

WDA AFFAIRS

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AMENDMENTS TO THE WDA'S
CONSTITUTION

Five amendments have been added to WDA's constitution since the membership ratified the original document by ballot in 1959 (Newsletter, No. 21, May, 1959). The first amendment concerned changes in the wording of Article 3, Section 3, adding WDA's representative to AIBS as a WDA Council member, and the second added Section 5 to Article 5, authorizing certain WDA officers to sign checks for the Association. Both were ratified by the membership (see Newsletter No. 32, January, 1963) by a vote of 39 for to none against. Newsletter No. 35, December, 1963, reported passage of a third amendment adding the *Wildlife Disease* editor as a member of the Council, by a vote of 25 for to 1 against. Article IX, Section 1, dealing with disbursement of funds upon dissolution of the Association, was ratified by the membership in 1964. A fifth amendment, adding Section 4 to Article II concerning new classes of memberships, was recently reported by WDA's Secretary Peter F. Olsen to have passed by a vote of 131 for and 5 against. In view of these changes, it was considered desirable to print the entire constitution again including all of the amendments. It is found on the following pages.

ADDITIONAL EDITORIAL ASSISTANCE

The *Bulletin* is pleased to announce the securing of three Review Editors for additional expert

assistance in reviewing manuscripts submitted for publication in the *Bulletin*. These persons, who are specialists in various areas of veterinary microbiology and pathology, are members of the staff of the National Animal Disease Laboratory, Ames, Iowa. Their help was asked in order to enlarge the areas of review competence for Bulletin editors. They are: Norman E. Cheville, D.V.M., Ph.D., a graduate of Iowa State University and the University of Wisconsin; Richard D. Shuman, B.S., D.V.M., a graduate of Washington State University; and David E. Hughes, D.V.M., M.S., a graduate of Cornell University.

COMMENTS FROM READERS

[Editor's Note. A number of letters have been sent to the Editor recently expressing member satisfaction with the current issues of the BULLETIN. One letter, however, contained suggestions for fundamental changes in the BULLETIN'S format. The Editor, while not agreeing with the suggestions, felt that printing this correspondence (with the author's permission) would stimulate WDA members to express to Editorial Board members what they want the BULLETIN to be.]

"Dear Doctor Page,

"I have just received Vol. 1, No. 4 of the *Bulletin*. This issue demonstrates great improvement and shows a distinct trend toward the publication of meaningful papers rather than bits of information. Nevertheless, I have always been of the opinion that the *Bulletin* is not the place for papers cast in

THIS ONE



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a conventional frame. I suggest that the publication of abstracts is sufficient and would, in addition, allow printing of many more papers per issue. A one-page, comprehensive abstract, adequately conveys all necessary contents of the papers in the current issue. Where illustrations or lists are needed, these can be reduced, condensed, etc. and still be confined to not more than a full page.

"Another comment relates to the membership roster. This is one of the most frustrating and unwieldy formats I have ever seen. In order to find Dr. N. Marchette, whom I had lost track of, I was forced to wade through all the states and countries from page 62 to 71 until I discovered him under 'Malaysia'. Why can't we have a straightforward and alphabetical listing as in 'American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene' and in most other societies? This is simple, quick, and painless.

LEO KARTMAN, Sc.D

Scientist Director, Tech.
Branch

San Francisco Field
Station, CDC

Dept. of Health, Educ.
and Welfare

The Editor replies:

Thank you for your refreshingly frank letter. We have, of course, previously considered both points that you raised, and the format of both scientific articles and the membership roster was deliberately selected.

Your comments in regard to printing abstracts instead of full articles

in the BULLETIN would apply to most scientific journals today, especially since science publications are proliferating so rapidly. And that may come. But the BULLETIN has a small, selective audience as well as being representative of a very small segment of the total scientific community, and the number of articles we receive, much less publish, is small indeed. Thus, we feel that at the moment there is room for the full treatment. Most important, though, is the fact that many people want the detail. For people who don't want the detail, we provide an abstract at the beginning of the articles concerned with actual research.

The geographic listing of members was chosen for several reasons, principally because it would serve to acquaint individuals with other WDA members in their local area and to emphasize the diversified spread of WDA members around the world. We felt that the number of members seeking a lost member's address would be small, and the minor inconvenience, such as you experienced, in finding a "lost" member did not outweigh the other method of listing. We may, however, consider the alphabetical listing next time.

Dr. Kartman replies:

"... For publication, I would want to clarify the idea of using abstracts for publication of papers. My thought is that very few readers of a paper (in any technical journal) really are vitally concerned. I wonder whether it is true, as you say, that "many people want the detail." Those really concerned are workers doing related or similar research. Thus most readers should be satisfied by a good abstract. Those more concerned could write to the author for details . . ."