

FIGHTING DISEASE ON THE FARM

Scientific Methods of State Board in Protecting Live Stock Investments.

PLANS SAVING OF MILLIONS

Vigorous Campaign Against Bovine Tuberculosis—Value of Laboratory Work to Stockmen and Veterinarians.

A state board at Harrisburg proposes to save the farmers of Pennsylvania five million dollars a year. It is estimated that the farmers of this state annually lose live stock worth the amount of money by diseases which can be prevented. The State Live Stock Sanitary Board has rendered valuable service to the Pennsylvania farmer since its organization fourteen years ago, but its work appears to have only begun. The last census shows that there are 206,975 farms in Pennsylvania, and that the value of the live stock on these farms is \$133,219,000. The plans of the state board to protect this investment from preventable losses from disease are being closely followed, not only by live stock raisers and breeders of the United States, but by those abroad.

Pennsylvania was the first state to organize and properly equip a laboratory where diseases of animals could be studied and recognized. It has proven of inestimable value to stockmen and veterinarians. It is located at the veterinary school in Philadelphia, where all possible facilities are employed to study the mysterious diseases of animals. The laboratory is under the direction of Dr. Karl F. Meyer, who was trained in the best schools of continental Europe. Dr. Meyer also has charge of experimental work on the state farm, which is located in Delaware County. He, with his staff of qualified assistants, are engaged in studying the diseases of domestic animals in Pennsylvania. At the same time they are engaged in the preparation of many test fluids, such as tuberculin, mallein, etc., for the diagnosis of disease. The preparation of vaccine and sera for all diseases against which preventive vaccination measures can be taken, are made in accordance with the latest advances of science.

Wide Range of Laboratory Work.

Since Jan. 1, 1911, 32,000 doses of tuberculin, 1000 doses of anthrax vaccine and sixty gallons of hog cholera serum have been prepared in the laboratory and distributed among Pennsylvania farmers free of cost. These three products alone, if purchased in the market, would have cost practically \$15,000; more than half the amount of money appropriated for laboratory work for the next two years. Hog cholera causes the largest proportionate loss of any disease of swine, and this industry represents a money value of over six million dollars. Much of the laboratory work has been done under adverse circumstances, but ample facilities are now provided for doing the work under the best and safest conditions and much better results may be expected in the future.

During the period referred to the laboratory examined 550 pathological specimens sent in by local practitioners. In many cases the cause of the disease was discovered and valuable information furnished for handling it. The diseases caused by poisonous plants and parasites have been made the subject of special investigation. The laboratory has gained an international reputation on account of its tuberculosis research work, and it is hoped that with the improved facilities and equipment furnished by the state that it will take a prominent place among those of the countries of Europe in veterinary research work.

The fight of the board against bovine tuberculosis is an impressive feature of its efficient service to the cattle industry. This was one of the first animal diseases to receive the board's attention. The plans for handling it were carefully made and judiciously executed. The first tuberculin testing in America was done by the late Dr. Leonard Pearson, and a vigorous campaign against this disease has been directed.

Menace of Bovine Tuberculosis.

The laws and rules regulating the board's work are recognized as the best by veterinarians throughout the country. Recently during six weeks 3742 head of cattle, brought into Pennsylvania for dairy purposes were submitted to the test. Of this number twenty-three failed to pass the test. During the same period 953 native cows were tested for farmers and forty were condemned and safely eliminated from the herds. Dealers are becoming more in sympathy with the work of testing animals properly before offering them for sale. Dairywomen are much more careful in purchasing dairy cattle that are free from tuberculosis than they were formerly. The most intelligent realize that a dairy business cannot be conducted profitably unless the disease is checked.

The importance of keeping tuberculosis free herds is still more apparent in breeding herds. All states in which dairymen is carried on extensively

have laws requiring that dairy and breeding cattle must be properly tested before they can be accepted from another state or country. It is imperative that dealers, dairymen and breeders should observe the laws, rules and regulations for shipping cattle from one state to another in accordance with the requirements of the state live stock sanitary board. The federal authorities have wisely provided that cattle failing to pass a tuberculin test cannot be shipped or moved from one state to another.

Rabies is one of the most important diseases with which the state board has to deal. A rabid dog frequently bites and infects several animals in a herd, and the owner is not aware of its visit until the animal bitten shows symptoms of a strange disease that is seldom diagnosed properly until a veterinarian is called.

