

ANNUAL REPORT: 1977 - 1978

Drugs and Biologics Committee of AAAP

The AAAP Drugs and Biologics Committee was originated by President R. Winterfield in September 1977 with the following Committee members: W. Babcock, R. Bagley, J. Bennett, E. Marty, J. Newman, K. Page, S. Schmittle, L. Shor, J. Tumlin, W. Vaughan, and L. van der Heide, Chairman.

The Committee was charged with recommendations concerning regulatory affairs as reflected by the AAAP membership and promoting better communications between AAAP, the poultry industry and governmental agencies. Three actions were taken by the Committee:

1. In October 1977, the Committee unanimously advised President Winterfield to express to Commissioner Kennedy of the FDA the deep concern of AAAP over the proposed discontinuation of feed additive usage of penicillin and tetracyclines. This action was prompted by a letter to President Winterfield by Virgil Hays, President of the American Society of Animal Science, seeking endorsement for expressions of concern and dismay over said proposal restrictions.

2. In January 1978, President Winterfield charged the Drugs and Biologics Committee with studying the regulatory constraints regarding the importation of biological material, which is causing a lag in research progress by avian disease research laboratories in the U.S. In addition, safety testing of certain biological materials before importation, by the USDA laboratory in Plum Island was quoted to cost \$5,048.04.

The majority of the committee members felt that this issue should be studied further and brought before the entire membership for discussion. The consensus was that certain constraints should be enforced, while excessive regulations might be counterproductive.

3. A proposal was published in the Federal Register on January 20, 1978, by Commissioner Kennedy of FDA, that would limit the use of penicillin and tetracyclines in animal and poultry feeds, while the use of such antibiotics in

feeds would only be permitted on prescription of a licensed veterinarian.

Three public hearings were held by FDA on this subject. It was the unanimous opinion of the members of the drugs and biologics committee that it would be relevant and appropriate to have Louis van der Heide present the Committee's concern and opposition to the FDA proposal at the hearing in Ames, Iowa on March 23, 1978.

The text of the presentation is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

/S/ L. van der Heide

Louis van der Heide

Chairman, AAAP Drugs

and Biologics Committee

0430, AAAP, 012, 001, 030