Dear Cornellian:

Emily Alleman has written that "Christmas is the rustle of secrets; the soul's immortal music," lifted on the winds of eternity. How deeply one feels about Christmas depends, perhaps, upon how well one hears that music and is moved by its cadence.

Almost two decades ago, Guy Murchie published his Song of the Sky, and in it one finds his admonition: Listen . . . the wind! "If you listen closely, each kind of tree is a musical instrument: the apple, a cello; the oak, a bass viol; the cypress, a harp; the willow, a flute; the young pine, a muted violin. Put your ear close to the whispering branch and you may catch what it is saying: the brittle twitter of dry oak leaves in winter, the faint breathing of the junipers, the whirring of hickory twigs, the thrumming of slender birch clumps; the mild murmuring of the sugar maple. And behind them all, the thunder of whole bare trees in a headlong tide of air."
Some people hear the faint roll of distant drums and set their pace to the rhythm of the drummer. Others hear a winter symphony in the woodlands. And yet, there are many of us who do not take the time to listen. Have you ever wondered how much we have missed?

Robert Hale put it this way:

"The winds of the Spirit are always blowing. Some people put up windbreaks and others open their windows."

Perhaps we can interpret these words to mean that the winds of the Spirit of Christmas are blowing; its immortal music is in the rustle of secrets, of happiness, of anticipation, hope and gratitude. Our windows are open, and from them we would call out to you Merry Christmas!

* * *

Each year for the past thirteen years, I have prepared this Christmas letter as an imaginary tour through the College, Department by Department, to tell you something about the wonderful staff which works so diligently to fulfill its mission. But the story never has been complete. Appropriate attention could not be given to the individual personalities of the supportive staff and to the student body. Despite the one-sidedness of the narrative, the pages grew, and apprehensive alumni have wondered, upon reading about the research effort, if we are attempting to make research workers out of our students and if we are defaulting in our mission to educate young men and women to become practitioners. Neither can be the sole objective, but let’s examine the question.

Our primary mission is to produce veterinarians, whatever their career aspirations in veterinary medicine might be. A survey of the last ten years has shown that actually more than 90% of our graduates have become private practitioners; a trend which we expect will continue, even when the new multicategorical research building permits us to expand the research and graduate teaching program.

In this letter, I will refrain from reciting the research interests of the professional staff, but must reassure you that, under mandate of the statutes which designate the responsibilities of the College, we do have an ambitious and productive research program. Half the operating budget, which now is more than $7 million, supports teaching and the other half, research.

Most of us firmly subscribe to the belief that a teacher should be sufficiently interested in his subject to want to study it. That, from either a simplistic or sophisticated point of view, is research. There is no doubt in the minds of a great many colleagues and professionally-associated scientists around the world that the Veterinary College at Cornell University is a dynamic center of scholarly output in veterinary science and comparative medicine. Perhaps some day even the name of the College will reflect that
verity. Its reputation for excellence will be maintained as long as we are able to attract and develop scholarly teachers and as long as they remain in the forefront of producing new knowledge. To do so, we must provide an academic atmosphere for free inquiry; for fulfillment of scholarly inquisitiveness. And we must provide our professional staff with reasonable time and resources to satisfy their creative talents.

Several years ago, Dr. Max Black, Susan Linn Sage Professor of Philosophy at Cornell, addressed an audience one evening on the art of teaching. In essence he said that the good teacher is a charismatic scholar who has the ability to transmit his feeling for his subject in an orderly manner and with such enthusiasm that the student will be inspired to learn. We hear both praise and complaint about our faculty members. In any faculty, there is no doubt that some are enthusiastic, orderly, charismatic scholars and others might benefit from a bit of pedantic scrubbing and an infusion of inspirational pedagogy. Exciting, charismatic teaching is a talent which is volitive, however, and quite subject to undulation. It cannot be ordained, but it can be nurtured. The nurturing is as much the responsibility of the student as it is an emotional attitude of the teacher toward his subject and toward those who aspire to become veterinarians. So, let's accentuate the positive and be grateful for all our fine teachers who are full of verve, beans and perspicacity, and who lead the pack in teaching competence.

