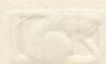


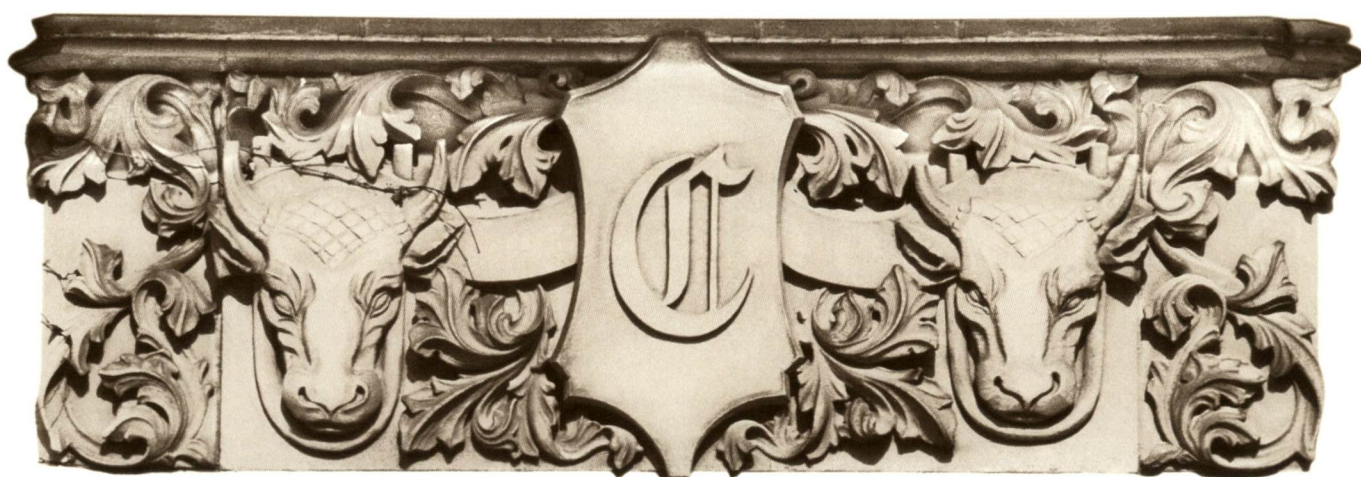
# A Centennial Celebration

College of Veterinary Medicine

**CORNELL**  
UNIVERSITY





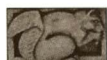


# A Centennial Celebration

100 Years of Creating a Healthier Future for Animals and People

College of Veterinary Medicine

CORNELL  
UNIVERSITY



## Foreword

This book commemorates the 100th anniversary of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University. The pages that follow trace the history of this proud institution—from our beginnings in 1868 as a one-man department in a brand new university, to our chartering as a college in 1894, through decades of growth and expansion, to our position today: widely recognized as one of the world's preeminent colleges of veterinary medicine.

A century has now passed since March 21, 1894, when, through Professor James Law's efforts, that small department received its charter from the state of New York and became a full-fledged college of veterinary medicine. But our present mission and, indeed, the principles that continue to guide us go back to the founding vision and traditions of Cornell University.

On the day the university opened its doors in 1868, Ezra Cornell eloquently expressed his idea for a unique institution of higher education: "I hope we have laid the foundation of an institution which shall combine practical with liberal education, which shall fit the youth of our country for the professions, the farms, the mines, the manufactories, for the investigations of science, and for mastering all the practical questions of life with success and honor."

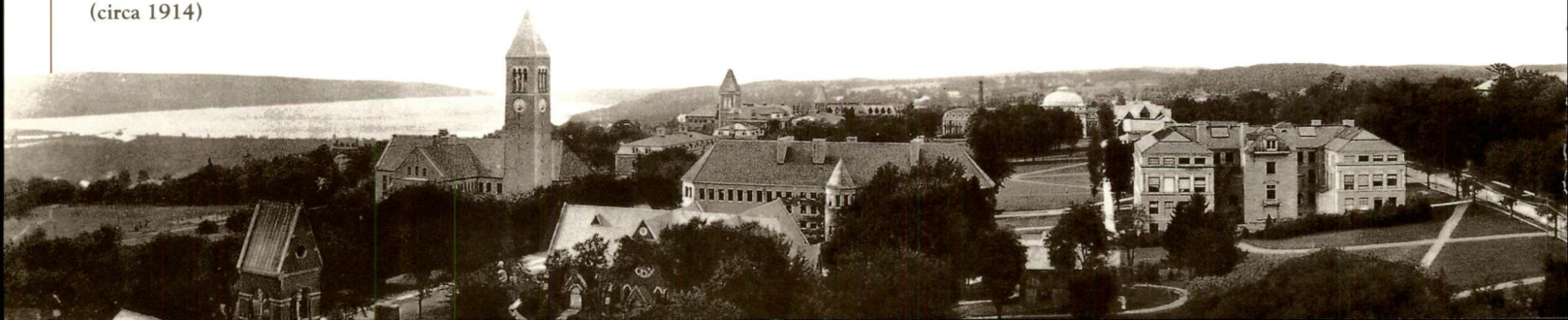
At the same time, our first president, Andrew Dickson White, offered his own perspective as a scholar. He envisioned a place where "liberally minded [students] ... could cluster, making this institution a center from which ideas [as well as individuals] shall go forth to bless the nation ...."

The original Cornell idea of blending the practical and the scholarly is part of the heritage of our college as well. This was the first American university to include a professor of veterinary medicine among its faculty and thus the first to grant veterinary medicine equal rank with other sciences.

Today, the principle of devoting equal emphasis to discovery and application, theory and practice, is alive and well at the College of Veterinary Medicine. Our faculty and graduate students are probing fundamental questions about how messages are transmitted through cell membranes, how cancer cells establish themselves at new sites, how pathogens cause disease at the molecular level, and how the fetus signals the mother that it is ready to be born. At the same time, they are teaching the science and art of healing to veterinary students and attending to the problems of the day: stopping the spread of rabies, repairing fractured limbs, improving reproductive performance, and developing computer programs to assist farmers in herd health management.

Another principle that is as sound today as it was at our founding is what Sir William Osler called *one medicine*. Two hundred years ago an English country physician named Edward Jenner made the double discovery of a link between animal and human disease and the possibility of immunization. In 1796 he performed the first smallpox vaccination using material from a cowpox lesion. Since then, the list of veterinary contributions to medicine has become long and impressive: diphtheria and tetanus toxoids, the hypodermic

The Cornell campus  
(circa 1914)



syringe, spinal anesthesia, the electrocardiogram. Veterinarians also discovered the first filterable virus, detected the first trypanosome-caused disease, identified *Mycoplasma* as a pathogen, and developed artificial insemination, cesarean section, pinning techniques in fracture repair, the first tumor virus vaccine, and the first hip prosthesis.

Although our study of livestock diseases and programs to improve animal health continue, for the last thirty-five years the major thrust of our efforts has been toward discoveries that benefit both people and animals. For many years, most of our research funding has come from the National Institutes of Health, where each project must be justified in terms of its relevance to human health. Because there is just one medicine, animals as well as people are the beneficiaries.

In this book we trace the rich and exciting history of our college, its faculty and its students, and the contributions we have made to create a healthier future for animals and people. There have been periods when growth was quiet and steady and other times when progress occurred in leaps and bounds. As knowledge in the biomedical sciences has expanded by geometric proportions, so too has the list of discoveries and accomplishments attributed to this college.

The late Ellis P. Leonard (D.V.M. '34) has already provided us with a detailed account of our history up to 1948 in his books *A Cornell Heritage* and *In the James Law Tradition*. In the next few years, we plan to publish a third volume to complete that chronicle up to our centennial year.

This publication highlights the events and achievements that stand out as landmarks, recognizes some of the individuals who had a significant impact in shaping our first one-hundred-plus years, and offers a brief glimpse of the experiences our students, faculty, and staff have shared in learning and working together.

Ours is a proud history—one based on both traditions and tradition-breaking. Yet a centennial anniversary is also an appropriate time to ask, What does the future hold? In response, we say: For as long as there are people and animals sharing space on this planet, for as long as there is one medicine, there will be a place for this college and its graduates. As long as we continue to address important health issues for the real world, our future is extraordinarily bright.

Our college is knowledge, skills, and values passed from one generation to the next; students and faculty, past, present, and future; friends and supporters who believe in the importance of what we do—the full worth of our first century and the years to come. During this centennial year, we celebrate our past, enjoy our present accomplishments, and anticipate a long and even brighter future.



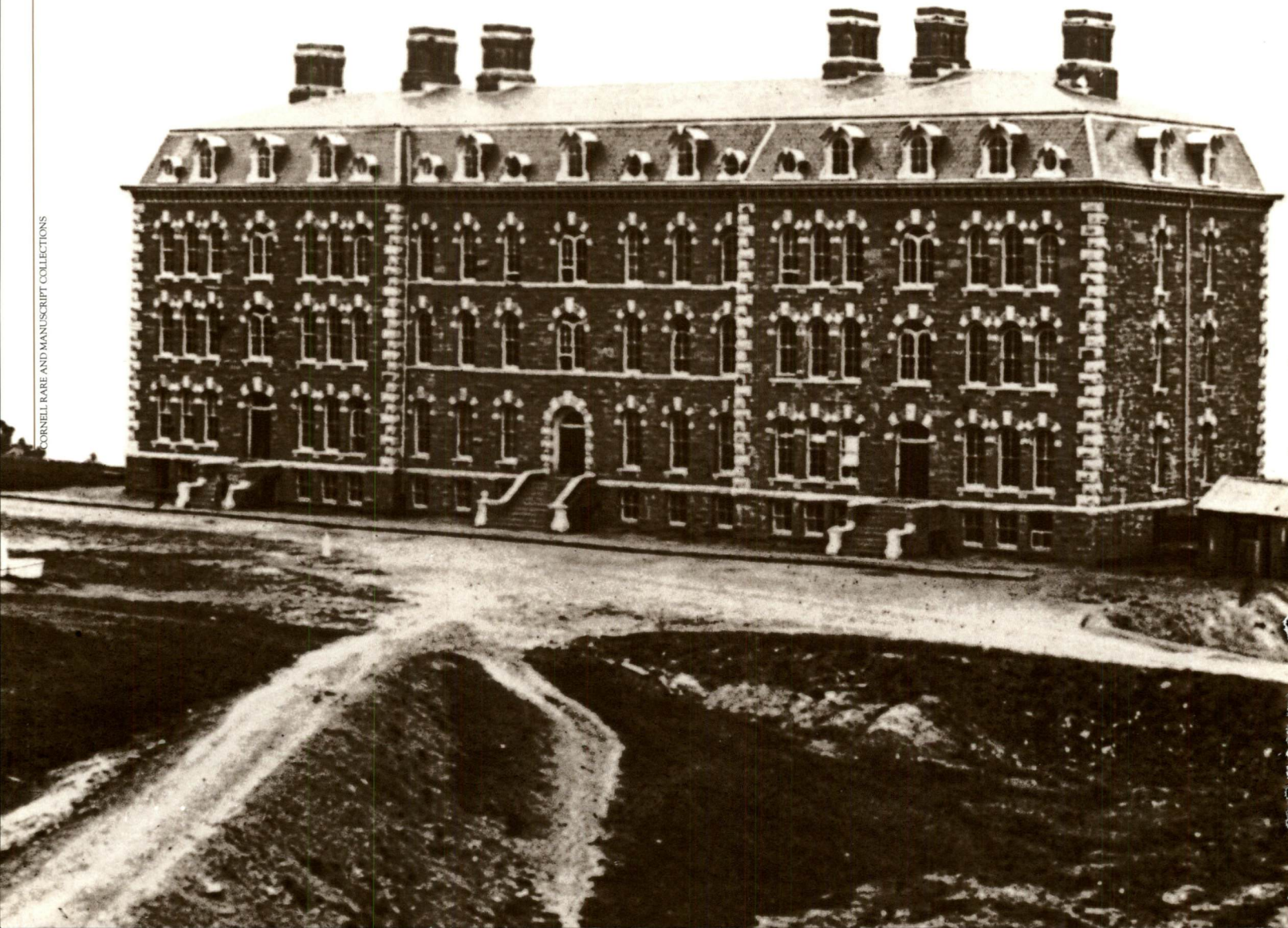
Robert D. Phemister, D.V.M. '60, Ph.D.  
Dean



# The Early Years 1868 to 1894

*When Cornell was opened, the chair of veterinary medicine found its first home in the centre of Morrill Hall, one stair up, with a second room in the basement for museum and pharmacy. Our clinical building was furnished by the campus grass walled in by the great dome of God's blue sky .... We had the common privileges that many a veterinarian has to avail himself of in his daily practice .... In the enthusiasm of youth, I took for a few years upon my shoulders all the specialties of the purely veterinary subjects and a fairly complete course of veterinary medicine was offered.*

—James Law, recalling his first days of teaching at Cornell



## 1860s–1880s

**Academic Life**

Cornell University opened in 1868

J. Law appointed first professor of veterinary medicine in the United States

Cornell authorized B.V.Sc. and D.V.M. degrees

M. Kasson received first B.V.Sc. degree in 1871

D. E. Salmon received first D.V.M. degree awarded in the United States in 1876

First academic prize endowed, Horace K. White Award

J. Law began local ambulatory service

**New Publications**

S. H. Gage, *The Microscope, an Introduction to Microscopic Methods and to Histology*

J. Law, *The Farmer's Veterinary Adviser*

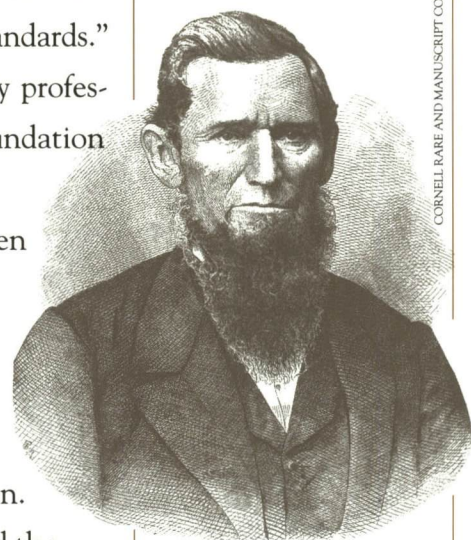
*Contagious Diseases of Domesticated Animals*

B. G. Wilder and S. H. Gage, *Anatomical Technology as Applied to the Domestic Cat*

When Cornell University opened its doors in 1868, there was no veterinary college. Instead, there were two rooms and one faculty member who shared a vision of the future with the university's founder. The two rooms in Morrill Hall are still in use today (by the College of Arts and Sciences). The professor was Dr. James Law, and the conviction he shared with Ezra Cornell was that this university should be a leader in answering the need for veterinarians "who would be persons of science, trained in high educational standards." Together, they were committed to moving the veterinary profession in America from empiricism and superstition to a foundation based on scientific knowledge and principles.

It was twenty-six years before the college that both men envisioned was established, but today the commitment to James Law's standards of excellence is still clearly evident in the faculty and graduates of Cornell's College of Veterinary Medicine.

Ezra Cornell was a farmer and an astute businessman. The owner of a prize herd of purebred cattle, he recognized the need for properly educated and trained veterinarians. He wanted a college of veterinary medicine to provide instruction and research "in such branches of learning as are related to agriculture," as well as in medicine and other areas of science, and to fulfill the university's mission of service to the people of the state and the nation as New York's land-grant institution. His views on this subject were not shared with the same degree of passion by the university's first president, Andrew Dickson White. Nonetheless, Cornell continued to insist that classes in veterinary medicine and surgery be offered by the best qualified person to be found in Europe or America.



Ezra Cornell, founder of Cornell University

*The legend of Cornell's persistence in obtaining a veterinarian for the first faculty has been recounted so frequently, even by White himself, that today it is often taken as factual. The anecdote ... relates to President White's leave-taking on his departure for Europe to seek additional faculty and teaching accouterments. Cornell, having accompanied White to the pier in New York, was waving farewell as the ship left the dock when suddenly he cupped his hands to his mouth and shouted across the widening gap, "Don't forget the horse doctor!"*

—Ellis P. Leonard (D.V.M. '34) from *A Cornell Heritage, Veterinary Medicine 1868–1908*





CORNELL RARE AND MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

Andrew Dickson White,  
Cornell University's first  
president

*I have secured James Law  
as Professor of Veterinary  
Medicine and Surgery ....  
As you know, I have  
looked through the princi-  
pal Agricultural and Vet-  
erinary Colleges of  
Europe before arriving  
here. I have found several  
excellent candidates but I  
find Mr. Law vastly their  
superior. He has published  
books and articles which  
have given him a high  
reputation on this side of  
the water and personally  
he is everything we could  
desire. Modest, unassum-  
ing, quiet, clear in his  
statements, thorough in  
his work. He cannot fail  
to succeed.*

—Letter from A. D. White  
(in London) to Ezra  
Cornell, July 1868



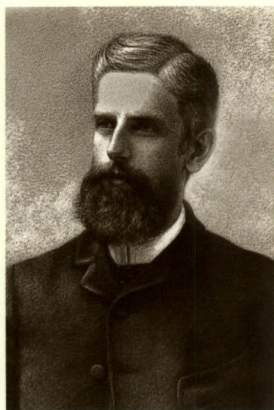
James Law, Cornell's first  
professor of veterinary  
medicine (circa 1868)

## The First Professor

James Law was a graduate of the Edinburgh Veterinary College in Scotland. Though only thirty years old when Andrew Dickson White hired him, he was already an experienced and well-respected teacher, scholar, and clinician, having taught at Edinburgh and at the Albert Veterinary College in London. He became the first professor of veterinary medicine in the United States, and thus Cornell University was the first American university to accord veterinary medicine equal rank with other sciences.

In those days, few individuals who called themselves veterinarians had any medical or scientific training, and of those few, most had been educated in Europe. Yet Dr. Law welcomed the challenge: "The call to do pioneer work, the new institution, in the new country, and under new conditions, I welcomed as an opportunity that the Old World could not offer."

Law worked tirelessly in the years that followed to establish meaningful standards for the profession at Cornell, in New York State, and throughout the country. At his insis-



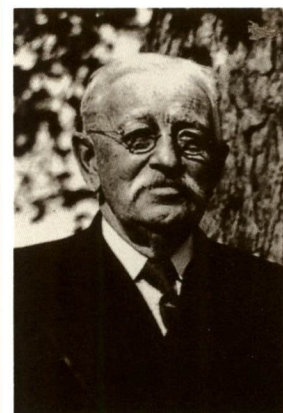
Daniel E. Salmon was one of James Law's first students. He earned a B.V.Sc. in 1872 and a D.V.M. in 1876—the first D.V.M. degree to be awarded in the United States. Dr. Salmon soon achieved national distinction as the first chief of the U.S. Bureau of Animal Industry. He was a pioneer in the use of inoculation to prevent infectious diseases and is best known today for identifying the pathogen *Salmonella*.

tence, Cornell set much higher requirements for a veterinary degree than any other institution at the time. The scholastic requirement for entrance was a high school diploma or its equivalent. Four years of study were mandated for a Bachelor of Veterinary Science (B.V.Sc.) and an additional two years for a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.).

