is felt that far more useful work could be covered in the realm of Veterinary Physiology, and Veterinary Biochemistry.

The notes in Veterinary Physiology, Veterinary Biochemistry and Animal Nutrition are largely copied direct from text books, and recent publications. Too much emphasis is placed on recent and unconfirmed work. Instead of being a clear statement of facts the notes are rather a review of the latest works without any definite conclusions being drawn. Whilst this may have the advantage of placing the student in possession of rather complete modern theories it has the disadvantage that much is at the expense of earlier well proven and fundamental work. In addition, it is rather much to expect a student to be a critic of latest works, the originals of which he often cannot obtain, nor has the time to do so. This course is one which it is felt could be vastly improved and more time and emphasis placed on fundamental work.

It is strongly recommended that the section of Animal Behaviour be entirely deleted from the course. This section of the work has no application in Veterinary practice and seems to serve no useful purpose. Its place could well be taken by more time in Physiology, Biochemistry and Animal Nutrition—particularly the latter. It is proposed that Animal Nutrition is an extremely important aspect of the work and could be treated in a more clear and concise manner without increasing the amount of work. The section of the lectures covered at the Medical School is comprehensive and as it affects other Faculties, little will be said of the actual subject matter.

However, the notes issued by the Physiology Department, whilst being extremely good as far as subject matter is concerned, are very poorly printed, often covered with ink, sometimes printed upside down, and generally the margin is on the wrong side of the page. The printing of clear notes, even when both sides of the paper are used, is only a matter of a little extra care and greatly adds to the value of a student's notes. Also, it is felt that notes should be issued prior to the lectures and not some weeks or even months later.

The practical work in Physiology at the Medical School appears to concentrate on a part of the work which is of little value as an aid to understanding the general principles of Physiology. In this respect it is recommended that much could be gained from the Adelaide University course in practical Physiology where students actually carry out experiments on live animals. This has everything to commend it as an aid to a better understanding of many otherwise difficult sections of the work. One cannot help but feel that the large amount of time spent in ascertaining the effects of exercise, etc., on blood pressure, pulse, temperature, etc., is rather excessive and serves little purpose in helping to understand much of physiological phenomena, little of which is demonstrated in a practical way in the course as it stands at present.

The course in practical Biochemistry is fairly complete and

probably serves a good purpose. However, the examination leaves much to be desired. Most experiments are done once or at most twice; a student cannot be expected to develop an accurate technique and at the same time learn a large amount of detail about the tests in the time available. There seems no reason why students should not be issued with sheets of instructions for the qualitative section of the examination as well as for the quantitative.

3. *Zootechny*: The course in first year is confined to study of breed characteristics and identification of animals. The year is a fairly large one and a necessary one. However, many breeds are dealt with in comparative detail, which do not occur to any great extent in Australia, if at all. Instead of doing each breed of each type in detail it may be easier to do either one breed of each type in detail and the remainder by differences only, or do all breeds important to Australia in fair detail with an outline on other breeds of no great significance as far as we are concerned.

The course in second year consists of general animal husbandry and various allied topics and is again an extremely large one. It is difficult to offer criticism of this course from some points of view, but from others it is obvious that some very useful work could be added, or the present course amended. Considering the numbers of graduates in the various branches of Veterinary Science it is obvious that most are directly concerned with animal production in the country. A good many are employed in research work, others in private practice in the cities. It seems reasonable therefore that the greater portion of the *Zootechny* course should be allotted to matters dealing with economic live stock at the expense of minor sections which would be of use to dog-cat practitioner for example.

The study of animal husbandry in all its phases is the largest subject in the course and therefore each individual section can only be dealt with superficially or some have to be omitted to allow more detail in others (latter is preferable). No person can be expected to be an expert in all phases of the subject. Some sections of the course, whilst being of some use to the graduates, could well be omitted from the lectures and studies from set text books, e.g., it is recommended that the section on water and watering be eliminated from the lectures and students be recommended to study the section in Pearse. This section is well done in this book.

In general, graduates are mainly concerned with sheep, cattle, horses and pigs, in this order of importance, and the course should make allowance for this distribution.

At present the course is dealt with under the following headings:—

- Shoeing.
- Gaits of horses.
- Water.
- Stable and dairy construction.
- Dipping and jetting.
- Milk.
- Wool-classing, etc.
- Genetics.

