

**POLICIES TO CONTROL PLAGUE EPIDEMIC IN SEMIRECHENSKAYA
OBLAST (1900S-1910S)**

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Abstract

This article covers veterinary policy in Semirechenskaya oblast in the early 20th century, infectious diseases prevalent among livestock (especially plague), and the activities of veterinary doctors and veterinary paramedics.

Keywords: Semiverstvo region, veterinary policy, livestock, veterinarians, veterinary paramedics.

Introduction

Until the 1870s, not only in Turkestan, but also in the European part of Russia, the word "veterinary doctor" was unknown to many people, as well as to public figures. However, great damage to the national economy was caused by the plague of cattle, as well as the development of trade in cattle and livestock products in neighbouring states. Veterinarians fought adequately against the pet disease. It was proved that the establishment of a veterinary service was not harmful to the economy, but rather beneficial. Therefore, after the end of the livestock epidemic in Russia, there was a need to develop a veterinary service. [1.].

LITERATURE ANALYSIS

Issues related to the problem are covered by archival sources, Press materials and works of foreign scientists, including P. Petkov [4.], A. Goryachkin [4.], V. A. Shchekin [6.], K. Agzamov [7.], I. Sklyar [7.] it can be traced that it was studied in the works and researches of N.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The problem investigated in the article, namely the views on the impact of plague and other infectious diseases commonly found among livestock on the economic condition of the state and people, focused on highlighting scientific research based on the methods of policy and comparative analysis, scientific reasoning and objectivity.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The establishment of veterinary service in Turkestan was initially entrusted to the military governor of the Syr Darya region, General N.I. Grodekov. In 1892, N.I. Grodekov submitted to the Council of the Turkestan Governor-General a project on the organisation of veterinary supervision in the Syr Darya region and the assignment of staff units. The Council of the Turkestan Governor-General's Office and the District Military Medical Directorate discussed

the project and agreed with the views expressed in the project, but due to lack of funds, the project faced serious obstacles. Initial staffing levels were reduced and they were faced with the challenge of establishing a veterinary service despite inadequate funding. [1.].

In Semirechenskaya province, veterinary service was established earlier than in Syrdarya, Fergana, Samarkand and Caspian provinces. In 1897 the fight against plague of domestic cattle began in the province, in the first two years the data against epizootic were collected, and in 1899 the province carried out the fight against plague. But the public was beginning to say that the veterinary measures carried out were useless and that the population would be financially harmed. Non-experts were unhappy that veterinarians were using their powers to fight the plague epizootic by killing infected animals, and suggested methods of disease treatment and prevention that included treating animals with copper copra and licking healthy animals that had died of plague, even suggesting putting sick animals to the wind. Experts, on the other hand, propose a way to vaccinate domestic animals against plague that are taken out to pasture on rangeland, given that wild animals in the Semi Mountains transmit plague from ruminants to domestic animals on pasture in the summer, but this would require millions. The fight against cattle plague in the Semirechen region continued in this state until 8 February 1907. Therefore, the Turkestan Governor-General's Office appointed F.E. Kuritsyn as the head of the veterinary part. Kuritsyn was assigned to study the reasons for the ineffectiveness of the fight against plague in Semirechye and F.E. Kuritsyn's study showed that mountain pastures were the main source of plague in domestic cattle. The cattle of nomadic pastoralists were infected with plague on pastures. Among the livestock of the sedentary population, pastoralism was also common. [1.].

Because of the economic losses caused by these livestock diseases, livestock breeding, the main wealth of the Semirechen region, began to be given great importance, as an example we can cite the inspection work of Count Palen in Semirechye in 1910, the services of the head of the veterinary department of the military governorate and civil administration, a veterinarian. [1.].

