

A VISIT WITH THE DEAN

I am grateful to the editors of the I.S.U. Veterinarian for giving me this opportunity to discuss recent developments within your College of Veterinary Medicine. Because of space limitations, I will restrict my comments to a few items in each issue, but a wide range of topics will eventually be discussed.

During the past year, the faculty and students have joined together in dreaming about the future of the college. This year we expect to define our goals and to take positive steps toward attaining them. Alumni and I.V.M.A. members have received questionnaires soliciting information concerning the effectiveness of our instructional program. We are indebted to each of you for your counsel. Our curriculum is currently being evaluated with respect to anticipated changes in the practice of veterinary medicine. Although important trends are developing in consultative veterinary medicine, in comparative medical research, and in the public health responsibilities of the veterinary profession, our chief responsibility as a college is to produce well-trained practitioners who will be good citizens and community leaders. Despite specific goals, students must first receive basic education which qualifies them as practitioners. Specialized training, when desired, comes only after professional subjects are mastered.

One of our major needs is a new, modern College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University. In spite of our cramped, outmoded quarters, we now teach non-professional courses to over 400 students yearly, we have more graduate students than any other veterinary college (even though large numbers of applicants are denied admittance), and our annual research expenditures total more than \$600,000. Although we accept 72 professional students a year, limited facilities

force us to reject approximately three times this number. Our clinics are overcrowded with patients. We have far more requests for graduating veterinarians than we can hope to fill. In other words, inadequate facilities have become a distinct bottleneck. A new, larger college is vitally needed so that we may begin to fulfill our responsibility to the veterinary profession and to the people of Iowa. I am happy to report that, thanks to the support of President James H. Hilton, the Iowa Board of Regents has requested \$3,000,000 from the Iowa Legislature to finance the first stage in the building of a new college. We sincerely hope that the members of the 1965 Legislature will fit this expenditure into its budget.

We are grateful to the members of the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association for the establishment of the I.V.M.A. Foundation. The Foundation solicits funds from veterinarians and friends of the profession in order to provide low-interest loan funds for needy veterinary students. These funds are already making it possible for a few students to continue their professional education.

Finally, a few words about the students and the faculty. Our entering veterinary class appears to be unusually well-qualified for professional studies, both in motivation and academic ability. The 73 students were selected from over 240 applicants. We are looking forward to a good scholastic record from each member of the class. Our upper classmen continue to set fine examples for their new colleagues.

Our faculty is still growing and must continue to do so if we are to accomplish our goals in classroom teaching, research, clinical instruction, diagnostic service, and extension work. We now have 107 faculty members, including collaborators from the National Animal Disease Lab-

oratory and Fellows. A year ago our total was 89. A few of our young men have accepted positions of greater responsibility at sister institutions. We wish them success in their new locations. Although we hate to see any faculty member leave, we are complimented that other institutions regard our young men highly enough to offer them responsible administrative positions. If the day ever comes when no school is interested in our faculty members, I will be seriously concerned about the quality of our staff. In turn, we are honored when highly qualified faculty members from other universities join us in Ames. This speaks well for our present and for our future. The annual "exchange" of faculty members among the various colleges helps to bring new concepts to all schools and results in improved teaching and research programs.

During the past year a Student-Faculty Relations Committee was appointed, composed of faculty and student representatives. It has frank discussions concerning teaching and learning situations within the college. It reports to the Dean. In addition, a semi-annual report is presented to the faculty and to the students. Students and faculty members have an equal opportunity to discuss instructional philosophies and practices and to make recommendations for the correction of grievances. It is hoped that the efforts of this committee will result in improved communications among all persons associated with the college.

As indicated above, space restricts the number of activities that may be discussed in a single issue. However, other developments at the College of Veterinary Medicine and at Iowa State University will be brought to your attention in the future.

I invite you to visit us at any time, with or without an excuse, and I am looking forward to seeing you at the meeting of the Iowa State University Veterinary Medical Alumni Association in Des Moines in January. Let us have a record turnout!

Sincerely yours,
George C. Christensen

Trimeprazine (Temaril)

C. W. Laursen

This phenothiazine derivative has tranquilizing, antipruritic, and antitussive properties. Antipruritic action is derived possibly from the antihistamine properties and the psychological tranquility produced by the drug. The basis for the antitussive action is unknown. As a tranquilizer, the drug produces maximum effect in 1 hour, lasting for 6 hours. The dose for antipruritic effects is: dogs—5 mg/25 lb, oral; cats—2.5–5 mg. given orally, three times a day. The dose for tranquilizing action is 1 mg.-lb., sub-Q. The effectiveness as an antipruritic was found in one study on 295 miscellaneous clinical cases to result in "good" responses in 75% of the dogs and 83% of the cats treated. Anti-emetic properties are about ½ those of chlorpromazine and barbiturate potentiation is about 1/16 that of chlorpromazine.

Dextromethorphan and Benzonatate

K. W. Schumann, Jr.

These two drugs are new anti-tussives. Dextromethorphan (Romilar) is a synthetic morphine derivative which is nonaddictive and does not require a narcotics license. A 2mg/kg dose in dogs inhibited experimental cough 62%; a 8 mg/kg dose inhibited coughs 88%. In cats, doses of 1–2 mg/kg were used successfully. The drug is equally as effective as codeine. Benzonatate is likewise nonaddictive. No information on animals was available. In man, the drug is effective in 10–30 minutes after administration and effects last 2–8 hours. The drug acts by depressing sensory receptors in the nasopharynx, whereas dextromethorphan is a centrally-acting anti-tussive.