No where in this general scheme does the management of stock come into consideration to any great extent. There is no section of the course given over to say the management of a flock of merino sheep, the yearly cycle on a farm used for raising live stock of any particular kind. It is felt that the course should primarily be concerned with the management of properties for live stock breeding of different types. The reply to this may be that students should get this experience from extra mural work during the vacations, but it is not possible to cover all this in the time available during vacations. In addition, many city students who have had little previous experience cannot appreciate the value of extra mural work unless they have received some previous tuition.

Admittedly, there are many different types of management for the same set of conditions, but it is felt that there is no need to go into details of management but to give students a general idea of management of different types of stock raising. In this connection it is recommended that the yearly cycle and management of the following types of stock raising be added to the course, and cyclostyled notes be issued:—

1. Care and management of a merino flock.
2. Care and management of a crossbred flock for fat lamb raising.
3. Care and management of a cattle herd for dairy purposes under various conditions.
4. Care and management of a cattle herd for beef purposes under various conditions.
5. Care and management of a horse raising property.
6. Care and management of a pig farm.
7. Care and management of a poultry farm.

To gain a representative set of notes on these subjects it is recommended that prominent breeders be contracted to write an article on his particular branch and then these to be compiled into a comprehensive set of cyclostyled notes. The main object of this set of notes is to set out for the student the general management of different live stock pursuits and under varying conditions.

Much of this may involve a study of agricultural principles, but this is all to be desired, as the demand for some agricultural knowledge by Veterinarians is becoming increasingly evident.

The section of the work on "gaits" is of rather minor importance compared with others and it is recommended that it be reduced.

The sections on stable and dairy construction and other farm buildings could be included in the care and management of flocks as set out above, also the sections on dipping and jetting.

The section on "milk" could well be changed from the point of view of the factory to that of the producer, and dealt with under "Care and Management of Dairy Herd." The factory aspect has little application to the great majority of Veterinarians.

It is difficult to offer any constructive criticism of the course in "Genetics." At the same time it is felt that the work could well be amended and altered to one having much greater practical application. Admittedly, much of the illustrative work in genetics is of an academic nature and rather little work has been done with

domestic animals, but nevertheless the course could be greatly improved to become an instrument of greater value to the graduate. The application of different types of breeding in various live stock pursuits, their advantages and disadvantages, use in purchasing stock, etc., could be greatly increased.

Third Year.—Dietetics: With the change in policy in other parts of the world from the Starch Equivalent system to that used by such workers as Morrison and Brady, it is felt that the same change should be made in the course here and the course be made one of greater value to the veterinary graduate.

4. *Pharmacology:* The course in pharmacology is most unsatisfactory from the point of view of lectures. The lecturer rarely covers half the prescribed syllabus; the student having to study the remainder as best he is able from a set of notes which are mostly medical, with an occasional reference to the Veterinary aspect. If possible, it would seem desirable to include Pharmacology with Therapeutics and Materia Medica.

5. *Histology:* The difficulty which so many students find in their histopathology work seems a reflection on the histology course. The majority of students confess that they learn more histology in pathology than they do in histology. The combination of histology with embryology and its inclusion in anatomy as a more important section (as at Medical School), dealt on a clearer basis at the Veterinary School, seems very desirable.

Facilities for Vacation Activities:

a. *Scientific Laboratories:* No scientific laboratory in this State is willing to take students in for employment and pay them for their services. This is not criticised as being a weakness, but one aspect which may be improved when finance is again available in these institutions. At both the Melbourne and Adelaide Universities facilities exist for the vacation employment of undergraduates on a paid basis.

The field of vacation work open to undergraduates is very wide and probably it would not be desirous to allow students who have not shown a sound basis in extra mural work to spend too much time in laboratories, but for those who have shown a sound practical outlook and who are desirous of gaining extra laboratory experience, it is suggested that the employment of students in laboratories under the jurisdiction of Faculty would be an advancement.

b. *Extra Mural Work:* A list of property owners who are willing to accept students for vacation activities would be a great acquisition and it is felt that access to these would encourage more students to undertake more extra mural activity.

The Drube's Weekly Bovine Article, Entitled: COW'S CUD DO BUTTER?

After much research and endless trouble and expense, I have at last cleared up this "High Cost of Milk" question.

The trouble obviously lies with the cows themselves. To prove this I have spent quite a lot of time in field and dell and pastures

green, hobnobbing with the cream of the milk givers. (Yairs, go on. Ed.)

Funny people, cows. Never say much; quite and reserved and self-satisfied—not at all concerned with the type of bale, nor does she care if the slope of the floor is 1 in 60 or 1 in 5. That's the only trouble with cows, they don't argue over these trifling details.

Have you ever made friends with a cow? A tricky business, to say the least. I studied her mannerisms to decide on my best approach. She resented my "boxing method" as hostile and became quite unsettled in her behaviour. However, mostly she was placid, moody, and at times morose.