Currently the professional staff consists of 77 colleagues who hold professorial appointments and 80 who hold specialized appointments other than professorial; namely, research associates, laboratory directors, field veterinarians, residents and internes. Together they constitute a professional staff of 157. The current supportive staff, including clerical, technical and animal care personnel totals 258. To give you an idea about the relative growth, the total professional staff in 1959 was 73 and the supportive staff 107.

Perhaps the best way to give you a feeling for the academic background of your colleagues, the salt of the earth in this splendid College, is to list their names, titles, degrees, and the institutions from which the degrees were awarded. If you will count the institutions and locate them on a map you will find that they represent more than fifty universities scattered over the face of the globe.

PROFESSORS

ARONSON, A. L. (Pharmacology) B.S. 1955, D.V.M. 1957 Univ. of Minnesota; M.S. Cornell 1959; Univ. of Minnesota 1963

BAKER, J. A. (Virology) B.S. 1932, M.S. 1934 Louisiana State; Ph.D. 1938, D.V.M. 1940 Cornell

BENTINCK-SMITH, J. (Clinical Pathology) A.B. Harvard 1941; D.V.M. Cornell 1944

BERGMAN, E. N. (Physiology) B.S. 1950, D.V.M. 1953, M.S. 1953, Ph.D. 1959 Univ. of Minnesota

BOWIE, W C. (Physiology) ADJUNCT — D.V.M. Kansas State 1947; M.S. 1955, Ph.D. 1960 Cornell

BOYER, C. I., JR. (Laboratory Animal Medicine) V.M.D. Univ. of Pennsylvania 1940; M.S. Texas A & M 1959

CALNEK, B. W. (Avian Diseases) D.V.M. 1955, M.S. 1956 Cornell
WITLOCK, J. H. (Parasitology) D.V.M. Iowa State Univ. 1934; M.S. Kansas State Univ. 1955
WINTER, A. J. (Immunology) B.S. 1953, D.V.M. 1955 Univ. of Illinois; M.S. 1956, Ph.D. 1959 Univ. of Wisconsin
WOOTTON, J. F. (Biochemistry) B.S. 1951, M.S. 1953, Ph.D. 1960 Cornell

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

APPEL, M. J. (Virology) D.M.V. Veterinary College, Hannover, Germany 1956; Ph.D. Cornell 1967
BISTNER, S. I. (Ophthalmology) B.S. Rutgers 1961; D.V.M. Cornell 1965
CAMPBELL, S. G. (Microbiology) B.V.M.S. Univ. of Glasgow, Scotland 1956; M.V.Sc. Univ. of Toronto 1959; Ph.D. Cornell 1964
CASARETT, A. P. (Physical Biology) B.S. St. Lawrence Univ. 1951; M.S. 1953, Ph.D. 1957 Univ. of Rochester
CRAIG, P. H. (Pathology) B.S. Pennsylvania State Univ. 1951; V.M.D. 1955, M.S. 1958 Univ. of Pennsylvania
DE LAHUNTA, A. (Anatomy) D.V.M. 1958, Ph.D. 1963 Cornell
DROST, M. (Obstetrics) VISITING — D.V.M. Iowa State Univ. 1962
DUELAND, R. (Medicine) D.V.M. Cornell 1956; M.S. Univ. of Minnesota 1970
HALL, C. E. (Theriogenology) A.B. Alfred 1950; D.V.M. Cornell 1953
HAYNES, N. B. (Veterinary Science) B.S. Baldwin Wallace College 1948; D.V.M. Cornell 1952
HINTZ, H. (Nutrition) B.S. Ohio State Univ. 1959; Ph.D. Cornell 1964
HOFFER, R. E. (Surgery) D.V.M. Cornell 1958; M.S. Auburn Univ. 1963; Certificate of Completion General Surgery, Univ. of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Medicine 1964
KAHRS, R. F. (Epidemiology) D.V.M. 1954, M.S. 1963, Ph.D. 1965 Cornell
KING, J. M. (Pathology) D.V.M. Oklahoma A & M Univ. 1955; Ph.D. Cornell 1963
LEE, K. M. (Virology) M.D. Seoul National Univ, Korea 1946; Ph.D. Cornell 1952
LOWE, J. E. (Surgery) D.V.M. 1959, M.S. 1963 Cornell
NANGERONI, L. L. (Physiology) B.S. Rutgers 1947; D.V.M. 1951, M.S. 1952 Cornell
POST, J. E. (Pathology) B.S. Rutgers 1951; D.V.M. 1958, Ph.D. 1968 Cornell
POSTLE, D. S. (Theriogenology) D.V.M. Ohio State Univ. 1950; M.S. Univ. of Wisconsin 1967
SACK, W. O. (Anatomy) D.V.M. Ontario Veterinary College 1957; MRCVS Royal Veterinary College 1961; Ph.D. Univ. of Edinburgh, Scotland 1962; Dr.med.vet. Univ. of Munich, Germany 1971
SCHRIVER, H. F. (Pathology) B.A. Hofstra College 1951; D.V.M. Cornell 1954; M.S. 1960, Ph.D. 1964 Univ. of Pennsylvania
SHIVELY, J. N. (Pathology) D.V.M. Kansas State Univ. 1946; M.P.H. Johns Hopkins Univ. 1953; M.S. Univ. of Rochester 1956; Ph.D. Colorado State Univ. 1971
THOMPSON, J. C. (Economics) B.S. 1951, M.S. 1958 Virginia Polytechnic Institute; Ph.D. Cornell 1962

