

1943

## Editorially

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**A**N entirely civilian staff made up and edited our spring issue. Mack Scott, editor of that issue found he would be unable to continue in that capacity. For the most part, however, the same men contributed to the present issue but actually the staff is new. We are known to the army by a number and our title is "Private." Our class work remains the same, but at other times we are a unit in which all work together and cooperate to become a well disciplined company. The substance of this change took place as quickly as the "Veterinary Company" could step out of civilian clothes into government issued uniforms.

Progress in the practice of veterinary medicine is just as fast but not as dramatic. Prophylactic measures, and drugs which have proved to be specific are replacing the symptomatic treatments which were formerly used. Most important, however, is the action that veterinarians must take to correct such predisposing factors as heredity and nutrition. We have often heard authorities make the statement that faulty nutrition and poor breeding are the underlying causes of many diseases. The veterinarian's clients realize this fact and expect him to answer their questions concerning herd management and breeding.

The faculty of the veterinary division recognized these changes in veterinary practice and, in turn, initiated a new curriculum starting with the present sophomore class. Considerable time and effort were required of the Committee on Curriculum before the progressive changes were approved by the administration.

Clinical Conference, a course which the students as well as the faculty have recognized as a desirable addition, will be given in the fourth year. Clinical cases will be reviewed by professors from the several departments, i.e., diagnosis and treatment will be discussed by a member from the Department of Medicine; a doctor from the Department of Surgery will discuss any surgical procedure; and, in case of necropsy, post mortem findings will be taken up by a professor from the Department of Pathology. Introductory Genetics and Advanced Animal Nutrition will give the veterinary students a knowledge of predisposing factors of disease with which we did not come in contact before. These newly initiated courses will provide us with information which other graduates have learned from experience. We believe they will give the new veterinarian a background on which his advice about breeding and rations can be based.

Another desirable change is the advancing of Pharmacology and Therapeutics to the third year. Correlation between drug action and use of drugs in clinical cases will be instrumental in helping the student to remember the patients and their treatment rather than just so many formulas and Latin names.

The Division of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State College has always held an enviable and progressive record among veterinary schools. We, as soldiers, salute the faculty who are responsible for the progress of our school.