As soon as I felt we were on confidential terms with one another, I came straight to the point. I will never forget it! She was sitting on my lap in a little glade by what had once been a rivulet, until the Water Board put a stop to it. I looked at her and said: "Hetty, I have something that I must ask you," and she gave a shiver and her big brown eyes gazed dreamily into mine.

"It is about the price of milk," I said, feeling an absolute cad.

"Oh!" she whispered, and a tear rolled down her offside horn.

"What makes it so hard? Is it because of the drought?"

She shook her head sadly.

"It is because of the under-production. We don't give nearly so much milk these days, and it is these damn milking machines that have caused it. Ever since they have been using them on us we have been under the impression that our milk was being permanently waved."

I looked at her anxiously.

"And how do you know that it isn't?"

"We are not so dumb," she snorted. "Read this!"

I looked down at the Milk Board's newspaper advertisement she was holding in her hoof—"We guarantee this milk comes straight from the cow."

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY REGIMENT—VETERINARY WING.

Capt. F. Whitehouse, O.C.; Sgts. N. B. King, R. Falk, P. Whitehouse

This unit, under Capt. F. Whitehouse, marched into camp at No. 2, E.C. Veterinary Hospital, Holdsworth, on 4th December, 1941. Attached to the Hospital, personnel gained experience in dressing of wounds and treatment of strangles and catarrh. All personnel spent at least a week at No. 3 Remount Depot. Night riding as well as daylight bivouacs was undertaken.

The unit was inspected by the Governor, Lord Wakehurst, at Ingleburn, after which an efficient shoot was held at Ingleburn range.

Lighter moments of camp included trench digging, sand-bag filling and airing tents.

There was plenty of "ginger" in the orderly room as indicated by the numerous notices which occasionally (if not for long) appeared on the board. "Shell" and "Screech" managed to "keep" good order, while "Ned" backs his horse against all-comers.

The unit marched out of camp on 11th February, 1942.

—N.B.K.

Unofficial History S.U.R. Veterinary Wing.

Another chapter has been added to the already long record of the former 2 M.V.S., and new memories will be revived and relived and old songs again sung as future Mobiles gather around the groaning bar-table. Never had so much been accomplished by so few (privates). 2nd Mobile Veterinary men will understand this. During three months these following impressions were gained of my fellow chocos.

RED BRYDON: A born kleptomaniac. Was often seen with several watermelons under one arm or a few dozen peaches or a pocketful of peppermints. Rode a red horse which was usually out of action as it received a kick from that expert Stromboli. Lance Corp. R.: Expects his sargeancy on his showing in this camp. Rode Ivan (it sure was terrible).

Emperor CAIUS MAXIMUS: Well proved his royalty by picking the fastest steed of all as his charger—bestowing upon him the old Grecian name of Anus.

BOB: The man with the penknife. Forked no poor seat on a mean cayuse.

PEP: Elected the best poler of all Mobiles forever.

"THE SELECTION OF A WHITE LEGHORN COCKEREL."

Having determined the sex of the bird, we now have to select one whose sterling qualities will be such as to warrant that they should be perpetuated in his offspring, per medium of his wives. What are these qualities, we might ask ourselves? Well, firstly, take the bird's head. Notice his eyes! Are they bright, flashing and attractive? If so, that is a point in his favour that will stamp him as a willing sire.

Next his beak. It must be powerful and gracefully curved, neither overshot nor undershot, so that he can select his grain with equanimity. It can be used as a weapon of offense to control any fickle members of his harem. Continuing, the next point to consider is the comb. It should be carried erect, towering, fine and silky to the touch and segmented by five serrations. Of late, there has been a bitter controversy in the poultry industry whether this number should be increased to six. At the present time this point is beyond the scope of our work and further research will be needed to clarify this position.

Having dealt with the head we now pass on to the neck. Above all, it should be gracefully curved, fine and long. A neck that is thick and coarse will certainly not do. Think of the axe.

Now for the body, upon which special emphasis should be placed. The correct type is one that is deep and broad at the base and tapering towards the neck. In fact, a wedge-shape dairy confirmation should be looked for in the cockerel. Such a bird will pass on to his female progeny qualities that will enable those birds, those martyrs to human requirements, to produce at least 300 eggs per bird per year. Undoubtedly, this will help the poultry farmer to keep on feeding on. Of course, this does not apply to present-day

conditions. Nowadays, the farmer, in order to do this, would have to sell the birds to pay for their feed. Such a position has given rise to that apt expression, "The Eternal Oval:" the egg board, egg prices, egg costs.

