

mechanism by which important information on the cause, control and treatment of diseases of people can be made.

Veterinary medical educational programs are as costly, or more costly, than human medical programs because many more animals are required in the teaching program of veterinary medicine and veterinary medical teaching hospitals do not earn incomes proportionate to human medical hospitals. Schools of veterinary medicine are experiencing considerable difficulty in obtaining adequate state support because only 18 American veterinary schools serve the needs of the entire nation. Many states resent the expenditure of their own funds for educational programs that benefit other states.

Great strides are being made in the improvement of veterinary medical educational programs. New approaches to teaching and learning and research on medical education are being developed. The application of the latest advances in educational science is being incorporated into the teaching programs of most veterinary medical schools.

Mr. ROGERS. Dr. Morse.

STATEMENT OF DR. ERSKINE V. MORSE, D.V.M., DEAN, SCHOOL OF VETERINARY SCIENCE AND MEDICINE, PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Dr. MORSE. Mr. Chairman, with your permission I would like to have my statement introduced into the record.

Mr. ROGERS. Without objection, it will be made a part of the record following your oral presentation.

Dr. MORSE. Mr. Chairman, Congressman Skubitz, I would like to discuss the contributions of veterinary medicine in food production and in consumer protection.

Our country has a tremendous obligation as a world leader and is probably the prime producer of animal food products in the world today. Approximately 10,000 die each day and 3 million a year due to starvation.

It is quite interesting just to show the great need for animal protein. Cannibalism in the Caribbean was greatly reduced with the importation of Spanish cattle. Only 2 percent of our world, though, is ideally suited for production of crops. This means 64 percent of our land mass is in permanent pasture. It is because of ruminants, i.e., cattle, sheep, and goats that man can live in a great deal of our world. These animals convert unpalatable roughages into highly palatable meat for human consumption. Eighty percent of the meat and milk and eggs are produced by 40 percent of the world's livestock. It is no accident the United States is a leader in food production and a great deal of this has been brought about by first-rate research in genetics, husbandry, and disease control and prevention.

We also have a marvelous system of surveillance, keeping disease out. We have all heard about the foot and mouth epidemic in Great Britain in which 415,000 cattle were killed because they were infected or exposed. If this same disease were to infect our cattle, we would lost 25 percent of our total cattle.

Another disease, rinderpest or cattle plague, is fortunately not with us. In the 18th century, in Europe alone, 200 million cattle succumbed to rinderpest. In the 20th century through World War II, over 2 million cattle died annually in the Far East before the plague was brought under control by veterinarians.

Essentially veterinary medicine and veterinarians are a minority group. There are only 25,000 of us. We do need help to continue these good efforts and to protect our food supply.