Impaction of the Fore-Stomachs and Abomasum in a Cow

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inciting action of the hematocyst itself acting as an irritant upon the tissues.

Ted Cox, '54

Impaction of the Fore-Stomachs and Abomasum in a Cow. On Jan. 2, 1953, a six-year-old Brown Swiss cow was admitted to Stange Memorial Clinic with a history of having been bloated for three days. A trocar and cannula had been inserted in the left paralumbar fossa in the field and the cannula was still in place when the patient entered the clinic.

After a thorough examination, a decision was made to perform a rumenotomy. The left paralumbar fossa was prepared for surgery and a routine rumenotomy performed. Approximately three to four bushels of ruminal and reticular contents were removed, roughly ninety percent of the material being whole shelled corn. The reticulum was searched for foreign bodies, but none was found. Two ounces of an antiferment (turcaprol) in two gallons of mineral oil was pumped into the rumen before closing the ruminal incision. Three million units of procaine penicillin in oil was administered intramuscularly.

On January 3, the cow ate ground feed and drank water. The patient had not had a bowel movement so two No. 10 capsules of powdered gentian, ginger and nux vomica (equal parts) and two anthraquinone cathartic (istizen) bolets were given orally. Five hundred cubic centimeters of 50 percent dextrose was given intravenously and three million units of procaine penicillin in oil administered intramuscularly.

The next day the animal was very depressed, still somewhat bloated, but passed a small amount of fecal material. Four quarts of mineral oil, two ounces of turcaprol and two No. 10 capsules of powdered gentian, ginger and nux vomica were given orally. Ten cubic centimeters of cascara sagrada extract (peristaltin) was given intravenously and repeated in one hour without effect. Again 3,000,000 units of procaine penicillin in oil was administered intramuscularly and 500 cc. of 50 percent dextrose given intravenously.

On January 5, the patient was very much depressed, and the eyes were sunken in their sockets. One-half grain of arecoline hydrobromide was given subcutaneously at 9:00 A.M. and when no bowel movement was noted at 9:45 A.M., another 0.5 gr. was administered. This was again repeated an hour later, but still no response was evoked. The animal died about two hours later.

At necropsy it was shown that the rumen and reticulum were partially filled, but the omasum and abomasum were impacted with shelled corn. This presumably resulted in the atony and bloating. Widespread hemorrhages throughout the tissues varying from petechiae to ecchymoses were also found.

This case is an illustration of a common condition in which the fore-stomachs and abomasum cease to function. All therapy tried in this particular case was unsuccessful. It has been shown elsewhere that doses of arecoline hydrobromide up to 0.25 gr. stimulate ruminal movements but doses in excess of this inhibit them. It was felt that the high doses of arecoline hydrobromide used here were necessary to overcome the nervous and toxic threshold that were raised in this animal because of the nervous depression. In this case, as in most others, the cause of the condition was not determined.

John E. Smith, '54

Retention of a Reduced Coxo-femoral Luxation by the Use of an Intramedullary Bone Pin. The following two cases are described in order to illustrate a method devised by Dr. Durwood Baker for retaining a reduced luxation of the coxofemoral articulation by using an intramedullary bone pin when the opposite femur was fractured.

The first case, a two-year-old black cocker male, was presented to the Stange