Let us now pass on to the breast. This should be full and rounded, without bulging. What did you say Mr.—? Oh no, Mr.—! It does not serve that purpose.

Having discussed the body, we will next deal with the legs. They should be set wide apart so as to give the bird plenty of ground to stand over and, therefore, to maintain his equilibrium. Do not select a bird that is knock-kneed. What difficulty he would have in perching and think of the loss of sleep. That would never do. It is essential that the bird should have a refreshing sleep, otherwise how could you expect him to carry on his job of work.

Finally, we have the plumage of the bird to consider. None other than white feathers should be seen. Any other colour would indicate that somebody had become involved in the bird's pedigree who shouldn't have been there. His tail should be full and compact, his sickles being gracefully curved upwards, backwards, and finally ending in a downward sweep. These sickle feathers give to the male bird that dashing masculinity which distinguishes him from the more dour and humble females.

Well, ladies and gentlemen, there we have our ideal type of leghorn cockerel that will build up our poultry industry from an ugly duckling to a fully-fledged member of our primary industries
"Dead in the Shell."

OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE SYDNEY UNIVERSITY VETERINARY SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR 1942.

Patrons: The Hon. the Minister for Agriculture, Professor J. D. Stewart, the Dean and Members of the Staff.

President: R. C. Taylor.

Vice-President: F. Morley.

Hon. Treasurer: N. B. King.

Assistant Hon. Secretary: J. H. Macdonald.

Hon. Graduate Secretary: H. Pile, B.V.Sc.

Women's Representative: Miss Joan Byrne.

Dance Committee: R. Hoskins, G. H. Wright, J. Steel, C. Petherbridge, Mrs. Niederer.

Dinner Committee: M. E. Dodson, R. L. Mitton, W. Monk, J. West.

Debates Committee: W. E. Officer, D. Rennel, D. Barret.

Year Representatives: 1st Year, J. Stillman; 2nd Year, J. Woodbridge; 3rd Year, J. West; 4th Year, G. Wright; 5th Year, J. Steel.

Librarian: J. Odbert.

Editor of Centaur: W. E. Crogan.

Assistant Editor: W. N. Freeman.

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY VETERINARY SOCIETY.

This year, with even fewer students in the Faculty, the activities

were more curtailed than last year. What meetings there were, however, were well supported.

Instead of the Annual Ball, an informal dance was held on the night of July 15th. This was very successful, some dancers having a particularly happy time on the floor in the concluding dances of the night. People are still wondering where the pine-apples and tomatoes came from. Unfortunately, very few of the Staff were present. The sum of £11/13/8 was paid into the A.A.V.C. Comforts Fund. The early completion of the short course by 12 students in June rather spoilt the arrangements being made by the Dinner Committee for a farewell to them on the completion of their studies. Eventually nothing was done in the matter.

Only four addresses were delivered:

May 8th: Mr. W. Downing, M.R.C.V.S. gave an address entitled, "My Experiences of the Live Stock Industry in the Argentine."

June 19th: Mr. H. O. Cartwright, B.V.Sc., on the "Nationalisation of the Veterinary Services in Tasmania."

July 3rd: Mr. Max Henry, M.R.C.V.S., on "The Work of the Animal Health Division in New South Wales."

August 7th: Dr. Still, "Trace Elements and Substances in Biology."

VET. SCIENCE SPORTS CLUB.

OFFICE BEARERS, 1942.

Patron: Prof. J. D. Stewart.

President: Mr. J. H. Macdonald.

Vice-Presidents: Prof. I. Clunies Ross, Dr. R. M. Gunn, Dr. H. Carne, Mr. Webb, Mr. Parry, Mr. Whitehouse, Mr. Newcomb, Mr. Geddes, Mr. Pile.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. J. P. Woodbridge.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. B. King.

Committee: Mr. J. West, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Biron.

1st Year Representative: Mr. McConnell.

Delegate to Inter-Faculty Sports Committee: J. H. Macdonald.

Sub-Committees:

Swimming: Messrs. Rennel, West, Crogan.

Athletics: Messrs. King, Clarke, Woodbridge.

Boxing: Messrs. McTackett, Baker, Irvine.

Rowing: Messrs. Freeman, Odbert, Gerring.

Basketball: Messrs. King, West, Thornbury.

Golf: Messrs. Dodson, Biron, Irvine.

Tennis: Messrs. Dodson, Biron, Macdonald.

