averaged 4.2 years of pre-veterinary medicine obtained at some of our Nation's finest colleges and universities with better than B averages. They are indeed an outstanding group of young people desiring to enter the profession of veterinary medicine.

Lack of spaces for the 250 to 300 is not really the point I want to make. The important issue is, what happens to some of the other 3,000 to 5,000 that do not finally complete their applications for the school? We have looked into this matter, and we find that too many do not enter veterinary school because they cannot afford the long and expensive education required to qualify as a veterinarian. We are getting very few people from the lower income groups because veterinary medical education is expensive and these people just cannot afford it. Consequently, if it were possible for anyone to go to veterinary school regardless of cost, I am sure the number of applications would be greatly increased. Even though five times as many applications as places for students is bad enough, it could be much worse if potential applicants from enough low-income groups were included.

Thank you very much.

Mr. ROGERS. Thank you very much, Dr. Pritchard; appreciate it.

(Dr. Pritchard's prepared statement follows:)

STATEMENT OF DR. W. R. PRITCHARD, D.V.M., DEAN, SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS, CALIF.

I am Dr. W. R. Pritchard, D.V.M., Dean, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis. I would like to make a statement about some contributions of veterinary medical science to human health and welfare, and comment on the critical financial problems facing American colleges and schools of veterinary medicine. I am sure that others will comment on many additional ways veterinarians contribute to human health and welfare.

Veterinary medicine has evolved as that branch of medical science responsible for the control of diseases of all species of animals except man. The D.V.M. applies the principles of biology and medicine to the alleviation of pain, suffering and ill health in animals serving man. He is responsible, too, for the protection of people from those animal diseases that also affect man. Most importantly of all, however, veterinary medicine makes highly significant contributions to the health and welfare of people through research by adding to our knowledge of diseases and disease processes. I shall try to briefly describe some of the unique ways that veterinary medical science contributes to human health.

A RICH HISTORY OF RESEARCH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Since the time of Pasteur, veterinary medical scientists have made significant contributions to the body of knowledge that constitutes medical science. I shall cite only a few examples typical of many hundreds made by veterinarians.

Smith, Kilbourne and Curtice, seeking means to control Texas fever of cattle, a disease threatening the cattle industry of this nation in the latter 1800's, discovered that arthropods, in the case of Texas fever a tick, are capable of spreading disease. This finding has proven to be one of the most important principles of infectious disease control. It has led to successful control of many important arthropod-borne diseases of people such as malaria, yellow fever, sleeping sickness, Chagas' disease, and numerous encephalitides.

A French veterinarian, Ramon, working on ways to protect French cavalry horses from lockjaw, developed the first effective immunization agent against a toxin. Successful methods of preventing tetanus, diphtheria and other diseases induced by toxins in people resulted from his work.

Karl F. Meyer, D.V.M. of the University of California, devised means to control botulism in canned foods, making the great food canning industry possible at a very critical time in its history.

William Feldman, D.V.M., formerly of the Mayo Foundation and now the U.S. Veterans Administration, more than anyone else is responsible for emptying the nation's tuberculosis sanitariums of patients formerly doomed to something