

at Colorado State University, only a small fraction of the requests were granted because public funds were inadequate.

The annual loss of food-producing animals from infectious and parasitic diseases in the United States is approximately three billion dollars. This figure exceeded all the money appropriated, i.e., 2,618.1 million dollars, for the U.S. Public Health Service and also exceeded the 1,123.2 million dollars appropriated to the National Institutes of Health in fiscal year 1967. The total budgets spent on veterinary medical education and research in 1967 are estimated at less than 30 million dollars for the 18 veterinary medical colleges and represent less than one percent of the annual sum of money lost from animal diseases. It is indeed unfortunate that such a small amount of money is being invested for veterinary medical education and research in the United States. Improvement in human health resulting from control of animal diseases will more than justify all public expenditures for veterinary medical education, research, and all animal disease control programs ever conducted in the United States.

Since it is estimated that twice the number of veterinarians over the present number, i.e., 26,000 is needed by 1980 in North America, greater financial support will be required to overcome the severe manpower shortage. Expansion of present facilities and the development of new colleges of veterinary medicine cannot possibly occur rapidly enough by this time to double the number of veterinarians. Despite this, every effort must be made at the state and federal levels to increase the output of well trained and competent veterinarians to meet the public health and animal health needs of the nation. In moving toward this objective, a realistic balance between education and research must be attempted. Veterinary medical education in our colleges could be greatly improved under a policy that provides comparable support for all its functions, whether it be teaching or research. Present policies have made the support of the veterinary medical faculty almost entirely dependent upon publication production and research accomplishments. The unilateral support of one function over the other develops a lopsided and uncompromising situation in our teaching and research programs. Since it is necessary to be practical and pragmatic in achieving a so-called academic balance of functions, it is urged that support be granted which does not distinguish between the instructional and research activities of veterinary medical colleges.

STATEMENT OF W. W. ARMISTEAD, DEAN, COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE,
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

It is sadly paradoxical that the prospects for adequate future support of veterinary education from state sources should dim at the very time when veterinary medicine's contributions to human health and welfare are expanding at an unprecedented rate.

Since World War II, the veterinary colleges have prospered in an environment of mushrooming university growth. State legislatures, which habitually appropriate funds on an enrollment basis, have supported the universities well during this period of postwar expansion. In turn, veterinary colleges have been well treated by their parent universities, even though veterinary enrollments have grown much more slowly than has enrollment of universities at large.

Nearly all American veterinary colleges are located at large public universities where most of the college enrollment growth has been absorbed. The growing tendency of these universities to limit enrollment, plus the proliferation of two-year colleges, now are producing a leveling-off of enrollments on most of the campuses where veterinary colleges are situated. Consequently, there will be less new money available to the universities and to the veterinary college than they have become accustomed to during the past 20 years.

The veterinary colleges therefore must turn to sources other than the state legislatures for financial support to *improve* their educational and research programs and facilities. Improvement must include several features:

1. Curriculum revision to modernize the education of veterinarians for many kinds of activities unthought of when present curriculums were designed.
2. Increased and improved research, including more basic research for the benefit of both animals and man.