Dr. Law's early classes in veterinary medicine and surgery included students who were working toward degrees in agriculture and the biological sciences as well as those pursuing a veterinary degree. A number of his first students went on to distinguish themselves as leaders in research and public service, battling the many diseases that plagued farm animals and people at the turn of the century.



Dr. Law was committed to public service as well as teaching. During his early years in Ithaca he began a veterinary ambulatory service, frequently taking students with him on farm calls. The first of fifteen editions of his *Farmer's Veterinary Adviser*, a book for those "beyond the reach of the accomplished veterinarian," was published in 1870.



Fred Kilborne, B.V.Sc. 1885, joined the Bureau of Animal Industry to work with a group of researchers investigating Texas cattle fever (including D. E. Salmon, Theobald Smith, Cooper Curtice, and V. A. Moore, all Cornellians who had studied under James Law). By 1892 they had confirmed Kilborne's theory that the disease was transmitted by the cattle tick. The discovery was the first demonstration that arthropods can be vectors of disease. This work led to an understanding of the mode of transmission of other infectious diseases such as malaria, yellow fever, typhus fever, and bubonic plague.

Later in life, James Law would characterize the period between 1868 and 1894 as years of “laborious waiting.” Ezra Cornell died in 1874, leaving Law to advocate alone for the veterinary college they both envisioned. For the next eighteen years, he worked diligently toward his goal but was frustrated at every turn.

Then in 1892 Jacob Gould Schurman became the third president of Cornell. In his inaugural address he pointed out that although the university provided free tuition to numerous students as New York’s land-grant institution, it did not receive any funding from the state for its operation. He specifically asked for state support for maintenance of the veterinary department and for an agricultural building. Law recognized this opportunity to enlist Schurman as his ally, and together they began pressing Governor Roswell Flower and the state legislature to establish a veterinary college.

### Law’s Vision Fulfilled

The proverbial tide began to turn in January 1893 when James Law delivered an address in Albany to the State Agricultural Society. Titled “A Higher Veterinary Education, Essential to the Maintenance and Improvement of Our Live Stock, to Our Soil Fertility, Our Foreign Markets and Our Public Health,” his now-famous presentation was a carefully reasoned rationale for why veterinary education should receive more public support.

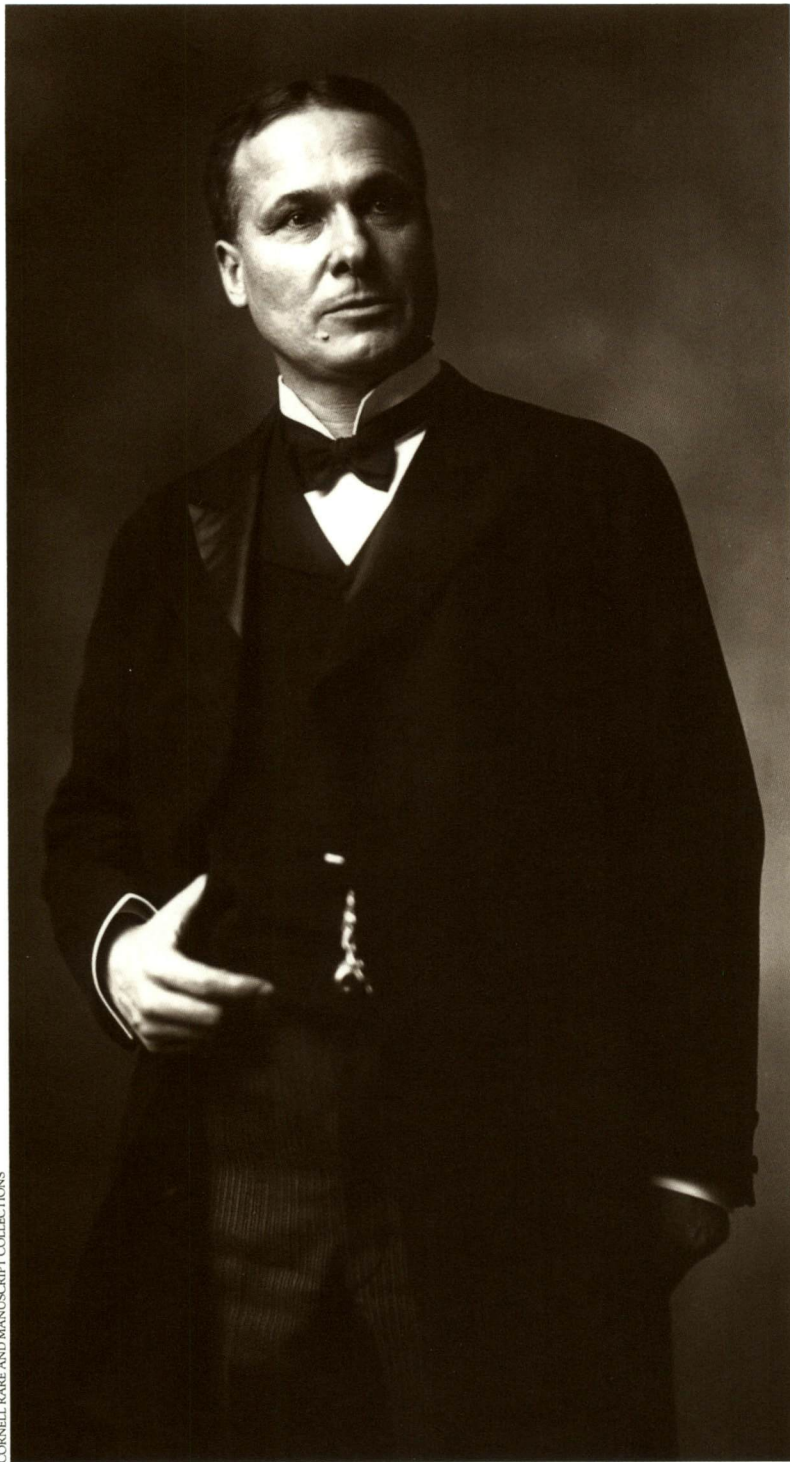
President Schurman continued to lobby the governor for an endorsement of his request for state support, and later that year the legislature appropriated funds for a dairy building (which is still standing today as the north wing of Goldwin-Smith Hall). Schurman, however, remained undeterred in his efforts to secure funding for a veterinary college. Finally, in March of 1894 Governor Flower signed the act to establish “a State Veterinary College at Cornell University.”



Governor Roswell P. Flower

*“There is hereby established a State Veterinary College at Cornell University.”*

—New York State Law, March 21, 1894



CORNELL RARE AND MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

The legislation also included an appropriation of \$50,000 “for the purpose of constructing and equipping suitable buildings” on the Cornell campus. The following year, an additional \$100,000 was allocated for the same purpose, and construction began on the building that would later be named James Law Hall. At this time the Veterinary College and the College of Law were the only officially established colleges at Cornell. Other colleges were formally set up as administrative units in 1896 and the Medical College was created in 1898.

The events of 1894 set the stage for a long and mutually beneficial association between the state of New York and Cornell University. President Schurman determined the formula by which the four statutory colleges still operate. He specified that the state would provide the operating funds (although today state funds represent only about one-third of the college’s annual budget), while the university would control academic administration, including admission standards and degree requirements, courses of study, and appointment of faculty.

Jacob Gould Schurman, Cornell University’s third president, was instrumental in convincing the governor and state legislature to establish a veterinary college at Cornell.

# The New College 1894 to 1931



Dr. Law (center) observing an early surgery class with Dr. W. L. Williams (third from left)



COURTESY OF NORMAN S. MOORE, M.D.

Two years passed from 1894, when the college was created by an act of the New York State legislature, to September 21, 1896, when it officially opened its doors to a class of eleven students. During that period, Dr. Law was appointed director and professor of principles and practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary sanitary science, and veterinary therapeutics.

## Original Faculty

Law continued teaching while devoting much of his energy to overseeing the design and construction of the new building and to recruiting a highly qualified faculty. The collective wisdom and experience of the men he hired represented a standard of excellence that became a tradition for the veterinary faculty at Cornell.

Law was assisted in assembling the faculty by his friend and colleague Simon H. Gage. Professor Gage, one of his early students, received a B.S. degree in 1877. Although he never attained an advanced degree, he was appointed an instructor in the Department of Natural History. In 1885 he was named an associate professor and taught courses in anatomy, microscopy, histology, and embryology. In 1896 Gage was named professor of microscopy, histology, and embryology for the Veterinary College.

Gage's assistant, Grant S. Hopkins, was one of the first men he recommended for the faculty of the new Veterinary College. Dr. Hopkins also had studied under Dr. Law and earned his B.S. and D.Sc. degrees at Cornell. He taught anatomy classes in the Natural History Department and in 1896 was appointed assistant professor of veterinary anatomy and anatomical methods.

Two of the other first faculty—Pierre A. Fish and



The act to establish the Veterinary College included an appropriation to construct and equip suitable buildings on the Cornell campus. The Main Building, later named James Law Hall, was completed in 1896. It had a museum, lecture room, and anatomy laboratory on the first floor, a library on the second floor, and laboratories for histology, microscopy, bacteriology, and pathology on the third floor.

### 1896

**Professorial faculty:**  
6

**D.V.M. students in first class:** 11

### 1890s

#### *Academic Life*

March 21, 1894: New York State Veterinary College established at Cornell

State appropriated total of \$150,000 to construct first veterinary facility at Cornell

J. Law appointed first director of college

Five additional professorial faculty and two instructors appointed in 1896

College officially opened in 1896 for first class of 11 students

College library founded with gift from former governor R. P. Flower

#### *Extracurricular Pursuits*

W. L. Williams, AVMA president, 1892–93

D. E. Salmon (D.V.M. 1876), AVMA president, 1897–98

#### *New Publications*

J. Law, *Textbook of Veterinary Medicine*

V. A. Moore, *Laboratory Directions for Beginners in Bacteriology*

**1900****Professorial faculty: 6****D.V.M. students in first-year class: 20****1900s****Academic Life**

L. H. Bailey's proposal to merge the veterinary and agriculture colleges rejected by Cornell's Board of Trustees in 1908

J. Law retired in 1908; V. A. Moore appointed director

**Research and Service Milestones**

W. L. Williams organized the Ambulatory Clinic

P. A. Fish set up early clinic for small animals in 1903

First Cornell annual conference for veterinarians held

Small Animal Clinic established and H. J. Milks named director in 1909

Veterinary experiment station established on Snyder Hill

**Extracurricular Pursuits**

J. Law, AVMA president, 1906–07

College Alumni Association established

Beta chapter of Alpha Psi chartered

**New Publications**

S. A. Burnett, *Clinical Pathology of the Blood of Domesticated Animals*

S. A. Burnett and J. Traum, *Clinical Examination of the Blood of the Dog*

V. A. Moore, *Bovine Tuberculosis and Its Control*

*Pathology and Differential Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases of Animals*

W. L. Williams, *Surgical and Obstetrical Operations*

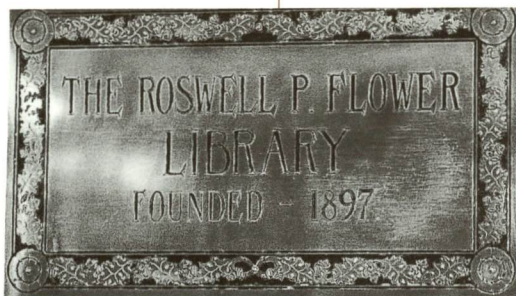
Veranus A. Moore—had also been students of James Law. Dr. Fish and Dr. Moore were both working at the Bureau of Animal Industry when they were offered the opportunity to return to Cornell to join the Veterinary College faculty. Fish was appointed assistant professor of veterinary physiology, materia medica, and pharmacy and Moore became professor of comparative and veterinary pathology and bacteriology. Later, both would follow Dr. Law as deans of the college.

The last position to be filled was the chair of surgery. It is indicative of the state of veterinary education in America at that time that the search for the best person finally turned up a man who was an experienced teacher and practitioner but who did not possess an academic degree. Walter L. Williams had a certificate from Illinois Industrial University documenting the veterinary courses he had completed and a diploma from Montreal Veterinary College dated 1879, which simply stated that he was qualified to practice. Nonetheless, he had already served as assistant state veterinarian in

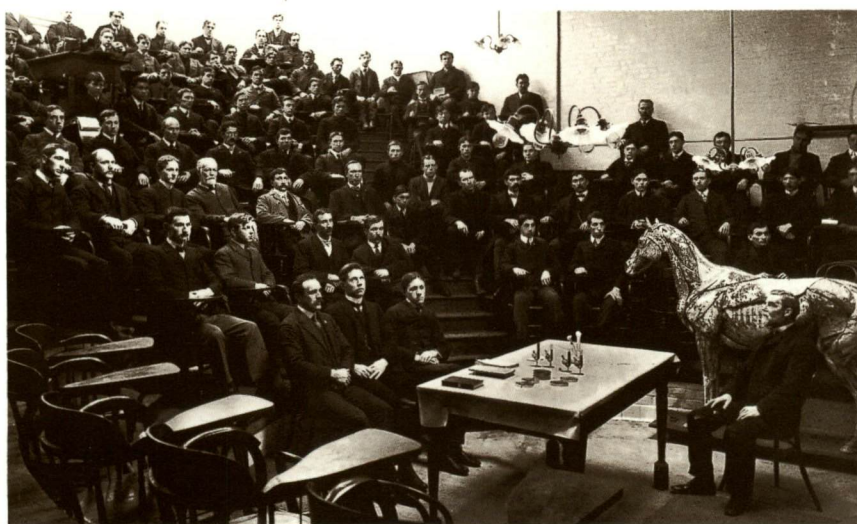


CORNELL RARE AND MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

The six professors of the original faculty were photographed on September 21, 1896, the day the college officially opened for the first class of eleven veterinary students. Front: Williams, Law, Gage; back: Hopkins, Moore, Fish.



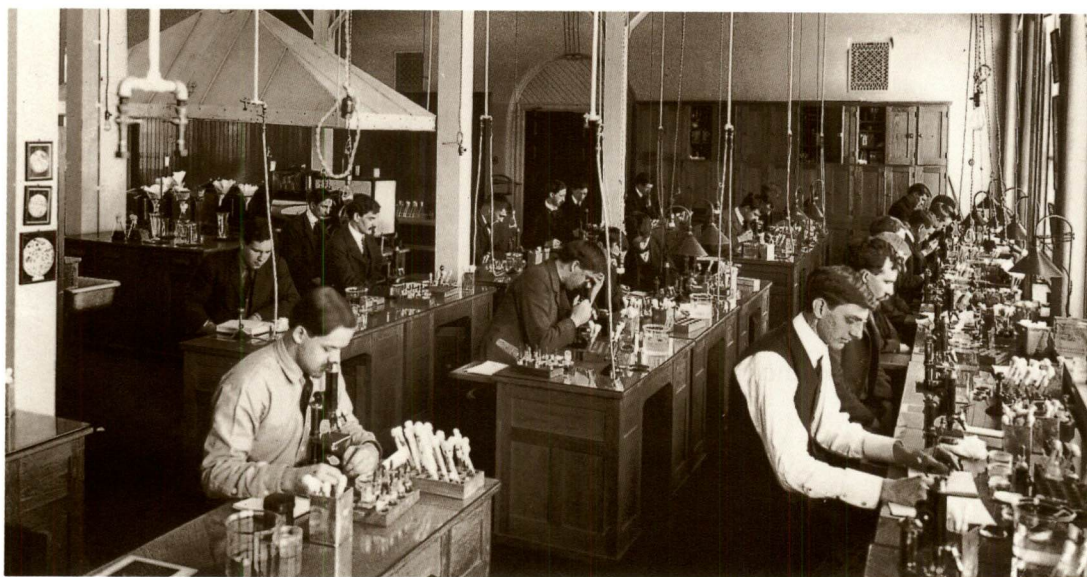
In 1897 former governor Roswell P. Flower was visiting Cornell when the horse pulling his carriage balked in front of the new veterinary college. He and his companions strolled inside and prevailed upon Dr. Law to show them the new building. At the tour's conclusion, impressed by all that had been accomplished in just a few short years, he asked if there was anything the college still needed. Dr. Law answered, "We need a good library." Reportedly, Governor Flower did not hesitate but immediately wrote out a personal check for \$5,000. Thus began the tradition of private support that has ensured the margin of excellence at the college throughout its first century.



*By the generosity of the Empire State ... we have been furnished with the nucleus of a scientific institution from which large and important results may fairly be expected. We are honored as being in a sense the pioneers in a comparatively new field, we have the place of advanced guard in the inevitable warfare. Though small in numbers, our chosen battlefield is one in which numbers count for less than quality, and in respect of quality, we have to prove ourselves.*

—James Law, inaugural address, September 1896

Dr. Law and his students posed with the famous Auzoux papier-mâché model horse, circa 1898. The horse, purchased in Paris in 1868 by Andrew Dickson White, was said to represent three thousand body parts and could be disassembled into ninety-seven pieces.



The bacteriology and pathology laboratory in the Main Building (circa 1903) could accommodate thirty students, each with an individual desk, microscope, and incubator.

## 1910

**Professorial faculty: 7**

**D.V.M. students in first-year class: 44**

**Female graduates 1910-19: 1**

## 1910s

### Academic Life

Cornell awarded first D.V.M. in the United States to a woman, F. Kimball, in 1910

Second story added to north wing of Main Building

State legislature appropriated \$140,000 for construction of three clinical buildings

Small Animal Clinic, Medicine, and Farriery buildings completed in 1913

H. Asmus appointed assistant professor of farriery, and first course in horse shoeing offered

Four-year veterinary curriculum instituted

Main Building renamed James Law Hall

### Research and Service Milestones

Vaccine using live virus and antiserum developed for hog cholera

Pathology and bacteriology department began operating "diagnosis laboratory"

Ambulatory Clinic placed under Department of Medicine, directed by D. H. Udall

First automobile purchased for Ambulatory Clinic

Illinois and as president of the United States Veterinary Medical Association (precursor of the AVMA) and had taught at Purdue University and Montana Agricultural College. Williams was appointed professor of veterinary surgery, zootechnics, obstetrics, and jurisprudence.