Decline of Sheep Industry.

A few years ago Pennsylvania ranked high as a sheep raising state, while at the present time comparatively few sheep are kept. The decline followed to a marked degree the development of mining in the western section of the state, not only because the mining operations decreased the amount of pasture lands, but because of the great number of foreigners who worked in the mines and gathered about them a vast horde of worthless dogs, over which they had little or no control. These dogs were underfed, not confined and roamed about, fought with other dogs and spread rabies through those sections.

During two months of this year thirty-four cases of rabies were reported from twenty-four counties, and in five additional cases the diagnosis of rabies was made at the laboratory. Quarantines to the number of 161 were served on 425 animals, and they were kept under close observation for 100 days. In four communities it was necessary to establish general quarantines, which covered territory ranging in size from one to five townships. In addition to suppressing and eradicating the disease the state board, through representatives in the field, is endeavoring to educate farmers as to the symptoms presented by different animals affected with rabies.

Anthrax has been prevalent in several sections of the state for years, and in some cases the losses have been high. For the past few years the board has recommended the annual spring vaccination of animals against anthrax in sections where the disease has been known to exist.

Expense Borne by the State.

The work is done at the expense of the state and the results have been uniformly satisfactory. In addition to the annual spring vaccination 457 animals were immunized this year during July and August in five counties. Blackleg occurs occasionally in all portions of the state. It has many points in common with anthrax and preventive vaccination is the only means known for checking it. The state board has been remarkably successful in fighting it.

A quarantine against Texas fever has been maintained by the federal bureau of animal industry for years, yet occasionally native cattle are confined in sheds, driven across chutes or shipped in cars that have been contaminated by southern cattle and have not been properly cleaned or disinfected. During the past summer three outbreaks occurred in Pennsylvania. In each case the disease was recognized promptly and its spread immediately checked. Nearly 200 animals were exposed and twenty-four died.

The board employs agents to supervise slaughter houses in the rural districts of the state. As a result the rural slaughter houses now are better equipped, cleaner and far better managed than ever before. Many diseased carcasses, which would have found their way to the table if they had not been discovered by these agents, have been condemned and destroyed. The state provides money to pay the owner the appraised value of a condemned tuberculous carcass so he will not be tempted to dispose of it for food purposes to prevent his own loss.

Support of Tener Administration.

A milk hygiene service recently has been organized. Three qualified agents have been selected to travel through the state and assist the local agents in carrying out the requirements of the board. The bulk of the work will be carried on by local veterinarians. Their principal duties at first will be along educational lines.

The live stock sanitary board has received the support of every legislature since its organization. The favorable attitude of Governor John K. Tener is indicated by his deep interest in its work and his approval of measures intended to increase its efficiency. Governor Tener is president of the board. His work is directed by Dr. C. J. Marshall, state veterinarian, and one on the highest authorities in this country on the diseases of domestic animals.

They say that any one can learn
The art of lofty flight.
Just one more task I now discern—
How do you learn to light?
—Washington Star.

"What is that row upstairs?"
"That actor couple will be divorced tomorrow, and they are having a farewell quarrel."—Satire.

"They say, among other things, that you tied your wives up in sacks and threw 'em into the Bosphorus."
"Tied 'em up in sacks, eh?" snarled the ex-sultan. "All I did was to get 'em some hobble skirts. They insisted on 'em."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

In viewing baseball games at times we note with great delight
A man who labors not at all, yet goes out on a strike.
—Dallas News.

PLANNING WORK FOR MODEL ROADS

Pennsylvania to Lead in Highway Construction.

CONTRACTS UNDER NEW LAW

Modern System of Improving Thoroughfares—Purpose of Proposed Bond Issue—Support of Tener Administration.

The State Highway Department is planning for Pennsylvania the best system of improved roads in this country. An official of that department predicted recently that when the work it has projected shall have been completed the roads of the Keystone State would be unsurpassed by the famous highways of France, Germany and other European countries. Model roads for Pennsylvania has been made possible by the enactment by the legislature at its recent session of the measure popularly known as the "Sproul road bill." This legislation received the earnest support of Governor John K. Tener, who during the campaign of last year in public addresses repeatedly emphasized the fact that he was an enthusiastic good roads advocate and that the influence of his administration would be exerted for the advancement of the good roads movement. Since its inception the good roads movement in this state has been under Republican legislation.

