

# STUDENT NEWS



## POSITION WANTED: Veterinary student desires summer employment with practitioner.

During the past few years it has become more or less routine for veterinary students, especially the upper classmen, to spend their summer vacations with practitioners. The following graph indicates how extensive this program is carried out.

State	Junior-Senior					Total
	SA	LA	GP	Govt. search	Re-Clinic	
Calif.	3					3
Ill.	1	1	8			10
Iowa	2		16	1	12	31
Ind.			1			1
Mich.				1		1
Minn.			1			1
Nebr.			1			1
Ohio	2					2
Wis.	1		3	1		5
Total	9	1	29	1	2	55

State	Sophomore-Junior					Total
	SA	LA	GP	Govt. search	Re-	
Colo.	1					1
Ill.	1					1
Ind.					1	1
Iowa	1	2	4		1	8
Ky.				2		2
Okla.			1			1
Minn.		1				1
Nebr.					1	1
N. J.	1					1
N. D.			1	6		7
Total	4	3	6	8	3	24

The following comments represent the thoughts conveyed from interviews with

clinicians, practitioners, and students. It is hoped that these recommendations and comments will bring about a better understanding and relationship between both students and practitioners participating in the summer employment program.

### Small Animal Practitioner

A prominent small animal practitioner was interviewed and these were his comments:

"To preface anything I have to say, I feel the practitioner should know the student and vice versa so that the arrangement is congenial and thus prevents a strained relationship. The student should be willing to take part in any type of activity that involves the practice, whether it be cutting the lawn or washing the windows. He should be truly an assistant and not try to literally run the practice the second day there."

"I try to take the student under my wing and teach him as much as possible. Show him the proper method of bathing an animal, and how to properly clip an animal. It is essential to acquaint the new employee with general procedures of the practice."

"I don't believe in making the student wholly a kennel man. I do expect him to spend part of the day doing this type of work just as I."

"With the proper guidance one will

find the ambitious student a very valuable assistant."

### **Large Animal Practitioner**

The following are comments from a prominent large animal practitioner:

"The picture has changed recently because of the new practice act. Now about all a student can lawfully do on his own is castrate and dehorn. He can, however, become a very valuable assistant."

"With regards to the type of student I would like to employ, I would expect a man of practice caliber. He must have certain qualities before he can become a good student and finally a good practitioner. I especially want the man to be clean and neat. The client judges the practitioner and the profession by the type of assistants he employs."

"I expect the student to ask plenty of questions, except of course when in the presence of the client."

### **Clinician**

A clinician at Iowa State College had this to say:

"If the proper relationship is established between the practitioner and the student, a period of summer employment may be of immense benefit and inspiration to both the student and the practitioner. The practitioner should realize that the student is well grounded in the basic sciences, but is limited in clinical experience. He expects to do some menial tasks but is desirous of gaining experience in all aspects of practice. The student should always bear in mind that he is in the employ of the practitioner, and further, that while he (the student) is not making great strides financially, he stands to gain in many ways through his assisting in a practice that was established over a period of years. Undoubtedly the student that is keenly observant of the manner in which the practitioner handles his practice will benefit considerably."

### **Students**

The following comments were made by students concerning their previous summer employment:

"Working for a large animal practitioner I was impressed with the psychology of client relations. I learned that a veterinarian must be a diplomat of the first order. Actual field cases were very different from those presented here at the clinic. One probably sees more of the routine cases but usually they are of the acute nature instead of the long standing chronic conditions."

"I was given a chance to present my views on many of the cases. It taught me the value of keen observation and drove home the fact that one has to think on his feet, especially if the client is standing right there."

"An item that had hardly entered my mind was 'what to charge'. The summer work gave me somewhat of an idea. The job of restraint in the field presents many more problems than here in the clinic where we have tables and stocks."

"Working around a large race track was different to say the least. There we were presented with the acute cases of lameness, etc., some influenza that was 'red hot'. We operated a mobile lab at the track in addition to the regular office. Here we could run fecals, blood counts, and turn out x-rays in short order. It's a fascinating business."