## An Attempted Merger

In 1904 a second state-supported college, the New York State College of Agriculture, was officially established at Cornell. Professor Liberty Hyde Bailey had lobbied hard to convince the legislature of the importance of agriculture to the state and its citizens, just as James Law had advocated for the Veterinary College. But Bailey had his own ideas about veterinary medicine as well, and early in 1908 he submitted a plan to President Schurman detailing the advantages of merging the Veterinary College with the College of Agriculture. He believed that combining them would give Cornell greater leverage in Albany to secure increased funding. He also stated,



Liberty Hyde Bailey, director of the New York State College of Agriculture, at the groundbreaking ceremony for their new college in 1905. His plan to merge the veterinary and agriculture colleges was quietly but soundly rejected by the Board of Trustees in 1908.

CORNELL RARE AND MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

No photographs are available of the first clinic for small animals that Dr. Fish set up in 1903 in the basement of the college. Until that time, dogs and cats were divided according to their ailments between the medical and surgical clinics operated by Dr. Law and Dr. Williams. The Small Animal Clinic was formally established in 1909, and Howard J. Milks (D.V.M. '04) was appointed director.



"Of right, veterinary colleges and agricultural colleges belong together, for a veterinary college deals with a phase of agriculture."

Dr. Law's response was a detailed memorandum, arguing eloquently the principle of *one medicine*: "Veterinary Medicine is closely allied to Medicine of man; *not to agriculture*. As well, make medicine subsidiary to agriculture, manufacturing, engineering, mining, etc. A direction which does not keep the essential object preminent must inevitably neglect, ruin, or dwarf that object."

In addition, he pointed out his own continuing difficulty in securing sufficient funding from the state for maintenance, salaries, equipment, and the like: "The Veterinary College, too, wants money; ... but it is not prepared to sell its birthright and mortgage its future for the sake of an uncertain prospective advantage, at the cost of the sacrifice of its status, of the appreciation and support of the veterinary profession, and in all likelihood, finally, of its very existence."

In February 1908 the university Board of Trustees passed a resolution "...that the relations between the New York State Veterinary College and the New York State College of Agriculture remain unchanged."

With his last major battle won, Dr. Law announced his retirement to be effective in June of the same year. Dr. Veranus A. Moore was selected to fill the position of director. Later in Dr. Moore's twenty-one-year administration, his title was changed to dean.



After forty years at Cornell, James Law retired in 1908 at the age of seventy.

*Of his achievements, none is more noteworthy than the part he has played in raising the dignity and worth of his profession. Until he began to teach at Cornell, no American college had ever regarded veterinary medicine as deserving a place in the college curriculum. Dr. Law now retires from the directorship of a college of veterinary medicine created and supported by the state, having entrance requirements as high as those of many medical schools, and graduating men everywhere recognized as trained scientists. In less than forty years a new profession has been created in the United States, and the praise and honor for doing this are in no small measure Dr. Law's.*

—Resolution of the Cornell University Board of Trustees, June 1908

## 1910s...

### Extracurricular Pursuits

V. A. Moore, AVMA president, 1918-19

Beta chapter of Omega Tau Sigma chartered

### New Publications

*The Cornell Veterinarian*

G. S. Hopkins, *Guide to the Dissection and Study of the Cranial Nerves and Blood Vessels of the Horse*

*Atlas of the Viscera, in situ, of the Dairy Cow*

H. J. Milks, *Practical Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics*

*Laboratory Guide in Materia Medica and Pharmacy*

D. H. Udall, *Veterinarian's Handbook of Materia Medica and Therapeutics*

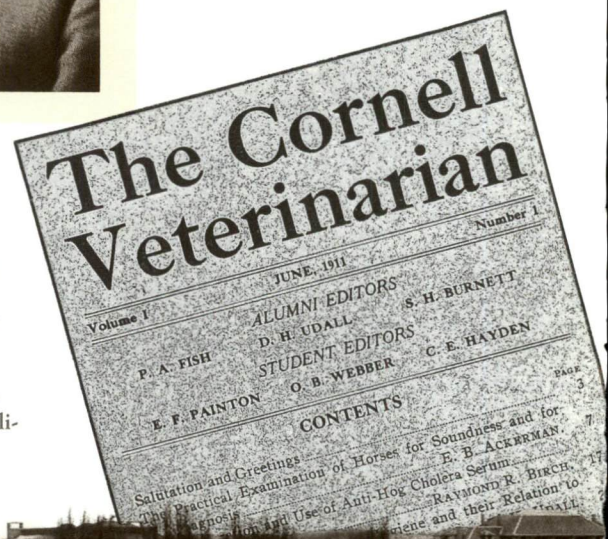
W. L. Williams, *Veterinary Obstetrics*

Veranus A. Moore, M.D.  
Dean from 1908 to 1929

Dr. Veranus A. Moore chaired the college's Department of Bacteriology and Pathology and was named director in 1908 when Dr. Law retired. Reluctant at first to assume the administrative role, he maintained his dedication to research and public service while presiding over a significant period of growth at the college. During his tenure, he continued to work on hog cholera and swine plague and assisted in the organization of the Veterinary Corps of the U.S. Army.



The first issue of *The Cornell Veterinarian* was published in June 1911 under the auspices of the Society of Comparative Medicine and the college alumni association. It became an independent publication in 1914.



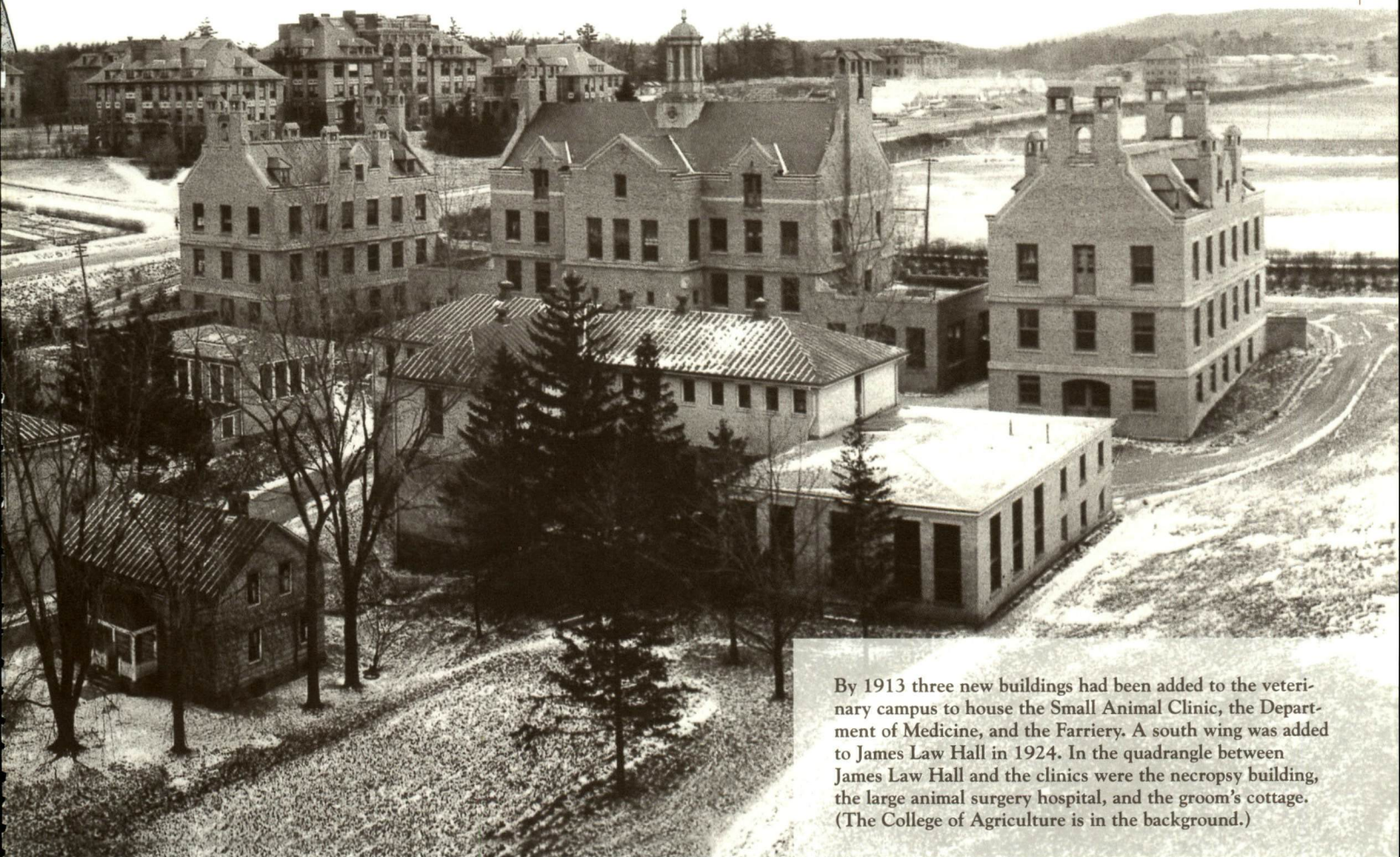
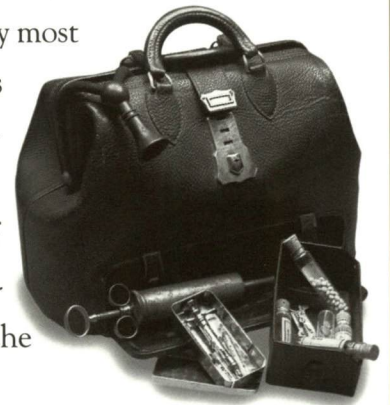
## The Second Generation

Soon after Dr. Moore assumed the directorship, he began to expand the faculty. Although other faculty members were hired during this period, a group of six men became known as the “second generation” because of the length of their tenure and the influence they had in carrying on the work begun by the original faculty. All were graduates of the college as well.

Denny H. Udall (D.V.M. '01) was appointed professor of medicine to fill the teaching position previously held by Dr. Law. During his thirty-four years on the faculty, he expanded the Ambulatory Clinic and served as editor and publisher of *The Cornell Veterinarian* for more than twenty years. James N. Frost (D.V.M. '07) was hired as an instructor in surgery under Dr. Williams and later took over the Ambulatory Clinic.

Howard J. Milks (D.V.M. '04), who was called “Daddy Milks” by most of the students, was named associate professor of therapeutics and served as director of the Small Animal Clinic until he retired in 1947.

Earl Sunderville (D.V.M. '08) joined the Department of Anatomy as an assistant professor. He became head of the department in 1934 when Dr. Hopkins finally stepped down, and he retired in 1947.



By 1913 three new buildings had been added to the veterinary campus to house the Small Animal Clinic, the Department of Medicine, and the Farriery. A south wing was added to James Law Hall in 1924. In the quadrangle between James Law Hall and the clinics were the necropsy building, the large animal surgery hospital, and the groom's cottage. (The College of Agriculture is in the background.)

**1920**

**Professorial faculty:**  
**14**

**D.V.M. students in**  
**first-year class: 41**

**Graduate students: 3**

**Female graduates**  
**1920-29: 3**

## 1920s

### *Academic Life*

J. Law died in 1921

W. L. Williams retired in 1921

South wing of James Law Hall completed

E. L. Burnett appointed first professor of avian diseases

V. A. Moore retired, and P. A. Fish became third dean in 1929

### *Research and Service Milestones*

Diagnostic Laboratory established as separate service unit

D. W. Baker named first full-time director of Diagnostic Laboratory

X-ray machine installed in clinics

### *Extracurricular Pursuits*

Alpha Psi acquired chapter house at 410 Elmwood Avenue



Professor G. S. Hopkins (front, fourth from left) in the anatomy lab with the D.V.M. Class of 1904. Howard J. Milks (middle row, third from left) was director of the Small Animal Clinic from 1909 to 1947.

The class of 1910 included Florence Kimball, the first American woman to receive the D.V.M. degree. It was fifteen years before another woman completed the D.V.M. degree, and only twenty-nine more women graduated between 1926 and 1949.



CORNELL RARE AND MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

## 1920s...

Alpha chapter of Phi Zeta, veterinary honor society, founded at Cornell in 1925

Veterinary Circle founded by faculty wives

National Phi Zeta honor society established in 1929; V. A. Moore named first president

### New Publications

W. A. Hagan and V. A. Moore, *Laboratory Manual in General and Pathogenic Bacteriology and Immunity*

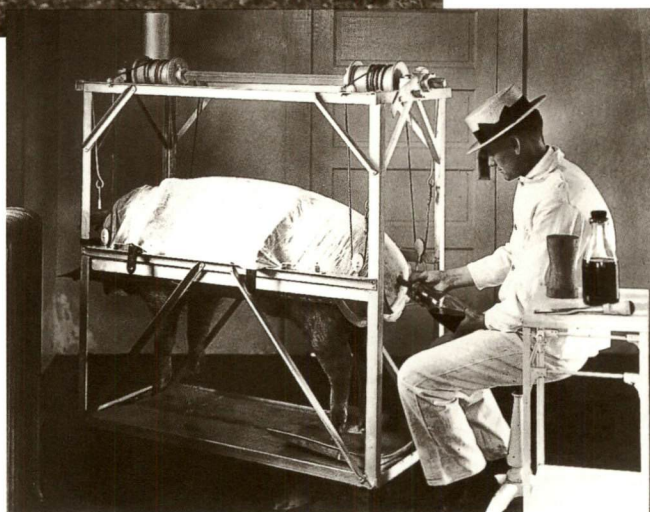
V. A. Moore, *Diseases of Animals Communicable to Man*

In 1916 the Veterinary Corps was created in the U.S. Army Medical Department. In the same year an R.O.T.C. unit was established on the Cornell campus. By 1918 the U.S. War Department had contracted with the university to provide inducted soldiers who met the scholastic entrance requirements with special academic and military training. During World War I, a number of the veterinary faculty and students left for military service, and Dean Moore struggled to run the college while the demand for veterinarians increased.

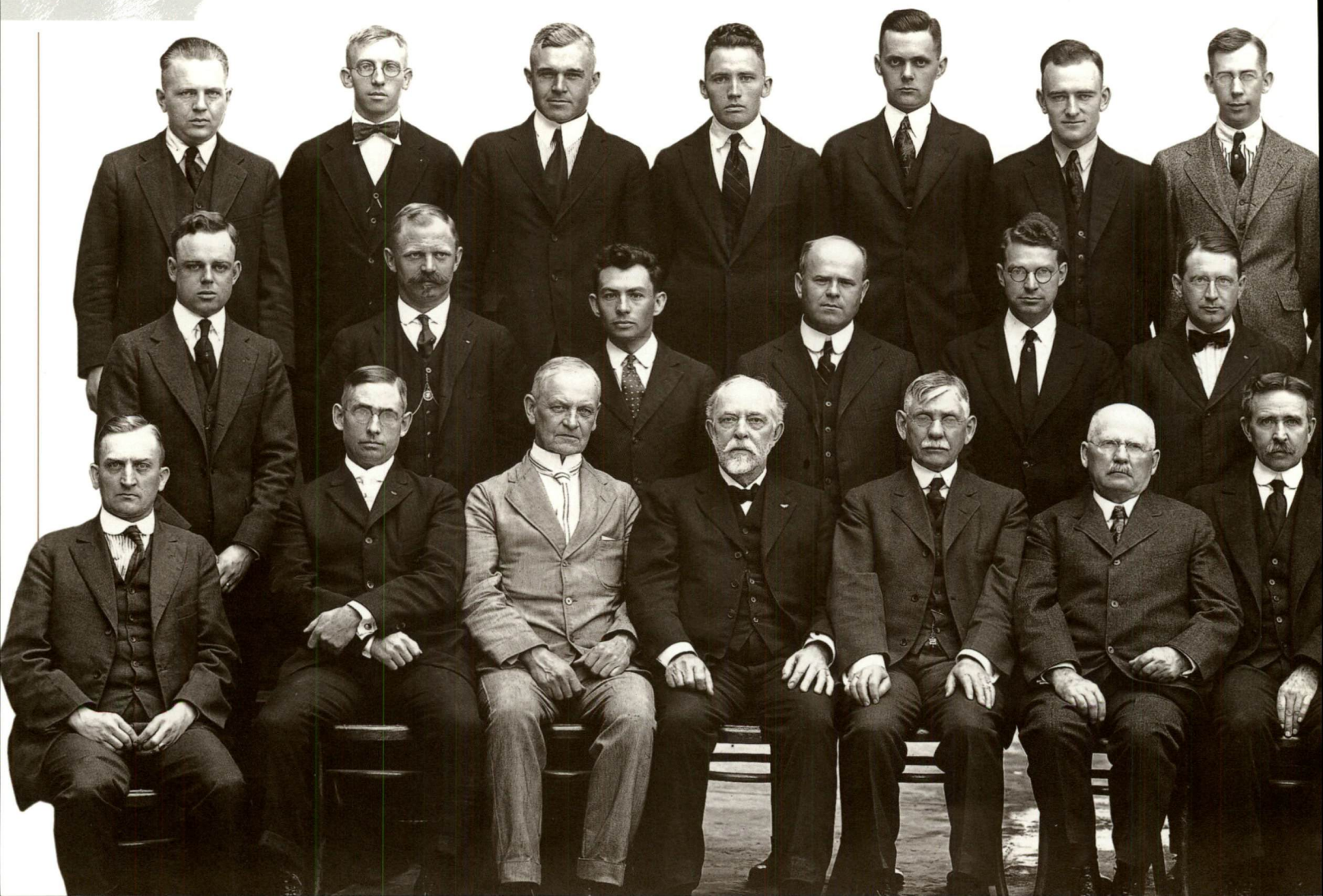
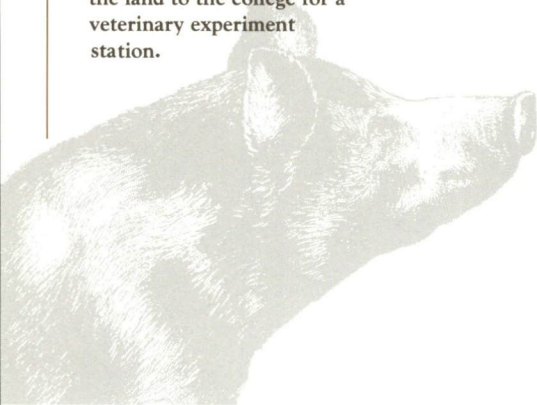




The first research facility on Snyder Hill was established in 1908 when the university purchased a defunct farm and donated the land to the college for a veterinary experiment station.