The State Highway Department was established during the administration of Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker, and the act under which it was organized is the most liberal of all highway acts where the state assists in paying a portion of the cost of reconstructing roads. Under this law \$5,500,000 was appropriated and expended for reconstruction work from June 1, 1903, to May 31, 1911. During that period 850 miles of road were reconstructed. Ten per cent. of the amount appropriated was set aside as a maintenance fund and apportioned to the several townships and counties according to the number of miles of improved roads therein, which had been maintained to conform to the state's standard. Under this law the state paid seventy-five per cent. of the cost of reconstruction; the township and county each paying one-eighth of the total cost of improvement. The maintenance of these roads after construction was placed in the hands of the township supervisors.

Improvements Under Sproul Law.

The great demand for a system of connected improved highways and for a system of maintenance of the roads already reconstructed and of those reconstructed and improved in the future had its consummation in the enactment of the Sproul bill. This act reorganized the State Highway Department. It provides for two systems of road work. The first designated as "State Highways," is comprised of about 8000 miles of public roads and turnpikes as described in 296 routes. These roads are the principal main thoroughfares or highways, forming and being main travelled roads or routes between the county seats of the several counties of the commonwealth, and to the state line and between principal cities, boroughs and towns. They will be marked, built or rebuilt, repaired and maintained by and at the sole expense of the state and they will be under the exclusive authority and jurisdiction of the State Highway Department. Surveys of each route must be made and a map showing all details must be prepared. The several routes shall be taken over by the department on or before June 1, 1912, except that portion of a route which traverses a turnpike road upon which tolls are collected.

The taking over of the toll roads will be deferred until the money from the proposed bond issue becomes available. The bonds cannot be issued until the resolution amending section four of article nine of the state constitution is adopted at the next session of the legislature and afterwards approved by the people. Section four after amendment will read as follows: "No debt shall be created by or on behalf of the state, except to supply casual deficiencies of revenue, repel invasion, suppress insurrection, defend the state in war, or to pay existing debt; and the debt created to supply deficiencies in revenue shall never exceed in the aggregate at any one time, one million of dollars; provided, however, that the General Assembly, irrespective of any debt, may authorize the state to issue bonds to the amount of fifty millions of dollars for the purposes of improving and rebuilding the highways of the commonwealth."

Three Millions Available.

The work of maintenance, repair and construction of state highways will be carried on as equally and uniformly in the several counties as conditions will permit. All contracts for the construction of state highways must be let to the lowest responsible bidder, with the option on the part of the State Highway Commissioner to reject any or all bids. Contracts must be made in the name of the commonwealth, must be approved by the Governor and must be approved as to form and legality by the Attorney

General or Deputy Attorney General.

The Sproul law appropriates three million dollars to establish and carry on the work of the department and for the purpose of maintenance, repairing and construction of state highways and for the payment of the state's share of the maintenance and repairs of state aid highways.

Under the new law the State Highway Department has made five contracts, aggregating about \$500,000. Of these two are for the reconstruction of the Narrows Road in Juniata and Mifflin Counties, between Mifflintown and Lewistown. The other contracts are for work on the National Pike in Fayette and Somerset Counties.

State aid highways are provided for in the Sproul law in a manner similar to that provided for under the former law. Applications for state aid in the reconstruction of township roads can be made by the supervisors of a township to the county commissioners, and the county commissioners must then make application to the State Highway Department asking the state to join in the reconstruction of the roads. In this case the township and county each pay 25 per cent. of the total cost of the work, the state paying 50 per cent. The board of township supervisors or county commissioners, without the intervention of the other, may make application direct to the State Highway Department asking for state aid in the reconstruction of township roads, and in doing so said township or county agrees to pay 50 per cent. of the cost of such improvement, the state paying the balance of the cost.

Applications For State Aid.

A county reconstructing township roads under the act of June 26, 1905, known as the "Flinn law," may make application to the Department asking for state aid in the reconstruction of said roads, agreeing to pay one-half of the total cost, the state paying the balance. The state hereafter will maintain all roads reconstructed as state aid roads and charge one-half of the cost of such maintenance to the respective township or county in which the road is located. Twenty-nine applications, asking for state aid under the law calling for the reconstruction of sixty-four miles, have been received at the State Highway Department. Several sections of road are ready to be put under contract as state aid roads. The Department is authorized to make a contract for the amount of the share to be paid by the state, plus the respective shares of the townships and counties. The appropriation to carry out the provisions of this section of the act is \$1,000,000, which, added to the township and county shares, gives \$2,000,000 for state aid work for the two years ending May 31, 1913.

