

be expressed manually through the rectum so a laparotomy was decided upon.

On May 12, 1952, the left paralumbar fossa was prepared for surgery. The skin was infiltrated with 4 percent procaine. A vertical skin incision approximately 10 inches long was made in the center of the paralumbar fossa. The abdominal muscles were separated parallel to the direction of their fibers. The peritoneum was incised and the left ovary was located and removed with a spaying emasculator. Only the skin incision was closed, using a Stewart stitch and linen tape suture material. Sulfathiozole ointment was applied to the incision and the patient was returned to her stall. The excised ovary was cut longitudinally and two distinct corpora lutea were present.

Following the unilateral oophorectomy, a considerable amount of pus was discharged for the next two days and estrum was observed on the fifth postoperative day. The abdominal incision was healing nicely and the patient appeared normal.

On May 19, 1952, the patient was examined per rectum and the uterus was found to be involuting. A corpus luteum was developing on the right ovary, indicating that ovulation had occurred.

The animal was discharged on May 20, 1952, and the owner was advised not to breed the cow for six months in order to allow complete recovery to occur. Two months later, the owner reported he had sold the cow through a sales barn for a very good price. The new owner was not known so a complete follow-up report on this patient is impossible.

Roger Hagedorn '53

4

Microfilariae in the Skin of the Horse. On Aug. 12, 1952, a Hackney pony stallion was admitted to the Stange Memorial Clinic for a skin examination. At the posterior part of the neck, adjacent to the shoulder, was a raised, hairless area about 3 by 5 inches which contained several secondary nodules about the size of a marble. The skin of the area seemed to be abnormally thick-

ened and it was more deeply pigmented than the unaffected skin. Just posterior to the olecranon at approximately the eleventh rib, on both sides of the animal, were solitary, raised, hairless areas about one inch in diameter. These appeared to be of the same nature as the larger area on the neck. No signs of pruritis were observed.

A malignant melanoma was suspected because of the color of the nodules. A biopsy of the nodules was negative for melanin, but microfilariae were seen in the microscopic tissue sections. This is a rare condition in the United States.

After the three involved areas were anesthetized with 2 percent procaine, they were excised. The areas were allowed to heal as open wounds and the patient was discharged Sept. 23.

It was not considered feasible to attempt identification of this parasite as there is very little literature containing specific information concerning the skin infecting microfilariae of horses. This condition appeared to be entirely different from habronemiasis (summer sores) of horses.

Possible identifications of this condition are:

1. Atypical infection by the larvae of *Habronema majus*, *Habronema muscae*, *Draschia megastoma*. All three of these commonly produce lesions known as "summer sores".
2. G. Dikman¹ has identified the microfilariae of *Onchocera reticulata* in lesions somewhat similar to the ones seen in this case. (Adults of this parasite are found in the ligamentum nuchae.)
3. A similar condition has been described in the Philippine Islands, but the microfilariae have not been identified.

1. G. Dikman—of the Zoological Division, BAI, Beltsville, Md. *The Cornell Veterinarian*, January, 1918, Vol. XXXVIII, No. 1.

Robert E. Gamble '53

5

Canine Filariasis and Ancylostomiasis. A very interesting case was admitted to Stange Memorial Clinic on April 9, 1952. It was a crossbred,