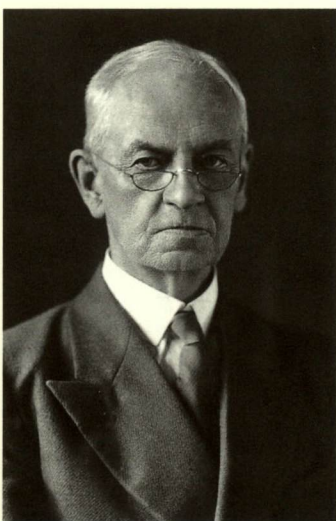


Professor Raymond R. Birch (D.V.M. '12) tail bleeding a hog to produce hog cholera serum and virus at the experiment station. From the turn of the century, the college was a national leader in research to fight outbreaks of hog cholera, swine plague, anthrax, brucellosis, foot and mouth disease, tuberculosis, mastitis, and other infectious diseases.



Pierre A. Fish, D.Sc., D.V.M.  
Dean from 1929 to 1931

P. A. Fish began his career as a teacher in 1890 in the university's Department of Physiology and Neurology, and later he served under V. A. Moore in the U.S. Bureau of Animal Industry. He returned to Cornell with Dr. Moore in 1896 to join the faculty of the new Veterinary College as assistant professor of physiology and pharmacology. Dr. Fish placed a high priority on research, but he also established the first small animal clinic at the college. He was named dean in 1929 when V. A. Moore retired, but his term was cut short by death just two years later.



Raymond R. Birch (D.V.M. '12) became instructor of experimental pathology and supervisor of the experiment station on Snyder Hill. He and Dr. Milks did the pioneering work on the production of hog cholera serum and virus. Later, Dr. Birch's work focused on diseases of cattle, and he proved that brucellosis in cattle was an infectious disease and one that could be controlled. Charles E. Hayden

(D.V.M. '14) was appointed instructor in physiology and was soon internationally recognized for his work on metabolic disorders and identifying the normal constituents of blood and urine.

After twenty-one years at the helm of the college, Veranus A. Moore announced his decision to retire in 1929 and recommended Pierre A. Fish to succeed him as dean. One of the college's six original professors, Dr. Fish was also the top choice of the faculty and alumni. His appointment to the deanship was confirmed by the university trustees on July 1, 1929.

Dr. Fish was committed to holding the college to the course of progress so ably advanced by Dr. Moore. He set as his priorities providing more comprehensive training for veterinary students and increasing research and service activities to aid both practitioners and animal owners. In the face of well-meaning enthusiasts who wished to popularize veterinary medicine, he also was deeply concerned about maintaining the high standards of professionalism and scientific ethics established sixty years earlier by James Law.

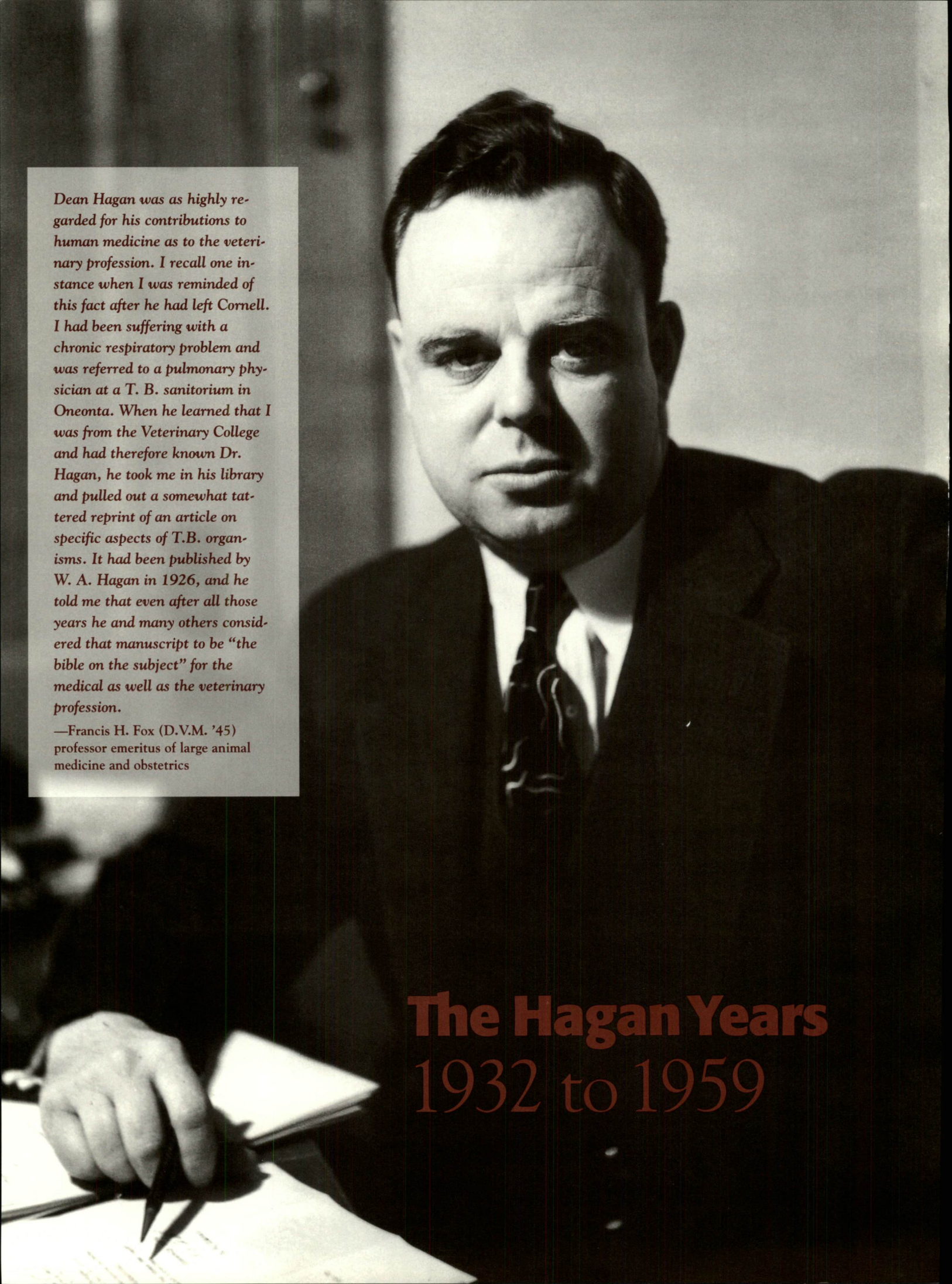
Unfortunately, Dr. Fish died suddenly in 1931, just two years after becoming dean. Until a successor was named, the trustees appointed Professors Raymond R. Birch, William A. Hagan, and Earl Sunderville as an administrative committee to run the college.

An administrative committee consisting of William A. Hagan, Earl Sunderville, and Raymond R. Birch was appointed to oversee the college for the academic year 1931-32.



The faculty in 1921. Left to right, front row: Milks, Udall, Fish, Gage, Moore, Williams, Hopkins, Frost. Second row: Hagan, Asmus, Goldberg, Hayden, Carpenter, Sunderville, Birch. Back row: Stephenson, Cushing, Benner, Varley, Fincher, Fuller, Van Volkenberg, Gilman.





*Dean Hagan was as highly regarded for his contributions to human medicine as to the veterinary profession. I recall one instance when I was reminded of this fact after he had left Cornell. I had been suffering with a chronic respiratory problem and was referred to a pulmonary physician at a T. B. sanatorium in Oneonta. When he learned that I was from the Veterinary College and had therefore known Dr. Hagan, he took me in his library and pulled out a somewhat tattered reprint of an article on specific aspects of T.B. organisms. It had been published by W. A. Hagan in 1926, and he told me that even after all those years he and many others considered that manuscript to be "the bible on the subject" for the medical as well as the veterinary profession.*

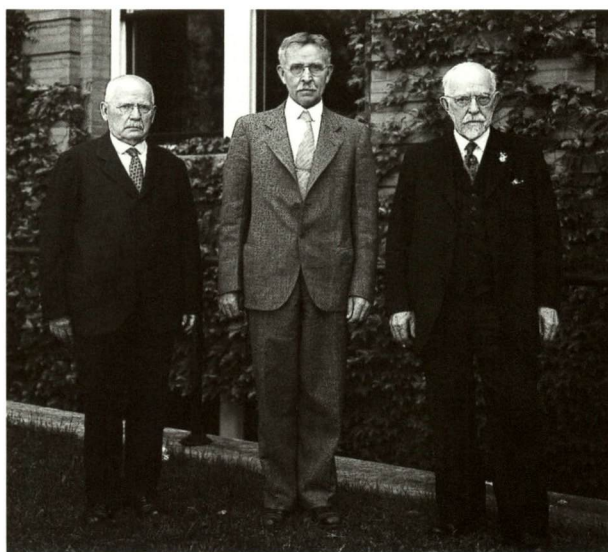
—Francis H. Fox (D.V.M. '45)  
professor emeritus of large animal  
medicine and obstetrics

## **The Hagan Years** 1932 to 1959

**W**illiam A. Hagan was appointed dean in 1932 and served in that capacity for twenty-seven years. Some may have thought him, at thirty-nine, a bit young for the job, but he had already been a member of the faculty for sixteen years.

Dr. Hagan received his D.V.M. degree from Kansas State Agricultural College in 1915 and came to Cornell a year later as a graduate student and an instructor under Dr. Williams. After receiving his M.S. degree, he was appointed instructor in bacteriology and pathology and in 1926 was promoted to head of the department.

Given the length of his tenure at Cornell and the pivotal changes that occurred under his leadership, most alumni and faculty would agree that the significance of Dr. Hagan's role in the history of the college was second only to James Law's. In the first half of his administration, he faced the challenges of overseeing the college through the Great Depression and World War II. The latter years of his deanship marked an unprecedented period of growth, as

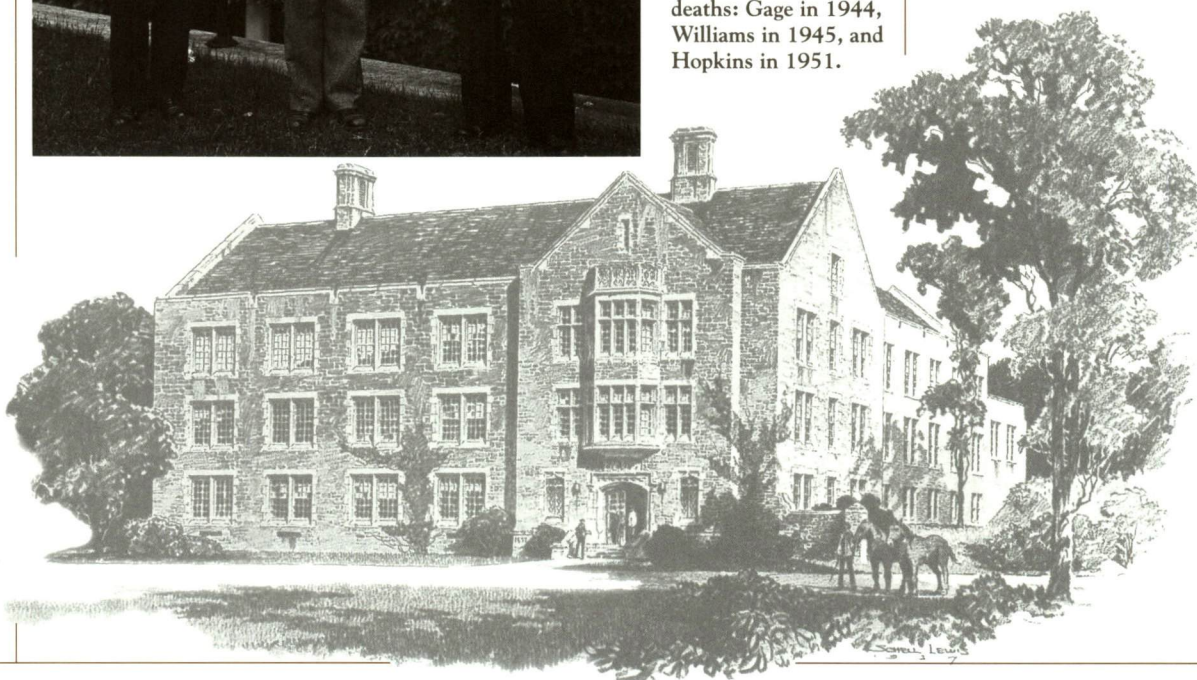


When Dr. Grant Hopkins (center) retired in June 1934, Walter Williams (left) and Simon Gage were the only surviving members of the original faculty. All three continued their professional pursuits at the college until their deaths: Gage in 1944, Williams in 1945, and Hopkins in 1951.

*I came to Cornell as a student in 1940, and I remember Gage. He had an office in Stimson Hall with all his accouterments for microscopy. He was quite a buff of the microscope and had written a book that went through eighteen editions. And in 1950 Dr. Hopkins still had an office on the second floor of James Law Hall. He loved to tell old stories about students—he was quite a student enthusiast. In fact, I understand he would go to faculty meetings, and if they were about to throw somebody out or drop them for being deficient, Hopkins would change the grade right there at the faculty meeting. So, he was quite a savior, a real soft touch ....*

—Howard E. Evans (Ph.D. '50), professor emeritus of veterinary and comparative anatomy

Adequate space for the Department of Pathology and Bacteriology had been a concern of the faculty since Dr. Moore's early years as dean. Finally, in 1936 Dean Hagan was successful in convincing the state legislature to allocate funds for a new facility. Moore Laboratory was named in honor of the college's first professor of pathology and bacteriology and second dean. Along with the original veterinary clinic buildings, it still stands today opposite the Statler Hotel and is used by the School of Industrial and Labor Relations.



COURTESY OF E. W. TUCKER '41



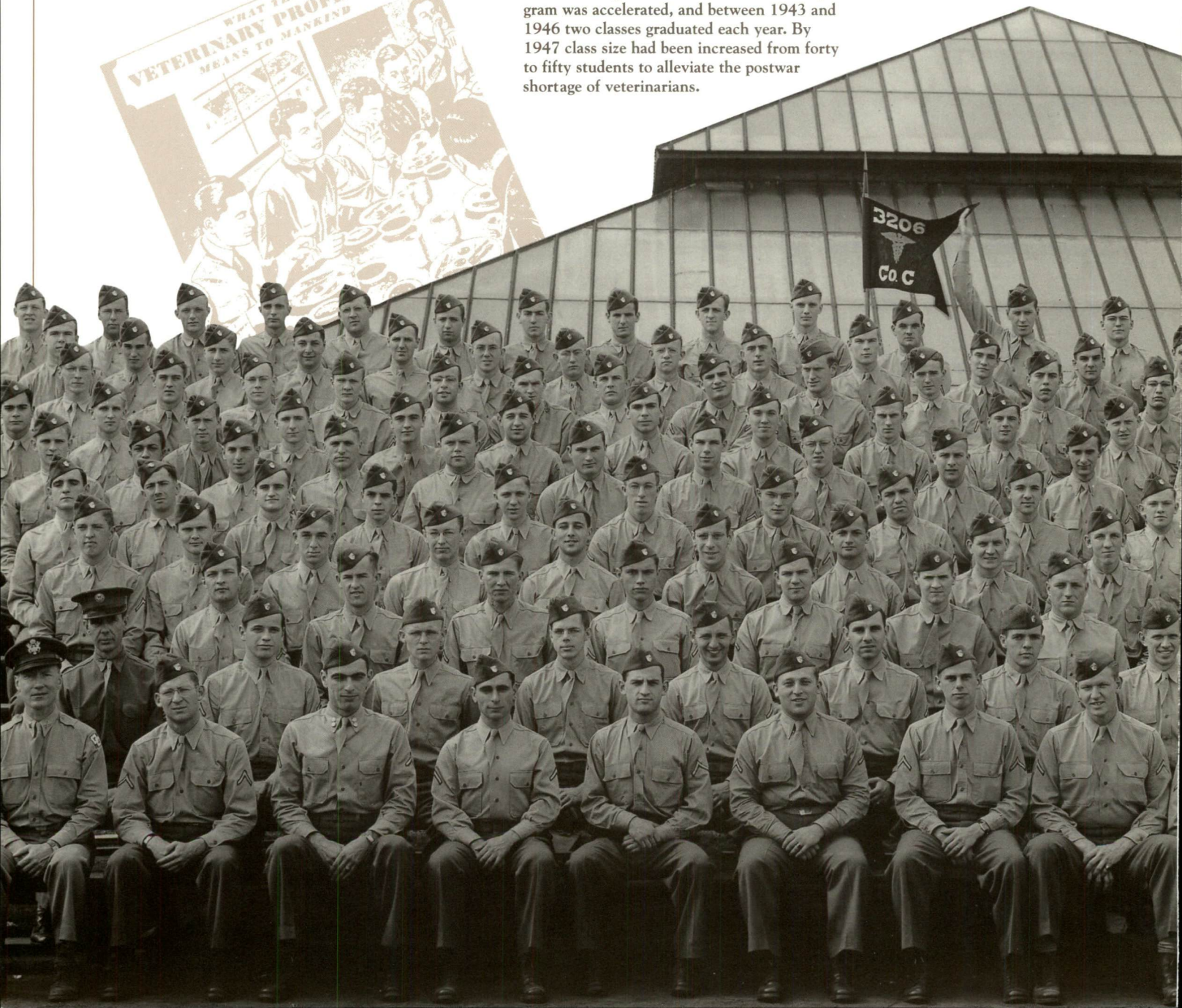
Brud Tucker with Spunky (in his arms) and another clinic patient.

One Saturday afternoon in 1940 while I was working in the Small Animal Clinic, a pair of students brought in a puppy they had found at the bottom of the gorge. It had almost drowned, and both forelegs were broken. Not knowing any better, I injected adrenaline intracardially and performed artificial respiration, then wrapped it in towels and put it in a cat cage. Two hours later, the pup was barking and sitting up. We put splints on the broken legs, and since no one claimed her, I did and named her Spunky. She had full run of the college, except for the postmortem room in Moore Lab, and was often found on Dean Hagan's desk and in Dr. Milks's chair. In fact, Dr. Milks said the dog had attended more classes than the students. Spunky was a live exhibit at the midwinter conference in 1940, and Dr. Milks published a case report about her in *The Cornell Veterinarian*.

