

upon. This is something that must be left up to the licensed D.V.M. The majority of those using animal technicians now are group practices. Most of these worked in a hospital, but they were also used on a farm. I think there is definitely a place for animal technicians in veterinary medicine. This has already been proven. I feel more than ever that we need laws in our present government to control them and their ability to work under the direction of a licensed D.V.M. Whether we believe it or not, I think the use of animal technicians in our profession is here to stay. Mississippi has been through this in the last three years. I think in the long run, we did improve our Practice Act. I would like to see the profession hold to some kind of law that would license animal technicians. I don't think the legislature should tell us how to run our profession. As long as this idea of animal technicians is coming, it is going to spread.

I was talking to Dr. James Drake a while back, and we were talking about quacks in all professions. A quack is simply someone who is giving a service for a fee but does not have a license. I think that we can control this and propose better control. We should take the lead. We would be better off than having the legislatures dictating to us.

District IV

Dr. William L. Lovell
Bowling Green, Kentucky

I received forty-three (43) questionnaires from the veterinarians in the four states of Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, and Kentucky. Twenty-three (23) replied that they do not and have not used animal technicians in their practices. Nineteen (19) have and are using lay employees trained by the veterinarian as animal technicians. One (1) is using a formally trained technician in his large animal practice.

The reasons given for not using animal technicians are as follows:

1. Nine (9) said that there was no need at this time but they would be interested in the future as the practice grew.
2. Three (3) were reducing their large animal practice.
3. Two (2) trained the herdsman and owners to assist, treat, and diagnose.
4. Several would like to utilize the services of the animal technicians, but according to the present proposed additions to the Practice Acts in their states, hiring them would not be beneficial or profitable because the veterinarian has to be present while they are working.
5. One veterinarian feels that there will be an abundance of veterinarians in food animal medicine in the future due to the opening of the new veterinary colleges. He will hire a veterinarian to do the work.

Summarizing the questionnaires of the

veterinarians using animal technicians:

1. Most of them have one technician
2. All but one trained their own technician.
3. Animal technicians have been used by these men from 1 to 30 years; average seven 7 yrs.
4. Ten (10) used the technician in small animal and equine practice also.
5. The majority of the veterinarians used the technicians for:
 - a.-administration of medicine
 - b.-castration
 - c.-dehorning
 - d.-drawing blood samples for lab. analysis (6 for Brucellosis testing)
 - e.-vaccination (2 for Brucellosis vaccination)
 - f.-assisting with major abdominal surgery and OB work
6. One-third of the technicians perform their work over 50% of the time not in the presence of the veterinarian
One-third perform only in the veterinarian's presence
One-third perform 10% of the time in the veterinarian's absence
7. One-fourth use technicians for laboratory procedures
8. One-half use technicians for emergency treatments
9. Salaries average from:
 - \$2.00 - 4.00 per hour
 - \$100.00 - 125.00 per week
 - \$600.00 - 800.00 per month
10. The comments from these veterinarians stated that the animal technician was the only salvation of the food animal veterinarian; however, they must be controlled by the Practice Acts. The Practice Acts must be liberalized to allow routine herd treatments to be performed by animal technicians without the presence of the veterinarian.

The Practice Acts of Michigan, Ohio, and West Virginia make no allowances for the use of lay employees and animal technicians in the practice of veterinary medicine. West Virginia has no plans to recognize or register animal technicians. Ohio and Michigan are proposing animal technician certification clauses in their new practice acts but they will require the presence of the veterinarian at least on the premises. Kentucky's Practice Act at the present time allows lay employees to perform procedures at the direct instruction, control, or supervision of veterinarians. Additions are now being prepared to register technicians after examinations by the Board of Veterinary Examiners.

District V

Dr. Richard C. Koritansky
Rt. 3, 2510 Grandview Road
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 53812

The following comments are those as viewed by a