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

ARION, W. J. (Biochemistry) B.S. Jamestown College 1962; M.S. 1964, Ph.D. 1966 Univ. of North Dakota
BOLTON, G. R. (Cardiology) D.V.M. Iowa State Univ. 1967
DUNCAN, J. R. (Theriogenology) B.S.A. Univ. of Manitoba 1959; D.V.M. 1963, M.Sc. 1968 Ontario Veterinary College; Ph.D. Cornell 1971
KALFELZ, F. A. (Physical Biology) D.V.M. 1962, Ph.D. 1966 Cornell
LESSER, G. V. (Dentistry) ADJUNCT — B.S. New York Univ. 1935; D.D.S. Univ. of Buffalo 1939
LUST, G. (Biochemistry) B.S. Univ. of Massachusetts 1960; Ph.D. Cornell 1964
PULLEY, L. T. (Pathology) B.S. 1962, D.V.M. 1964, Ph.D. 1970 Univ. of California
SCOTT, F. W. (Microbiology) B.S. Univ. of Massachusetts 1958; D.V.M. 1962, Ph.D. 1968 Cornell
TIMONEY, J. F., Jr. (Bacteriology) B.Sc. 1961, M.V.B., MRCVS 1965 Univ. College Dublin, Ireland; M.S. Univ. of Wisconsin 1967; Ph.D. Univ. of Dublin 1969
WHITLOCK, R. H. (Medicine) D.V.M. 1965, Ph.D. 1970 Cornell

SENIOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATES
CARRADINO, R. A. ((Physical Biology) B.S. Pennsylvania State Univ. 1960; M.S. Purdue 1962; Ph.D. Cornell 1966
DELLERS, R. W. (Microbiology) D.V.M. 1954, Ph.D. 1972 Cornell
DOUGHERTY, E., III (Pathology) B.S. Rutgers 1940; V.M.D. Univ. of Pennsylvania 1943; M.S. 1966, Ph.D. 1970 Cornell
DUNN, H. O. (Theriogenology) B.S. Univ. of Illinois 1940; M.S. Rutgers 1942; Ph.D. Cornell 1952
EISENSTADTER, J. (Biochemistry) Ph.D. Hebrew Univ. Jerusalem 1958
GRIES, C. L. (Pathology) D.V.M. 1963, Ph.D. 1966 Cornell
HILLMAN, R. B. (Medicine) A.B. Syracuse Univ. 1951; D.V.M. 1955, M.S. 1961 Cornell
HILTZ, F. L. (Physical Biology) B.S.E.E. 1960, M.S.E.E. 1960 Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Ph.D. Cornell 1967
KEMEN, M. J., Jr. (Epidemiology) D.V.M. 1947, M.S. 1968 Cornell
MAYLIN, G. A. (Pharmacology) D.V.M. Univ. of Guelph 1965; M.S. 1969, Ph.D. 1971 Cornell
STUDDERT, M. J. (Pathology) B.V.Sc. Sydney Univ. Australia 1958; M.V.Sc. Univ. of Toronto, Canada 1961; Ph.D. Univ. of California 1965
WATERMAN, F. E. (Medicine) D.V.M. Univ. of Havana, Cuba 1956
WENTWORTH, R. A. (Physical Biology) B.S. Univ. of Massachusetts 1957; M.S. 1960, Ph.D. 1961 Cornell