—Edgar “Brud” Tucker (D.V.M. '41)

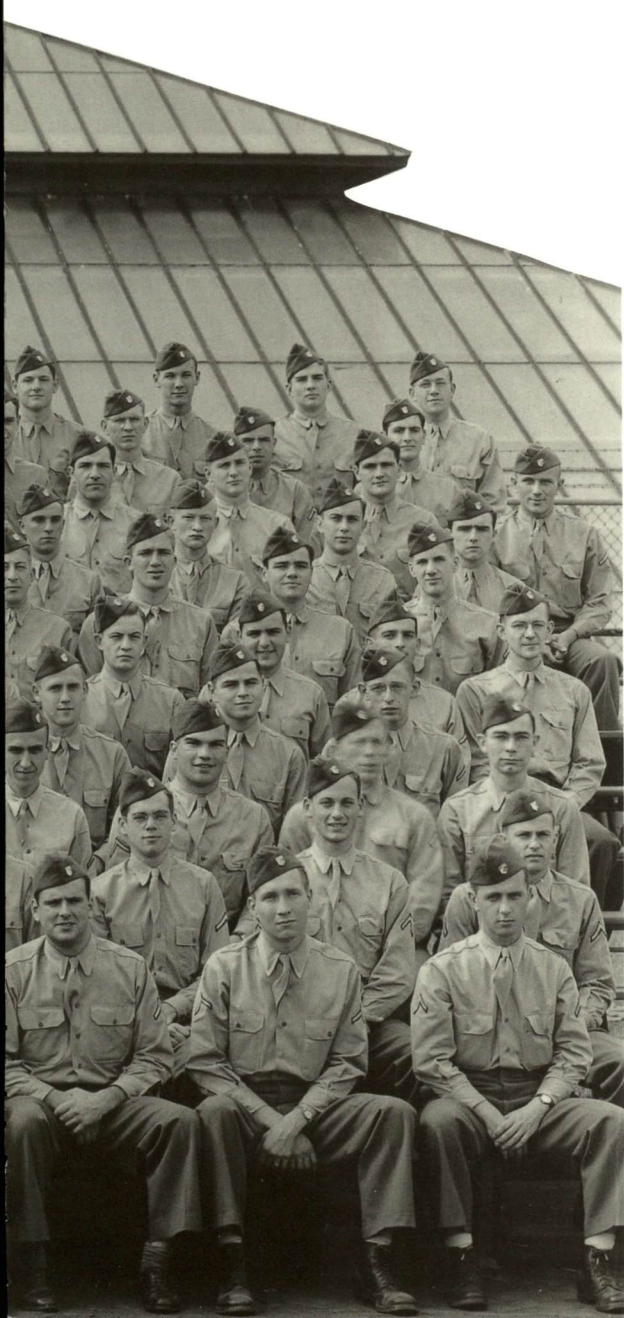


Veterinary students in the classes of 1943 to 1945. During World War II the academic program was accelerated, and between 1943 and 1946 two classes graduated each year. By 1947 class size had been increased from forty to fifty students to alleviate the postwar shortage of veterinarians.



During my second year at Cornell, the Army put us all in barracks on East Avenue, and we weren't allowed to room out. We ate in Willard Straight in a mess hall with all the V-12 Navy guys. Four years of veterinary college were compacted into thirty-two months. We would finish exams on Friday or Saturday, register on Sunday, and start classes on Monday for the next term. It was very concentrated and pretty hectic. At the end of that time, we were all anxious to get the heck out of Ithaca. I think the faculty were equally glad to see us all go and have a little peace and quiet.

—Robert W. Kirk (D.V.M. '46), professor emeritus of medicine



research and graduate programs expanded and veterinary education evolved to embrace new technology and knowledge. Dean Hagan lobbied energetically in Albany for new facilities to keep pace with the needs of the faculty and students. An entire new veterinary campus was built, and in 1957 the college moved to its present location at the east end of Tower Road.

Although Dr. Hagan is most often cited first for his contributions as a dean, he also was an excellent teacher, a gifted administrator, and a notable bacteriologist. His textbook *The Infectious Diseases of Domestic Animals* was first published in 1943 and has since gone through eight editions. He was a frequent consultant on disease control and matters pertaining to organized veterinary medicine for various federal agencies as well as leaders of other nations. The faculty and graduates through four decades at the college still remember him as a gracious man who always took time to know his students and colleagues on a personal level.

## 1930

**Professorial faculty:**  
20

**D.V.M. students in first-year class:** 36

**Graduate students:** 9

**Female graduates 1930–39:** 7

## 1930s

### Academic Life

Dean P. A. Fish died in 1931; R. R. Birch, W. A. Hagan, and E. Sunderville appointed as an administrative committee to run the college

W. A. Hagan named fourth dean in 1932

D. W. Baker appointed first professor of parasitology

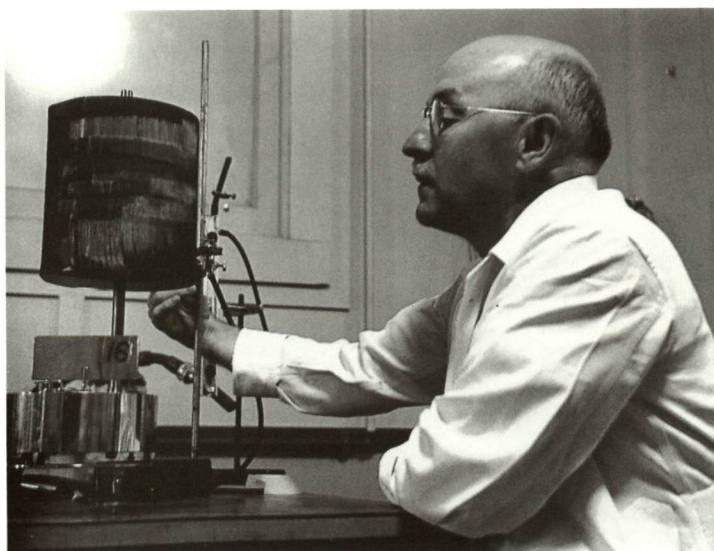
One year of undergraduate education required for admission to D.V.M. program

Farm practice requirement established for admission

G. S. Hopkins became last member of original faculty to retire in 1934

Third major college building, Moore Laboratory, completed at a cost of \$300,000

H. Asmus, last professor of farriery in the United States, died in 1939



COURTESY OF A. M. ROSS '43

Dr. H. Hugh Dukes (here with his kymograph) joined the faculty in 1932 as professor and head of the Department of Veterinary Physiology. An experimental physiologist, he developed a unique lecture-demonstration method of teaching that represented a major landmark in veterinary education and earned him and Cornell international recognition.

When Dr. Hagan retired in 1959 after forty-six years at Cornell, he became director of the newly founded National Animal Disease Laboratory in Iowa. He died of a heart attack aboard a plane to London in 1963.

The first faculty member that Dean Hagan hired was Dr. H. Hugh Duker to head the Department of Physiology. Dr. Duker is

widely credited with ushering in a new era in the field, and the growth of the college's graduate education programs during the 1930s and 1940s is largely credited to his international reputation for innovation in both teaching and research. He and his students became internationally preeminent in animal physiology and many related fields, including nutrition, endocrinology, and reproductive biology.

Soon after the publication of his landmark text, *The Physiology of Domestic Animals*, Dr. Duker developed the innovative lecture-demonstration method of teaching for which he became famous. Among the alumni, he is remembered as a favorite instructor whose quiet dignity hid a great sense of humor. Many recall the occasions when one of his demon-

strations failed to give the planned result, which always led to a witty and thorough analysis of the cause of the incident.



Seniors in the Class of 1943 in a physical diagnosis class

CORNELL RARE AND MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

*Just as I was getting through school, chemistry was changing and they were beginning to discover things like synthetic drugs. We had studied the old pharmacology, the natural drugs, and it was very hard for me the first few years I was in practice to get used to sulfonamides and penicillin.*

—Marion Leighton  
(D.V.M. '38)



CORNELL RARE AND MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

CORNELL RARE AND MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS



Ellis P. Leonard (D.V.M. '34) (right) left a thriving private practice in New Jersey and returned to Cornell in 1948 to become professor and head of the Department of Therapeutics Small Animal Clinic after Dr. Milks retired. He is widely credited with introducing aseptic surgery to the profession and was a national leader in applying new technology to the practice of veterinary medicine. Dr. Leonard was also a noted historian, and after he retired in 1969, he wrote two books tracing the history of veterinary medicine at Cornell from 1868 to 1948.

## 1930s...

### Research and Service Milestones

Mastitis research program initiated by D. H. Udall and S. D. Johnson

Poultry Disease Research Laboratory built on Snyder Hill

Bureau of Animal Industry funds committed for brucellosis research

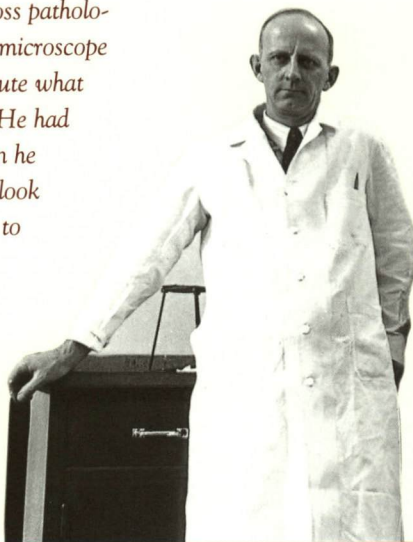
College received its first commercial grant, as support for P. Olafson's research on canine encephalitis



The Class of 1950 with their families on the steps of Bailey Hall at graduation. Immediately after the war, most D.V.M. and graduate students were returning servicemen; they were older than previous students, and many had spouses and children. Dr. Dukes once stated, "In all my years of teaching, I never had a finer group of students to work with. Many of them had lost four years or more of educational time as a result of the war. They were generally eager learners and a pleasure to teach, even though they made the faculty work harder...."

*Pete Olafson [(D.V.M. '26, M.S. '27) professor of pathology] was an outstanding gross pathologist, but he could also look into a microscope and tell you in about a half a minute what some took a half hour to look at. He had these piercing blue eyes, and when he asked a question, he'd just about look right through you when you'd try to answer. If you gave the right answer, sometimes the only way you knew was that his eyes would sort of twinkle a bit.*

—Stephen J. Roberts (D.V.M. '38), professor emeritus of surgery and theriogenology



COURTESY OF A. M. ROSS '43

### Extracurricular Pursuits

First Honor Day exercises held

Student chapter of the AVMA established

OTS acquired chapter house at 200 Willard Way

C. Way (D.V.M. '07), AVMA president, 1939–40

### New Publications

H. H. Dukes, *The Physiology of Domestic Animals*

D. H. Udall, *The Practice of Veterinary Medicine*

SOL GOLDBERG



*To me, the most important thing that can emanate from a professor is the ability to teach and inspire the student as if the instructor hadn't done it twenty years repeatedly for twenty classes. Dr. Danks would lecture and show such enthusiasm that you could envision yourself being there for the case and for each step in the surgical correction because of the degree of description and enthusiasm that he put into every lecture.*

—F. H. Fox '45

The Poultry Disease Laboratory was built on Snyder Hill in 1932 to accommodate the expanding research and extension programs in avian diseases.



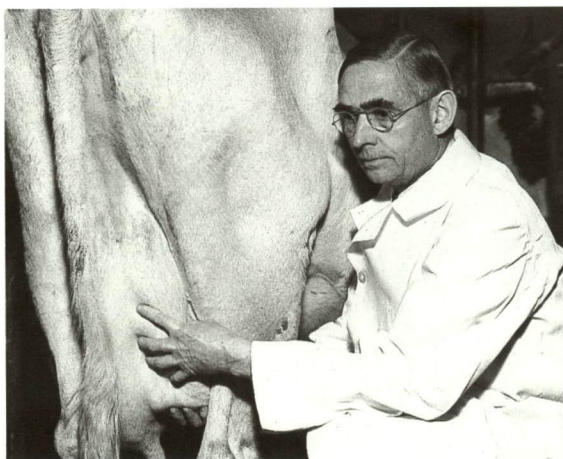
A. Gordon Danks (D.V.M. '33), professor of surgery and director of the Large Animal Clinic (second from left)

The D.V.M. program began to reflect changes in agriculture and society, as horses were used less frequently as working animals and pets took on greater importance in people's lives. A new course in applied anatomy was instituted in 1946, and Dr. Robert Habel was appointed to develop and teach it. Malcolm Miller (D.V.M. '34) became head of the Department of Anatomy in 1947 and the same year published his *Guide to the Dissection of the Dog*. By the 1950s, the dog was being given equal time with the horse and the cow in anatomy classes.



SOL GOLDBERG

Denny H. Udall (D.V.M. '01) checking a cow for mastitis. In 1934, the college began its first formal programs in extension teaching. Dr. Udall, who also directed the Ambulatory Clinic, was actively engaged in educating farmers about bovine mastitis, while Dr. Brunett initiated a poultry program and Dr. Birch focused on "Bang's disease."



## Research and Service Programs Expand

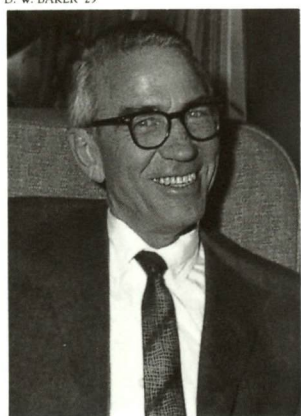
Early in Dean Hagan's tenure, research and extension service programs at the college began to increase. The state legislature had authorized in 1931 the construction of a new facility on Snyder Hill "for the maintenance of flocks of birds for the study of poultry diseases." Several years later additional funds were allocated for expanding research in that area. Professors P. Philip Levine and Leonard Goss were put in charge of the research laboratory, and Dr. Earl Brunett spent an increasing amount of time on poultry extension services.

At the same time, Dr. Udall's bovine mastitis education program was expanding, and in 1938 federal funds were committed by the Bureau of Animal Industry to support brucellosis studies. In the mid-1940s the college began operating regional laboratories for the diagnosis and treatment of bovine and poultry diseases, and by the end of the decade, twelve had been established in various locations throughout the state. By 1949 more than half of the faculty were

primarily engaged in research and service programs, and those efforts accounted for more than half of the total college budget.

Built with funds supplied by New York State, the Veterinary Virus Research Institute opened on Snyder Hill late in 1950, and James A. Baker (Ph.D. '38, D.V.M. '40) was appointed its director. Many of the institute's early studies focused on diseases of livestock, and new vaccines were soon developed for bovine viral diarrhea, bovine leptospirosis, and hog cholera.

D. W. BAKER '29



James A. Baker was appointed director of the newly established Veterinary Virus Research Institute in 1950. He had joined the faculty in 1947, leaving a research position at the Rockefeller Institute to take over most of Dean Hagan's teaching duties in pathology and bacteriology. The VVRI was later renamed the James A. Baker Institute for Animal Health in his honor.

### 1940

**Professorial faculty:**  
**20**

**D.V.M. students in first-year class: 40**

**Graduate students:**  
**not available**

**Female graduates**  
**1940-49: 20**

### 1940s

#### Academic Life

Year-round instruction began in 1942 to prepare veterinarians for military service

Dean Hagan appointed special assistant to the chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry; M. G. Fincher was acting dean for one year

S. H. Gage died in 1944

W. L. Williams died in 1945

Accelerated D.V.M. program phased out in 1946

First endowed scholarship established with gift in memory of V. M. Knapp '04

Two years undergraduate education required for D.V.M. students beginning in 1949

#### Research and Service Milestones

Twelve diagnostic service laboratories established across the state

New York State Mastitis Control Program established

Newcastle disease virus isolated at the college's Farmingdale laboratory

Duck virus hepatitis was discovered as a new disease on Long Island

*The state was quite generous in the early years in supporting scholarly research. But it wasn't until the advent of the National Institutes of Health that research for hypothesis testing became popular. The philosophy at many universities was that research money from the federal government was not the thing to consider, that it was tainted with politics. But that feeling soon disappeared, especially in the late forties and early fifties when people found out that NIH projects were peer reviewed. Fortunately, because of the talents of the faculty, the college was able to attract NIH funding. Good research was expected to be published in peer-reviewed journals, and our faculty just fit into all of this marvelously. So, research blossomed.*

—George C. Poppensiek (M.S. '51), dean emeritus

## 1940s...

Bovine viral diarrhea first diagnosed

First use of sulfonamides, in chickens, for treatment of coccidiosis in any species

Infectious agent that causes feline pneumonitis discovered

### Extracurricular Pursuits

W. A. Hagan, AVMA president, 1947–48

C. P. Zepp, Sr., (D.V.M. '19), AVMA president, 1949–50

### New Publications

R. E. Habel, *Applied Anatomy, a Laboratory Guide for Veterinary Students*

*Guide to the Dissection of the Cow*

W. A. Hagan, *Infectious Diseases of Domestic Animals*

G. S. Hopkins, *Guide to the Dissection and Study of the Thoracic and Abdominal Viscera, in situ, of the Horse and Cow*

M. E. Miller, *Guide to the Dissection of the Dog*

## 1950

**Professorial faculty: 34**

**D.V.M. students in first-year class: 50**

**Graduate students: 18**

**Female graduates 1950–59: 9**

## 1950s

### Academic Life

G. S. Hopkins, last surviving original faculty member, died in 1951

State appropriated \$6.5 million for new facilities at east end of campus

College moved to new campus at east end of Tower Road in 1957

New curriculum instituted: preclinical courses in first two years, clinical courses in third year; clinical rotations in fourth year

W. A. Hagan retired in 1959; G. C. Poppensiek appointed fifth dean



Early in 1951 the first permanent research center in the world for the study of canine diseases was created as a unit of the Veterinary Virus Research Institute. Because the state was not inclined to support research on companion animals, the Cornell Research Laboratory for Diseases of Dogs was funded by contributions from dog owners, veterinarians, and corporate donors. Within a year the laboratory produced the first live combined vaccine for dogs (distemper and hepatitis).

The institute was renamed the James A. Baker Institute for Animal Health in 1975. Over the years it has become a worldwide leader in research on infectious diseases, arthritis, and reproductive disorders of dogs, horses, and other species.



