

B.V.Sc. Not D.V.M.

Veterinary Medicine as presented to the
Canadian Student Seeking the degree
equivalent to our D.V.M.

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The author

DURING the past year, many persons have asked questions concerning facilities and general facts relating to veterinary education in Canada. In these days, when the ties of friendship and good will on this continent are ever-strengthening, a few remarks on this subject may be opportune, and of interest to fellow students and others.

Before reviewing the available facilities for training in this field, it would seem in order to mention a few general facts concerning Canada, thereby enabling the reader to more fully appreciate the demands of the veterinary profession.

The Dominion of Canada has a total area of some three and a quarter million square miles—slightly larger than the continental United States. The total population is just over eleven million, the majority of which is found in the southern regions of the country neighboring the United States border. There are two official languages, namely English and French. The French-speaking Canadians, although they may be found in any part of the Dominion, are largely confined to the Province of Quebec; they constitute about one fifth of the total population.

From a geographical viewpoint, it is logical that the veterinary profession should adopt a provincial system where-

by veterinarians of each province should organize to form local or provincial associations to meet requirements. Such associations developed with the resultant formation of provincial licensing bodies, thereby requiring graduate veterinarians to become members of the respective societies before a license to practice in that province is granted. Such membership may require the writing of examinations or may be based on the acceptance of a recognized veterinary qualification, depending upon the policy of the Provincial Society. For admission to the Federal service, however, qualified veterinarians must undergo the required examination as conducted by the Civil Service Commission of Canada.

Two Schools

At the present time, there are two schools of veterinary medicine, one giving instruction in French, the other in English. The French-speaking school known as 'Ecole de Médecine Vétérinaire' is located at Oka, a scenic spot in the Province of Quebec overlooking the Ottawa River and the Lake of Two Mountains. It is some thirty miles from Montreal, but is not on the Island of Montreal.

Formerly, this school was affiliated with l'Université de Laval at Quebec City, but in 1928 was transferred to its present site, and is now affiliated with l'Université de Montréal and supported financially by the Province of Quebec. At this point, it may be well to mention that the University of Montreal is not the same as McGill University, though both are located in Mont-

real. The former is French-speaking, the latter English-speaking.

Candidates for admission to this school must satisfy the 'Collège des Médecins Vétérinaires de la Province de Québec' that their preliminary education is sufficiently good. The possession of a bachelor of arts degree is preferred but if this qualification is not held, passing of the necessary entrance examinations will permit enrollment. Students must be of the male sex and at least eighteen years of age at date of entry. At the end of the fourth year, and upon completion of requirements, the University of Montreal confers the degree of 'Docteur en Médecine Vétérinaire', (D. M. V.). The professional training is similar to that offered by other schools on the continent; the academic year is divided into two semesters of not less than sixteen weeks each, and examinations are both oral and written. The school is supported by the Province of Quebec; a grant of \$9.00 per month, in part payment for fees, is given to those students who are residents of the province. The college is residential and the following charges are made which include fees, room and board, to residents of the Province of Quebec, \$115.00, to residents of other provinces, \$155.00, and to those from outside of the Dominion, \$230.00. Registrations for the current year at this school number about forty.

English School

The English-speaking veterinary school is the Ontario Veterinary College, situated at Guelph, Ontario, about 48 miles from Toronto. This school is affiliated with the University of Toronto; it was established in 1862 at Toronto but was moved to its present site in 1922. The prescribed course of study extends over a period of five years; the degree of bachelor of veterinary science (B. V. Sc.) is conferred. The academic year extends from the beginning of October to the end of April, and a minimum of five months' practice under a qualified veterinarian is compulsory prior to graduation. The de-

gree is not granted to students under twenty-one years of age.

