

FROM THE HISTORY OF THE ROMANIAN SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

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Abstract

The union of the young veterinary surgeons who decided to establish the Scientific Medical Society of Romania, at the Veterinary School of Bucharest. The “Statute of the Scientific Medical Society from Romania” drawn in the first meeting of 15 May 1871, were voted in the general assembly of August 14-16, 1871, chaired by Mauriciu Colben. The Scientific Medical Society didn’t have its own journal upon establishment. Therefore, in 1879, Alexandru Locusteanu, Mihai Măgureanu, Gheorghe Perșu and Panait Constantinescu, publish the Veterinary Surgeon. Succeeding to dismiss some difficulties, 33 veterinary surgeons met on 10-12 May 1882 in Bucharest for the First Congress of Veterinary Medicine, the first of this kind in Romania. The topics of the congress, set in 1881, included the following subjects: sanitary police, animal husbandry, public hygiene, pathology, miscellanea. Once the Society of Veterinary Medicine was relaunched, the Journal of Veterinary Medicine, Animal Husbandry, Hygiene and Rural Economy also appeared. It has been established in 1888 too, by I. Șt. Furtună, and had an Annex, the Bulletin of the Society of Veterinary Medicine. These meetings debated the important problems of the veterinary pathology confronting that period: the foot and mouth disease, of horses glanders, tuberculosis, the bovine gastro-entero-nephritis (babesiosis) etc. The Society existed until July 21, 1949, when, after this last meeting, it was discontinued abusively by the communist regime. Because the centenary of the Romanian Society of Veterinary Medicine was closing, a group of teaching staff from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest started in the spring of 1970, the activities necessary to resume the Romanian Society of Veterinary Medicine: it was re-established on May 15, 1971, 22 years after its discontinuation and one hundred years after its foundation.

Key words: history, scientific societies, veterinary medicine, Romanian.

In the Romanian Principalities, because no schools of veterinary medicine existed yet at that time, the authorities employed numerous “masters in surgery and veterinary medicine” who had graduated at Vienna, Pesta, Paris, Lyon etc., and who, after 1831, activated in different army units, in agreement with the “Military rules” (Druțu, 1906; Ioan and Marinescu, 1935; Simionescu and Moroșanu, 1984; Urechia, 1892-1901).

After several failed attempts to establish a school of veterinary medicine, in 1853 the first courses of veterinary medicine started in Bucharest, taught, as

the documents show, by the master in surgery Vasile (Wolfgangus) Lucaci (Figure 1), the future proto-veterinarian of Wallachia. The courses entitled “Lectures of veterinary medicine, particularly about the infectious diseases of the animals” were not taught, however, in an actual veterinary school, but in a school teaching mainly human medicine, including in the school established by Nicolae Crețulescu (Figure 2) which functioned between 1841-1846, within Coltea Hospital.

After the establishment of the “Medical human and veterinary education” in 1853, by Carol Davila (Figure 3), the veterinary medicine education was performed until 1859 at Mihai Vodă Monastery, in whose cells the Army Hospital has been functioning even since 1831. The first School of Small Surgery functioned here too (1853-1859), which subsequently became the School of Medicine and Pharmacy (Curcă, 2000; Gheorghe et al., 1982; Iftimovici, 1994; Pascu et al., 1988), whose professor of “veterinary medicine” was Vasile (Wolfgangus) Lucaci; human medicine was taught by Professor dr. Iacob Felix, Professor dr. Iuliu Teodori and Professor dr. L. Fialla.



Figure 1. State
protoveterinarian
Vasile Lucaci
(1806 – 1890)



Figure 2. Professor Dr.
Nicolae Crețulescu
(1812-1900)



Figure 3. Professor General
Doctor Carol Davila
(1828-1884)

During the early days of the veterinary school (1853), after the establishment of the Veterinary School (1856) and until 1887 (Figure 4), the teaching activity was characterized by material difficulties and repeated changes of the regulations of operation. Most of the didactic staff consisted of military doctors, employees of army units, who were departing for military assignments and left aside the teaching activity (Curcă et al., 2002; Iorga, 1910; Iorga, 1928; Iorga, 1938).



