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Doctor Frank E. Walsh

Virgil Reinhart
Iowa State College

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Doctor Frank E. Walsh

Head of obstetrics department dies

Virgil Reinhart, '44

The veterinary students passed by room 107 in the quadrangle on Oct. 7 with bowed heads and earnest faces in respect for a man who had won their admiration and high regard. A few days before they had volunteered to donate their blood to prolong his life. The faculty felt the loss of one of their finest colleagues. Dr. Frank E. Walsh died at the University Hospital in Iowa City after an acute illness of 6 weeks. With the passing of Dr. Walsh much of the philosophy so necessary in the education of a practitioner will be missed from the classroom.

Born and Educated in Iowa

Dr. Walsh was born in Garner, Iowa, on Dec. 1, 1889. He received his primary education in Garner and graduated from Garner High School in 1908. He obtained his D.V.M. degree on Dec. 21, 1917, graduating with the class of 1918. Following graduation he pursued the life of a general practitioner at Kanawha, a small town in north central Iowa. He continued there until the fall of 1919, when he returned to Iowa State College to become instructor of veterinary anatomy. In 1920, Dr. Walsh married Lillian Lundall of Algona, Iowa. She alone survives him.

In July, 1931, Dr. Walsh was made professor and head of Veterinary Obstetrics, the position which he held until his death. This department was newly formed at that time as obstetrics had previously been taught in the Department of Surgery.

Veterinary students formally met Dr. Walsh in their junior year when taking general obstetrics. This course supplemented the students' background in the physiology of reproduction and normal parturition in addition to teaching the methods employed in maternal and fetal dystocia. During the senior year, advanced obstetrics was taken under his instruction. This course, which consisted of both class and laboratory work, was designed for study of more detailed problems in breeding disturbances arising in domesticated animals.

For a number of years, in addition to

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his regular teaching duties, Dr. Walsh had charge of the health of the cattle herds of the various state institutions of Iowa, under the direction of the Board of Control. It was his duty to see that these cows maintained high producing qualities. Information gained from the records of the herds was used for classroom study.

The latest edition of "Who's Who in Iowa" sketches the distinction which he achieved in civil and cultural activities. At the time of his death he was chairman of the committee on cattle diseases of the American Veterinary Medical Association. He was also a member of the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association, of the honor societies Phi Zeta and Phi Kappa Phi, and of the social fraternity Lambda Chi Alpha.

Dr. Walsh always maintained the highest professional standards and everything he did was prefaced with a thought concerning the advancement and good of the veterinary profession. He was generally recognized as one of the most eminent veterinary authorities on breeding diseases in this country. Dr. Walsh's students will always remember his fine philosophy and put into practice many of his suggestions in their professional activities.

ADOHR

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week intervals, the blackleg and brucellosis vaccinations follow. Vaccination of Adohr heifers against brucellosis—strain 19 Brucella abortus vaccine—has been a regular practice for several years and has proved very effective.

Following vaccination, the heifers are pastured at one of the several large pastures operated by the dairy. There they remain until approximately 30 days before they drop their first calf. Unproved young purebred bulls are run with the heifers in pasture for breeding purposes. The heifers freshen between the ages of two and one-half and three years of age, at which time they are returned to the home farm to have their calves. They are observed in the maternity corrals until they are about to drop the calf, and then they are placed in separate cement floored, high walled stalls which are scrubbed and kept immaculately clean at all times. There the calf is dropped and the fresh cow is observed and milked by special milkers for two weeks. If the cow is then in suitable condition, she is passed for entrance into the milking strings.

Milking

The cows are milked twice a day except when they are on "official test"—then, sometimes, they are milked three times a day. Milking was largely done by hand, but the war has created a severe labor shortage and it is now done, for the most part, by machine. The animals are washed thoroughly before each milking and the teats are wiped with a suitable antiseptic. The milking barn, which holds 208 cows at one time, is kept clean and spotless. During milking, the cows are fed a grain mixture of rolled barley, copra meal (the meat of a dried coconut), cottonseed meal, bran, beet pulp, salt, and minerals.

Once a cow has been admitted to the milking string, she is not pastured—instead, she is kept in a corral with the other cows in her string (there are 26 cows in each string), where her feeding can be rigidly supervised. The main diet is alfalfa—green, cured, or baled. During the winter months, when alfalfa is scarce, corn ensilage is used as a substitute. Special varieties of corn have been developed for the California climate and soil; they do very well. The whole plant is harvested in early fall when it is green, and it is chopped into ensilage for storage in huge concrete silos.

Visitors who wish to see Adohr's animals and facilities are cordially received. The Adohr Milk Farms have shown that a model dairy farm can be operated on a practical basis by producing high grade milk under optimum conditions.

Alumni: The circulation department needs your change of address. Keep us posted as to your whereabouts so we can keep your friends informed.

Fall, 1943