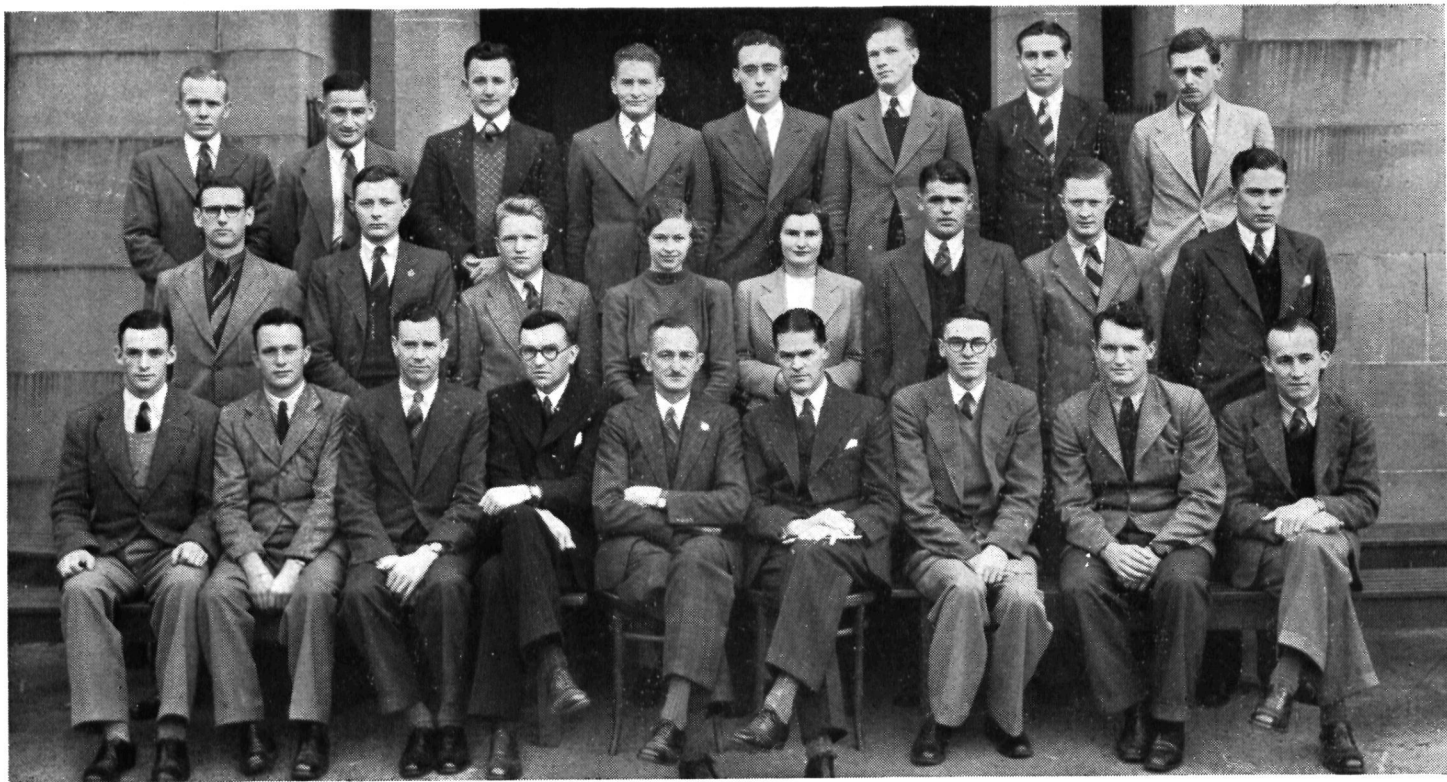
Cricket: Messrs. West, McNiven, Juleff.

Football: Messrs. McTackett, Irvine, Woodbridge.

Athletics.

In the Inter-Faculty athletics, the number representing the faculty was regrettably small, only a handful of Vets facing the starter.

Morrison was second in the shot putt with a throw of 40ft. 5½ins. and teamed with Morley as runner-up to the record-breaking



FINAL YEAR, 1942.

Back Row: R. C. Taylor, S. L. Neiderer, B. F. Gallagher, R. L. Mitton, D. C. Blood, I. M. Cairney, D. M. Flynn, M. E. Dodson.
Middle Row: B. C. Hagelhorn, J. H. Whittem, L. P. Prewett, Miss M. J. Glasson, Miss A. F. Rogers, J. D. Steel, E. J. McBarron, L. C. Freeman.
Front Row: K. A. Ferguson, R. Crawford, Dr. H. R. Carne, H. P. Parry, Dr. R. M. C. Gunn, Dr. I. Clunies Ross, J. W. Newcomb, F. Morley, P. G. Schinckel.