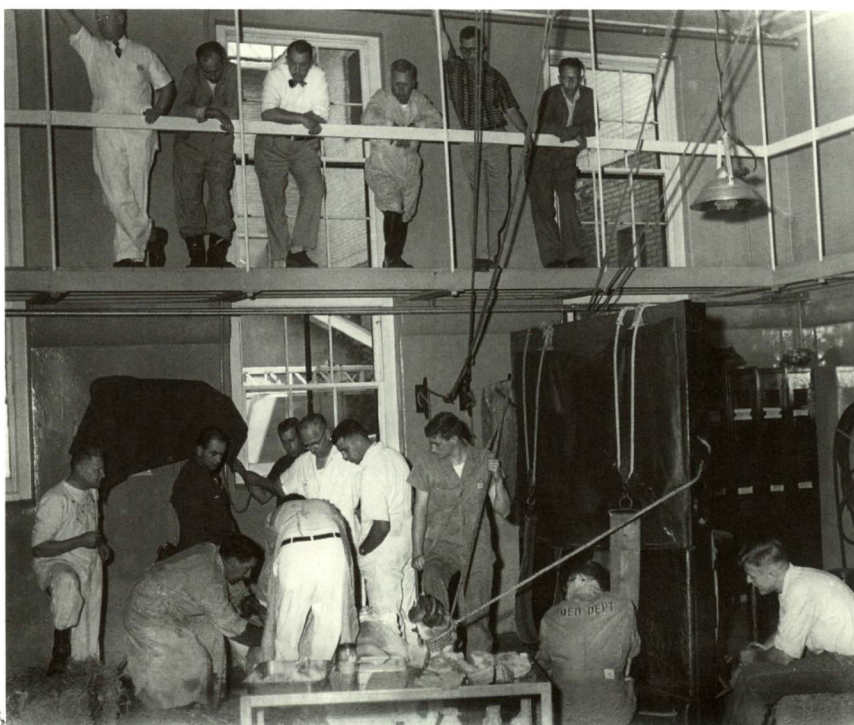
When the Cornell Research Laboratory for Diseases of Dogs was established in 1951, hepatitis, distemper, and rabies were the only known viral diseases to afflict dogs. Canine infectious hepatitis was so widespread that nearly half of all dogs contracted it, and mortality in young dogs was especially high. College virologists quickly discovered that the distemper virus was often preceded, accompanied, or followed by hepatitis, and within eleven months they developed the first combined live vaccine for dogs to combat the dual threat.



The faculty in 1946. Top row (left to right): Ewing, Wheat, McBee, Schirmer, Hodge, McKircher, Rickard, Johnson, Fabricant, Gillespie, Rankin, Rost, Batchelder, McCann. Middle row (left to right): Roberts, Zeissig, Dye, Levine, Hayden, Danks, D. W. Baker, Whitlock, Murphy, E. Moore, W. Evans. Bottom row (left to right): Olafson, Dukes, Birch, Sunderville, Hopkins, Hagan, Udall, Milks, Frost, Fincher, Miller, Gilman.

An early 1950s refresher course for practitioners in the Large Animal Surgical Hospital

D.W. BAKER '29



I remember well using the first dose of penicillin the vet school had. It was very expensive and was doled out very sparingly.

—Stephen J. Roberts '38

## 1950s...

### Research and Service Milestones

Aseptic surgery instituted in Small Animal Clinic

First surgical demonstration on closed circuit color TV during Annual Conference

Veterinary Virus Research Institute and Cornell Research Laboratory for Diseases of Dogs established; J. A. Baker named director

Long Island Duck Research Cooperative established

Laboratory of Radiation Biology established within physiology department

Methods perfected for the eradication of *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* in chickens

First cases of bovine leptospirosis recognized in New York

Virus that causes contagious pustular vulvovaginitis in cattle isolated and later proved to be the same virus that causes infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR)

First case of streptothricosis identified in a domestic animal (horse) and methods of prevention, control, and therapy developed

Identification, cause, prevention, and treatment of polioencephalomalacia in calves and sheep determined

Modified live virus vaccine developed for canine distemper

First combined vaccine for dogs (distemper/hepatitis) developed

Infectious agent that causes bovine viral diarrhea discovered

New vaccine developed for transmissible gastroenteritis of swine

### Extracurricular Pursuits

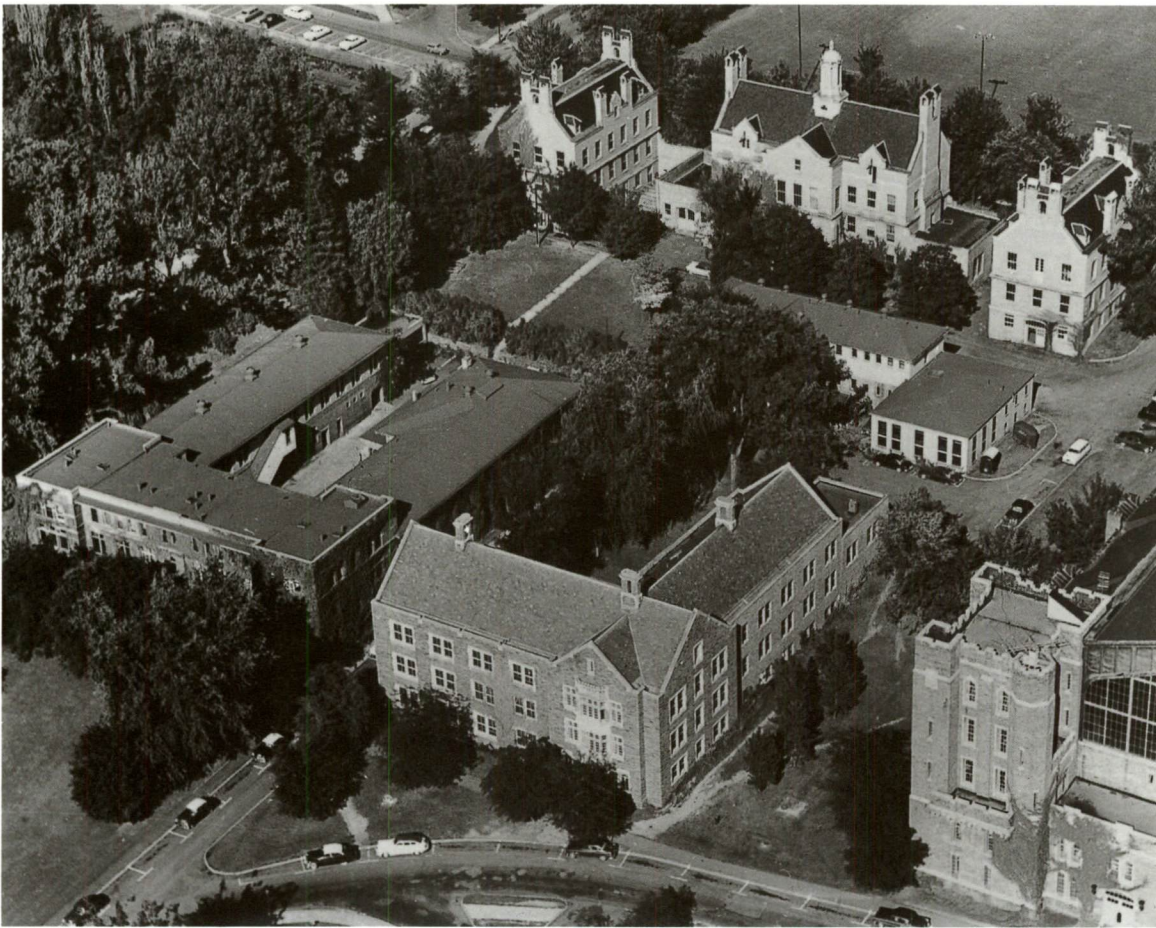
First organized students' observance of F. H. Fox's birthday

### New Publications

Avian Diseases journal, published by The Cornell Veterinarian

S. J. Roberts, *Veterinary Obstetrics and Genital Diseases*

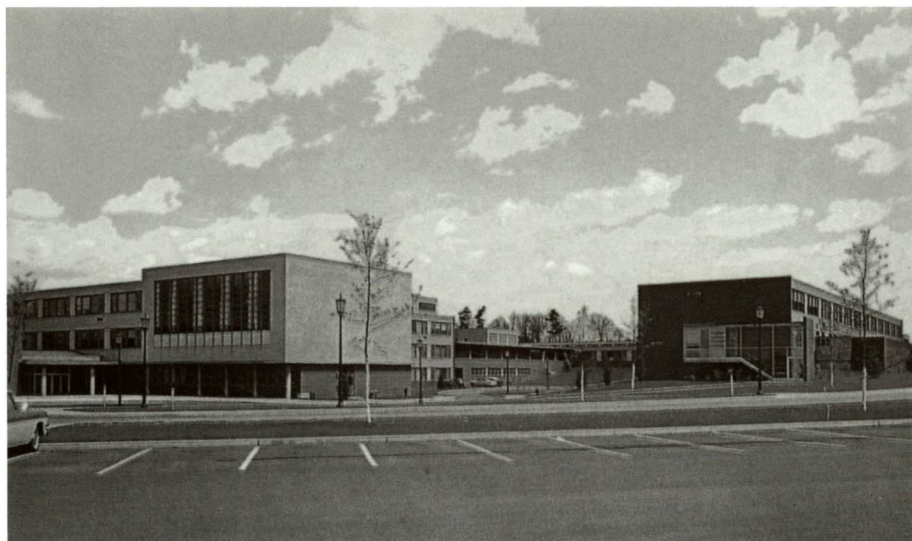
J. R. Rooney, *Guide to the Dissection of the Horse*



The college in the early 1950s, at the center of the Cornell campus. Clockwise from upper left: Small Animal Clinic, Medicine Building, Farriery, Large Animal Surgical Hospital, Moore Laboratory, and James Law Hall.

## A New Veterinary Campus

In the early 1950s Cornell and the state of New York decided to use the buildings of the Veterinary College to house the newly established School of Industrial and Labor Relations. Plans were drawn up for a new veterinary complex, to be located at the edge of the campus. The state, however, dictated that the new facilities could have no more square footage than the existing buildings. Thus, as soon as the college moved in 1957, there was still a shortage of space despite the modern buildings and new equipment and other accouterments in the clinics, classrooms, and laboratories.



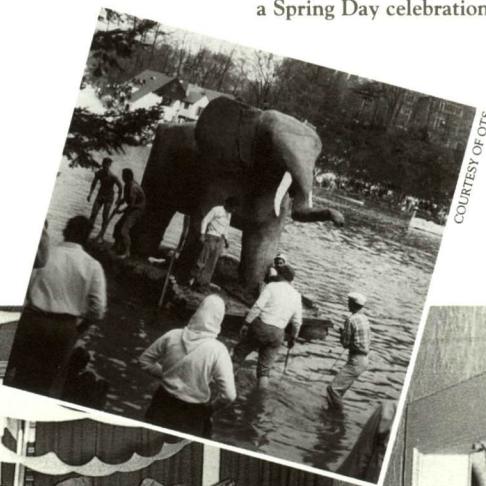
In 1957 the college moved to its new quarters at the east end of Tower Road. Schurman Hall was named for Cornell's third president, Jacob Gould Schurman, who with James Law successfully lobbied the state legislature in the 1890s to establish the college.

COURTESY OF ALPHA PSI

When it came time to move from the lower campus into the new facilities, the roads weren't finished. I remember Dean Hagan saying, "We're not going to move anything—not a person or a pencil—until those roads are finished." Here was this new facility ready for occupancy and the ILR School was ready to move into the old buildings, but Hagan wouldn't move, and so nobody moved until the roads were in about a year later.

—G. C. Poppensiek

Omega Tau Sigma float for a Spring Day celebration



COURTESY OF OTS





**In Full Stride** 1960 to 1994

**A**fter forty-three years on the faculty and twenty-seven years as dean, and with the college fully established and operations running smoothly at the new campus, Dean Hagan retired at the end of the 1958–59 academic year. George C. Poppensiek was appointed professor of microbiology and the college's fifth dean by the university Board of Trustees.

Dr. Poppensiek received his V.M.D. degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1942 and came to Cornell in 1949 as director of the Diagnostic Laboratory while undertaking graduate studies in microbiology. After completing his M.S. degree, he spent several years as a research associate in the Veterinary Virus Research Institute. In 1954 he joined the research staff of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Plum Island Animal Disease Center and later was appointed supervisory veterinarian for immunologic investigations. He returned to Cornell to take up the deanship in 1959.



George C. Poppensiek (M.S. '51), dean from 1959 to 1974, James Law Professor of Comparative Medicine

During Dr. Poppensiek's fifteen-year tenure as dean, the size of the faculty and the professional staff doubled, the college budget more than tripled, and research activity flourished with the increased availability of federal funds. Early in the 1960s it became apparent that college facilities, less than a decade old, were already short of space. Thus, planning for new research, clinical, and diagnostic buildings began early in his administration.

By 1970 the number of applicants to the D.V.M. program had jumped from 197 to 448, and the entering class had increased to 65 students.

When he completed his stewardship as dean in 1974, the Veterinary Research Tower had just been completed and the state legislature had approved funding to construct a new building for the Diagnostic Laboratory. Dr. Poppensiek continued to serve on the faculty and was named Cornell's first James Law Professor of Comparative Medicine by the Board of Trustees.

Completed in 1974, the Veterinary Research Tower provided much needed space for research laboratories, academic offices, and laboratory animal housing.

RUSS HAMILTON

## 1960:

**Professorial faculty:**  
39

**D.V.M. students in first-year class:** 60

**Graduate students:**  
48

**Female graduates**  
1960–69: 19

## 1960s

### Academic Life

Alfred H. Caspary Professorship endowed; B. Sheffy appointed

Mark L. Morris Professorship in Clinical Nutrition established; E. A. Kallfelz appointed

John M. Olin Professorship in Virology endowed; L. E. Carmichael appointed

Department of Physical Biology established; C. L. Comar appointed chair

Radiation biology field laboratory built

Department of Avian Diseases established; P. P. Levine named chair

Department of Microbiology created; D. W. Bruner appointed chair

Division of Laboratory Animal Medicine established; C. I. Boyer, Jr., named director

Office of Student Administration created; A. G. Danks appointed director

Tuition first charged to New York State resident students

First electron microscope installed at college (in anatomy department)

Muenschner Poisonous Plants Garden moved to Veterinary College

### Research and Service Milestones

Intensive care unit built in Small Animal Clinic

First clinical program in nuclear medicine established at a veterinary college

Contract established between New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets and college Diagnostic Laboratory

Feline leukemia studies laboratory built with grant from National Cancer Institute

## 1960s...

First identification of feline reovirus

Critical role of maternal antibodies recognized in achieving successful immunization of dogs, cats, and cattle

R. H. Wasserman identified and isolated the calcium-binding protein, which led to his election to the National Academy of Sciences

First definitive proof that any herpesvirus (Marek's disease virus) of any species could be oncogenic

IBR virus identified as a cause of encephalitis in calves

Infectious agents responsible for kennel cough identified

First recognition of canine herpesvirus as a killer of puppies

Association established between herpesvirus infections and atherosclerosis

Cause of canine brucellosis (*Brucella canis*) discovered

Biochemical pathogenesis of pregnancy toxemia of ewes described using radioisotope trace technology, the same pathogenesis for ketosis (acetonemia) of cattle

## Departments and Service Units Evolve

From the vantage point of 1994, it seems that because advances in technology and knowledge occurred at such a rapid pace, more reorganization of academic departments and service units took place in the last thirty years than in any other period in the college's history. The veterinary profession and, in turn, the college and its programs evolved in response to changing needs in agriculture, new discoveries about the links between animal and human medicine, and the growing importance of companion animals in people's lives.

During the Cold War, new concerns emerged about the biomedical aspects of radiation and radioactive fallout. In 1960 a Radiation Biology Field Laboratory was built with federal funding on university land near the Tompkins County airport. A new academic department, Physical Biology, was created, incorporating faculty and programs from the Section of Radiation Biology in the Department of Physiology, Biochemistry, and Pharmacology. In 1980 Pharmacology became a separate department and the Departments of Physiology and Physical Biology were once again combined to encompass teaching and research in all aspects of physiology. The college's Department of Physiology still serves as the Section of Physiology in the university's Division of Biological Sciences.

Avian medicine had been a section of the Department of Pathology and Bacteriology since the 1930s, but in 1961 a separate Department of Avian Diseases was created. At that time the only other department of its kind in the United States was at the University of California. P. Philip Levine (D.V.M. '32, M.S. '32, Ph.D. '37), a member of the faculty since 1935 and an internationally recognized leader in poultry research, was named chair.

Four years later, the Department of Pathology and Bacteriology was divided into two departments.

*Phil Levine was one faculty member whom I admired tremendously. He was a super teacher and, of course, a wonderful researcher. He taught a course that we all thought we would detest. Of the student body, 90 percent of us had no use for chickens, but he had us all so interested and he did such a good job of teaching that we really enjoyed the class.*

—R. W. Kirk '46



Charles G. Rickard (D.V.M. '43, M.S. '46) served as associate dean for academic programs during the Poppensiek and Melby administrations and as acting dean in 1984–85. He also was chair of the pathology department and one of the college's leading researchers in his day, focusing on feline infectious disease and cancer studies. In the mid-1960s he established and directed the first laboratory of oncology at the college and operated the Feline Leukemia Studies Laboratory on Snyder Hill, which were both funded largely by the National Cancer Institute. For twelve years he was a codirector of the Aquavet program.



P. Philip Levine (D.V.M. '32, M.S. '32, Ph.D. '37), professor of poultry diseases





Aquavet, a program that provides D.V.M. students from schools across the country with specialized training in aquatic animal medicine, was started in 1977 as a joint effort between Cornell, the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, and the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

Charles G. Rickard (D.V.M. '43, M.S. '46) was named chair of the Department of Pathology. The Department of Microbiology, chaired by Dorsey W. Bruner (Ph.D. '33, D.V.M. '37), included parasitology, the Diagnostic Laboratory, and the Veterinary Virus Research Institute. Dr. Bruner, an internationally recognized authority on salmonellosis, co-authored seven revised editions of Dr. Hagan's textbook, *Infectious Diseases of Domestic Animals*, and served as editor of *The Cornell Veterinarian* for twenty years.

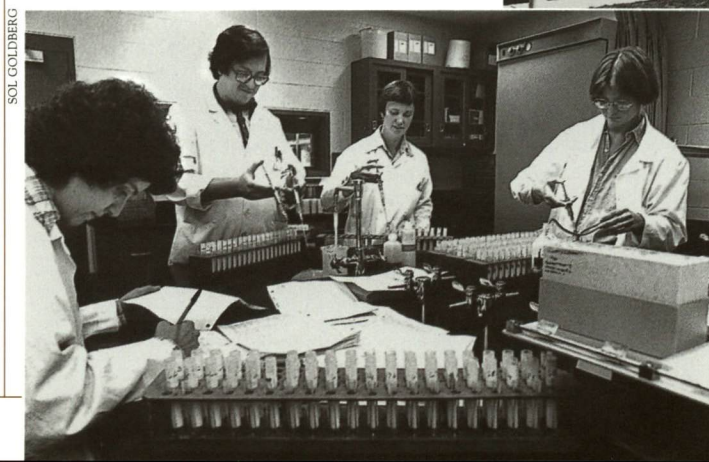
By the early 1970s, the problems of disease in fish and shellfish had gained importance, and the faculty in several departments

were teaching and conducting research on aquatic animals. In 1974 aquatic animal medicine was added to the responsibilities of the Department of Avian Diseases, and it became the Department of Avian and Aquatic Animal Medicine. The Fish Diagnostic Laboratory, originally established by Dr. Clyde I. Boyer, Jr., was expanded, and Dr. Louis Leibovitz, an avian pathologist at the college's Duck Research Laboratory on Long Island, was appointed the first professor of aquatic animal medicine.

