

May 20th, 1932.

Memorandum re Research in Animal Parasitology.

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Initiation of Work at Macdonald College:

Previous to 1926 several departments had engaged in certain phases of parasite work at Macdonald College. This led to the recognition of the problem of entozoal diseases of domestic animals in Canada and elsewhere. The losses were known to be heavy but there was little definite information available because apart from some studies on parasites of foxes and on certain insect parasites, there had been no serious attempt to investigate the problem in Canada. In order that work undertaken might be coordinated and at the same time resources pooled, a committee of those interested was formed in the fall of 1926, when a joint project was initiated.

Development of the Work and Sources of Support:

A survey, made possible by assistance from the National Research Council, revealed the prevalence of poultry parasites in a large area of the province, and other investigations at the packing houses and elsewhere definitely indicated the extent of this problem. In a field so vast it became at once apparent that while progress might be accomplished with the resources available, plans should be made for a comprehensive programme.

The committee accordingly drew up a five-year programme for the investigation of the parasites of poultry, sheep and swine, to serve as a working plan and as a basis of appeal for financial support. Representations were made to the Empire Marketing Board, the National Research Council and the Quebec Department of Agriculture.