

## **FORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF SYSTEM OF BRITISH HIGHER VETERINARY EDUCATION**

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The formation and development of the system of British veterinary education is investigated in the article. The roots and origin of British veterinary education are considered to be connected with the Royal Veterinary College established in 1791 and Edinburg veterinary college that opened its doors in 1823. The rest of higher veterinary establishments were founded in the 19th – the first part of the 20th century. The last veterinary higher school was opened in the beginning of the current millennium.

According to the analysis the author has distinguished four stages of the development of British higher veterinary education: foundation (1791 – late XIX century), unification of universities and higher veterinary colleges (early XX – mid of the XX century), further development (mid of the XX – second part of the XX century), the newest (90-s of the XX century – present days).

**Key words:** Veterinary education, veterinary college, veterinary school.

**The problem.** The price for the animal has considerably risen in our time. It resulted in growth of requirements to professional training of doctors of veterinary medicine. One of the ways of optimization of higher veterinary education is to apply to the positive pedagogical experience of the developed European countries, including Great Britain.

**The purpose** of the article is to enlighten historical development of British veterinary education.

**Analysis of the last sources or publications.** Historical development of veterinary education in Ukraine is outlined in labors of S.K. Rudik, M.M. Stegnyy; the system of higher veterinary education of some foreign countries was analyzed by V.A. Yablonskiy; agricultural formation of foreign countries was researched by N.S. Zhuravska. Among foreign researchers who worked in the same direction we

can mention E. Kotchin (E. Kotchin) and his fundamental research «History of the Royal veterinary college»; Viki Deyl (Wiki Dale) whose doctoral work was dedicated to methods and forms which were used in veterinary higher establishments of Great Britain.

**The main material of research.** S.K. Rudik asserts that in medieval Europe the training of doctors who dealt with animals was conducted at the blacksmith workshops. Mostly blacksmith's workshops were incorporated with other workshops [1].

In Medieval Ages the development of British agrarian education was substantially influenced by agricultural societies created by rich land owners. For example, Odigem agricultural society, created in 1783, donated abroad studies of gifted young people. In order to work with animals they mainly went to France, where in Lyon as early as 1762 the first European veterinary school was founded.

Scientific discussions last till our days concerning lag of England in veterinary education from continental Europe at the end of the XVIII century. According to E. Kotchin's opinion, the reason of it is isolated geographical position of Great Britain, which was protected by the sea from epidemics which raged on the mainland [3].

In 1791 using money of above mentioned Odigem agricultural society Royal Veterinary College was founded. The first professor was Frenchman Charles Vial, in the past – professor of veterinary medicine of Lyon Royal veterinary school. At that time the Royal veterinary college counted 14 students, the teaching staff consisted of a professor, assistant of the professor, secretary, collector, door-keeper, three horse doctors and five grooms [3].

In 1794 the graduates of the college got their first certificates. Interesting fact: the examination commission consisted mainly of doctors which were not veterinaries. At first the term of studies was indefinite and hesitated from three to four months. From 1844 veterinaries began to study two, and from 1876 – three years. Four-year training was introduced in 1885. Five-year term of studies was officially ratified only in 1932 (in Great Britain this document is legal to the

present days: bachelors of veterinary medicine, and also doctors and dentists have five year course of training). Postgraduate courses on veterinary pathology and bacteriology were firstly organized in 1894 [3, s. 120].

In the middle of the XIX century the Royal veterinary college began to admit young people from simple families. In 1878 the College library was opened. All students could right to use College library.

In 1823 sir William Dick (Villiam Dick) founded a veterinary college in Edinburgh. Between London and Edinburgh schools hard competition occurred. Veterinary college of Glasgow, founded in 1862 by sir McCall and veterinary school founded in Liverpool also took part in that competition [5].

In 1840 about one thousand doctors of veterinary medicine worked in Great Britain already. In 1828 "Society of practicing doctors of veterinary medicine" was founded and scientific magazine "The Veterinarian" was published. In 1829 a new term - "doctor of veterinary surgery" appeared in one of the articles of this magazine. Since that time veterinaries in Great Britain have been traditionally named the doctors of veterinary surgery (veterinary surgeons).

In 1836 the first "Veterinary medical association" was founded. Many members of the Veterinary medical association were at the same time the members of "Royal Medical and Surgery Society". In 1952 "Veterinary medical association" in 1952 was renamed on the "British veterinary association".

