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Minutes, November 27, 1929 (morning)

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING
of the
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
of the
CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
held at
Hotel Heublein
Hartford, Conn.
on
Wednesday, November 27, 1929, at 11 A. M.

Present: Dr. Wood, Mr. Meredith, Mr. Hough and Mr. Buckingham from the Trustees.

L. F. Rettger, G. C. White, R. E. Johnson, W. L. Slate, R. I. Longley and President Works from the Station and College staffs.

President Works reported that as a result of a conference of W. L. Slate, L. F. Rettger, A. R. Merrill, G. C. White, W. N. Plastridge, R. E. Johnson, and himself the following conclusions and recommendations regarding the handling of contagious abortion had been reached:

The available evidence indicates that the present procedure used by the College of Agriculture in dealing with contagious abortion is defeating the ends it was designed to achieve, viz., to standardize the methods by which abortion may be controlled, to build up in the State a number of abortion-free herds, and incidentally be a means of developing an intelligent appreciation of the problems involved in eventually freeing the State from the disease.

The data which follow are the basis for the view that the present procedure is not accomplishing these ends:

The number of serological tests made for infectious abortion during a period from July 1, 1929, to November 15, 1929, with a similar period during 1928.

	No. of samples tested under the present eradication system		No. of samples tested for veterinarians		Total no. of samples tested	
	1928	1929	1928	1929	1928	1929
July	215	226	128	140	343	366
August	326	292	0	78	326	370
Sept.	244	218	15	116	259	334
Oct.	438	353	25	261	463	614
Nov. 1st to 15th	366	438	135	250	501	788
Total	1589	1527	303	845	1892	2472

In view of these conditions it is recommended that the following be adopted as the basis of the College's procedure in working on the problem.

1. Branding is the least desirable of the methods of identification. It should be abandoned.
2. Identification in principle is sound but under present conditions it is not practicable.
3. Education of the owners of all tested heads in which reactors are found and the establishment of a goodly number of abortion-free herds seem for the present to be the outstanding objectives.

After discussing ^{of} the questions at some length the matter was laid on the table for later consideration.

Meeting adjourned.

Geo. A. Works
Acting Secretary