

International Commission on Control of Tuberculosis

The American Veterinary Medical Association has recognized for some time that the question of tuberculosis

control work among domestic animals was a big and very difficult problem of universal interest and fundamental importance and one that must be met sooner or later. This Association has recently recognized that certain great interests are concerned in any dealing with this problem. Fundamentally interested in this question as a public health measure; second, the live stock producer, especially interested in the financial questions of profit and loss—the producer of animal foods for human beings; and, third, there was the manufacturer of these animal foods, the packer; and, fourth, the veterinarian and practitioners intimately related on one hand to the producer and on the other hand to the consumer.

With these considerations in view the American Veterinary Medical Association made provision at its last session for the creation of an International Tuberculosis Commission which should fittingly represent all these great interests. The essential duty of this Commission was to study thoroughly and report upon the general problems of control work rather than upon technical research problems.

The following gentlemen were selected to represent the United States on this Commission: Hon. W. D. Hoard of Wisconsin, a practical dairyman, breeder, farmer, and editor of *Hoard's Dairyman*; Dr. John R. Mohler, Chief of the Pathological Division of the Federal Bureau of Animal Industry; Dr. V. A. Moore, professor of pathology and dean of the veterinary college at Cornell University, New York; Dr. P. J. Farnell, professor of bacteriology, University of Wisconsin, and member of the Wisconsin State Live Stock Sanitary Board; Dr. M. H. Reynolds, professor of veterinary medicine, University of Minnesota, member and organizer of the Minnesota State Live Stock Sanitary Board; and Dr. E. C. Schroeder, superintendent of the Federal Bureau of Animal Industry Experiment Station.

The members selected to represent the Dominion of Canada were: Senator W. C. Edwards, Ottawa; one of Canada's most famous breeders of Shorthorns; Mr. J. W. Flavell, of Toronto, a prominent Canadian packer; Dr. J. A. Hodgetts, Chief Health Officer for the Province of Ontario; Dr. J. G. Rutherford, Veterinary Director-General, and Live Stock Commissioner, Ottawa; and Dr. F. Torrance, Winnipeg, professor of veterinary medicine, University of Manitoba, and a prominent Canadian veterinarian.

SO FAR AS A CANADIAN GETS CREDIT

So far as the writer knows, credit for the original suggestion and for pushing the movement along until it finally resulted in the creation of this Commission, belongs especially to Dr. Rutherford of Canada. The first session of this Commission was held recently at Buffalo, New York. Dr. J. G. Rutherford was selected Secretary of the Commission and it was soon recognized that this was necessarily a preliminary meeting and should be devoted to a discussion of organization and plans for work with the members getting acquainted with each other and with each other's views.

It was soon agreed that the Commission could not wisely at this stage adopt specific resolutions or recommend specific methods; but a number of general propositions were taken up for consideration and on some of these the Commission reached unanimous understanding.

(1) That general compulsory tuberculin test and slaughter is impracticable and should be dropped from further consideration.

(2) That voluntary testing for owners as a general state policy should be retained, provided it be recognized for what it really is, i.e., a very efficient means of public education and as serving somewhat to keep further spread of tuberculosis among domestic animals in check.

(3) It was unanimously agreed, recognizing fully its limitations, that we can and should accept the tuberculin test under certain conditions as a basis of suitable control legislation.

SUB-COMMITTEES

The general problem before the Commission; i.e., control work, was divided into 4 sections and assigned to sub-committees as follows: Education and legislation, Dr. Reynolds, (Chairman); Government Board, Dr. Rutherford; Dissemination, Dr. Moore, (Chairman); Dr. Schroeder, Dr. Ravene.

Location of Tuberculosis, Dr. Mohler, (Chairman); Mr. Flavell, Dr. Hodgetts.

Disposition of Tuberculous Animals, Senator Edwards, (Chairman); Dr. Mohler, Dr. Torrance.

One of the serious difficulties in our problem was recognized as the indifference of purchasers of valuable breeding stock who want certain blood lines and are willing to take the tuberculosis in order to get the breeding.

It was recognized that marked change in public sentiment in most states and provinces must be secured and that this can be expected only as a process of slow development.

In this informal discussion the Commission found and recognized the importance of certain doors admitting the sanitation to the tubercular herd; i.e., (1) by way of the killing flock and local stock yards to the farm; (2) through clinical cases recognized in practice, inspection, or otherwise; (3) tuberculin testing for interstate and export traffic.

Two important general sources of dissemination (not individual infection) were recognized: first, the traffic in tuberculosis cattle especially in pure bred stock; and second, unpasteurized creamery skimmed milk. In view of these various considerations it was also agreed that the Commission needs the assistance of two more members, one of whom should directly represent American packers and the other should represent American state health officers.—M. H. Reynolds, Secretary.

Ontario Horse Breeders

The annual meeting of the Ontario Horse Breeders' Association was held in Toronto last week. The association, which has a membership of 504, include the Canadian Clydesdale, Shire, Hackney, and Thoroughbred breeders, and also the Canadian Pony breeders.

The action of the directors in deciding to hold the annual horse show in Guelph was approved, the sentiment being that the event, which has hitherto been held in Toronto, did not receive sufficient support.

Directors appointed were: John A. Boag, Queenville; Wm. Smith, Columbus; T. A. Graham, Claremont; John Bright, Myrtle; W. Renfrew, Toronto; George Gourley, Unionville; James Henderson, Beeton; Peter Christie, Manchester; James Torrance, Massey; A. E. Major, Whitelake; Robert Miller, Stouffville; John Graham, Highfield; J. M. Cardhouse, Weston; William Hendrie, Hamilton; D. Webster, Ottawa; E. C. H. Tisdale, Beaverton; George Pepper, Toronto; H. M. Robinson, Toronto; W. R. Meade, Kingston-road.

Representative on Canadian National Exhibition Board, Wm. Smith, Columbus. At a subsequent meeting of the directors Mr. Smith was unanimously re-elected president.

Shorthorn Breeders Meet

Shorthorn cattle are the farmers best investment in live stock," said Capt. T. E. Robson, president of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association, at the annual meeting in Toronto last week. "They are practically the general purpose animals for the present day farmer, and I am certain that if Shorthorn breeding were carried on a large profit can be realized."

The fact that the exhibition directors have not provided the promised live stock arena was the cause of a great deal of discussion, and a resolution was passed drawing their attention to the fact that if they neglected the live stock department one of the biggest features of the exhibition would disappear.

The secretary-treasurer's report showed 1,788 members on the roll, and that fees were received for 7,487 registrations, bringing a revenue of \$7,815.84, and leaving a balance due to the association from the registration committee of \$612.21, while the statement

(Continued on page 7).

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