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE — LABORATORIES
ANGSTROM, C. I. (Avian Diseases) D.V.M. Iowa State Univ. 1938
FRITZ, A. C. (Theriogenology) D.V.M. Cornell 1957
HAYES, G. L. (Theriogenology) D.V.M. Cornell 1953
LEIBOVITZ, L. (Avian Diseases) B.S. Pennsylvania State Univ. 1946; V.M.D. Univ. of Pennsylvania 1950
LINGUIST, W. (Theriogenology) D.V.M. Cornell 1957
NUSBAUM, S. R. (Epidemiology) D.V.M. Cornell 1946
Trends in professional inclination toward specialty practice are putting new pressures on educational programs in veterinary medicine. In the medical profession, specialty practice has developed in part from rapid advances in knowledge developed by scholars who have banded together in the pursuit of specialized expertise. It also has been fostered because of threats of malpractice suits against general practitioners. Experience has shown that it is better to refer troublesome cases to specialists rather than risk the possibility of legal action by dissatisfied patients. Similar trends are occurring in veterinary medical practice. To satisfy the demand for instructional programs that will lead to specialty practice, each veterinary college must build a faculty with appropriate balance between generalists and board certified specialists, particularly in the clinical arts and sciences. We are anxious to do that. But our growth in clinical staff and some preclinical specialties has not kept pace with instructional needs. To provide participative learning experiences, it is essential that more faculty positions be assured. State funds to expand faculty are apportioned on a formula basis, predicated upon full-time equivalents and student-faculty ratios. The most moveable parameter in student-faculty ratios is student enrollment, and it is quite clear that we must increase enrollment if we are to be granted more faculty positions.
For an expanded enrollment, adequate space must be assured to handle the teaching program, especially if we must section classes to accommodate more students. Some relief for the cramped teaching facilities will be provided in the multicategorical research building, but without an additional teaching building, it is doubtful if the increase in enrollment can be appreciable.

A good friend has described this as a "Mephistophelian dilemma," and there are times when the constraints with which we are wrestling undoubtedly would confuse the devil himself. Nonetheless, we have set our course and have been busily engaged in the development of a master plan for expansion of student enrollment and faculty size. This encompasses the professional degree program and the graduate program. Further, it anticipates residency programs that will lead ultimately to Board certification in specialty practice.

ADMISSIONS

In the Christmas letter last year, we reported to you that the faculty decided to increase the pre-veterinary requirements from two years to three, beginning with the class entering in the fall of 1972. The Committee on Admissions reviewed 588 qualified applications and a class of 65 matriculates was selected. Of these, 54 are males and 11 are females; 53 are New York State residents and 12 are residents of other States. As of this writing, the Office of Student Administration has received more than 300 applications for admission in the fall of 1973. We anticipate that before the last day for receiving applications is reached, the total number of applicants again will exceed 600. The escalating application rate on the one hand gives the Committee on Admissions a sizeable pool from which to select the most promising candidates. And, incidentally, a low attrition rate reflects the good judgment of the Committee. A survey of graduating classes over the past 1 1/2 decades showed that more than 90% of all students admitted to the College were graduated.

