

# THE VETERINARY RECORD

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## THE WRAGG MEMORIAL FUND.

Last week we published the first list of subscribers to this Fund, with a joint letter from Messrs. Simpson and Villar, to which we especially direct the attention of members. The final decision as to the form the memorial shall take cannot, of course, be made until the amount of money at the disposal of the Committee is known; and it is therefore very necessary that all who desire to assist in perpetuating the memory of our late friend should communicate with either Mr. Simpson or Mr. Villar at once. Anyone who joins the Committee will, of course, have a voice in determining the nature of the memorial, but no time should be lost in forwarding names and subscriptions.

It is not necessary to dwell upon the invaluable services which Mr. Wragg rendered to the Council and the profession for so many years—those are common knowledge. It is sufficient to remind members that all contributions towards his memorial should be sent without delay.

## THE RESEARCH DEFENCE SOCIETY.

It will be remembered that this Society came into existence between nine and ten months ago, its avowed object being "to make known the facts as to experiments on animals in this country; the immense importance to the welfare of mankind of such experiments; and the great saving of human life and health directly attributable to them."

Such a Society was greatly needed, and this one was founded under auspices which augured well for its success. The long list of vice-presidents, which included men prominent in almost every department of the intellectual life of the nation, probably surprised even the supporters of experimental research, and must have disquieted its opponents. With Lord Cromer as President, and Mr. Stephen Paget as Honorary Secretary, immediate success seemed assured. Certainly it has been successful in some degree, but not to the extent which seemed likely.

At the end of last month it numbered 1540 members, and is still steadily increasing; but over 800 members were enrolled before the end of April, it is obvious, therefore, that the increase is by no means rapid. It seems reasonable to infer that the great majority of those able to form a judgment upon the question of experiments upon animals regard the anti-vivisectionist party with indifference, and do not recognise the necessity for any organised opposition to its mischievous agitation. Medical men know the advantages of experimental research perfectly well, but the number of members of the

Research Defence Society proves clearly that it is not receiving very active support from the medical profession. This is to be regretted, for the Society may be even more necessary a few months hence than at present.

It is now about eight months since the Royal Commission on vivisection concluded the taking of evidence, and their report may soon be issued. Judging from the bulk of the evidence which was submitted to them, it is hardly likely that that report will satisfy the anti-vivisectionists. If it does not, we may expect a fresh outburst of hysterical agitation, and, if the Commission should recommend any extension of the facilities for research, the agitators might succeed in deterring the Government from acting upon that recommendation. Here the Research Defence Society, if strong and well organised, might do invaluable service, but with its present membership roll, it is at a disadvantage.

Membership of the Society is open to all, and the subscription is very small. All who care for the advancement of medical science in this country would do well to become members, and add to the numerical strength of the Society at least. The Society is doing good work at present, and would do better if more actively supported—and some of its supporters should be veterinary surgeons.

## NOTES ON THE DIAGNOSIS OF "STURDY," CEREBRAL TUBERCULOSIS, ETC., IN YOUNG CATTLE.

Professor Law, in his work on "Veterinary Medicine," states that "tubercle of the encephalon has been little noticed in the lower animals, partly because it is especially a disease of early life."

"Sturdy," too, is a disease of early life. Having seen and made post-mortems on some cases of tuberculosis of the brain in young cattle (two yearlings and one two-year-old), and having operated on several cases of "sturdy" in cattle successfully, I have noticed that the symptoms of the two diseases are very similar and require close observation to distinguish the one from the other.

The disease commonly called "trembling" in young cattle, too, shows some symptoms similar to those of tuberculosis of the brain in the young, but there is more similarity between "sturdy" and cerebral tuberculosis.

I may mention here that I described the symptoms of "trembling" in young cattle in *The Veterinary Record* two or three years ago. The symptoms are identical with those of the same disease

out result. Two male guinea-pigs, at the same time, received a cubic centimetre of the pus, diluted with boiled water, and injected subcutaneously upon the inner aspect of the left thigh. The guinea-pigs died respectively on the sixteenth and the twenty-seventh day after inoculation, presenting characteristic lesions of glanders; pus from these guinea-pigs, sown upon potatoes, gave the ordinary chocolate-coloured culture of the *Bacillus mallei*. The horse was then killed as glandered.