Figure 4. 75 years anniversary of founding the Veterinary Medical Education in Bucharest-Romania



Figure 5. Central pavilion of the veterinary campus, on Splaiul Independenței nr. 105, build in 1885-1887

Among 1885-1887, the building of the Higher School of Veterinary Medicine was constructed at Splaiul Independenței nr. 105 (Figure 5), the building plans being developed by architect Nicolae Cerkez. During period of construction the head of the School was dr. Ion Popescu (1885-1890).

At that time, the head veterinarian of the Romanian army was Mauriciu Kolben, from 1871 until his retirement in 1893. In this position, M. Kolben organized the military veterinarian service and struggled to send abroad veterinary doctors for training, particularly in animal husbandry and in the diagnosis and treatment of the contagious diseases in farm animals.

On August 27, 1873, the Ministry of Education announced a competition for the open positions of professor at the School of Veterinary Medicine. Louis Vincent was among the candidates for a position at the department of anatomy, physiology, zoology and surgery. In the same spirit, dr. Mihail Măgureanu the veterinarian of Bucharest volunteered to teach pro bono “meat inspection”. After the ministry approved, the courses started in 1880 (see *Medicul veterinar*, 1880, I, p. 99).

In 1874, General E. Florescu, Ministry of War, established a commission consisting of several military officers among whom Professor Mauriciu Colben, the head veterinarian of the Romanian army, whose task was to purchase Thoroughbred Arabian horses from Arabia. In August 1874 they bought 10 stallions, which were sent to Nucet – Dâmbovița stud, established at that time for this very purpose (••• 1988; Pascu et al., 1989).

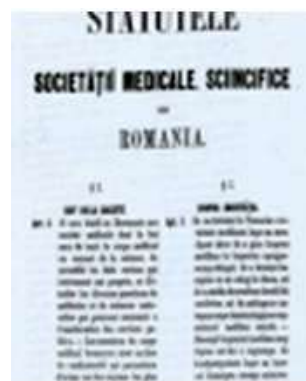
In the first half of the 19th century, in the Romanian Principalities there was a feeling of necessity to establish a scientific forum which to debate the problems of the veterinary medicine profession. This need was particularly felt by the first graduates of the Veterinary School of Bucharest and it was supported by the current created by the human doctors and naturalists from Iasi who had established a Medical Circle of lecture (January 11, 1830), which later became the Society of Doctors and Naturalists from Iasi, headed by doctors Iacob Cihac and Mihai Zotta. A few veterinarians were among the active members of the society (Curcă, 2001-2002; Diaconescu, 2005). The members of the Society of Doctors and Naturalists from Iasi also published a periodic publication, initially called „Foaia Societății”, which thereafter became „**Buletinul Societății de medici și naturaliști**” din Iași (Bulletin of the Society of Doctors and Naturalists from Iasi); later it changed again its title, becoming ”Revista medico-chirurgicală” (Medical-surgical review) which is regularly published up to the present time (Fig. 6).



Figure 6. The evolution of journal named "Society of Physicians and Naturalists of Iassy", from 1830 until now



Figure 7. Statutes of Scientific Medical Society of Romania, published in 1857



One of the major events which preceded the union of the Romanian principalities Walachia and Moldova (done by Alexandru Ioan Cuza in January 1859) was the union of the young surgeons who decided to establish the **Scientific Medical Society of Romania**. The “Statute of the Scientific Medical Society from Romania” (Figure 7), published in 1857, is a very interesting linguistic document, because it is typed on two columns: in the left column the text was types in perfect French, while in the right column the text was typed in a Romanian language of

transition, in which not just the words were sometimes approximate, but the text too had both Latin and Cyrillic letters (••• 1931; Bălan and Mihăilescu, 1985; Diaconescu, 2005; Simionescu and Moroşanu, 1984).

The purpose of the **Society of Veterinary Medicine** was to elevate the scientific prestige of the profession of veterinary surgeon. The documents showing this event are found in file 40/1871 in the State Archives, documents of the Ministry of the Interior, Medical Service. These documents show that on **15 May 1871**, 14 veterinarians drew the draft of a project regarding the “**Statute and Regulation of the Society of Veterinary Medicine**” which, together with a “Statement” were forwarded for approval by the Ministry of Cults and Public Education.