The act of May 15, 1909, is repealed and superseded by the Jones act, approved June 14, 1911, which provides for the election of township supervisors and gives the State Highway Department an oversight of the 86,000 miles of earth roads in the state by providing for the board of supervisors of a township making an annual report under oath to the Department on or before January 1 in each and every year. It also provides "that all money appropriated under the provisions of the act shall be expended by the supervisors of the respective townships for the making of permanent improvements on the township's roads, according to plans and specifications furnished by the State Highway Department and under the supervision of the State Highway Department, such supervision to be without cost to the township," and giving the State Highway Commissioner the right to withhold from a township, neglecting or refusing to expend the money as directed, the amount to which it would otherwise be entitled.

Revenue From Motor Licenses.

The Sproul act also provides for the furnishing by the State Highway Commissioner of bulletins of instructions to each board of township supervisors and that official is also to furnish free of charge standards, plans and specifications for permanent improvements in the building of culverts, establishing of grades, proper drainage, and such other matters as he may deem essential. It abolishes the work tax in all townships in the state and provides for a bonus of 50 per cent. of the total amount of road taxes collected to be paid by the state, not to exceed more than twenty dollars for each mile of township road in said township. The board of supervisors of a township is to consist of three members, who shall be elected as follows: The term of all supervisors elected in 1908 shall expire the first Monday of December, 1911. The term of all supervisors elected in 1909 and 1910 shall expire the first Monday of December, 1913. The supervisors will meet on the first Monday in December, 1911, and yearly thereafter. Many townships have asked the Department to furnish information and plans for small bridges and culverts and to establish grades for the cutting down of hills and the improvement of the roads.

In addition to appropriations by the legislature the State Highway Department receives a large revenue from motor vehicle licenses. From January 1 to October 1 of this year the revenue from this source was \$418,631. During that period about 10,000 more licenses were issued than during the entire year of 1910. The total issue on October 1 was: Registrations, 45,074; drivers, 15,483; dealers, 3960; motor cycles, 4727, and special, 849.

Britisher—The caddy said that the fee I offered him was shy about a half. What did he mean by "shy?"
Hobbite—He meant you had offered him too modest a sum.—Boston Transcript.

Notes For the Nursery.

Baby should not be set on his legs too soon. When he feels like it he will start walking as naturally as any other little animal does.

Peace at any price is the motto of the mother who resorts to the baby "comforter." None the less, to suck one of these comforts is a bad habit difficult to break, and it is as unhygienic as it is objectionable.

Baby is much happier left in peace to kick and crow in his cot than if he is continually being dandled, and the constant nursing some mothers give is merely gratifying to their own sense of possession and not comforting to the child.

Oatmeal does not agree with every child, and when it causes heat spots its use should at once be discontinued.

A Hint to Mothers.

Children of nervous temperaments often become chilled and fretful during a bath. Try bathing the child first to the elbows and waist line, then drying quickly with a small Turkish towel. Let the child sit in the water during this part of the bath, so that the lower part of the body may be kept warm. This keeps away chill, and the bath can be finished in a moment, the child remaining warm and comfortable during the entire process. The practice can even be adopted with excellent results by grownups whose circulation is a trifle sluggish and who experience the unpleasant after bath "chill."

Bacon—I should think that girl would give up singing. Her voice has given out.

Egbert—Yes, but her nerve hasn't.—Yonkers Statesman.

She's very fair to look upon.

Her eyes are azure blue.

Her neck is very like the swan

And like the snowdrift too.

Upon her charms, no matter where

She goes, men turn to look,

But from the man who married her

I learn she cannot cook.

—Detroit Free Press.

"Don't you think that your devotion to politics is hurting your health?"

"I'm not in politics for my health."—Toledo Blade.

"Mabel, you were foolish to quarrel with Charley."

"He's a mean man."

"What has he done now?"

"I telephoned him today to send back my lock of hair, and he asked me if it was red, yellow or black."—Washington Herald.

"Don't suffer in that irksome dress?"

I asked the loquacious maid.

She was a patient girl, I guess.

"I cannot kick," she said.

—Milwaukee Sentinel.

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