*Post-mortem.*—The skin, the subcutaneous connective tissue, the superficial lymphatic glands, the nasal, laryngeal, tracheal, and bronchial mucous membranes, the liver, the spleen, and the kidneys were all found free from disease. The pleura presented lesions of dry pleurisy in the form of firm, reddish, pedunculated vegetations, breaking away like stalactites from the costal pleura; these contained neither nodules nor pus. Upon careful examination of the lungs, three nodules, the size of which varied from that of a pea to that of a hazelnut, were discovered; section of these showed a greyish homogeneous tissue of sarcomatous appearance, without caseation or calcification. The bronchial glands, a little hypertrophied, contained no nodules.

Important lesions existed upon the seventh and twelfth left ribs, and the ninth and fifteenth right ribs. The seventh left rib, which was especially affected, was widened, and showed upon its internal aspect, between its inferior third and the costosternal articulation, a hard tumefaction, which was smooth to the touch, mammilated on its surface, and attained the size of a fist. The anterior and posterior edges of the rib were thickened and rounded; the external aspect preserved its normal convexity. Similar growths existed upon the other diseased ribs. Upon section it was found that these enlargements were hollowed by a sinuous cavity, the walls of which were formed by attenuated spongy bone, strewn with centres of softening, and lined by a pseudo-mucous membrane of a rosy colour. The contents consisted of an oily, oozing liquid, yellow in colour, and containing the bacilli of glanders rather abundantly.

After advancing some opinions concerning the duration of the lesions in this rare case of osseous glanders, the author expresses the opinion that the observation confirms the view that mallein is the best diagnostic agent from a practical standpoint.—*Annales de Méd. Vét.*

#### PROLAPSE OF THE UTERUS.

Damécourt, discussing this subject in *La Revue Générale*, asserts that, in order to avoid expulsive efforts on the part of the patient, it is advisable to refrain altogether from washing the uterus before reducing it. He has found that hæmorrhage is almost absent and the expulsive efforts are reduced to the minimum when the prolapsed organ is not washed.

As soon as reduction is completed, he thoroughly washes out the womb with a hot solution of eight per cent. common salt in water, using from nine to eleven gallons. By means of his hand inside the

uterus, he stirs the liquid in order to facilitate the suspension and removal of all foreign bodies. The washing out is continued until the fluid returns from the uterus clear, a truss being then applied.—*Annales de Méd. Vét.*

W. R. C.

(This is a novel procedure, and many English practitioners will doubt the possibility of satisfactorily cleansing the uterus in such a manner. Some may be induced to try it on account of the advantage of reducing straining, which is claimed for it.—TRANSL.)

### CENTRAL VETERINARY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

#### ANNUAL DINNER.

An ordinary general meeting was held at the Holborn Restaurant on Thursday, Nov. 5th, Prof. F. Hobday, President, occupying the chair. The following Fellows and visitors signed the attendance book: Messrs. E. Lionel Stroud, H. G. Simpson, R. Porch, R. J. Foreman, A. E. Bayley, J. Willett, Prof. G. H. Wooldridge, W. R. Davis, Arthur L. Wilson, James Rowe, Ainsworth Wilson, Geo. J. Bell, S. H. Nye, Wm. Roots, W. S. Mulvey, W. D. Wallis, J. T. Angwin, Guy Sutton, Sir John M'Fadyean, C. Herbert Sheather, E. M. Perry, N. Almond, A. E. Gostling, R. Eaglesham, Maj-Gen. F. Smith, R. F. Wall, G. Dunlop Martin, F. W. Chamberlain, W. Perryman, Capt. C. H. H. Joliffe, and Hugh A. MacCormack, Hon. Sec.; and as visitors Messrs. Chas. Hartley, T. A. Saunders, W. A. Dellagana, A. Atkin, Capt. A. Olver, B. A. McGuire, and C. C. Abram.

