

accurate data upon the composition of vixen's milk, not only in regard to organic but also inorganic constituents. The immediate need of such data should not be forgotten in any experimental work which may be planned in the future.

The dietary imperfections, to the probable existence of which attention has been drawn, are likely to be most conspicuous during the winter season. The reason for thinking so is that milk is never included in the diet until after the pups are born in the early spring. This situation is the more unfortunate since a diet of meat and cereals alone furnishes a particularly poor provision for the requirements of pregnancy and lactation. If the practical difficulties that have hitherto excluded milk from the diet of the pregnant female cannot be overcome, other sources of calcium and of the fat-soluble accessory become an absolute necessity. Eggs (with the shell) would provide both, bone-meal might be useful in supplying the former, and the latter could be derived from the liberal use of liver, tripe and other glandular materials. Many of the most successful ranchers have been led by experience to include one or more of these articles of diet in their winter regime. In others the situation is perhaps saved to some extent by the use of cod-liver oil biscuits.

Reference has been made to the possibility of a deficiency of calcium in the diet of the foxes. The other inorganic constituents of the food also demand attention. Many caretakers appear to be very much afraid of giving their foxes too much common salt, and it would not be surprising if this fear led occasionally to a deficiency of sodium. It might be a good plan to leave the solution of this question to the fox itself, by placing in each pen a lump of rock salt.

A human subject restricted to the articles which have been actually used in feeding foxes would stand a considerable chance of being attacked by scurvy. The only foodstuffs in the list already given, which contain the "anti-scorbutic" vitamine, are milk, which is not particularly rich in it, and probably apples. Scurvy is a disease from which flesh-eating animals are not positively known to suffer; it is none the less possible and indeed likely that they require for the maintenance of perfect nutrition a supply of the antiscorbutic element present in green vegetables, fruits, and many tubers. If such a requirement does actually exist, it is