The tuition fees are \$85.00 for students from Canada, Newfoundland and the British Empire; from other countries the fees are \$100.00 for each academic year. The college is non-residential; room and board may be procured in private homes at the rate of \$7.00 per week upwards. This school supplies most of the English-speaking veterinarians of Canada as well as a number in the United States. It is one of the oldest schools on the continent and its graduates are well-known throughout the world. Registration for the current year is about two hundred and ten students. Throughout the academic year, the students of the Ontario Veterinary College publish a monthly publication known as the 'Veterinary Digest.'

Advance Degrees

Advanced degrees in Veterinary Science are offered by Toronto University. The degree of master of veterinary science (M. V. Sc.) requires not less than two academic years in advanced study and research, one year of which must be spent in residence. A thesis which shall be an original contribution must be submitted and the required examinations taken. The degree of doctor of veterinary science (D. V. Sc.) may be granted after completion of a course of special study and research extending over a period of three years, the first year to be spent at the University of Toronto; the remainder of the period may be spent at some other approved institution if so desired. Alternatively, the degrees may be awarded after study and independent research for not less than six years after graduation. Preparation and submission of a thesis is required; an examination may be demanded as deemed fit. Candidates for the doctorate on the basis of independent study, must be graduates of the Ontario Veterinary College.

Last year, McGill University instituted a post-graduate course in Veterinary Public Health for graduate veterinarians.

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CANADIAN SCHOOLS—

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A diploma is granted by the Faculty of Medicine, and its primary object is the training of qualified veterinarians in all branches of public health. The term, faculty, is used in the same sense as division. The course of instruction occupies one academic year covering a period from October to May; tuition and laboratory fees are \$150.00. This course is limited to graduates of approved veterinary schools and enrollment is strictly limited.

McGill

An account of veterinary education in Canada would be incomplete without mention of the defunct McGill Veterinary College. In 1886, this school was founded and in 1889 became a Faculty of McGill University and was known as the Faculty of Comparative Medicine and Veterinary Science. In 1903, however, due to lack of financial support, it closed down. This school demanded an entrance examination and offered a three year course when other colleges in America gave only two years and did not require entrance examinations. The affiliation of this school with McGill gave opportunity for close cooperation with its famous Faculty of Medicine, and the students were privileged by instruction from many distinguished professors including the great Sir William Osler, who showed marked interest in veterinary affairs. During its lifetime, this school produced many outstanding graduates several of whom are well-known at the present time in the field of veterinary science on this continent. Although the closest cooperation between the veterinarian and agriculturist is to be desired at all times, as equally close association between the former and the medical profession is of much significance. In this respect, the McGill school was unique in that these two faculties were closely related, an example that might have been fostered to advantage by other schools.

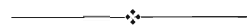
As well as the several well-known veterinary journals of the United States,

a publication known as the Canadian Journal of Comparative Medicine and Veterinary Science is published in Canada. This journal is published for the veterinarian and the editorial staff is made up of five widely known members of the profession. It is received by every veterinarian in Canada and serves to consolidate the various provincial associations and to ensure that each province knows what is being done in the other provinces.

In conclusion, mention should be made of the highly organized and efficient Veterinary Service of the Dominion. The Health of Animals Division supervises and controls contagious diseases of animals by a dominion-wide veterinary inspection service. It also administers the inspection of meat and canned foods with the exception of such commodities as processed fruits, vegetables, dairy products and canned fish.

Animal Pathology

The Division of Animal Pathology directs research and experimental studies relating to animal diseases, performs laboratory diagnosis of disease and other general laboratory services. The Animal Diseases Research Institute at Hull, Province of Quebec, serves as the research center and headquarters for the division; sub-stations and laboratories are maintained at other points throughout the Dominion. Pathological investigations are carried out at the Hull Institute whereas parasitological researches are carried on at the Institute of Parasitology, which is located at Macdonald College, the Faculty of Agriculture of McGill University. The Institute of Parasitology is operated by McGill University in collaboration with the National Research Council of Canada and the Dominion Department of Agriculture.



The stray dog is undoubtedly the greatest single factor in the spread of rabies. His unrestrained travel offers opportunity to acquire and disseminate the disease.