In 1844 the Royal College of veterinary surgeons (RCVS) was established by Royal Charter, and the profession of doctor of veterinary medicine was officially adopted by the state. In 1876 RCVS got the special plenary powers: to award for considerable merits in veterinary industry [3, p. 73].

According to the Law "On veterinary surgery" (1881) persons who didn't have veterinary education couldn't work as doctors of veterinary medicine. Thus the necessity to develop the network of educational establishments for training veterinary specialists appeared.

E. Cotchin distinguishes two stages of the development of veterinary education in Great Britain. The first stage was characterized by the absence of common

requirements to forms and methods of studies. The breeding of horses was considered to be the main thing. The second stage began at the beginning of the XX century. At that time considerable increase in scientific potential, quantity of teaching staff and research activity took place. Veterinary laboratories were actively financed. Scientific and technical progress considerably weakened positions of breeding horses [3, p. 232].

Since 1906 the graduates of the Royal veterinary college have got Bachelor degree in natural sciences. Second World War was the cause of educational reform in Great Britain in 1944 that resulted in modernization of all system of education, including higher. New higher veterinary educational establishments were opened in Bristol (1948) and Cambridge (1949) [4].

E. Cotchin asserts that from middle of the XX century the process of association of veterinary colleges with universities took place. The doctors of veterinary medicine, as a result of that process, got possibility to get scientific degrees. In 1949 the Royal veterinary college was integrated into the structure of the London University. Since then the graduating students of college began to get the degree of the Bachelor of veterinary medicine (BVetMed). They got Master's and Doctor's of veterinary medicine degrees accordingly in 1960 and 1966 [3].

In the same 1949 the University of Glasgow was integrated with local college of veterinary medicine. As a result of integration college was reorganized into the faculty of veterinary medicine.

In 1966 the Law "On veterinary surgery", operating to present days, was issued. This law determines the legal norms of professional activity of doctors of veterinary medicine in Great Britain [6].

Governmental commissions in 1988-1989 conducted the careful audit of British veterinary education and recommended veterinary educational establishments to strengthen practical training and Postgraduate specialization of the last courses, to diversify the methods of student independent work, to introduce the problem teaching.

Recently, because of the lack of doctors of veterinary medicine, the new veterinary faculty of Nottingham University was opened, the first awarding of bachelor degrees took place in 2011.

In a middle of the 90th of the XX of century the training of doctors of veterinary medicine in Great Britain began to get special features because of introduction into the educational process the newest technologies and facilities (for example, sensory plaster casts of animals etc) [2].

**Conclusions.** According to the analysis the author has distinguished four stages of the development of British higher veterinary education:

- foundation (1791 – late XIX century);
- unification of universities and higher veterinary colleges (early XX – mid of the XX century);
- further development (mid of the XX – second part of the XX century);
- the newest (90-s of the XX century – present days).

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## **СТАНОВЛЕНИЕ И РАЗВИТИЕ СИСТЕМЫ БРИТАНСКОГО ВЫСШЕГО ВЕТЕРИНАРНОГО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ**

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В статье исследовано становление ветеринарного образования Великобритании. Автор выделил четыре этапа развития британского высшего ветеринарного образования: зарождение (1791г. – конец XIX ст.), объединение вузов с высшими ветеринарными колледжами (начало XX – середина XX ст.); дальнейшее развитие (середина XX ст. – начало 90-х гг. XX ст.) и новый (розпочався з середини 90-х рр. XX ст.).

**Ключевые слова:** ветеринарное образование, ветеринарный колледж, ветеринарная школа.

## **СТАНОВЛЕННЯ ТА РОЗВИТОК СИСТЕМИ БРИТАНСЬКОЇ ВИЩОЇ ВЕТЕРИНАНОЇ ОСВІТИ**

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У статті досліджено становлення ветеринарної освіти Великої Британії. Автором виділено чотири етапи розвитку британської вищої ветеринарної освіти: зародження (1791 р. – кінець XIX ст.), об'єднання ВНЗ та вищих ветеринарних коледжів (початок XX – середина XX ст.); подальший розвиток (середина XX ст. – початок 90-х рр. XX ст.) і новітній (розпочався з середини 90-х рр. XX ст.).

**Ключові слова:** ветеринарна освіта, ветеринарний коледж, ветеринарна школа.