In 1966 under a contract with the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, the college's Diagnostic Laboratory became the state laboratory for animal health. A new building was completed in 1976, and today laboratory staff are actively involved in research to develop new testing and disease control measures.



DAVID RUETHER



SOL GOLDBERG

## 1960s...

First known occurrence of duck enteritis (duck plague) reported in North America

**Extracurricular Pursuits**  
Students organized first annual Open House

M. L. Morris, Sr., (D.V.M. '26), AVMA president, 1961-62

### New Publications

A. P. Casarett, *Radiation Biology*

H. E. Evans and A. de Lahunta, *Miller's Guide to the Dissection of the Dog*

J. R. Georgi, *Parasitology for Veterinarians*

R. E. Habel, *Guide to the Dissection of Domestic Ruminants*

R. W. Kirk, *Current Veterinary Therapy*

E. P. Leonard, *Orthopedic Surgery of the Dog and Cat*

*Fundamentals of Small Animal Surgery*

M. E. Miller, G. C. Christensen, and H. E. Evans, *Anatomy of the Dog*

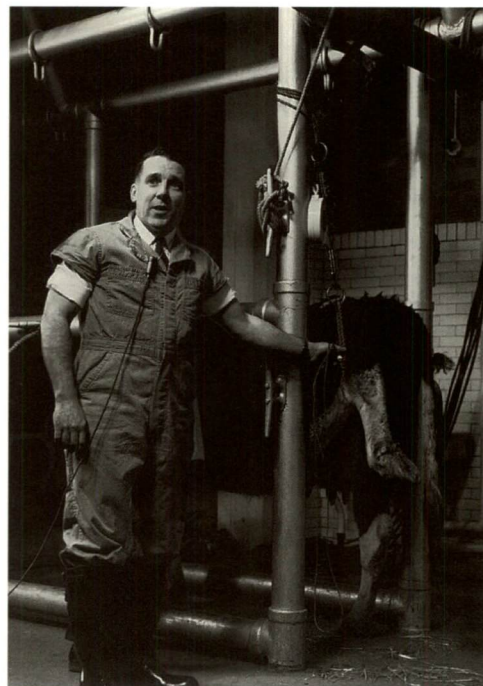
G. H. Muller and R. W. Kirk, *Small Animal Dermatology*

J. H. Whitlock, *Diagnosis of Veterinary Parasitisms*

Between 1950 and 1960, 63 percent of the college's graduates reported that they were engaged in mixed (large and small animal) practice, while only 15 percent were working exclusively in small animal practices. In the early 1970s equal numbers of alumni were working in mixed and small animal practices, but by the mid-1980s the balance had shifted, and more than 60 percent of graduates who entered private practice reported working predominantly in small animal medicine.

These changing demographics in the profession were also reflected in a series of organizational changes in the clinical departments of the college. The Department of Therapeutics and Small Animal Diseases was

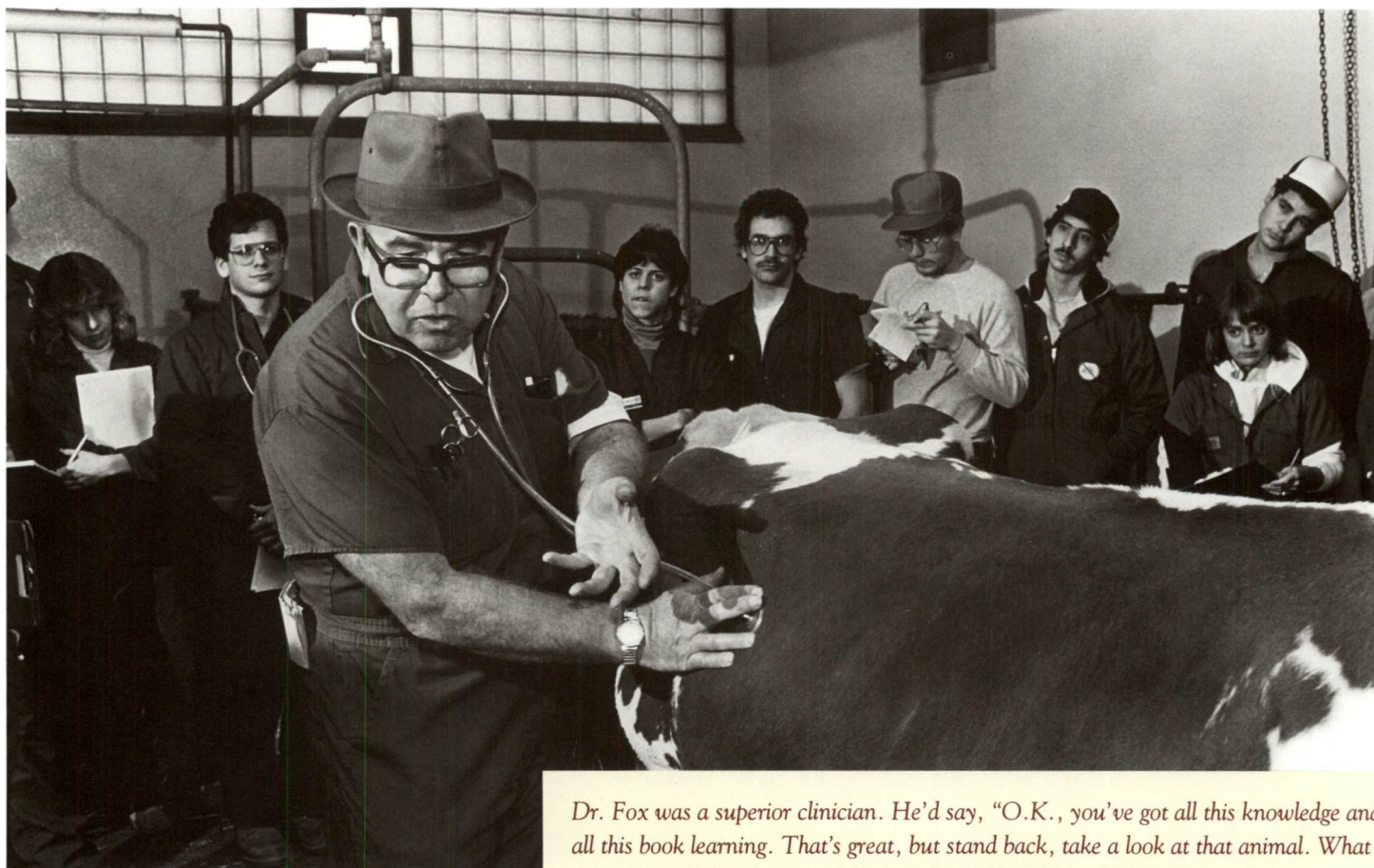
One of the college's most colorful faculty members, Francis H. Fox (D.V.M. '45) joined the faculty in 1947 and was named chief of medicine and director of the Ambulatory Clinic in 1965. Dr. Fox retired as an emeritus professor in 1992, but is still a familiar figure in the Large Animal Clinic.



D. W. BAKER '29

Stephen J. Roberts (D.V.M. '38) joined the faculty in 1942. He was named chief of obstetrics and director of the mastitis control program when the LAMOS department was created in 1965, and later he became department chair. "Doc" Roberts coached the Cornell polo team for twenty-five years and served for forty-two years as an officer of the college alumni association. He retired as an emeritus professor in 1972 and joined his brother in practice in Woodstock, Vermont.

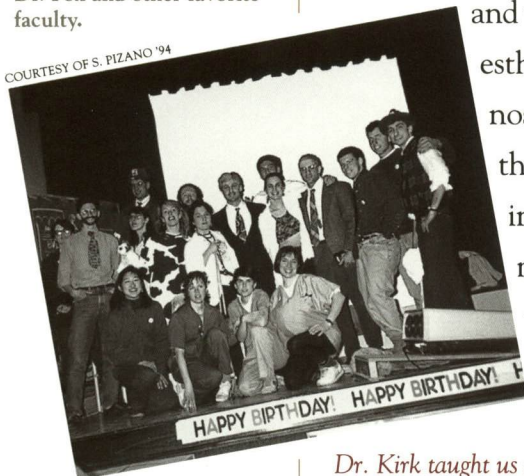
DAVID GRUNFELD



*Dr. Fox was a superior clinician. He'd say, "O.K., you've got all this knowledge and all this book learning. That's great, but stand back, take a look at that animal. What do you see? What do you smell? Touch it. What does it feel like? Use all your senses, and integrate that with what you've learned in the classroom." It was a very practical, applied education, and I think that was one of the most important things I got out of school. —Barbara Graycar Kubiak (D.V.M. '68)*

The third-year students' tradition of celebrating Dr. Fox's birthday each March began when the Class of 1956 made him a fake birthday cake. In recent years, the pranks surrounding this annual event evolved into a full-fledged theatrical production in James Law Auditorium, in which the students entertain the entire college community with skits and impersonations of Dr. Fox and other favorite faculty.

COURTESY OF S. PIZANO '94



renamed the Department of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery in 1960. When Dr. Myron Fincher retired in 1965, the two large animal departments were merged to form a single academic unit known as the Department of Large Animal Medicine, Obstetrics, and Surgery (LAMOS), and Kenneth McEntee (D.V.M. '44) was named chair. Shortly thereafter, Dr. McEntee became associate dean for clinical studies, and Dr. Rickard was named associate dean for preclinical studies.

Ten years later, the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital was established as a unit of the college to be administered separately from the academic departments. Putting an emphasis on health service rather than species, the hospital incorporated all three clinics

and was organized into seven sections—Medicine, Anesthesiology, Surgery, Radiological and Physical Diagnostics, Theriogenology, Clinical Pathology, and Pathology. In 1977 all the college's clinical programs, including the Teaching Hospital and the Departments of Small Animal Medicine and LAMOS, were reorganized into one administrative and academic unit—the Department of Clinical Sciences.

*Dr. Kirk taught us small animal medicine and pharmacology and shortly thereafter started writing his book. Probably, if we looked back at our notes, we could see some of the things in that book being developed. He was a great teacher in that he let us go ahead and do things and sometimes learn from our mistakes.*

—Richard C. Grambow (D.V.M. '57)

Robert W. Kirk (D.V.M. '46) joined the faculty in 1952 and became head of the Department of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery and director of the Small Animal Clinic in 1969. In 1977 he was appointed director of the newly reorganized Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, and he held that position until he retired as an emeritus professor in 1985.



C. HADLEY SMITH

## 1970:

**Professorial faculty:**  
79

**D.V.M. students in first-year class:** 65

**Graduate students:**  
56

**Female graduates 1970–79:** 92

## 1970s

### Academic Life

College name changed to New York State College of Veterinary Medicine

Veterinary practice experience replaced farm practice requirement for admission to the D.V.M. program

Three years undergraduate education required for admission to the D.V.M. program

Number of female students began to increase substantially

Curriculum revised to incorporate core and elective courses

Veterinary Research Tower completed at a cost of \$12 million

Diagnostic Laboratory building completed at a cost of \$2 million

Veterinary Virus Research Institute renamed James A. Baker Institute for Animal Health

Poultry disease facilities renamed P. Philip Levine Research Laboratories for Avian Diseases

G. C. Poppensiek completed stewardship as dean in 1974 and named the college's first James Law Professor

E. C. Melby, Jr., named sixth dean in 1974

Department of Avian and Aquatic Animal Medicine formed; S. B. Hitchener named chair

Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital established as academic/service unit

Department of Clinical Sciences formed; A. de Lahunta named chair

Aquavet program established in cooperation with University of Pennsylvania

## 1970s...

**Research and Service Milestones**

Equine Research Park acquired and developed

Coggins Test developed for equine infectious anemia

Equine Drug Testing Program instituted at thoroughbred tracks with funding from New York State Racing and Wagering Board

Cornell Feline Research Laboratory established; F. W. Scott named director

Role of feline parvovirus characterized in producing cerebellar hypoplasia in kittens

Canine parvovirus first isolated and identified

Antigenic relationship characterized between feline parvovirus and canine parvovirus

Teratogenesis in cats associated with griseofulvin therapy

Teratogenesis in cattle associated with bovine viral diarrhea virus infection

Bovine Research Center established; D. H. Schlafer later appointed director

Harry M. Zweig Fund for Equine Research at Cornell created by New York State legislature

**Extracurricular Pursuits**

E. W. Tucker (D.V.M. '41), AVMA president, 1970-71

Veterinary fraternities became coeducational

**New Publications**

A. de Lahunta, *Veterinary Neuroanatomy and Clinical Neurology*

R. W. Kirk, *First Aid for Pets*

R. W. Kirk and S. I. Bistner, *Handbook of Veterinary Procedures and Emergency Treatment*

E. P. Leonard, *A Cornell Heritage, Veterinary Medicine 1868-1908*

C. E. Short, *Clinical Veterinary Anesthesia: A Guide for the Practitioner*

## The Gender Shift

Although Cornell University had opened its doors to women in the early 1870s, it was almost forty years before a woman entered classes at the Veterinary College. Once again Cornell was a tradition breaker in veterinary medicine; when Florence Kimball graduated with the D.V.M. class of 1910, she was the first American woman to earn the D.V.M. degree. Still, few women in those days were encouraged to pursue careers in the sciences, and it was fifteen years before another woman completed the D.V.M. degree; only twenty-six more graduated between 1926 and 1948. During World War II and in the late 1940s when there was a shortage of veterinarians, some classes had as many as four female students, but in the 1950s and 1960s there were only two women in most classes.

Beginning in the 1970s, veterinary colleges across the nation began to see more and more women applying for admission. At Cornell, only 9 percent of the applicants in 1969 were women, whereas in 1975, 33 percent of the applicants and nearly 41 percent of the entering class were female. By the early 1980s, half or more of each first-year class were women, and today approximately 70 percent of the student body are women, reflecting the applicant pool.

*When I came as dean, we were told we could have just two women in each class because there were only two beds in the dormitories that could be allocated to us for female veterinary students. However, after consultations with the president's office, our female students were permitted to live off campus because they were not undergraduates. The quota of two was thus removed as a limitation on the number of women who could be accepted to the college.*

—G. C. Poppensiek



Florence Kimball (D.V.M. '10) was the first woman to earn a D.V.M. degree in the United States.



COURTESY OF A. M. ROSS '43

Andre Moul Ross was one of the two women who graduated in 1943.



Class of 1968

COURTESY OF B. G. KUBIAK '68

*When I came for my interview, I was told that they had approximately thirty-five women applying to the school. Of those, they would choose five to interview and two would be accepted to the class. After I was accepted, I remember being told that we had this great obligation as female members of the class to continue through school and then to practice, because we were taking the place of a man who would have done those things.*

—B. G. Kubiak '68

DAVID GRUNFELD



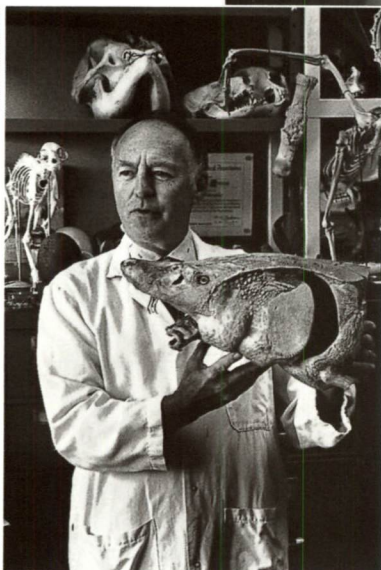
Reflecting a national trend, the number of women in Cornell's veterinary classes began to increase in the early 1970s. Today women make up approximately 70 percent of each class.

Alexander de Lahunta  
(D.V.M. '58, Ph.D. '63),  
James Law Professor of  
Anatomy

JEAN GWALTNEY



RUSS HAMILTON



Howard E. Evans (Ph.D. '50), profes-  
sor emeritus of veterinary and compara-  
tive anatomy

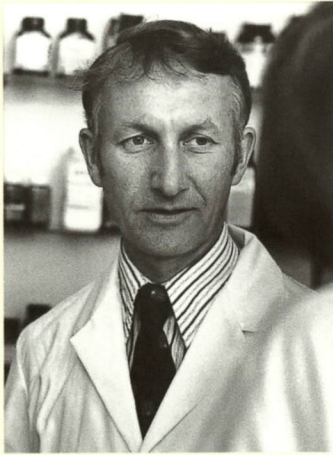
*The two teachers who influenced me the most were Dr. Evans and Dr. de Lahunta. Dr. Evans is a true Renaissance man. He talked to us not just about veterinary medicine but about anything to do with science and the natural world. He influenced me to be interested in life and to be excited about anything I came across. Dr. de Lahunta was the best teacher I ever had. The first time I heard him lecture I thought they had gotten him out of the Army because he had a loud, booming voice, like a drill sergeant. He was so phenomenally exciting to listen to that, whether or not we liked neurology, we were completely mesmerized by his lecturing style.*

—Susan Kirschner (D.V.M. '83)



SOL GOLDBERG

SOL GOLDBERG



Edward C. Melby, Jr. (D.V.M. '54),  
dean from 1974 to 1984

Edward C. Melby, Jr., received his D.V.M. degree from Cornell in 1954, and after practicing for twelve years in Vermont, took a teaching post in comparative medicine at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He was appointed dean when George C. Poppensiek completed his term in 1974. Dr. Melby's ten-year administration was marked by continued expansion in the size and scope of college facilities and programs. He urged the faculty to seek more actively corporate and government funding, which considerably broadened the scope of the college's research activities. At the same time, D.V.M. classes increased from sixty-five to eighty students, and the number of graduate students, residents, and interns rose. As academic departments were reorganized, computer technology became a standard resource in the library, classrooms, clinics, laboratories, and offices. Dr. Melby left the college in 1984 and took a position as vice president for research and development at SmithKline Animal Health Products.

## Milestones for Companion Animals

Over the last three decades demographic changes across the country have had an impact on the kinds of pets people choose and the type of veterinary care they seek. Cats now slightly outnumber dogs in U.S. households, and birds and small exotic pets are a significant part of many practices. As attitudes about companion animals changed, small animal practices flourished, and Cornell responded with new initiatives in research, teaching, and service.

Focused research initiatives on feline infectious disease began in the early 1960s when the National Cancer Institute provided funding to build a laboratory for feline leukemia studies on Snyder Hill. In 1974 the Board of Trustees approved the establishment of the Cornell Feline Research Laboratory (later renamed the Feline Health Center). The list of "firsts" in feline health attributed to college researchers includes the first characterization of the pathogenesis of the feline infectious peritonitis virus and attenuation of FIPV for a potential vaccine virus in the 1980s. In 1988 the center established the first feline extension/consultation veterinarian position in the United States.

