

passage. It probably isn't perfect and has several gray areas but I think it is workable. Nevada and Arizona at this time have not passed any legislation.

### District XI

**Dr. John Schmitt**  
*Bozeman, Montana*

You can see from these reports that many practitioners' consciences are in direct conflict with their D.V.M. In my area, Montana, the practitioners primarily relate to their clients on a profitability basis. I think in some ways that the results that I got on this questionnaire indicate that practitioners relate to their technicians on a profitability basis. Not only on the profitability of the technician in his particular practice, but on the profitability of the client he's using the technician for. In my district there are essentially two types of bovine practitioners. One is the beef cattle practitioner in large range areas, and the other, a dairy cattle practitioner. In thinking of profitability, I've heard that the easiest way to lose money is gambling; the most enjoyable way to lose money is with women, and the surest was is in the cattle business! Essentially, the results of this questionnaire in my area indicated the same results that Dr. Larry Rice reported in his area of the Rocky Mountain states except that it indicated that there may have been a division between the beef cattle practitioner and the dairy cattle practitioner. I had a definite division in salary. I had a group of practitioners whose technician salary ranges were in the \$400-\$500 area, and then I had a definite salary for technicians in the \$800 and above group. It may indicate this because we do have one accredited school in the dairy area, the northwest, and those people may be the graduates of that particular school. Also, as Larry's results indicated, the practitioners in our area may conflict with practitioners in other areas because almost 50% of our practitioners indicated that technicians are doing emergency treatments—50%—OB assistance; 50%—anesthetic administration; 50% in surgical procedures. We have a considerable number of technicians employed in our area, and in each case where they are not employed, it was based on profitability. The practice just could not justify the inclusion of a veterinary technician.

In beef cattle situations, and I'm sure it's true in dairy cattle situations in our area, the owner is almost always present for emergency help, and this is the reason for not being able to justify technicians in a lot of our situations. One of the problems with this conflict between conscience and D.V.M in our area is the inability to accurately describe surgery. Also the inability to accurately describe diagnosis. This is one of the conflicts that our range area practitioners seem to be having. In the northwest states, we have three states that are approaching the Practice Act and the

technician problem from the standpoint of registration and that registration being tied to the employment of the technician to a veterinarian.

We have another state that is attacking the problem from the licensure standpoint. I happen to be from that state, and I disagree strongly with that approach. In several situations we had some disagreement about how veterinary technicians could be used, but I don't want to relate to those. One practitioner said that it was impractical for him to hire a formally trained technician because 85% of them were very unattached females and they were not stable to one location. They generally performed more services than those restricted to surgery, prescription and diagnosis.

### District XII

**Dr. Otto M. Radostits**  
*Saskatchewan, Canada*

As usual Canada is last! Just remember it is bigger than all these twelve districts put together. What I want to do is show you some slides that we made with the help of Drs. Hamilton and Paul Greenough of the kinds of things that technicians do in our veterinary college in which we are helping to train veterinary technicians or animal technicians in conjunction with the Institute of Technology in Saskatoon. I am not sure how many accredited schools we have in Canada. Probably six or seven. I think there are three in Ontario, perhaps two in Alberta, one in Saskatchewan. Most of the animal technicians that are being graduated in Canada are not going into large animal practice. They are going into animal science departments, biology departments, small animal practice. A very small number are going into large animal practice. With respect to licensing, we have a little different situation in Canada. Maybe the difference does not apply. The right to practice according to the British-North American Act was given to each province and in turn they gave the right to practice by the veterinary act to the veterinary practice. So we, the Veterinary Association, police our Veterinary Act. We tried in Saskatchewan five or six years ago to register our assistants, our animal technicians, and while we have written into our Act that we can employ technicians I don't think we're going to be able to legislate them. I have been thinking about this for a few years. I think that is probably right. It would avoid more problems if you would ask government to legislate them on their own rather than a professional body trying to legislate them. I don't think it would work in the long run. In the interest of time, I'll read the information we have on these two slides. The work of a fully trained and experienced veterinary assistant can be extremely varied. He or she—and there are many shes—can provide many tasks that would constitute an inef-