From 16 March 1904 he was in charge of veterinary affairs in Semirechensk province, subordinated directly to the military governor and Turkestan military district military veterinary inspector (on the basis of articles 489, 519, 520 of the Statute of Physicians of 1905). His duties included: 1) measures to prevent the death of livestock; 2) general supervision of veterinary affairs; [3; 479-c.], 3) Perform work related to veterinary medicine and report to the regional administration; 4) travel throughout the region to direct measures to combat epidemics; 5) direct the military veterinary departments of the Semirechensk Cossack Army and other military units located in the region. [[File: 480-b.]

Veterinary personnel in the province was divided into 3 categories according to the type of activity: 1) Provincial veterinarian for veterinary needs of the population (Articles 522, 523 of the Statute of the Medical Board); 2) point veterinarians of the Ministry of Internal Affairs - for control over marketed livestock and meat products (Resolution of the State Council of 12 July 1900); 3) point veterinarians of the Ministry of Internal Affairs - for control over marketed livestock and meat products (Resolution of the State Council of 12 July 1900); Provisional veterinary staff sent to the provincial veterinary office of the Ministry of Internal Affairs - for control over marketed livestock and meat products (Resolution of the State Council of 12 July 1900.); 3) point veterinarians of the Ministry of Internal Affairs - for control over marketed

livestock and meat products (State Council Decree of 12 July 1900); Temporary veterinary staff sent by the Ministry of Internal Affairs to the provinces to fight the plague. All veterinary officials were subordinate to provincial veterinary inspectors (Art. 520 of the statute of the medical board). [3; 481-b.].

The organisation of veterinary affairs in the province should have been legally the same as described above. In 1910, as a result of the work of Senator Palen's audit commission, it became known that the organisation of veterinary affairs in the province was completely different, i.e. increased in accordance with the law.

Before the improper interference of the veterinary administration in the distribution of plague control duties between the local bodies and the veterinary department of the civil administration, it can be seen that the organisation of veterinary work was carried out efficiently, resulting in a good control of the plague epidemic and bringing the number of plague control points to 3, as well as reducing the mortality of cattle in disease foci. A comparison of the spread of diseases and the mortality of cattle from them in 1906-1907 shows that in 1907 the number reached 394, but the mortality of cattle from plague fell from 10.6 per cent to 10.2 per cent, and by May 1908 the mortality had fallen to 2.9 per cent. In 1906 there were 218 points. Nevertheless, the chief of the Veterinary Department, having addressed a petition to the Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Governor-General of Turkestan and having rejected the fruitless actions of the military organisation to combat plague, asks to entrust him with measures to combat plague in the Semirechenskaya oblast. The Veterinary Department of the Ministry of the Interior, considering his views useful in combating the plague, even asked the Minister of the Interior for permission, disagreeing with the military administration of the province. [3; 481-b.].

Accordingly, on 19 February 1908, the Governor-General of Turkestan, at the urgent request of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, sent the head of the veterinary department of the civil administration to Semirechenskaya province to directly supervise the fight against plague.

Thus, an independent organisation of veterinarians on business trips appeared in the province, which was not subordinate to the veterinary inspector at all. In the Turkestan province there were two parallel veterinary organisations, one of which was legally subordinated to the Minister of War and military governors, and the other, de facto anti-epizootic, subordinated to the Veterinary Department under the Governor-General and the Ministry of Internal Affairs. These organisations did not act in cohesion, and in fact could not have 2 masters to fight the cattle plague epidemic. This situation in Semirechensk province led to the fact that veterinarians under the provincial military governor, who were familiar with conditions in the province, were effectively excluded from the fight against the plague epidemic.

Veterinary service of Semirechenskaya oblast was paid annually from "zemstvo" taxes 15040 roubles to district veterinary doctors and paramedics and district veterinary pharmacy, from taxes 3018 roubles to veterinary inspector, 3264 roubles to veterinary worker, carrying border service, 6 roubles to veterinary doctors. 13805 roubles were allocated for the personnel of the point, total more than 49387 roubles, total more than 64 427 roubles were spent for 1 year of veterinary personnel. [3;482-C.].