The “Declaration” specifies that the members of the **Society of Veterinary Medicine** aimed to “work jointly to perfect the different branches of the science trying to solve all matters” of interest: animal hygiene, reproduction and education of the domesticated animals, animal diseases, epidemics, contagious diseases and forensic medicine”.

At the same time, the veterinary doctors pledged “always to consider the general interests and the dignity of their profession” and to “make disappear the obstacles they were confronted so far” so that the “science of veterinary surgeons develops freely”, hoping that the “emulation among the veterinarians will bring useful and profitable developments for all”.

This “Statement” was signed by: Professor Mauriciu Kolben, I. Popescu, I. Ioanin, I. Popovici, I. Georgescu, I. Constantinescu, M. Similache, Andronescu, G. Persu, Gh. Putzurianu, Th. Drăgănescu, D. Preotescu and two more signatures that cannot be deciphered (one for sure belonged to Louis Vincent).

The “**Statute of the Society of Veterinary Medicine from Romania**” drawn in the first meeting of **15 May 1871**, were voted in the general assembly of August 14-16, 1871, chaired by Mauriciu Kolben, assisted by Ion Popescu, with secretaries I. Georgescu and a signature that cannot be deciphered, treasurer Dumitru Preotescu, with elected members Panait Constantinescu and Louis Vincent.

The **Society of Veterinary Medicine from Romania** didn't have its own journal upon establishment. Therefore, in 1879, Alexandru Locusteanu, Mihai Măgureanu, Gheorghe Perşu and Panait Constantinescu, publish the „**Medicul veterinar**” - Veterinary Surgeon- (Figure 8) which, unfortunately, cease to appear after exactly 13 issues (Gomoiu V. – History of the Romanian medical press p. 134, Bucharest, 1936).



Figure 8. First review of veterinary medical profession entitled "VETERINARIAN" - the first issue appeared in August 1879 and the last number Year II, appears in January 1880

Upon initiative of I. Șt. Furtună, by the time he was first year student of the Veterinary School, the students established, as of **October 19, 1880**, a scientific society, the "**Society of veterinary medicine students**" located on the premises of the "Higher School of Veterinary Medicine". It intended to have a "library" and a "journal" publishing scientific papers. The journal's title was "**Progresul veterinar**" and the board of editors was headed by student I. Șt. Furtună, until October 18, 1883, when he obtained the license of veterinary surgeon. In 1888, the society voted a new statute responding to the requirements of that time.

At the meeting of 15 February 1893 the "**Society of veterinary medicine students**" voted the publishing of a journal, as proposed upon the establishment of the society, but the name was „**Clinica veterinară**" (Figure 9). Much later, in February 1933, started to be published the "Journal of the Society of veterinary medicine students" (Figure 10).

The purpose of the journal was to publish the clinical observations, the results of the experiments conducted by the students in the laboratories of the Higher School of Veterinary Medicine and to publish translations of papers which the students need.



Figure 9. Veterinary Students Magazine named: Veterinary Clinic, published in February 1893



Figure 10. Veterinary Medicine Students Society Magazine, published in February 1933

In "Clinica Veterinară" journal of the veterinary students, the inaugural paper of professor Paul Riegler was "Bacteriological research in glanders diagnosis, 1893". His first publication was "A case of tuberculosis in parrots" and the coincidence was that his last paper was also on fowl tuberculosis, "A serious case of epizootic tuberculosis in a pheasant farm".

The increase of the number of veterinary surgeons who graduated the Veterinary School of Bucharest and the decrease of animal export from the value of 28 million lei in 1877, to just 4 million lei in 1882, prompted the specialists in this field to meet and discuss the problems which caused this alarming decrease and to determine measures for rehabilitation.

