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Book Review - The Practice of Veterinary Medicine

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BOOK REVIEW

The Practice of Veterinary Medicine. D. H. Udall, B.S., D.Sc., Professor of Veterinary Medicine and Superintendent of the Ambulatory Clinic, Emeritus, in the New York State Veterinary College at Cornell University. 4th revised edition. 723 pages. 102 illustrations. Cloth. Published by the author, Ithaca, N. Y. Price, \$6.50.

The fourth edition of this book on veterinary medicine in 10 years indicates its popularity. Only 4 years intervened between the third edition and this new revision. Quoting from the author's preface: "A period of 4 or 5 years may be taken as a generation in the growth of medical knowledge."

Further information was necessary because of the progress which has been made in several fields, namely, the control of parasitic diseases, the employment of the sulfa drugs in certain infections, specific biological therapeutics, and disturbances resulting from faulty nutrition, all of which have received the careful attention of the author.

An examination of the references shows that facts from recent periodical literature are included to insure information of the latest research work. Much of the material is based upon the author's personal observations and experiences and the diction is in his characteristic style.

Although the latest edition contains almost 3 times as many pages as the first edition it has been kept comparatively free of material that is of no special interest to the busy practitioner, such as historical resumes and detailed accounts of research and experimental work. Its purpose remains, as it was primarily intended, to be a source of working knowledge.

It is reported that Russia had 50,000 men in veterinary schools at the outbreak of the war.

NUTRITIONAL ANEMIA

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the pig ingests food. From our experience, the particular food concerned consists in whole or in part of cow's milk but we have been informed by some folks that the symptom-complex has been observed in pigs that did not receive it. While we suspect that the particular causative factor is a food protein, we do not possess specific knowledge with respect to this point.

Entrance of Foreign Protein

According to Rich (*Physiological Reviews* 1941, 21: 70 -), "When a foreign protein, whether bacterial or non-bacterial in origin, enters the tissues by whatever route, there ordinarily occurs in the body certain alterations which affect the reactivity of the tissues toward subsequent contact with the protein. When these alterations have occurred, the body is said to have become 'hypersensitive' to the foreign protein . . ." Accepting for the present that the proteins in cow's milk are the specific sensitizing factors, the next point is, when and how did the sensitization occur? We are not presuming to know the answer but it seems to the writer that the substance (proteins of the milk) entered the tissues from the gastro-intestinal tract. Pigs, after they are a week of age, will ingest foodstuff other than their mother's milk if they have the opportunity. Skim milk is a common foodstuff of swine and very often one finds that sows nursing pigs are fed skim milk as a part of their diet. After the protein is ingested it must reach the body tissues unaltered in order for it to effect the reactivity and thus create the hypersensitive state. This could occur in the stomach where some injury to the gastric mucosa existed. In support of the fact that injuries sometimes do exist in the gastric mucosa, we have seen ulcerative and erosion-like lesions in the stomachs of pigs that were less than 4 weeks of age. In other words, some of the factors considered necessary for the setup of a state of hypersensitivity occur in young swine.

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