1955

Animal Companionship

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its death. The owner did not return the dog for a post-mortem examination, so the immediate cause of death could not be ascertained.

Roderick Zachary, '55

Animal Companionship. Everyone has seen a dog and a child together. Their love for each other is considered unending and genuine. The entire animal world calls for and responds to the desire for deliverance from loneliness; each individual desires to share its life and experiences with another.

An unusual animal companionship was presented to the Stange Memorial Clinic sometime in October, 1954. The partnership consisted of a goat and a horse. Any separation made both animals very unhappy and uncomfortable. Many unconverted students had the tale confirmed when they separated the two. Separation caused the goat to bleat and be quite belligerent—the horse would whinny and paw at the floor in his stall. After the two were together again they would continue in their previous docile mental attitude.

In former years it was common for horseowners in the racing world to keep a goat with their steed wherever they went. For a long time it was the superstition that the goat played a part in disease prevention—some believed that the goat’s undesirable odor acted as an antiseptic. Horseowners would often surreptitiously steal the horse’s goat the night before a race and cause the horse much anxiety; the horse in his franticness would spend a restless night pacing about the stall and consequently lose the race the next day. From this experience the slang expression “get your goat” has been handed down to this generation. Horses have been attached to other animals also. Often we hear of them being devoted to chickens, cats or dogs. Their high-strung disposition is considered to play a part in the formation of these unusual companionships.

Gary Kempers, '55

Inseparable Companions

It is hard for the outsider to believe these relationships exist. We see this situation existing in a mother and her offspring; the cause is animal instinct. We know of cases where a dog becomes very devoted and attached to its master; a noble example of this is the blind man and his dog. We read in the literature of different forms of animal life devoting themselves to one another. It is amazing why two animals would feel so dependent on one another. It is awesome how they seek deliverance from their loneliness and have companionship in their own humble way.

Gary Kempers, '55

Umbilical Hernia in a Colt. On Jan. 11, 1955, a yearling Standardbred stallion colt entered the Stange Memorial Clinic for treatment. The history stated that a rupture, present since birth, had been enlarging during the past month. The patient was examined and found to have a reducible swelling on the midline just anterior to the preputial orifice with a hernial ring approximately 1½ inches in diameter. A diagnosis of umbilical hernia was made.

Prior to surgery, the patient was fasted.