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VETERINARIAN

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE COUNTY VETERINARIAN

The County Veterinarian works on a fee basis testing cattle in Multnomah County for brucellosis (Bang's disease) and tuberculosis. This testing began years ago in an endeavor to erradicate these two diseases, both of which are transmittable to man. The statutes require testing of all cattle for these diseases once each three years; however, this is a state responsibility.

Inquiry of the State's Department of Agriculture reveals that some years ago, the farmers of East Multnomah County requested brucellosis testing on an annual basis in an endeavor to develop a brucellosis free area. The state was unwilling to take on the expense, so the county has appropriated \$2,500 each year to pay for the extra testing.

This is seemingly a worthwhile expenditure, but since the veterinarian reports to nobody in the county, a county program or function does not exist. Accordingly, the functions of the veterinarian should be dismissed from further consideration by the Home Rule Charter Committee.