

## Bibliography on Sir Arnold Theiler

Herbert Watkins-Pitchford, CMG, FRCVS, FRSE. Paradoxical veterinary surgeon: a reappraisal of his work in Natal on rinderpest.

Mares-R

Historia-Medicinae-Veterinariae. 1995, 20: 4, 81-93; 32 ref.

1995

English

biographies-; veterinarians-; disease-control; veterinary-services; veterinary-history; rinderpest-

Theiler-his personal significance today.

Gutsche,-T; Theiler,-A

Journal-of-the-South-African-Veterinary-Association. 1985, 56: 1, 3-6.

1985

English

Veterinarians-; Veterinary-history; Biography-

There was a man. The life and times of Sir Arnold Theiler K.C.M.G. of Onderstepoort.

Gutsche-T; Theiler-A

1979, viii + 486pp.; 205 X 267 X 40 mm.

Howard Timmins, 45 Shortmarket Street.; Cape Town; South Africa

1979

English

Those who had the advantage of working closely with the late H. H. Green had perforce to listen to many panegyrics of Sir Arnold Theiler. Because the stories were often amusing and always well-told, we listened patiently but - wrongly as it now appears - we tended to discount them heavily. It is pleasant now to have access to a very readable book which contains the life-story of this man who, obviously, really was great. Some veterinary surgeons might give up if, soon after qualifying, they lost a hand but, far from lying down under adversity, Theiler went forward to great heights. His early struggles involved most unprofessional advertisements for infallible cures for horse sickness; he was prepared to sell the cure for ten shillings - through no such cure existed. Probably, his greatest triumph was, with a small team of specialists, the discovery of the cause of lamsiekte: how cattle grazing on soils deficient in phosphorus developed osteophagia, through which some developed botulism. The cure by giving bone meal opened up huge tracts of Africa. But this is only a small part of the achievements of this wonderful man. If it were possible adequately to do justice to such a man, this biography does it. For reasons which are explained, the author had access to none of the correspondence and administrative papers which would normally be available, but she has produced an outstandingly readable and informative book which will, we hope, be preserved for many generations.

DE: biographies-; veterinary-history

Science and empire: East Coast fever in Rhodesia and the Transvaal.

Cranefield-PF

The Rockefeller University, New York, NY, USA.

1991, xvii + 385 pp.; Cambridge History of Medicine ; many ref.

Press Syndicate of the University of Cambridge; Cambridge; UK

1991

English

The story of East Coast fever (caused by *Theileria parva parva*) is told from its first appearance in Rhodesia in 1901 (when a massive outbreak began when cattle were shipped from Dar-es-Salaam to restock the herds of Rhodesia) to current studies. The book concentrates both on the social and economic impact of the disease and on the scientists who recognized it as a new disease and attempted to bring it under control. The main protagonists are Robert Koch (who it is claimed, contributed little), the Colonial Secretary, Joseph Chamberlain, and Arnold Theiler and Charles Lounsbury, who 'sorted out the facts and got most of them right' and Duncan Hutcheon. Most of the book deals in great detail with events that occurred in 1902, 1903 and 1904. One chapter deals with attempts at eradication of East Coast fever in South Africa and Rhodesia between 1904 and the 1950s. This is an eminently readable account of an important disease; it should appeal to both the historian and the scientist.

DE: livestock-; history-; Veterinary-history; tickborne-diseases; epidemiology-; parasites-; cattle-diseases

OD: ruminants-; THEILERIA-PARVA; Ixodidae-; cattle-; protozoa-

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