The calls started coming in to the Baker Institute in the summer of 1978, reporting findings of a panleukopenia-like enteritis in dogs for the first time. A task force was quickly organized, and within a few short months Dr. Max Appel (Ph.D. '67) had isolated and identified

### 1980:

**Professorial faculty:**  
129

**D.V.M. students in  
first-year class:** 80

**Graduate students:**  
61

**Female graduates  
1980-89:** 434

### 1980s

#### *Academic Life*

Feline Research Laboratory renamed Cornell Feline Health Center

Department of Pharmacology established; G. W. G. Sharp appointed chair

Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology formed; R. J. Avery named chair

New large-animal surgical suite and isolation unit built

E. C. Melby, Jr., retired in 1984; C. G. Rickard named acting dean for 1984-85

R. D. Phemister appointed seventh dean in 1985

Microcomputer center opened under auspices of college library

K. A. Houpt became first woman appointed full professor (physiology)

B. C. Tennant appointed James Law Professor of Comparative Medicine

R. H. Wasserman appointed James Law Professor of Physiology

#### *Research and Service Milestones*

Center for Research Animal Resources expanded to monitor care and use of research animals throughout the university

Bovine SPF facility built on Snyder Hill

Chicken SPF facility built on Snyder Hill



The Cornell Feline Research Laboratory, later renamed the Feline Health Center, was established in 1974.



## 1980s...

Equine Performance Testing Clinic established

Cancer Biology Program established

New vaccine (SB-1) developed for Marek's Disease

First attenuated live virus vaccine for canine parvovirus developed and patented

First isolation and propagation of feline infectious peritonitis virus in organ cultures

First isolation and characterization of feline rotavirus and identification of feline astrovirus

First feline extension veterinarian position in United States created

Surgical lasers installed in hospital clinics

### Extracurricular Pursuits

S. M. Aldrich (D.V.M. '50), AVMA president, 1980–81

D. L. Proctor (D.V.M. '42), AVMA president, 1985–86

### New Publications

Cornell Animal Health Newsletter

Cornell Book of Cats

M. J. Appel, *Virus Infections of Carnivores*

E. P. Leonard, *In the James Law Tradition, 1908–1948*

D. M. Noden and A. de Lahunta, *The Embryology of Domestic Animals*

D. W. Scott, *Large Animal Dermatology*

F. W. Scott, *Infectious Diseases*

C. E. Short, *Principles and Practice of Veterinary Anesthesia*

D. O. Slauson and B. J. Cooper, *Mechanisms of Disease: A Textbook of Comparative General Pathology*



JEAN GWALNEY

Cornell's veterinary virologists became international heroes when the canine parvovirus epidemic struck in the late 1970s. Researchers at the Baker Institute produced the first successful vaccine to combat the catastrophic disease in 1980.

We had come out of school knowing a lot about distemper, but for the most part we had this wonderful vaccine to start the puppies out right. Then suddenly came this horrible disease. I can still see this one little boy with a Schnauzer dying in his arms, the poor little fellow crying, and his parents running in after him. The dog had been fine until that morning. The parvo epidemic went through central New Jersey like a tremendous explosion—we felt like a MASH unit. When the vaccine became available, it was a godsend.

—B. G. Kubiak '68



a new strain of parvovirus. Working side by side with Feline Health Center investigators, they soon discovered that there was an antigenic relationship between feline parvovirus and canine parvovirus. The FPV vaccine provided a short-term solution, although the commercial vaccines were only successful in protecting 70 to 80 percent of all dogs. Two years later Dr. Leland Carmichael (Ph.D. '59) produced the first attenuated live vaccine to combat the disease successfully. That vaccine is still the dominant one used worldwide, and research on emerging strains of the disease continues today as an important focus at the institute.

## One Medicine Initiatives

*Research, more than any other function of a veterinary school, will determine how effective the profession will be in serving the needs of our rapidly changing society.*

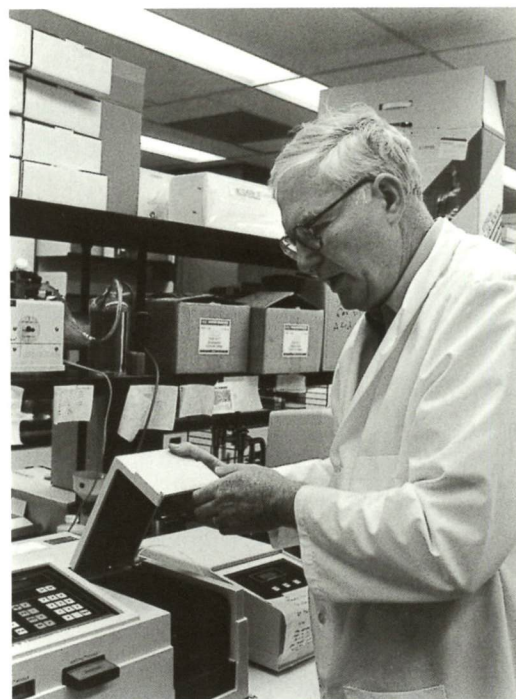
—Report of the Pew National Veterinary Education Program, an assessment of veterinary medical education in the United States, 1988.

Since the development of the smallpox vaccine in the 1790s, the veterinary and medical professions have studied diseases in animals to learn more about treating and preventing the same or similar afflictions in the human population. From the turn of the century, when Cornell's original veterinary faculty and early graduates contributed to a better understanding of malaria, typhoid, yellow fever, and tuberculosis, a significant portion of research at the college has contributed to a better understanding of human health. The faculty have always been among the most successful of any veterinary school in the nation in competing for the limited resources available to support biomedical research. For the past thirty years, a major share of funding has come from the National Institutes of Health, where each project must be justified in terms of its relevance to human health.

Dr. Bendicht Pauli joined the faculty in 1987 as chair of the pathology department. He established the Cancer Cell Biology Laboratory, which is the backbone of an interdepartmental research program that includes thirteen researchers who are working to understand the molecular mechanisms by which cancer begins and spreads. Their long-term goal is to develop new therapeutic strategies to interrupt the progression of cancer.



CHRIS HILDRETH



JEAN GWALTNEY

It has been estimated that more than 250 million people worldwide are chronic carriers of the hepatitis B virus and more than 300,000 die each year from liver cancer attributed to this viral infection. Since 1980 Dr. Bud C. Tennant, the James Law Professor of Comparative Medicine, has received two consecutive, five-year grants from the National Institutes of Health to support studies of a virus in woodchucks that is similar to HBV. The woodchuck virus produces chronic liver diseases that are similar to those of people with persistent hepatitis B infection. Dr. Tennant and his group are using the woodchuck model to learn how the woodchuck hepatitis virus causes liver cancer and to develop antiviral drugs for the treatment of HBV.

**1990:****Professorial faculty:**  
**152****D.V.M. students in**  
**first-year class: 80****Graduate students:**  
**105****Female graduates**  
**1990-94: 271****1990s***Academic Life*

Jay Hyman Professorship in Wildlife Medicine established; G. V. Kollias appointed

Dorothy Havemeyer McConville Professorship in Equine Medicine established; D. F. Antczak appointed

Rudolph J. and Katharine L. Steffen Professorship established; B. W. Calnek appointed

A. de Lahunta appointed James Law Professor of Veterinary Anatomy

A. J. Winter appointed James Law Professor of Veterinary Microbiology

New York State commits over \$90 million for new facilities and renovation program

Veterinary Education Center completed

C. E. Farnum named first woman department chair (anatomy)



Robert D. Phemister (D.V.M. '60), dean from 1985 to present

Robert D. Phemister received his D.V.M. from Cornell in 1960 and spent the next eight years studying pathology and radiation biology in the U.S. Public Health Service. He earned a Ph.D. in pathology in 1967 at the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at Colorado State University and rose through the ranks of their faculty to become dean in 1977. He also served as interim president of the university for fifteen months in 1983-84. Dr. Phemister returned to Cornell in 1985 to take up the deanship when Dr. Melby retired.

In the nine years of his administration to date, the college has embarked on a building program of unprecedented scope, adding two major new facilities and making plans to renovate Schurman Hall and the former hospital building in 1995-96. Under his leadership, research has continued to flourish and the faculty has once again broken with tradition by completely restructuring the professional curriculum to embrace a case-based, tutorial approach to teaching that has never been used in a veterinary college.

## Facilities and a Curriculum for the Twenty-first Century

When the college moved from central campus to the Tower Road location in 1957, it took up residence in state-of-the-art facilities for its time, but realized no increase in square footage. Early in the 1960s the limitations of inadequate space were felt by all as research programs and graduate education expanded.

Planning for new facilities began early in Dr. Poppensiek's administration, and he was successful in securing funding from the

Construction on the new five-story Veterinary Medical Center began in 1992. It will be completed in 1995 and will house the Teaching Hospital on the ground level and four academic departments in research laboratories and offices on the other floors.



One of the things they've done recently at the college, which I think is tremendous, is to start the Community Practice Service. In the students' rotation through that, they see what a small-animal practice is really like. I think it's being run in an excellent way and is a good addition to the other services.

—R. W. Kirk '46

CHRIS HILDRETH



state for the research tower and the new diagnostic laboratory building. During Dean Melby's tenure several renovations were undertaken to accommodate new equipment and update surgical suites in the hospital, but most other veterinary schools soon had more modern clinical facilities. Finally, in the early 1980s Dean Melby and Associate Dean Charles Rickard were successful in lobbying SUNY officials and state legislators to approve funding for a facilities master plan study.

## 1990s...

Library renamed Flower-Sprecher Library and Learning Resources Center

Program in Cellular and Molecular Medicine established

New curriculum instituted; emphasis on tutorial-based learning and integration of basic and clinical sciences

Clinical education in fourth year of D.V.M. program expanded to include summer months

### Research and Service Initiatives

Multidisciplinary program established to train pre- and postdoctoral students in molecular and cell biology of cancer

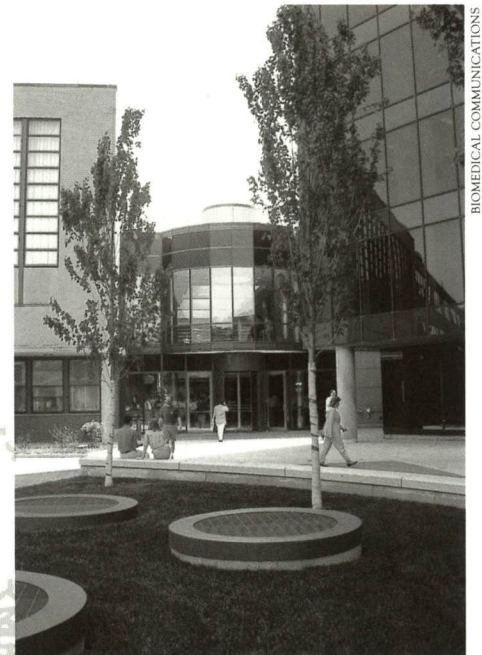
Equine motor neuron disease identified

Brain cell centers identified in the sheep fetus that appear to set off a hormonal chain reaction to trigger labor

Canine model of Lyme disease developed

Clinical Pharmacology Unit created; W. S. Schwark named director

The Veterinary Education Center opened for classes at the start of the fall 1993 semester. It includes two new lecture halls, a teaching laboratory, and much-needed expanded space for the library.



BIOMEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS

## 1990s...

*Extracurricular Pursuits*

M. J. Fettman (D.V.M. '80, M.S. '80), first veterinarian astronaut

*New Publications*

J. R. Georgi, *Canine Clinical Parasitology*

K. McEntee, *Reproductive Pathology of Domestic Animals*

P. W. Nathanielsz, *Life Before Birth and a Time to Be Born*

W. O. Sack, *Rooney's Guide to the Dissection of the Horse*

C. E. Short and A. Van Poznak, *Animal Pain*



CHRIS HILDRETH

When the master plan was completed in 1985, Dean Phemister and the Central Planning Committee, headed by Bruce W. Calnek (D.V.M. '55, M.S. '56) undertook the formidable task of translating the needs of the faculty, staff, and students into a comprehensive building program plan. In 1990, with a commitment of over \$90 million in funding from the state, ground was broken for a new education center and medical center. The two facilities provide a 70 percent increase in total college space and together represent the single largest construction project ever undertaken at Cornell or at any SUNY college. When the medical center is completed in 1995, Cornell will have the most modern physical plant of any veterinary school in the world.

Recently, all colleges of veterinary medicine in North America have recognized the need to make fundamental changes in the way they go about educating students. The expansion of knowledge in the biomedical sciences is more than can be accommodated in the typical lecture/laboratory format, in which each class takes 90 percent of their courses together as a group of eighty students. The faculty began work evaluating and restructuring the D.V.M. curriculum in 1987, and the new structure was fully introduced in the 1993–94 academic year. Although the subject matter did not change substantially, the new curriculum represents a radical departure from

Although the basic subject matter has not changed substantially, the new curriculum implemented in 1993 represents a radical departure from former teaching methods. Students now learn most of the basic sciences in a clinical context by studying actual cases in small tutorial settings of six to eight students working directly with a faculty member.

BIOMEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS



The annual Open House has been organized by first- and second-year students since 1968.



SOL GOLDBERG

Wildlife, exotic pets, and zoo animals are becoming more frequent patients in the clinics of the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital. In 1992, with a gift from Jay D. Hyman (D.V.M. '57), the first endowed professorship in wildlife medicine in a veterinary college was established at Cornell.



BIOMEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS

The number of graduate students at the college has steadily increased since the 1950s, and their studies now encompass a broad range of interdisciplinary subjects. Mary Fadden (D.V.M. '90) is working on a Ph.D. in toxicology, and her research is focused on PCBs. A Native American from the Kahnawake Mohawk community in upstate New York, she is concerned that most of the fish and wildlife in that area have already been contaminated by these toxins. She plans to work as a small animal and cattle practitioner, as well as an environmental scientist, to try to solve those problems.



CHRIS HILDRETH

the former approach to teaching at Cornell and, indeed, another break with tradition among all veterinary schools in the country.

Now most of the preclinical material in the first two and a half years is taught in a case-based context in small tutorial settings of six to eight students working directly with a faculty member. The tutorials help students learn basic science principles in a clinical context by studying actual cases. Third-year students begin clinical

rotations in the Teaching Hospital during the second semester, and rotations are now offered to seniors over the full calendar year.

The goals of the new approach are to make the D.V.M. program more flexible for both the faculty and students, to better integrate the clinical sciences with the basic sciences, and to facilitate a learning process in which students assume a greater role and responsibility for their own progress. Today's students have greater opportunities to develop skills in solving medical problems, in accessing and analyzing information, and in communicating with clients and colleagues.

DAVID GRUNFELD



Cornell's veterinary students have always had diverse talents. The Veterinary Players have produced a play each year, beginning with *Little Shop of Horrors* in 1989.

## Second Century

Although James Law would scarcely recognize the college today, he would probably not be surprised to find that its faculty and graduates still continue to distinguish themselves on the cutting edge of the profession. The boundaries of veterinary medicine are expanding on a global level as never before. Beyond caring for animals, tomorrow's Cornell veterinarians will continue to make important contributions in production agriculture and public health. And they will be increasingly called upon to use their knowledge and skills for the benefit of human medicine, biotechnology, and yes, even outer space exploration.

Cornell's College of Veterinary Medicine has been working for one hundred years to create a healthier future for animals and people. The stage has been set for its students, faculty, staff, and graduates to continue this mission—for as long as there are people and animals sharing this planet.

*My observation is that if you want to see the character of this college, look at its faculty and its graduates. Cornell is preeminent in veterinary medicine because of the stature of the faculty and the quality of the students over many, many years. The pulse of the college is the story of its people. And it's not just the faculty and the professional staff, but all the support staff as well—the people who would come in during heavy blizzards to plow the roads and feed the animals. That's devotion, and that's what we have always experienced here.*

—G. C. Poppensiek

In the fall of 1993  
Cornellian Martin Fettman  
(D.V.M. '80, M.S. '80)  
became the first veterinar-  
ian astronaut.



COURTESY OF NASA



Class of 1995

Following in the footsteps of the four-thousand-plus Cornell veterinarians who have gone before them, the first graduates in the college's second century are sure to distinguish themselves as leaders in practice, education, research, and public service.

## Acknowledgments

Of all the commemorative projects for the Centennial Celebration, this publication in particular has been a collaborative effort of our faculty, staff, and students—both past and present—from start to finish.

The Centennial Committee suggested a plan for organizing the content of the book. All college departments and service units culled their files for information. Librarian Susanne Whitaker helped on many occasions to suggest reference material and locate photographs in the college archives.

We relied heavily throughout this project on Ellis P. Leonard's (D.V.M. '34) books on the history of the college. They were not only an invaluable source of information, but also a continual source of inspiration as we attempted to follow in his footsteps.

A special note of appreciation is extended to the eight faculty members who agreed to review one hundred year's worth of annual reports and summarize the highlights of the past century: John F. Cummings, Julius Fabricant, Robert E. Habel, Wolfgang O. Sack, Herbert F. Schryver, Mary C. Smith, Maurice E. White, and Alexander J. Winter.

A number of alumni and emeritus faculty provided observations and anecdotes that helped us understand their perspectives as participants in the evolution of the D.V.M. curriculum as well as research and service programs. Many others sent slides, photographs, and other memorabilia that have been added to the Flower-Sprecher Library archives.

Unfortunately, only a fraction of all the material that was contributed could be included, and at times it seemed inexcusable to reduce the rich history of this college to so few facts, figures, quotes, and images. Professor S. Gordon Campbell, Dean Robert D. Phemister, and emeritus professors Dorsey W. Bruner, Howard E. Evans, Francis H. Fox, Robert W. Kirk, George C. Poppensiek, and Herbert F. Schryver served as a review committee to accomplish that formidable task. Their advice was invaluable, and their support and good humor provided this staff member with one further example of the dedication to excellence and the abiding concern for animals and people that have long distinguished Cornell's veterinary faculty and graduates.

Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc., and The Upjohn Company, two of the college's long-standing corporate friends, provided gifts to help underwrite this publication. We gratefully acknowledge their support, which enabled us to expand substantially the size and scope of the book.

Elizabeth A. Fontana  
Centennial Coordinator



Cover and title page: Architectural detail over the front doorway of the Veranus A. Moore Laboratory. Completed in 1938, it housed the Department of Pathology and Bacteriology and was named for the college's second dean. The building is used today by the School of Industrial and Labor Relations. Photo by Bruce Wang

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