

VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION ESTABLISHED

The Veterinary Public Health Division was established in the Communicable Disease Center on September 5, with Dr. James H. Steele, DVM, MPH, as Chief. The new division, with headquarters in Atlanta, will work closely with the Laboratory and Epidemiology Divisions. The veterinary pathologist at the Montgomery laboratory will conduct investigations in conjunction with the VPH Division.

The functions of the Veterinary Division are to investigate and study animal diseases which can be transmitted to man; to develop control measures; to disseminate to State health agencies the information gathered; and to assist States in developing programs within their own veterinary divisions. The principal objective is the control of such animal diseases. Rabies, one of the important diseases of animals that can be transmitted to man, is being given intensive study and emphasis. The eradication of this disease from the United States is the goal.

CDC veterinary projects have been set up

in Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Kansas, Colorado, Utah, and Alabama.

In Indiana, brucellosis is being studied with the cooperation of Purdue University, the State Board of Health, and the State Veterinarian. In Michigan Salmonellosis, an enteritic infection carried by animals, is being studied.

In Wisconsin, a joint study of coccal diseases of cattle and brucellosis is under way with the assistance of the State Board of Health, the State Veterinarian and the University of Wisconsin. In Utah, the project has been mainly concerned with brucellosis, rabies, and Q fever. A study of animal histoplasmosis will be inaugurated in Kansas in cooperation with the Tuberculosis Control Division. In Colorado, a state veterinary public health program is being established as a national demonstration.

A new unit will be set up in Arizona to study the incidence of Cystercosis bovis and its control. The Unit will also aid in the eradication of rabies in the state.