



The Program

Dr. James Jarrett, D.V.M.
Rome, Georgia

According to the printed program, at this point I am supposed to say a word or two about the program. I guess in my early desire to develop this program, Jerry Litton probably expressed it as well as any when he talked about the part that we play in agriculture and the part that agriculture plays in our national economy. I have always felt very strongly that veterinary medicine should be a key or an integral building block, so to speak, of the management of today's cattle operations. I feel very strongly that management is as strong a part of maintaining healthy animals as is veterinary medicine. We think, of course, in this area first of all of things like mastitis and reproductive health and others. We all know that healthy animals for some reason or other seem to respond better and get sick less, well-managed animals get sick less than those that are not quite so well managed. So our desire in putting this program together was to assemble a program that emphasized

the keying of management and medicine together to improve the profit potential of today's cattle operations, both dairy and beef. I hope that we have accomplished this. I feel very pleased with the program that the section chairmen have put together. Roger Meads and Leon Weaver have done an excellent job in the dairy section and so have Dave Bechtol and Ned Brown with the feedlot section and Herb Lloyd and Mort Silverman in the cow-calf section. I for one am very pleased with it and hope that you will enjoy it as it develops during the week.

Now, we have also had another man with unsung talents among our group. One of our past presidents who went on to bigger and better things, I guess, to become the president of our national parent organization, the American Veterinary Medical Association. Vernon Tharp really needs no introduction to this group. He stood in this position for a year. He put the program together in Columbus, Ohio and did an outstanding job there. In fact, again talking about the Litton film, he's the one that helped bring Litton to that meeting. So without further remarks, the president-elect of the American Association of Veterinary Medicine and past president of the American Association of Bovine Practitioners, Dr. Vernon Tharp.



Greetings from the AVMA

Vernon Tharp, D.V.M.
Columbus, Ohio

Thank you, Jim. When I saw that picture of Jerry Litton this morning it made goose pimples go up and down my back, the stimulation of his appearance on the scene in the legislature in Washington and his progress on to his election to the Congress. And then his fiery death in that airplane, the night he was going to accept that election victory. All this is almost beyond imagination. It is hard to think of what he could have done for food production in the world if he had lived to carry out his talents. We often wonder why such a young man as Jerry would be snuffed out instantly under such circumstances. I just thought while I was looking at that picture, the technology it has developed today. I thought likewise a week or so ago when Bing Crosby's Christmas program was presented on nationwide television. To see this man who was fortunate enough to drop dead at 76 years old instead of going through some of the trauma that some people have to go through to die at an elderly age. He was probably lucky. But to see his portrayal, and it almost seemed like a maximum production, like almost he was knowing he was going to be dead before this Christ-

mas. And then to see this picture of Jerry Litton, who appeared on the AABP program in Ohio a few years back, makes a fellow reminisce.

As president-elect of AVMA I owe a lot of gratitude to all of our membership in the American Association of Bovine Practitioners. I found that when I agreed to run for office of the AVMA last year that this was a very hard-working task. It didn't come easily. And if it had not been for the support of the American Association of Bovine Practitioners and their strength across the United States and for the good colleagues we have, not only in our alumni from Ohio State University but colleagues, alumni of all the colleges of veterinary medicine in the United States, I know that I couldn't have been elected.

I am supposed to give greetings from the AVMA and I think there is no better time to give greetings from the AVMA than in this holiday season that is approaching. And so I do welcome the opportunity to wish you greetings from all of AVMA. Dub Anderson was going to come to this meeting too, but he called me last night and said that after being away last week to the AAEP meeting in Vancouver, Canada, that his work had just piled up on him and he was not going to be able to come here. Both Dub and his wife and Grace, my wife, and I went to the Equine Practitioners meeting in Vancouver last week. It was a highly successful meeting. I think they had around 1200 equine practitioners registered. And enough guests to make up around 1800 or so people. It was a very thriving get-together of exchange of knowledge and friendship in Vancouver, Canada. We in Bovine Practitioners have selected Toronto for one of our coming meetings. I think it is good that we have gone