"My summer was spent on the West Coast working in an up-to-date small animal hospital. I usually spent about 2 hours per day doing kennel work and the rest with the practitioner. I was allowed to do supervised detailed work, some minor surgery, and part of the business end. I lived in quarters in the hospital and was required to admit the night patients. It was rather confining, but I was well paid. Hours were from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. 6 days per week. I was very surprised to find the veterinary fees are in general lower than prices charged in larger cities here in the Midwest."

—John Berthelsen, '58

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—PLEASE RETURN QUESTIONNAIRE ON OPPOSITE PAGE



## PRESIDENT KESTER VISITS JR. AVMA

Great Hall, Memorial Union, was the site of a special meeting of the Iowa State Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association at 4:00 p. m., Thursday, Jan. 20. The guest speaker, introduced by Dean Merchant, was Gen. Wayne O. Kester, the newly installed president of the national A.V.M.A. General Kester, a graduate of the Kansas State College School of Veterinary Medicine, is also head of the Veterinary Service of the Air Force.

The three main points of General Kester's speech were:

1. Effect of your future in the veterinary profession.
2. Future in military service for you.
3. What the general future may have in store.

General Kester spoke about the important part the A.V.M.A. plays in the advancement of the veterinary profession. He also emphasized the importance of 100 percent membership of all the veterinarians in North America to the A.V.M.A., because all veterinarians benefit from the activities of the organization.

General Kester stated that he doubted that the Veterinary Corps would be

abolished as has been advocated by some government personnel. He also stated that veterinarians who are over 26 years of age, or are fathers, or are employed by an essential service, can be deferred from the draft.

**Lawrence Birchmier**

## PRE-VETERINARY CLUB

On October 6, 1953, the first meeting of the Iowa State College Pre-Veterinary Medicine Club was called to order. Approximately 70 pre-vet students were present for the meeting. The October, 1956, meeting was held with 130 pre-vet students in attendance. Thus, it has become an established fact that since its initial meeting the Pre-Vet Club at Iowa State College has grown in strength and stature.

The Iowa State College Student Chapter of the A.V.M.A. sponsors the Pre-Vet Club. Duly elected members of the club fill the offices of President, Vice President and Secretary. The Pre-Veterinary Medicine Advisory Committee of the Jr. A.V.M.A. assists and supervises the club in its functions.

In 1952, veterinary medicine and pre-veterinary medical students realized the growing number of pre-vet students



Standing left to right: Dean I. A. Merchant, General Wayne Kester, Charles Rassmussen, Ralph Schwake.

needed an organization to consolidate and centralize their interests. With the assistance and approval of the Jr. A.V.M.A. the Pre-Vet Club was established and a constitution drawn up.

The primary objectives of the club are to promote a closer relationship among pre-veterinary students, to promote closer relationships between pre-veterinary students and the Veterinary Medicine Division, to stimulate interest in veterinary medicine, and to offer counseling to pre-veterinary students by senior college veterinary students.

Members of the Pre-Vet Club have found in the organization a place where they can come and discuss their problems with one another and understand and appreciate the problems which are related to becoming veterinary students. Dean I. A. Merchant welcomes the new pre-vet students at the first fall meeting each year. In so doing, Dean Merchant gets the students started on the right foot from the very beginning. The explanation and reasoning for hard, honest work in pre-veterinary education helps the students realize the true meaning of their work and what is expected of them. In conjunction with the address by Dean Merchant the club members tour the veterinary school and Stange Memorial Clinic and observe at first hand the equipment and buildings so necessary in professional training. Throughout the year at regular meetings guest speakers from the veterinary division staff speak on subjects which bring new and renewed interest to the club members. In conjunction with the lectures, motion pictures of operations and other veterinary work, slide demonstrations and display of instruments and equipment entertain the members on an educational and informative level. Only recently the guest speaker of the meeting was a veterinarian from Turkey who is in this country doing research work.

The club members meet the staff members on an informal basis at the annual Pre-Vet Smoker and are thus able to express their views and ideas about veterinary medicine and in reciprocation staff

members explain their understanding of the subject in greater detail than could be accomplished in a speech. Since pre-vet students are enrolled in the Division of Science and Agriculture the smoker may be the first personal contact many students have with the members of the veterinary medicine staff.

