

Prohibit and keep out of trouble and responsibility seems to have been the departmental slogan. I suggest that "Importation whenever possible without danger" should be the watchword of an efficient veterinary staff, for, as has been pointed out elsewhere, while any fool can prohibit and avoid responsibility, it needs a trained man to allow importation under regulations.

(2.) Combined with prohibition of live-stock there must be prohibition of entry of animal products such as hides, hoofs, horns, bones, wool, &c., either absolute or except after efficient sterilization of such materials. Such other materials as hay, straw, and manufactured foods such as oil-cakes may also have to be provided against, and, as we have seen in the case of foot-and-mouth disease, vaccines and sera of animal origin are potential dangers. Suitable regulations and certificates, continual vigilance with regard to the prevalence of animal-disease in foreign countries, and power to promptly exclude such products as and when their importation appears to be dangerous, afford the necessary precautions in relation to these matters. Assuming now, however, that total exclusion of live animals of different species is not in operation, but that importation with safeguards is allowed, what are these further safeguards?

(3.) In the case of many diseases infection or non-infection can be determined by means of certain biological tests. The most commonly applied is, of course, the tuberculin test, and in this connection a degree of reliability can now be attained which leaves little to be desired. A standardized method of testing, using the best combined test (a matter well worthy of discussion in light of world experience), and using efficient tuberculin, applied either by the official veterinary representative of the importing country or by a Government official of the exporting country, should be required from the country of origin of the stock. In order to be able to give the necessary guarantee, both in the interests of the exporter and the importer, the British Ministry of Agriculture has established a testing-station where animals for export may be tested prior to shipment. Mallein testing of horses, asses, and mules can be applied in a similarly reliable manner, and in both cases the tests can be applied at the port of entry. Other tests which might well be applied to the animals concerned are the avian tuberculin tests for Johne's disease, the agglutination test for contagious abortion of cattle, a similar test recently worked out by Heslop for pleuro-pneumonia of cattle, and the complement fixation test for dourine in horses.

These immunological tests will surely be used increasingly, and the list of diseases allowing of their application is also increasing yearly, so that the certification by trustworthy persons in the country of origin of an animal for export will become of more and more importance. As has been pointed out, these same tests can, if desirable, be repeated at the port of entry.

(4.) Another time-honoured measure of protection is that of quarantine at the port of entry. This is a very valuable measure in the case of animals which have been only a short time in transit, and in connection with diseases with a short incubation period. It is, however, by itself an inadequate safeguard against such diseases as tuberculosis, glanders, Johne's disease, bovine pleuro-pneumonia, and rabies, while