Succeeding to dismiss some difficulties, 33 veterinary surgeons met on 10-12 May 1882 in Bucharest for the **First Congress of Veterinary Medicine** (Figure 11), the first of this kind in Romania. The topics of the congress, set in 1881, included the

following subjects: sanitary police, animal husbandry, public hygiene, pathology, miscellanea. Professor Al. Locusteanu presented a report on tuberculosis in humans and animals, proposing to assign this disease to the field of the sanitary-veterinary police. Another report concerned the gastro-entero-nephritis (Babesiosis) and it was presented by the veterinary surgeon of Dolj County, the future Professor Constantin Vasilescu.



Primul Congres National al medicilor veterinari 1882 -randul doi, pe scaune, de la stanga la dreapta: D. Curteanu, Panait Constantinescu, Pandele Constantinescu, M. Colben, G. Persu, A. Locusteanu, M. Magureanu, C. Fometescu

Figure 11. Participants on the first Congress of Veterinary diplomats in Romania, which took place on 10-12th May, 1882, where they discussed issues of veterinary police, public hygiene, veterinary and animal pathology

From 6 to 8 October 1884, the “**First Congress of the human doctors, veterinary surgeons and pharmacists**” took in Bucharest, and Louis Vincent was one of the secretaries. The idea of this meeting of the sanitary specialists was born at Turnu-Măgurele in 1877, being proposed by Iacob Dimitrie Felix, the commander of the army hospitals from that area and by Carol Davila, head of the sanitary service of the Romanian army, whose assistant was the veterinary surgeon Mihail Măgureanu (alias Mihail Ghiuță), who helped him to organize the Romanian troops for the assault on the fort from the right bank of the Danube.

The Romanian Society of Medical Sciences appointed a commission which to prepare and work out the Regulation of the Congress of the Romanian sanitary corps. The provisional secretary of the commission was Louis Vincent (newspaper “Universul”, nr. 28, of 21 September 1884, p. 2). The Regulation stipulated three sections: **medical, veterinary and pharmaceutical**; each section was to hold

separate meetings, and all sections were to meet in general meetings. Among the participants in the Congress there also were 29 veterinary surgeons.

In the general meeting of October 6, 1884, Professor I. Felix presented the report "About disinfection". After the general meeting from the first day of the Congress, the meeting of the veterinary section took place in the same afternoon one to speak was Louis Vincent, who showed the importance of diagnosing and controlling the disease and proposes a program to study systematically this disease.

On the evening of October 8, 1884, the final day of the Congress, the 130 participants attended the banquet organized at Boulevard Hotel, with sentimental "toasts" of "fraternisation" between the human and veterinary doctors in the field on the compared pathology (newspaper "Universul" of 11 October, 1884, p. 2). This spirit of collaboration didn't die with the end of the Congress.

The collaboration in the field of compared pathology was resumed at a higher intensity in 1964, after the establishment of the **Society of Compared Pathology**, within the Union of the Societies of Medical Sciences; however, the society ceased to function after a period. After 2002, this activity was resumed within the **Institute of Compared Medicine**, approaching various fields of interest.

Given the necessity of discussions to clarify the different scientific matters in the field of veterinary medicine, increasing in number and complexity, during the meeting of November 6, 1888, following the call by Gh. Ionescu Brăila, D. Curteanu and Louis Vincent, addressed to all the veterinary surgeons all across Romania, 38 responded and 21 actually participated in the meeting which revived the activity of the Romanian Society of Veterinary Medicine. The meeting took place on the premises of the Higher School of Veterinary Medicine. This call was prompted by the rather obscure activity of the Romanian Society of Veterinary Medicine at that time.

In the name of the steering committee, Louis Vincent showed that the large number of veterinary surgeons attending the meeting is a sign of approval of the purpose proposed by the steering committee and passed to the establishment of the provisional office. M. Măgureanu is elected as provisional President, while N. Focşa is elected as secretary. The meeting elected a commission consisting of Al. Locusteanu, Şt. I. Furtună, Paul Oceanu and D. Curteanu, who drew up a project of statute of the Society of Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest, written and approved within the same meeting of November 6, 1888 (Bulletin of the Romanian Society of Veterinary Medicine, 1888-1889, p. 3-7). During the same meeting, Louis Vincent is elected secretary general, and subsequently, Vice-president of the Romanian Society of Veterinary Medicine.