On the proposition of Mr. E. Lionel Stroud, seconded by Mr. H. G. Simpson, the minutes of the July meeting were taken as read.

Letters were announced from the Trustees accepting office.

Telegrams of regret at inability to be present were received from Messrs. C. Roberts, J. B. Tutt, S. Villar, A. L. Butters, S. H. Slocock, W. L. Harrison, and J. C. Coleman.

A letter was received from Mr. J. F. Simpson resigning his Fellowship, and it was referred to the Council.

Capt. OLVER, A.V.C., War office, and Mr. C. NICHOLSON were nominated for membership and will come up for election at the next meeting.

The PRESIDENT, Prof. Fred. Hobday, then gave an Address. (This appeared last week, p. 310).

A hearty vote of thanks to the President for his very able address was carried with acclamation, and the meeting terminated.

Immediately at the close of the meeting, the 39th annual dinner of the Society was held in the Gordon Room of the Holborn Restaurant, the President, Prof. F. Hobday, occupying the chair, and seventy-two Fellows and friends sat down to dinner.

At the close of the dinner the loyal toasts were duly honoured.

Mr. W. R. DAVIS, who proposed the toast of "The Imperial Forces," was proud to be able to call himself a compatriot of the many members of the Forces who had shown us splendid examples of devotion to duty, of self-sacrifice, and of unflinching resolution. He was confident that those who to-day inherit the traditions that belong to the Imperial Forces would worthily uphold them. Referring to the Army Veterinary Department he extolled the excellent work it had done in the past

Health controlling the Diseases of Animals Act, and why a medical man should have the confidence to accept the position, as at Salford, of inspector of imported stock. Again, why in various Acts of Parliament medical men should desire to be the supreme authorities in the examination not only of dead but of living animals. Every medical man present knew very well that the veterinary profession were able to fulfil those duties. (Hear, hear.) The discovery of the tubercle bacillus by Koch was about the biggest bit of work that had been done on tuberculosis. Another piece of work that had been almost ignored was the proof by Bang that that disease was not hereditary. In every insurance policy he had seen—and no doubt the insurance men were acting under the advice of the medical profession—the first three or four questions were, "What did your grandmother die of? Have you lost any sisters from tuberculosis?" all pointing to the absolutely disproved theory of the inheritance of disease, thereby distracting attention from the real cause—contagion. At a meeting six years ago in Manchester he ventured to make similar observations, and the Chairman took the trouble to get up at the end and say that he could not allow the remarks to pass because every medical man knew that there was an hereditary tendency. Yet, two years ago the same man was very strong in denying any hereditary tendency—but he never mentioned Bang! He read *The British Medical Journal* and *The Lancet* every week and could not remember having seen Bang's name mentioned twice. It was very pleasant to have one's work recognised. To a scientific man, of course, it was delightful to do his work whether it was recognised or not, but the general practitioner generally liked to see some recognition of what his profession was doing. Without the knowledge that all the medical profession present that evening were friends, he would not have dared to make those observations, and while he made them he stood second to none in his admiration of the medical profession. (Hear, hear.) He had been asked to couple with the toast the names of Mr. Bland Sutton and Dr. Mills. Dr. Mills was a friend of the President, who looked upon him as one of the most skilful practitioners of the time. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Bland Sutton had been connected so closely with the veterinary profession that no words of introduction were needed; he was one of the leading pathologists of the day and one of the most skilful operators. (Hear, hear.) Both gentlemen were eminently representative of the medical profession, and he asked those present to drink the toast coupled with their names.

The toast was very heartily received.