On the other hand, the trend toward a 10:1 application rate for the 65 places in the entering class creates a number of problems. Since we are a State-supported College, first preference must be given to qualified residents of the State of New York. The probabilities for admitting qualified students from other States, particularly neighboring States which do not have veterinary colleges, are lessening accordingly. This has prompted some of our neighboring States to consider establishing colleges of veterinary medicine, but high capital and operating costs are handicapping these decisions. Other States are seeking compacts with us which will assure admission consideration for their qualified residents. We have not encouraged compact agreements except on the basis of realistic educational cost-sharing and with reasonable assurances of continuity in appropriations. All of this is subject to the approval of Cornell University, the State University of New York, the Executive Division of Budget, State of New York, and the State legislature. The matter is under consideration, but as of this writing, no compact agreements have been negotiated.
BUDGET

Each year in Killorglin, Ireland, there is a festival, held since the year 1611, where a wild goat is crowned King and rules supreme over the fair. The reason why a he-goat is held in such reverence at this occasion is that it commemorates a day when wild goats stampeded the village from nearby mountains called "McGillicuddy Reeks" and gave warning of the approach of the English forces.

Sometimes it would be helpful to have a band of wild goats warn us about changes in budgetary procedures. Over the past decade, and sometimes on a month-by-month basis, we have experienced a myriad of alterations in fiscal procedures that have kept us dancing on hot coals. This is not a cynical complaint, for we work on a team with some wonderful people well-educated in financial planning. Surges and dips in the flow of dollars in and out of the State treasury are influenced by business and political trends. Our operations are affected by these trends, so we undulate with the tides. And this occasionally produces the characteristic distresses of motion sickness. 1972 was not a banner year!

If we were not straining like a team of horses in a weight-pulling contest to do the kind of job that we know must be done and can be done with more financial support, we might be less restless. But it is difficult for us to be satisfied, even though we know that we have been treated well; frequently somewhat better than sister institutions in the State educational system. It is difficult to be satisfied because it is so important to have at least one well-educated anaesthesiologist, which we do not have. To offer proper instruction in obstetrics and endocrinology, we need at least two faculty members handling the teaching, and we have one. The State provides funds for one pharmacologist, and we expect him to carry the major teaching load in pharmacology and toxicology for students in veterinary medicine and graduate students. In addition, he has a fine research program upon which his reputation as a pharmacologist rests. These unfunded needs (along with others that I will not attempt to cover in a message of this sort) are so pressing that we sometimes seem ungrateful for the support which we do enjoy. We must press forward to keep from standing still because standing still really means falling backward.

In light of the anticipations for greater support of the operating budget, it behooves us to examine the budgetary growth over the past decade to see what the trend has been. Since 1959, when the operating budget was $1.2 million, we have moved upward to the present level of $7.09 million, approximately 52% of which is provided by the State of New York and 48% from non-State resources. In forecasting the future, it is anticipated that within five years the total operating budget will exceed $9.6 million.

Budgetary recitations are as inspiring as eating dry oatmeal, so we will stop the verbage about the operating budget, and will touch briefly on the capital program.

Theologians are still not sure who wrote the 90th Psalm. Some say Moses; others, David. But whichever it was, the composer must have had some experience in capital construction. 'For a thousand years in thy
sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night” (90:4). Planning for the new research and laboratory animal building which now occupies a prominent position at the southwest corner of the College’s physical plant, began more than a decade ago. When we faced delays, those years seemed like a thousand years. But now they seem to have lost linear dimension. In retrospect it feels as though it were only yesterday when we described the needs and had the descriptions transformed into interrelated spatial configurations. The building is 80% complete and it is a most impressive arrangement of brick and glass, reaching upward, story upon story in ten levels.