Once the Society of Veterinary Medicine was "relaunched", the **Journal of Veterinary Medicine**, Animal Husbandry, Hygiene and Rural Economy, chaired by Professor M. Kolben elected honorary President; Professor Al. Locusteanu, executive President; M. Măgureanu and Louis Vincent, Vice-presidents; Professors Gavrilăscu C. and N. Mihăilescu, were appointed secretaries (Georgescu et al.,

2006). During the works of the section, Professor Al. Locusteanu presented the report: „Disinfection of the people and animals in case of cattle plague” (Ioan and Marinescu, 1935; Simionescu and Moroşanu, 1984).

In the meeting of the medical section from October 7, 1884, the president of the section, Professor C. Severeanu, announced that the report of Professor Al. Locusteanu planned “to be delivered during the general meeting”, will be delivered within this section attended by veterinary surgeons too. Another report, “Relation between human tuberculosis and animal tuberculosis and hygienic measures to limit it” described information based on findings of experimental compared medicine and of own research. The etiological agent of the disease had been recently isolated and grown by R. Koch, in 1882, followed by a study on the etiology of tuberculosis in humans and animals (1884). On the third day, on October 8, 1884, within the veterinary section, the topic of discussion concerned the gastro-entero-nephritis, because in 1878 this disease killed over 50,000 cattle. The first

also appeared (Figure 12). It has been established in **1888** too, by I. Şt. Furtună, and had an Annex, **the Bulletin of the Society**. The Bulletins of the Society, reporting the regular debates, show that Louis Vincent was one of the most active animators of the debates and there was almost no meeting in which he would not speak, playing a decisive role in drawing the conclusions. These meetings debated the important problems of the veterinary pathology confronting that period: the foot and mouth disease of horses, glanders, tuberculosis, the bovine gastro-entero-nephritis (babeiosis) etc. (Curcă et al., 2001; Curcă, 2002). Although he was quite young, Louis Vincent, who’s many sided competence was notorious, was appointed in 1892 in the commission for the development of the third edition of the Romanian pharmacopeia, where he works intensely. This edition was published in 1893.



Figure 12. Journal of Veterinary Medicine, Livestock, Rural hygiene and Economics, under direction of I. Șt. Furtună, head Veterinary service of the General Medical Service. The magazine is published in April of 1888, in city Focșani

The first number of the **Bulletin of the Romanian Society of Veterinary Medicine** appeared in **December 1888** and included the proceedings of the meeting of November 6, 1888, when the Romanian Society of Veterinary Medicine was established and when its statute was drawn up. The meeting of January 4, 1889 discussed and voted the Regulation of the Romanian Society of Veterinary Medicine (Bulletin of the Romanian Society of Veterinary Medicine, 1888-1889, p. 33-55).

The society existed until July 21, 1949, when, after this last meeting, it was discontinued abusively by the communist regime (••• 2001; Simionescu and Moroșanu, 1984). Nevertheless, the spirit of the scientific activity within the Society didn't vanish; the veterinary surgeons working within the Faculties of Veterinary Medicine, of the related research institutes (I.N.Z., I.P.I.A., "Pasteur" Institute, etc.), continued their activity within the **Scientific Circles from the Faculties of: Bucharest (1949-1971), Arad (1949-1957), Iassy (1961-1971), Cluj (1962-1971) and Timișoara (1962-1971)**. Because the centenary of the Romanian Society of Veterinary Medicine was closing, a group of teaching staff from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest started in the spring of 1970, the activities necessary to resume the Romanian Society of Veterinary Medicine: it was re-established on May 15, 1971, 22 years after its discontinuation and one hundred years after its foundation.

This is the merit of the veterinary medicine profession from Romania, of the veterinary surgeons acting as teaching staff in the Faculties of Veterinary Medicine and of the specialists from the Research Institutes with medical-veterinary profile who, by their work and support for the steering group, by their perseverance and ability, managed to convince the decision-makers of that time to approve the re-establishment of the Romanian Society of Veterinary Medicine, as well as its statute (Figure 13).