Med. team. Morrison also tossed the disc .94ft. lin. to gain second money. West ran well in the mile, but had no team mate to qualify for points.

Football

Although going under in the final to Dentistry, the Vet. team turned on some very sound football.

In the qualifying rounds, Agriculture were beaten 15—0, Dentistry 8—3, and Med. B by default. After this defeat of Dentistry in a grand game and an overwhelming victory against Science in the semi-final, Vets. were odds-on for the final. Unfortunately, the team were in more trouble than Speed Gordon, and had to take the field without West, Captain and mainstay of the backs, and Woodbridge, leader of the forwards, who had to do his urging from the side-line. Allsop and Irvine who had done most of the scoring in earlier games struck trouble in the early stages, but in spite of these deficiencies, the issue was in doubt right up to the post. Dentistry finally winning 8—3.

Boxing.

Vet. entered a strong team in the Inter-Faculty boxing, but had to be content with second place to Dentistry. R. Irvine won the middle and Baker landed the thick end of the purse in the light-weights. McTackett fought well but was beaten on points in the bantam-weight.

No Inter-Faculty swimming, shooting, golf or rowing was held this year. However, we congratulate C. Petherbridge, breast-stroke champion on his 'Varsity Blue.

PERSONALITIES

J.D.S.: A bronc breaker by sheer weight of adipose tissue.

R.C.T.: So near and yet so far. See A.F.M.R.

D.C.B.: Pirate in name, but not in deed.

J.H.C.: From a navel man to a naval man.

B.G.: A lean and hungry one is he.

R.C.: They say one is just as good as two.

I.C.: Urging, poling, bustling and bruising is second nature to me.

J.H.W.: A wandering minstrel boy am I.

M.E.D.: Take an old school tie, a loaded accent, a squire's outfit and it will be a glorious spring in Mudgee if the Lismore lout strikes water on my property.

K.A.F. Sleep on my beautiful ass—sleep on.

D.M.F.: A poet and thinker impure and simple.

L.C.F.: The ploughman homeward plods his weary way.

M.J.G.: There is something about a soldier—particularly if he
is in the light horse.

B.C.H.: Sheer guano (sweet scented).

E.J.McB.: Many a flower was born to blush unseen.

R.L.M.: He shines and shines and shines—oh, how he shines!

F.H.W.M.: Henry VIII. had nothing on him.

L.P.P.: The man who put Christ in the S.C.M.

S.L.N.

H.N.

Oh, spirit of love how quick and fresh art thou.

A.F.M.R.: Oh, gentle dove abide with me. See R.C.T.

P.G.S.: The case of the tail that swings the dog.

FINAL YEAR.

(*Never Before Secured for Centaur.—Ed.*)

Split as the year was, into four groups, it is difficult to place everything in its correct perspective, but we shall try.

Firstly, there seems little doubt that, when the young know-alls of future generations are cursing us for doddering old idiots, those who took the plunge and ventured into the new fields, opened up by the opportunity for specialisation, will congratulate themselves on their foresight and audacity.

To those who successfully completed the special short course, arranged for people doing advanced clinical studies and intending to enter the Armed Forces, we offer our heartiest congratulations. Blood, Chalmers and Whitem deserve mention in that they were the recipients of Second Class Honours at graduation. At the time of writing, to our knowledge, only two of the people who left us in early June, are in the Armed Forces.

Cupid has been very busy this year—far too busy in the opinion of most. It is with not a little effort that we suppress the desire to chide those happy, lucky people and venture to remark that we feel our hormones will have long since dried up, before our financial position will allow us to propose marriage. As a quiet thought, we note that rejuvenation might prove our salvation.

We would offer, however, sincere felicitations to our newly-weds, the Neiderers and we wish every success and happiness to Peg Christian and Alan Banks who recently became engaged.

After a year's absence Brian Hagelthorn returned to our ranks. His dry humour has carried us through many a tight spot in the past and we hope it will continue to do so.

It is not true that Martin attributes his shifting lameness to too much night work and over-exertion. We hope, however, that the condition will improve when he is turned out to pasture at the end of the year.

Close examination of the annals of history reveals that it is not often that a student makes an outstanding discovery. When one of our number achieved this distinction we were a little resentful that the world's great Veterinary Journals, e.g., the A.V.J. did not give him the space that his discovery warranted. After much diligent effort and exhaustive enquiry our friend was rewarded, quite inadvertently, with the knowledge that Liq. Ammon. Forte is an excellent respiratory stimulant when instilled into the eye. As a certain amount of pride exudes from our pores at being the first to present this information we ask overseas publications to note that we have obtained the world copyright on the dissemination of this knowledge.

