Pyometra in a Bitch

L. M. Forland

Iowa State College
BLACKHEAD—

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not recommended for general use where blackhead can be readily controlled by other measures not involving drugs. In certain instances where poults cannot be reared free of the disease by a sanitary plan alone, tobacco dust deserves a trial. Before feeding it, however, one should definitely determine that blackhead and not some other disease is causing the losses.

Pyometra in a Bitch

L. M. FORLAND

Case of 1941

On April 4, 1940, a Boston Terrier bitch, two years of age was presented at the Iowa State Clinic with a history of having had a vaginal discharge since her last estrus period in December. This discharge was quite copious and of a muco-purulent type. On the day of entrance her temperature was 102.2°, respiration 58, and pulse 140. After an examination with a vaginal speculum a diagnosis of pyometra was made. A hysterectomy was indicated.

Operation

At 8:00 a.m. the bitch was given 2/3 gr. of morphine and 1/75 gr. of atropine sulfate as a basal narcotic. The operative site was shaved, cleaned with ether, and sprayed with tincture of merthiolate. At 10:30 a.m. the patient was ready to be operated. Ether was used to complete the anesthesia. (This bitch was quite susceptible to ether as her respiration was temporarily arrested on the second inhalation, therefore, the ether was administered very cautiously throughout the operation.) When the anesthesia was complete a median incision one inch posterior to the umbilicus and about one and one-half inches in length was made through the abdominal muscles and peritoneum. The affected uterine horns, which were evenly distended and measuring about thirteen centimeters in length and three and one-half centimeters in diameter, were brought through this incision and the ovaries excised after clamping off the ovarian ligaments with an angiotribe. The ovarian vessels were ligated with No. 4 catgut. The cervical portion of the uterus was clamped with a forceps and the horns were cut off. This uterine stump was cauterized with phenol and a purse string suture was made just posterior to the forceps. The end of the uterine stump was then inverted after removing the forceps and the purse string suture was drawn up. The end of this stump was drawn together with a continuous suture to reinforce the purse string suture. The peritoneum was sutured with a continuous suture of No. 2 catgut and the musculature and skin were sutured with three interrupted sutures of No. 19 braided silk. A Duopack was put in place and the dog was returned to the kennel. A slight anemic condition of the conjunctiva was observed after the operation, which was due to surgical shock and hemorrhage during the operation.

Post Operative Condition and Treatment

On the day following the operation the bitch was found to be in good condition, with a temperature of 101.4°, respiration 48, and pulse 120. No treatment was indicated.

On April 12, the Duo-pack was removed. There was a slight suppuration around the sutures and there was a slight vaginal discharge. The operative area was cleaned with ether and sprayed with tincture of merthiolate. Twenty cubic centimeters of homologous canine distemper serum were given subcutaneously—ten cubic centimeters in each flank.

On April 13, the silk sutures were re-
moved and the area was cleaned with ether and sprayed with tincture of merthiolate. The incision was fairly well healed at this time but there was considerable swelling about the sutures as they had been left in longer than usual. The dog made an uneventful recovery and was discharged April 21.

RESEARCH—
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which he held until completion of his studies in 1928, at which time he received the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine. He filled the position of pathologist at the Rhode Island State College for one year. In 1929 he returned to Iowa State College as assistant professor in the Department of Veterinary Research. He continued his graduate studies, receiving the degree of doctor of philosophy in 1934. He became associate professor in the Veterinary Research Institute in 1934 and continues in that capacity at the present time.

Dr. Lee

Dr. C. D. Lee was born in Salt Lick, Kentucky. He received his preliminary education in high school and military school, and spent three years at Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa. He enlisted in the United States Army during the World War and served with the American Expeditionary Forces in France. After the war he entered Iowa State College to study veterinary medicine. He received the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine in 1927. He served as house surgeon for one year after which he served as instructor in the Department of Veterinary Pathology. He continued his graduate work, receiving the degree of master of science in 1932. In 1934, he was transferred to the Veterinary Research staff where he now holds the position of associate professor.

Dr. Stearns

Dr. T. W. Stearns was born in New York City, New York. He received his preliminary education at New Brunswick, New Jersey. He entered the University of Florida in 1930, receiving the degree of bachelor of science in 1934. He was engaged as research chemist on naval stores at the University of Florida and continued his graduate work for two years, receiving the degree of master of science in 1937. In September, 1937, he went to the University of Minnesota to continue his graduate work in the division of bio-chemistry. In July, 1938, he was made research assistant in the Division of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Minnesota, continuing his graduate work and receiving the degree of doctor of philosophy in 1940. He is now assistant professor at the Veterinary Research Institute.

The institute supports educational work by cooperating with all departments of the veterinary division. It has always followed a broad policy of cooperation with other divisions of the college as well as the State Department of Agriculture and the United States Bureau of Animal Industry. Many practicing veterinarians consult the staff members for advice and assistance.

Spring Dance

The Veterinary Spring Sport dance was held at the Ames Country Club, April 26, 1940. The music was furnished by Tommy Swanke and his orchestra. The guests were: Dr. and Mrs. Charles Murray, Dr. and Mrs. W. G. Venzke, Dr. and Mrs. H. L. Foust, Dr. and Mrs. D. A. Smith and Dr. and Mrs. L. M. Jones.

New Officers of the Jr. A.V.M.A.

The newly elected officers of the Jr. A. V. M. A. are: Orin N. Emerson, Sr., President; Max R. Benson, Sr., Vice President; Howard F. Beardmore, Jr., President-Elect; Walter H. Timms, Jr., Secretary; Arthur C. Gathmann, So., Treasurer; James K. Tate, Sr., Critic; and Joseph A. Graham, So., Sgt. at Arms.