Figure 13. Memberships card with number 00087 - the Society of Veterinary Medicine, with an enrollment date in the Company 1. X. 1970, Prof. Dr. Doc. Șt. Neculai Stamatina signature, the presidents of Bucharest branch (left); 140 years anniversary since its establishment of the Romanian Society of Veterinary Medicine (right).

The Society of Veterinary Medicine, organized festivity omagial of in the 27.11.1970, at Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Bucharest, on the occasion of fulfillment of 90 years of life the scholar Academician Professor dr. Alexandru Ciucă, President at the Society of Veterinary Medicine Professor univ. dr. Octavian Vlăduțiu (Figure 14).



Figure 14. Omagial festivity organised of the Society of Veterinary Medicine, in the 27.11.1970, at Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Bucharest, on the occasion of fulfillment of 90 years of life the scholar Academician Professor dr. Alexandru Ciucă (left), President at the Society of Veterinary Medicine Prof. dr. Octavian Vlăduțiu (right).

As long as it functioned, judging by the content of the proceedings and of the research published in its Bulletin included in the **Veterinarian Archives** (Figure 15), the journal of the Didactic Corps of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, the Society of Veterinary Medicine brought a substantial scientific contribution to the development of the veterinary medicine in Romania, thus accomplishing the goal of its establishment on May 15, 1871.

Professor Paul Riegler published studies and notes on the tuberculosis and para-tuberculous bacilli, on glanders-action of the bacilli; on glanders toxins; on serum therapy; on the experimental transmission in cattle; on the bactericidal coal and on vaccinations; on the symptomatic coal; on experimental transmission and treatment of dourine; on agalactia in the Romanian sheep; as well as other important papers which were published in the *Veterinary Archives*, journal which he established in 1904 and which he headed for decades (••• 1987; Stancu, 2002). He has been in the board of editors of the *Journal of Veterinary Medicine* and he published in 1896, 1897, and 1898 the “Bulletin and Memories of the Romanian Society of Veterinary Medicine”.

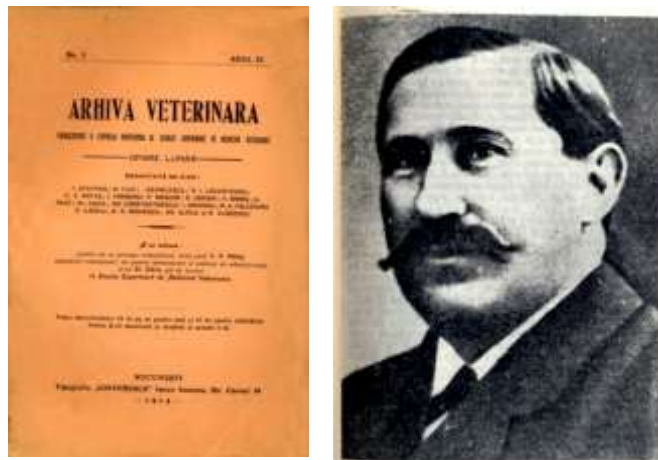


Figure 15. "Veterinary Archives" review appeared on first in March 1904 (left), on cover 4 ads for instruments and equipment for veterinary and human surgery, laboratory microscopes and laboratory instruments, founded by Prof. P. Riegler 1867-1936 (right).

At its meeting on 21 May 1913 of the III National Veterinary Congress, after extensive debates, it has been voted the following "Resolution": This "resolution" was reached because the old Society for Veterinary Health "included only 40 members," as stated in the meeting Prof. Al. Locusteanu and he added that "people should not leave unprotected animal body injustice".

Was first appointed a Commission to draw up draft statutes of the Association then, on **29 June 1914**, it held its constituent meeting of the **General Association of Veterinarians in Romania** (AGMVR), chaired by Prof. Al. Locusteanu. In this meeting, at which 138 veterinarians sent accessions, voted to elect the first committee status and then intervening the First World War until 19 August 1919, by decree of law, the association is recognized as a legal and moral person.

Even before getting the official recognition, it had a "Bulletin" published from January 1, 1919, in the first issue of **Journal of Veterinary Medicine and Zootechnie** (Figure 12), who was none other than former Veterinary Magazine, founded in **1888**, by **Șt. Ion Furtună**, and which, under the new title, is offered to be put on Association property.