The club, of necessity, was organized to provide pre-vet students with a common meeting ground. From its first meeting the club has made rapid progress in its purposes as stated in the constitution. In addition to the previously mentioned smoker, the club has an annual spring picnic. A social atmosphere is necessary for any thriving group and the annual picnic provides an opportunity for the students to meet each other and their families on a social basis. It is understandable that a certain amount of "professional talk" will be heard at the picnic, but that can be found in almost any meeting, professional or social. Since a considerable number of the club members are married, the annual picnic provides a certain resemblance of family gatherings also.

A booth for Veishea Open House is presented each year by the club. Information of interest to the general public regarding the work and study of a pre-veterinary student is presented. In this way it is impressed on the public that veterinary medicine is a profession which warrants the highest respect of everyone.

The November, 1956, meeting resolved that a public relations council be established. The formation of the Public Relations Council was necessitated to help the club further present and extend itself on the campus and across the country as a whole. Stimulation of interest in and understanding of the profession of veterinary medicine are necessary. The first big job the council is undertaking is that of contacting other colleges and universities and presenting the ideas of a Pre-Vet Club to them. If clubs are already established at other schools a communicative means between clubs is proposed so that information and club proceedings may be available to other schools. By this

means the problems among schools may be discussed and helpful information and suggestions will be available to all pre-veterinary groups.

Still in its comparative infancy the Pre-Veterinary Medicine Club of Iowa State College has established a program of mutual benefit not only for its members, but also for all people interested in veterinary medicine. Its prime purpose is to help prepare men for the veterinary profession and produce added respect for the veterinary medical profession.

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### BIRTHS

**Mr. and Mrs. Les Classick** announced the birth of a boy, Charles Ray, born on Jan. 10, 1957, at the Mary Greeley Hospital. Les is a member of the junior class.

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A boy, David Robert, was born Feb. 3, 1957 to **Mr. and Mrs. Robert Maahs** in Ames, Iowa. Mr. Maahs is a second year student.

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**Mr. and Mrs. Warren Bohnhoff** announced the birth of a girl, Nancy Emilie, born on Jan. 20, 1957, at the Mary Greeley Hospital. Warren is a member of the junior class.

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A boy, Kevin Allan, was born to **Mr. and Mrs. Merle Lane** on Nov. 26, 1956. Mr. Lane is a senior student.

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A girl, Lori Jo, was born to **Mr. and Mrs. Joe Krichel** on Jan. 18, 1957. Mr. Krichel is a senior student.

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A daughter, Sara Louise, born to **Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dalby** of 2522 39th St., Des Moines, Iowa, on Jan. 16, 1957, at the Iowa Methodist Hospital, Des Moines.

A daughter, Cynthia Jo, born to **Mr. and Mrs. John A. Carson** on Oct. 22, 1956, at Mary Greeley Hospital, Ames, Iowa.

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A boy, Jerry Lee, was born to **Mr. and Mrs. Jack DeVries** on Dec. 9, 1956. Mr. DeVries is a senior student.

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A daughter, Kim Renee, born to **Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth McKenzie** on Jan. 3, 1957, at Mary Greenel Hospital, Ames, Iowa.

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A boy, John William, was born to **Mr. and Mrs. David Tyler** on Dec. 27, 1956. Mr. Tyler is a senior student.

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A girl, Jill Renee, was born to **Mr. and Mrs. Donald Allgood** on Jan. 19, 1957. Mr. Allgood is a senior student.

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A girl, Ann Christine, was born to **Mr. and Mrs. Emmert Hansen** on Jan. 12, 1957. Mr. Hansen is a senior student.

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### MARRIAGES

**Gerald Kennedy** married Kay J. Johnson at Humboldt, Iowa, on December 22, 1956.

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**William Carberry** was married to Coleen Wagner at Moreland, Iowa, on Nov. 24, 1956. Mr. Carberry is a senior student.

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**David Drees** married Janet Hoben at Greene, Iowa, on Dec. 27, 1956. Mr. Drees is a senior student.

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On Dec. 22, 1957, **Craig Larson**, a member of the junior class, was married to Miss Carolyn Larson at the First Methodist Church in Harlan, Iowa.