We passed through an anguished moment when we heard that the farm was nearly burnt down, but we suspect that some of our colleagues did not experience the same virtuous feelings.

After a recent visit to fertile Badgery's Creek we were comforted and reassured for the future, as it was discovered that we were experts in the art of pregnancy diagnosis.

We feel honoured that the public hold the services of the clinic in such high esteem and we regret that the medical profession has decayed to such an extent that two of our members were asked to diagnose a wart on a portly ladies' bosom.

One luckless internee at the farm has sadly missed his lunch hour meetings at the University. This has worried us and in our leisure moments we have often wondered how the various pink and white organisations he adheres to have managed to get along without him. We are still wondering.

A sad moment has just arrived for us because we feel and know that this is very near the end. Soon most—all we hope—of us will be out in the great abyss where one fails or succeeds. When our patient reader will hear from us again we do not know, so we take this opportunity to express our thanks and appreciation to the Faculty Staff who have nurtured and guided us through five years of work and fun. We grow afraid when we think of our sketchy knowledge, but we look forward with hope to the day when, perhaps, someone will say that it has not all been in vain.

News Flash! Our hormones have flooded over again and another battle has been won by feminine charm. We extend our congratulations to "Shiny Bob" and our best wishes to his fiancée. Who's next? We wonder? It's about your turn, Margaret.

FOURTH YEAR.

Since last year our numbers have diminished greatly. We started 1942 with 13 members. However, after three weeks we were joined by "Nobby" Clark, bringing our number up to fourteen.

Elsewhere will be seen the columns referring to those members of our previous year who have enlisted. We wish them the very best and a safe return.

McTackett entered the boxing lists again this year. He was well supported by the year, and lived up to the name of "Killer."

Members of the year are very ably filling positions in the Society. Henry Biron is Secretary, Bruce King is Treasurer, John

McDonald is Assistant Honorary Secretary and President of Sports Club. Early this year Dan Barrett and Miss Eileen Gillett were married. To them we extend our congratulations and felicitations.

The Vet. Informal was very well supported by our members. Three of our year were on the Committee. Much of the credit goes to Reg. Hoskins. The masterly way in which he sold raffle tickets to even the most hardened, will long be remembered. The announcement of the engagement of Reg and Miss Joyce Gilbert on the night of the Informal, came as a complete surprise. Congratulations to you both and may you be very happy.

We wish to take this opportunity to say again "thank you" to Dr. Carne for the hospitable and friendly way he entertained us at the end of Trinity Term.

The presence of our "bike" riders under the showers nearly every morning has produced a home-like atmosphere at the Vet. School.

At the present moment we are at Badgery's Creek. Homilies by McTacket provide one of the main sources of amusement. Certain musical members also entertain through the medium of piano and harmonicas. Whilst not strictly musical "Tales of the Berkshire Downs" is played at very frequent intervals by one of our members.

May we wish all students of Veterinary Science the best of luck in the coming November examinations.

THIRD YEAR.

Fourteen "keen" students braved the studies of third year, 1942. All commenced the year with firm resolutions and good study systems. However, sad to say, such was only a passing whim and they soon settled down to the more typical student life, consistently upholding the year's reputation each Wednesday and Friday. History was made early in first term by the presence among the film fans of one, Drube No. 1. Congrats, Bray.

Only one "Fairy" blessed the year during first term, and flitted about brightening the life of many a dejected male. Second term, however, saw a 100% increase in the "illumination" of the life of third year male members. Welcome back to third year, Nance.

But despite its lack in numbers the year upheld its reputation in the sporting field, D. L. (Stonker) Morrison and Bill ("Glass Basher") Crogan, being "towers of strength" in both the athletics and Vet. football team, R. D. Thornbury, J. West and J. J. S. McNiven doing many good things in the back line. Our congratulations are extended to R. D. ("Pug") Irvine and "Tiger" Baker for winning their respective divisions in the Inter-Faculty boxing. We were also well represented in the Intra-Faculty tennis, Thornbury and Osborne being runners-up. And, last but not least, mention must be made of our rep., Miss J. Byrne, in the defeated but not disgraced basketball team. (More moral support may have carried the day!).

The end of first term saw us lose one of our number to the Navy. Our best wishes for your success, Ted.

There were few bright spots in second term, except the day after a football match, when the five footballers conspicuously avoided contact with sundry objects and fellow students, Monday morning invariably seeing J. W. West and sometimes J. J. S. McNiven in a similar plight.