Enthusiastically created by an initiative group, the Association, through art. 4 of the Statute, states its goal of its existence, namely: "to cultivate the sense of esteem, fraternities and peer support, defend the right of members and general professional interests, to create an economic background, to set up a bulletin of it and build their own local library, conference room and so on". All the goals set have been performed for over 30 years because in 1949, the association has ceased existence, just as the Society for Veterinary School attached to the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, founded in 1871.

After 1989 the AGMVR was reestablished and the duties of the SMV were taken over by it. Between 8 to 11 May 2011, in Bucharest, held the prestigious national event "**The XIth Congress of the General Association of Veterinarians Romania**". Congress was held under the title "**2011 - World Year of Veterinary Medicine**" (Figure 13).

The XIth Congress marked two major professional events: **150 years** since the founding of the first veterinary school in Romania and **140 years** since the **establishment of the Society of Veterinary Medicine**.

"**Society for Animal Protecțiunea**" since its founding, was concerned about the protection of animals, giving a great importance to the human and economic problems (Figure 16 and Figure 17). Its aim was beginning to convince the owners that it is in their interest to take care of animals, children should not be cruel to them and the teachers and priests to propagate the ideas of animal protection (••• 1904).

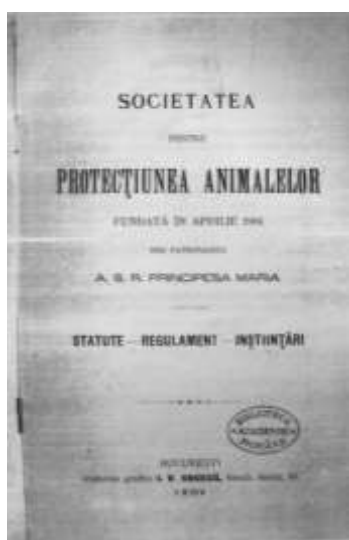


Figure 16. The statutes of Society for Animal Protecțiunea published in 1904



Figure 17. Act of approval of the Statute in MONITORUL OFICIAL No. 64, from 24 June-4 July 1905

Among its activities is remarkable setting up different services on behalf of animals, educating people on animal husbandry and care, monitoring enforcement of animal protection (Figure 18 and Figure 19), and a very clear editorial focus between 1907-1913. In the first years of the Society for Animal Protecțiunea Bucharest activity, was present through all those present both in human life but especially in the animals life (••• 1907)



Figure 18. Brochure intitled: “Our Birds”. Edition II-a



Figure 19. Scientific work “The killing of cattle for food” by E. Perietzianu-Buzeu, published in 1908

In 1929, the **Scientific Society of the Military Veterinary Corps** was established and it had 244 members in 1933, assigned to seven circles: a central one in Bucharest and six branches in Bârlad, Iași, Chișinău, Sibiu, Timișoara and Focșani. The meetings of these circles were also often attended by civil veterinarians from those towns.

Once the Scientific Society of the Military Veterinary Corps had been established in 1929, the **Military Veterinary Journal** also appeared (Figure 20 a and b.), scientific publication of the Military Veterinary Corps, under the direction of the general veterinarian Vintilă Rădulescu (1879-1937), head of the army Veterinarian service, an illustrious personality of the entire Romanian Military Veterinary Corps (Figure 21).

A meritorious contribution to the activity of the Romanian Society of Veterinary Medicine came from the military veterinarians, recruited among the graduates of the Veterinary School of Bucharest, some of them being: Dumitru Preotescu, Ion Popescu, Panait Constantinescu, Gheorghe Perșu, Constantin Gavrilescu, Pandelescu Constantinescu, Nicolae Străulescu, Gheorghe Udriski (Curcă, 2002; Curcă et al., 2002; Picu, 2005). Several military veterinarians also had important publishing activity, either by writing scientific articles, or by issuing books that were very appreciated at that time. Of these, many scientific articles being published in the Military Veterinary Journal, we cite:

