Harold Edward Albiston CBE DVSc 1897-1994

Harold Albiston was born in Tasmania but educated in Melbourne where he became a distinguished diagnostician, research worker, teacher, editor and leader in the veterinary profession. He graduated in 1918 from the Melbourne University with first class honours in all subjects in the final year of veterinary science. He was awarded the DVSc for his research into infectious necrotic hepatitis of sheep, and tuberculosis and actinomycosis of the bovine udder.

Albiston lectured at the Melbourne Veterinary School in anatomy, pathology, bacteriology and parasitology until it closed at the end of 1927. In 1923, he was appointed officer-in charge of the Milk Testing Laboratory. In 1932, he was appointed Director of the Veterinary Research Institute in Parkville, a position that he held until he retired in 1963, and where in 1933 he instituted the first post-graduate courses in veterinary science in Australia.

Harold Albiston was the longest-serving member of the Faculty of Veterinary Science (1922-1969), of the Board of the Melbourne Zoological Gardens (1938-1981), and of the Veterinary Board of Victoria (1930-1963). The AVA elected him president in 1932-33 and awarded him its highest honour, the Gilruth Prize, in 1959.

He was a foundation Fellow of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists.

He is especially recognised for the high professional standards he set and maintained as director of the VRI (1932-1963) and as the longest-serving honorary editor of the *Australian Veterinary Journal* (1939-1963). The editorial standards that he set ensured that the Journal achieved a high reputation as a scientific publication within Australia and overseas. In retirement, he edited the second edition of the six volumes of *Diseases of Domestic Animals in Australia* and, in 1975, wrote a seventh volume on *Metabolic Diseases of Livestock*.

References


RI Taylor

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