Lastly, the year sends its best wishes to all Vets. in the Forces, especially those who did last year with us, and hopes to see them continuing their courses in the very near future.

SECOND YEAR NOTES, 1942.

Owing to war conditions and such things that are, second year lost a lot of its members from our fresher days, but still we are the largest and liveliest year in the faculty to-day, or so we like to think.

Our various representatives on the S.U.V.S. and Sports Club committees will be seen elsewhere in this journal.

In the field of sport, we started well in the swimming, with a Blue to Colin Petherbridge. Congrats to you Col.

In the football the year was well represented in numbers. Our playing coach, J. P. Woodbridge, John Bentley, F. Allsop, Col. Petherbridge, A. Larsen and C. Irvine, are all worthy of note.

The boxing brought to light the powers of Bob Titcher with a novice championship. Congrats, Bob. In the Inter-Faculty we were represented by Bob, and John Irvine.

The trips to Hawkesbury and Wagga Experimental Farm were good fun and very instructive. The boys and girls had lots of fun and games learning to shear, but maybe the Dorsets don't feel so happy about it.

There was much "curling of the mo" at the farm dance in Wagga, and incidentally, who told the hurdle hoop that Dorsets were any good?

Maybe it was the "Little Horse," or even the Emu. Who knows?

Does anyone know what happened to the "Little Horse" when riding his bicycle home from Wagga one night?

Ask the Kiwi Horses.

Enough of this idle chatter. The year as a whole wishes to thank Mr. Whitehouse, Mr. Southee, Mr. Pinn and the Department of Agriculture for making these enjoyable and instructive trips possible.

A feature of the year is the number of foreigners in our midst. What with Kiwis, Spudlanders, Victorians, and South Australians, the place is hardly like home at all. Still, we wish to welcome them, and hope they enjoy their stay with us.

Finally, we wish all the final year best of luck in their coming exams. and may their future be all they could desire.

VETERINARY SCIENCE I., 1942.

This year the numbers in First Year are somewhat less than previous years—there being only thirteen. But a record has been established in that seven are women and six men. (What an extraordinary state of affairs, but it is true, nevertheless!). In spite of this, or because of this, George Skillman became our Year Repre-

sentative and filled the position to the satisfaction of all, and goodness, we are hard to please.

During the June vacation, we Vet. "freshers" (or ten of us, to be exact) "humped our bluey" to Badgery's Creek to get experience in riding and practical farm work. Casualties were few, a few sore horses, some dazed cows; but Jim Macadam still can't make out why a draught foal kicks for no reason at all. Another most humorous, but yet distressing scene, occurred when one of the fairer sex managed to slide over her horse's rump and hit a gate. Both she and the gate recovered ("slowly and surely" as the saying goes) a little worse for wear. Numerous other incidents occurred during our stay and the girls wish, at this point, to announce the fact that pillows aren't essential for a good night's sleep, while the boys still contest that they (the girls) have to make their beds first.

A WORD FROM THE LADIES.

This year we number fifteen—first year heading the list with seven—final year coming next with three. The poor unfortunate men in fourth year have existed without feminine company (during lecture time, anyway) and we don't know whether they consider this an advantage or not—but if they do, we hope they won't be so ungallant as to say so.

Again we began our knitting for the boys in the Forces, but ha! just about got into our stride when our efforts were brought to an untimely end by the bogey of clothes rationing and coupons.

Women's sport this year seemed to be non-existent until the end of second term, when things began to sparkle up. We had a basketball match v. Medicine—we prefer to draw a veil over the results of this—there was also a hockey match and the women's athletic sports in the offing. Scottie and Donaldson will be sadly missed this year from the former.

Cupid was rather active in our midst this winter and we have to felicitate Helen Racklyeft on her marriage to Sel Neiderer—a recent graduate, and Peg Christian on her engagement to Alan Banks.

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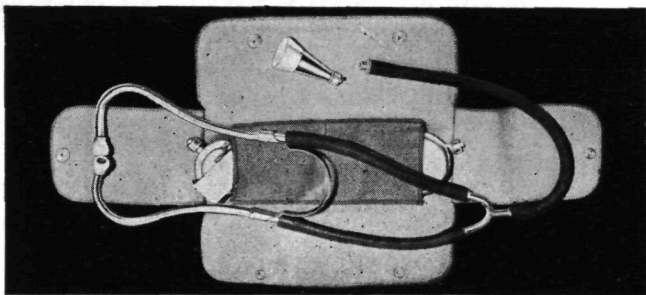
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