Mr. J. BLAND SUTTON was sure the medical profession felt extremely thankful to Mr. Hunting for the felicitous terms in which he had proposed the toast, and he was very grateful to those who arranged the toast list for giving him an opportunity of replying. A few weeks ago he had read an account of a speech by a Cabinet Minister, in which he was rash enough to say that he thought the veterinary profession would be better if it knew a little more of human medicine, and that the medical profession would be improved with a little more knowledge of the veterinary art. He ventured to say that that Cabinet Minister did not appreciate the cordial good feeling and mutual understanding which existed between those two callings. (Hear, hear.) He knew from his own observation that if anything was introduced which would relieve a cat or a dog in the performance of a painful operation the veterinary profession was only too willing to adopt it; and when to the medical profession knowledge came from the veterinary profession on the subject of those terrible diseases of domesticated animals which not only destroyed flocks and herds but might destroy all the domesticated animals over a large tract of country, they welcomed new knowledge to combat that disease in the warmest

possible manner. (Hear, hear.) There was no more striking example of the value of studying the diseases of animals than the study of sleeping sickness, and amongst all the splendid results of that kind of work—and he thought Mr. Hunting would excuse him when he said that they far outdid the deeds of Koch—was the discovery of those extraordinary and peculiar phases of the pathogenic parasites which lodged in ticks, and were so closely connected with horse fever. Rabies was fortunately now stamped out of the country, and that condition of affairs had been brought about by the cordial co-operation of the veterinary and medical advisers of a strong, determined Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Walter Long. (Cheers.) The knowledge arrived at regarding sleeping sickness, Malta fever, and the cure of rabies had impressed both medical and veterinary practitioners with the importance of studying all kinds of diseases in the lower animals. (Hear, hear.) When it came to applying treatment of injuries and diseases to individuals, whether a man or a dog, then he thought it was better, as Mr. Hunting said, for every cobbler to stick to his last. (Hear, hear.) Doctors always made a mess of it, even when they tried to treat the diseases of their own horse—(laughter and hear, hear)—but they made an infinitely bigger muddle of it when they tried to treat themselves. (Laughter.) There was a story of a combination of doctors and veterinary surgeons who attempted to treat a rhinoceros. Some years ago the rhinoceros in the Zoo, manifested signs of intestinal obstruction, and a very eminent physician was asked to prescribe for it. He ordered ten drops of croton oil on a bun. (Laughter.) That was to be repeated if required, but the rhinoceros would not take another bun. (Laughter.) They therefore called in the aid of a veterinary surgeon and he prescribed an enema, and this was the prescription: "Of soapy water four gallons, of croton oil a drachm, of castor oil a pint; and to make the thing work better a bottle of whiskey." (Laughter.) The rhinoceros took it quite docile and the result was magical, the effect he could only describe as colossal. (Laughter.) Although that happened fifteen years ago that rhinoceros still flourished and enjoyed himself in the Zoological Gardens. That brought him to the question of fees. Veterinary surgeons thought that doctors were overpaid and that they themselves were underpaid. In the case of the rhinoceros the physician gave his advice gratis, but the veterinary surgeon received a guinea, so that he got the benefit of that deal. (Laughter.) He was quite sure that if that magnificent horse "Flying Fox" had required an operation for an intestinal obstruction, Professor Hobday, if he had brought the treatment to a successful issue, would have received a bigger fee than any physician in London would get for relieving an Archbishop of the gout—(laughter)—and he was quite certain that if Prof. Hobday could have succeeded in curing "Ormonde" of roaring he would have received a bigger fee than a doctor would have received for relieving all the Cabinet Ministers to-day of that acute and very troublesome disease, suffragitis. (Laughter.)

Dr. MILLS also responded, remarking that after Mr. Bland Sutton's brilliant speech there was very little for him to say. The President had an extremely long memory, and he regarded his having been placed on the toast list as somewhat in the nature of a revenge for treatment at the hands of Mr. D'Arcy Power and himself when some years ago the President was unwillingly kept on his back for some weeks after an operation. (Laughter.) Alluding to Mr. Hunting's remarks, he thought it was being more and more recognised by the medical profession what a magnificent work the veterinary profession was doing. When he first read Nocard's work on tuberculosis he was astonished at its wonderful conception of the problems of tuberculosis in animals and human beings. Nocard recognised the wonderfully