When complete, it will contain 83,700 net square feet, and will have been built at a cost of approximately $10.6 million. We anticipate moving in during the fall of 1973. To give you a basis for comparison, the new building will contain about half as many net square feet as the main College building, exclusive of the finger barns. The net square footage in the main building is 145,225.
For almost a decade we have been anxious to expand and intensify the services of our Diagnostic Laboratory, but appropriations never stretched far enough to permit us to do that which we have known should be done. In a conference with the Commissioner of Agriculture and his executive staff several years ago, we explained why we felt that the diagnostic laboratory service should be discontinued unless it could be appropriately expanded and intensified. Commissioner Wickham appointed a team of three very knowledgeable consultants to survey the needs of the animal industry in the State of New York (for diagnostic services in animal disease monitoring and control systems). The three splendid consultants were Kenneth D. Weide of the University of Arizona, Vaughn A. Seaton of Iowa State University and John F. Quinn, State Veterinarian of Michigan. Their recommendations were submitted in October 1970, and formed the basis of a major development program for laboratory diagnostic services at the College. To fulfill the objectives, a sizeable addition to the facilities was programmed because the present few small rooms simply are not adequate. We are now awaiting the assignment of an architectural firm to proceed with the drawings and ultimately, the construction. Patience is the art of hoping, but he preacheth patience who never knew pain.

Two other facilities are in the “active planning” stages; an obstetrical laboratory and an audio-visual aid production studio. We are hopeful that it will be possible to pull together sufficient funds to transform two open areas between the finger barns to facilities that will house these important functions.

LEXICOGRAPHY

As specialized practice becomes more intensified, more diversified, and more esoteric, our professional language is stretching its parameters to keep pace with change. In recent years we have become accustomed to buiatrics meaning the study of diseases of cattle and theriogenology meaning the study of reproduction in animals. And we have incorporated phosphoketopentoepimerase and platykurtic versus leptokurtic curves in our vocabularies for debating biological permutations. But the most tenacious obstruction to free movement of the tongue is the name which designates the specialist in infectious diseases: anaplasticonosiatrist. Aren’t you glad that you are a general practitioner?

The real point in all of this is that continuing education is absolutely imperative if we would serve the public with a keen edge on our talents. Language is the fluid medium in which our professional knowledge moves and through which good medical judgments are made. We are determined that there must be greater opportunity for veterinarians to participate in continuing educational programs in the College. In addition to providing a variety of audio-visual aids as learning resources, there also will be possibilities for direct participation in elective courses in the new curriculum. Further, we hope to continue offering appropriate mini-courses (short courses) to meet particular interests and needs of practitioners and other specialists.
CURRICULUM REFORM

In January 1972, the faculty adopted a long range plan for curriculum reform. The proposed new curriculum, which hopefully will be implemented in the fall of 1973, is of the "core-elective" type. As reported in the Christmas letter last year, the core courses and clinic assignments are intended to insure adequate preparation for licensure and general practice. The core is arranged so that virtually all students will be able to take one or more elective courses each semester during the first six semesters. The fourth year program in clinical training is maintained in a form very similar to that currently structured.

In the new curriculum, the student contact time is about 20% less than in the current schedule. And about 20% of the curriculum will be for elective courses, the details of which are now being finalized.

This action came about following long and conscientious deliberations by two committees. In April 1969, the first of two committees was appointed "to study the problems of veterinary medical education, to place them in order of priority, and to recommend ways to develop solutions for these problems." Under the chairmanship of our fierce Scotsman, S. Gordon Campbell, that committee, in November 1969, rendered its report and recommendations, which in essence were to move some courses in the veterinary medical curriculum to the pre-veterinary requirements and to develop a core-elective curriculum. The dean was then requested by the faculty "to charge an appropriate committee to develop procedures for implementation of the Campbell committee recommendations in accordance with specifics that arise as the sense of the faculty." In March 1970, the existing curriculum committee, upon which the Department Heads served, was dissolved and a new Committee on Curriculum was formed. It consisted of an elected representative from each of the academic departments. The Associate Dean for Pre-Clinical Studies, Dr. Charles G. Rickard, and the Associate Dean for Clinical Studies, Dr. Kenneth McEntee, were invited to serve in an ex-officio capacity. One student representative from each of the four classes was invited to serve in an advisory capacity. This committee then elected its own Chairman, Dr. Peter H. Craig. It was this committee which, after weeks of study, including intensified discussions in summer retreats, proposed the long range plan adopted by the faculty in January 1972. The process of refinement is time-consuming and tedious, but careful planning now undoubtedly will make the transition much smoother next fall.