- The veterinary captain Nicolae Moga published the brochure: “**The Golubatz fly**”, edited in Bucharest, in 1891, which actually is his PhD thesis for the title of

veterinary surgeon, from 1890; another brochure was “Horse and cattle breeding in Romania and sown pastures”, published in 1904 la Brăila; “Bee farming”, published in 1905, at Brăila;

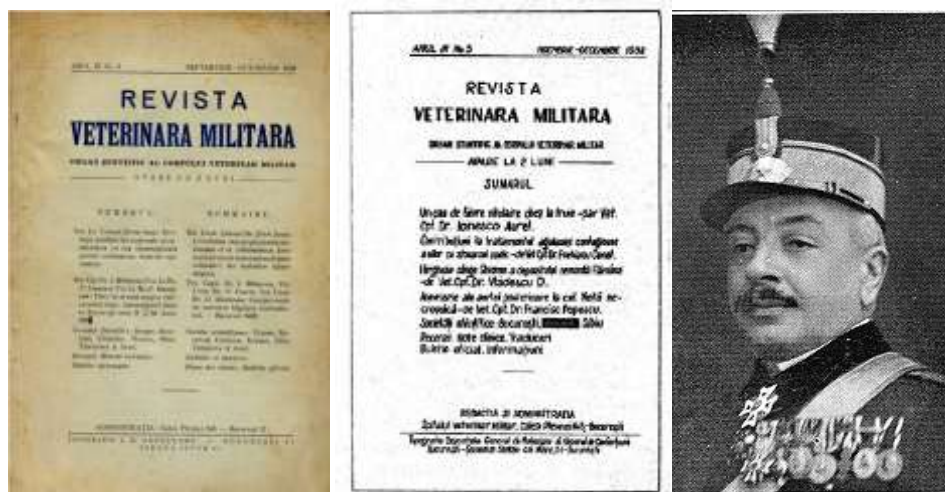


Figure 20. a, b Military Veterinary journal

Figure 21. General Vintilă Rădulescu, veterinarian, vet army chief

The veterinary general Grigore Hortopan (1880-1957), is the author of a veterinary Encyclopaedia (Hortopan, 1912) with the subtitle “Rearing and diseases of the domesticated animals”, published in Bucharest, with more than 900 pages (Figure 22).

The aim of this encyclopedia was to gather the knowledge on “breeds, breeding, rearing, maintenance and healing the diseases of animals”, based on a substantial literature and approaching the whole field, insisting on the anatomy, physiology and pathology of the domesticated animals. It aimed to answer some of the stringent needs of that time concerning the improvement of animal productions by improving the animal breeds (in cattle, pigs, sheep, poultry etc.);

- The veterinary general Petre Stavrescu published two papers, each with more than 600 pages: “Science of horse rearing in modern conception”, published in 1930, at Bucharest, and “Hypology” (Stavrescu, 1900), published in 1900 (Figure 23), Bucharest, the latter one receiving the Adamache award of Romania Academy.

The professors from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine participated actively in the life of other scientific and professional societies too. Thus, Paul Riegler was founding member and several times President of the Society of Biology, Vice-president of the Academy of Medicine, of the Romanian Royal Society of Medicine History, member of Société de Pathologie comparée from Paris, Vice-president of the Romanian General Association of the Veterinary Surgeons, etc.



Figure 22. Growth and animal disease, by veterinary General Gregory Hortopan, Second Edition



Figure 23. Hippology for officers, breeders and fans of horses, by veterinary General Petre Stavrescu

Of the scientific societies which supported the progress of biology we may mention the “Society of sciences from Bucharest” (1897), from which the “Romanian Society of Naturalists” split in 1899, with its publications edited starting from 1901; the „Society of Biology”, established in 1907 by V. Babeș, Paul Riegler, I. Cantacuzino, Gh. Marinescu, I. Athanasiu and D. Voinov, at Bucharest, under the name of „Biological Association” and which published starting with 1911 the „Annals of biology”. At the same time, Cantacuzino also was the founder of the “Journal of Medical Sciences“, “Annales de Biologie” and “Archives Roumaines de pathologie experimentale et de microbiologie“.

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