DETACHMENTS

Since our last Christmas letter was prepared, six great Cornellians have left the fold and indeed we miss the influence of their wonderful personalities, their enthusiasm and the professional talents which they gave so wholeheartedly to the College.

Lincoln E. Field and Richard S. Guthrie, two stalwart giants in the Mastitis Control Program, were each the pièce de résistance in retirement parties given in their honor. But instead of retiring we believe they simply
have become retreaded instead. Retirement has not slowed either of them down a bit. We have not seen Dick in recent weeks, but Linc is driving a new Cadillac, and he probably will have the trunk full of fish next summer.

We had no sooner recovered from these splendid send-off parties when Stephen J. Roberts, of rubber sleeve and bridle and saddle fame, prepared to retire. Dorsey W. Salmonella Bruner, of Enterobacteriaceae fame, followed suite, and a combined retirement party was staged for these two celebrities concurrently. Steve has entered private practice with his brother in Woodstock, Vermont. Before he and Beejay left for their new venture in the land of green mountains, he gave me a quotation which has been his inspiration over the years. I am taking the liberty of sharing it with you:

"Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not. Nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not. Unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not. The world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent."

Calvin Coolidge

Dorsey has plans for a lot of travelling. We hope he will do some writing too. He and Bea are such avid sports enthusiasts that we expect to see them frequently when they are not roaming around the world. Dorsey was awarded the XII International Veterinary Congress Prize at the AVMA meeting in June 1972, for his outstanding contributions to international veterinary medicine.

Our genial poultry pathologist and ambassador plenipotentiary, P. Philip Levine, like Steve Roberts, also decided to retire early. He has joined the scientific staff of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. As you may know, he speaks Portugese fluently and has been a popular visiting consultant to veterinary colleges in Brazil and other South American countries. The Trustees of Cornell University have named the poultry research laboratories on Hungerford Hill the P. Philip Levine Research Laboratories for Avian Diseases in recognition of his great stature as a scientist and Cornellian.

It is with a feeling of sadness that I report to you that Mr. Lindley C. Kent, Administrative Assistant to the Dean of the College for almost 32 years died suddenly last February following occlusive pulmonary arterial embolism. Many of you who read this letter will remember him well. He was a Cornell graduate, having earned the B.A. degree in 1934, and was an active participant in civic affairs. Lindley was the Business Manager of the College and worked closely with the late Dean William Arthur Hagan and with me. He was a great friend of his faculty associates, staff and students. He was a former trustee and police justice of the Village of Cayuga Heights. And he held the distinction of having levied a fine on one of Cornell's distinguished Presidents for speeding in Cayuga Heights.

EMERITI

Except for Herbert L. Gilman, who is basking in the year 'round sunshine in that mecca for sun worshippers, Florida, we have seen all of our
emiratus professors this year. Most of them came back for one or more of the several frolicking retirement parties that I have mentioned in preceding paragraphs. They all look great and seem to be well-nourished and happy. With the addition of Dorsey W. Bruner, P. Philip Levine and Stephen J. Roberts to the august list of robust emeriti, we now have eleven. In addition to these three, the other eight Cornell greats are:

Donald W. Baker
A. Gordon Danks
H. Hugh Dukes
Myron G. Fincher

Herbert L. Gilman
Ellis P. Leonard
Peter Olafson
Hadley C. Stephenson

Necrology

"I am being driven forward
Into an unknown land.
The pass grows steeper
The air colder and sharper.
A wind from my unknown goal
Stirs the strings
Of expectation.
Still the question:
Shall I ever get there,
There where life resounds a clear pure note
In the silence?"

from "Markings" by Dag Hammarskjold

Word of the deaths of the following alumni reached us during the year:

Irving E. Altman '16, Brooklyn, New York
Judson W. Ardell '16, Newark Valley, New York
Reimer A. Asmus '27, Tampa, Florida
Nathan F. Blau '19, Wichita, Kansas
Lawrence R. Bower '22, San Antonio, Texas
Ralph T. Ellison '29, Peru, New York
Laurence W. Goodman '26, Manhasset, New York
Willard C. Higby '35, Lowville, New York
Thomas H. Howe '17, Friendship, New York
Howard E. Johnson '14, East Lansing, Michigan
Ian F. MacLeod '65, Ann Arbor, Michigan
James F. Martin '51, Watertown, Connecticut
James F. Mitchell '11, San Diego, California
Ralph R. Moulthrop '14, North Andover, Massachusetts
Daniel O'Loughlin '12, Oneida, New York
Harold C. Parker '27, Gouverneur, New York
Charles H. Payne '32, Edmeston, New York
James L. Roberts '12, East Andover, New Hampshire
Lansing C. Schantz '30, Gulfport, Mississippi
Reuben E. Smith '15, Margaretville, New York
Howard J. Terwilliger, Jr. '55, Cherry Hill, New Jersey
Marshall F. Wilkinson '18, Utica, New York
SOME OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

There is much more to tell you. Mark L. Morris, Sr., '26 and Mark L. Morris, Jr., '58 of Topeka, Kansas, have provided generous initial funding for a very important Mark L. Morris Professorship of Veterinary Clinical Nutrition. Francis A. Kallfeltz, '62, will be appointed to that position. This will be a new venture to teach clinical nutrition and to work in nutritional problems of patients in the large and small animal hospitals and clinics.

Jim Gillespie is chairing a Committee on Aquatic and Laboratory Animal Health. We are anxious to develop a program to study and teach diseases of freshwater and marine finfish and shellfish. Someone reminded us that we must surely include the two species of sea cows, the manatees, with round tails, and the dugongs, with forked tails. Apparently they resemble mermaids in general appearance, provided one has myopic vision.

We have had the usual assortment of both euphoric and anxious moments this year. Charles G. Rickard, Kenneth McEntee, Alvin F. Sellers, James H. Gillespie, and Robert W. Kirk were nominated for some deanships, and it felt great to have the sensation of chills and tremors disappear when they advised me that they elected to stay at Cornell.

Howard E. Evans was invited to become a candidate for the position of Executive Officer, Biological Sciences Group, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Connecticut. Despite that attractive inquiry, he elected to continue to cast his lot with us.

Alexander (Sandy) deLahunta was invited to be considered for the Chairmanship of the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences at Ohio State University, and Sandy declined in Cornell's favor.

There undoubtedly have been more offers and more inquiries for these and other fine staff members. It is understandable. We are blessed with many outstanding colleagues. We face some very real competition in splendid sister institutions. How grateful we are to keep the kind of colleagues whom others want too, and who add height and breadth and depth to the preeminence of Cornell University.

This year I have dealt with operations in a broad sense in this letter instead of reviewing specifics in the academic output of the faculty. Still, the real fabric of an institution such as ours is the people; not the bricks and mortar, nor protocol. Part of the story of these great associates will be spread before you in our annual mandated report. A copy is sent to each alumnus and to those of you who are not our alumni, should you wish to have it. But better than reading words, we invite you to come back to the fold for a visit.

POSTLUDE

Marcel Proust in his Remembrance of Things Past reflects upon wisdom: "We are not provided with wisdom. We must discover it for ourselves, after a journey through the wilderness which no one else can take for us, and with an effort which no one can spare us. Our wisdom is the point of view from which we come at last to regard the world."
A new year approaches, and in metaphor we find its new unblemished, undefiled ledger at our finger tips. There are blank pages upon which we must write the record of what we do. Perhaps we might inscribe on the first page a few words from the Book of Proverbs that will keep a sharp focus on our points of view for the challenges of the year ahead:

"... Wisdom is the principal thing;
therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting,
get understanding ..."

"... Happy is the man that findeth wisdom,
and the man that getteth understanding ..."

In this frame of reference, we wish you a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

GEORGE C. POPPENSIEK, Dean