Edwin Stanton Good, 1871–1957:
A Brief Biography

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E. S. Good was born March 16, 1871, at Clarence City, NY. He moved at an early age with his family to Flint, MI. He grew up on the family farm, which specialized in Shorthorn cattle, Merino sheep, and Berkshire hogs. This experience influenced him to attend Michigan State Agricultural College and helped shape his career.

He received the Bachelor of Science degree from Michigan State Agricultural College in 1903 and the Master of Science degree from the University of Illinois in 1906. In 1908 he married Louisa A. Millikin of Warren, OH. They had two sons, John W. Good and Edwin M. Good. Edwin S. Good died in Lexington, KY on April 15, 1957, at the age of 86.

While at the University of Illinois Good served as an instructor and participated in the agricultural research program. He was coauthor of three experiment station publications of which two H. W. Mumford, the noted animal scientist and later dean at the University of Illinois, was senior author. These articles dealt with the acquisition of materials, planning and building barns, sheds, feed lots, and equipment for feeding experimental cattle.

In September 1906, he was appointed head of the fledgling Animal Husbandry Department in the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station at Lexington. In 1912 the Experiment Station and College of Agriculture merged and most staff members in research and teaching, including Professor Good, received joint appointments. The Animal Husbandry program was divided into two departments; Good became head of Animal Husbandry I (beef cattle, sheep, swine) and J. J. Hooper, who had been in charge of Animal Husbandry in the College, became head of Animal Husbandry II (dairy cattle, horses, poultry). In 1919, the two programs were merged into an Animal Industry Group with Good as Chairman.

He continued as Head of the Beef Cattle, Sheep, and Swine Sections, and other faculty were named head of Dairy and Dairy Manufacturing, Poultry, and Horse Sections. This administrative structure was in effect until Good retired and was named emeritus professor (or went on change-of-work status) in 1941. At that time the University of Kentucky had no funded retirement plan and at the age of 65 faculty were relieved of full-time duties and assigned to part-time duties. Remuneration for the change-of-work status was based on pay before retirement and years of service.

Good's change-of-work included teaching one or more animal husbandry courses and assisting with extension activities and other activities as assigned or needed.

In 1942, because of World War II, he was reemployed on a full-time basis. He taught Feeds and Feeding and other courses, did extension

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work, and was a stabilizing force in the department and college until the war was over. After the war, he continued teaching on a regular part-time basis until 1951, and on a less regular basis until he asked in 1956 to be released from teaching because of his advanced age.

His students have described him as enthusiastic and energetic. He started teaching when feeding was more art than science and was still teaching after the development of considerable additional knowledge of amino acids, vitamins, minerals, nutrient relationships, and so on. He kept himself informed through the literature and had a good sense of humor, and one of his favorite expressions was "when in doubt, use glucose." Another expression he used when asked about the value of cattle having access to stacked wheat straw was: "It beats the north wind."

He was enthusiastic outside as well as inside the classroom and was a frequent speaker at many of the livestock functions he attended. Although his chief roles were as administrator, teacher, and researcher, he did a considerable amount of extension work. In addition, he often judged livestock shows. He usually had something good to say about things or people and he liked the positive approach. On one occasion, I had the opportunity to be with Professor Good at lunch, which happened to be at a below-average eating establishment. His positive expression was, "Aren't these beans delicious?"

When he joined the faculty in 1906 the Veterinary Science Group was part of Animal Husbandry. He immediately joined in research dealing with hog cholera and was instrumental in developing a hog cholera serum and in establishing a laboratory for manufacturing serum for use in Kentucky and for sale in other states. He also helped organize a swine immunization program for the state. The Veterinary Group gradually took full responsibility for the hog cholera program and Good shifted to investigating the problem of infectious abortion in mares and jennets, and later in cattle. He was instrumental in discovering and identifying the causative organism, *Bacillus abortus equinis*, and led in the development of an immunizing agent for mares and jennets. The result of this work led to a vast improvement in reproductive efficiency in mares and jennets. His invitations to speak to various professional groups resulted in publications such as *Proceedings of the U.S. Live Stock Sanitary Association* and *Proceedings of the American Veterinary Association*, and the research results of his papers were published in Kentucky Agricultural Experiment bulletins and circulars, *American Veterinary Review*, *American Journal of Veterinary Medicine*, and *Journal of Infectious Diseases*.

He was an early member of the American Society of Animal Production and served as Vice President in 1926 and President in 1927. He regularly attended and presented papers at its meetings. For example, in his presidential address in 1927 his topic was "Problems that Confront Animal Husbandry Workers." In this address he cited the need for more highly trained specialists and stressed the importance of using care in research and the need to avoid hasty conclusions.

One of Professor Good's protégés was T. R. Bryant, who studied under him and then worked briefly in Animal Husbandry before becoming the first Director of Extension at the University of Kentucky. In a taped interview with J. Allan Smith in 1972 he said, "I shall always cherish the remembrance that I had the opportunity to work with Professor Good. He was one of the best of research men. He taught me well in the use of the microscope, in which he was so adept, and he had the best bacteriology laboratory that had ever been established here at the University of Kentucky."

Although Professor Good's greatest research contributions were in the area of contagious abortion, he did other excellent work that resulted in the publication of numerous experiment station bulletins and circulars and popular articles. He also published in the proceedings of the American Society of Animal Production and in other research publications.

Some of his early research with beef cattle dealt with contagious abortion in cattle and was patterned after his work with mares. He was one of the first to isolate the Bangs organism responsible for brucellosis in cattle and sows. Other work with cattle, mostly steers, dealt with feeding systems, evaluating pastures, and silages, hays, and grains in the wintering or finishing of cattle under Kentucky conditions. His work with sheep dealt with means of controlling scabies and in breeding work to improve Kentucky mountain ewes.

His work with swine included the evaluation of distillery byproducts and wheat as swine feeds; the effect of using protein supplements, including tankage, soybean meal, and velvet bean meal, and hogging down corn and soybeans; and a comparison of drylot and pasture feeding.

Professor Good surrounded himself with capable faculty. Funds were limited for research and salaries were very low by today's standards, but several of the people he employed remained for many years and made significant contributions to animal agriculture. In the poultry area he added J. Holmes Martin, who made numerous research contributions but resigned in 1919 to head the newly formed USDA Regional Poultry Research
Laboratory in East Lansing, MI. G. Davis Buckner, a Princeton Ph.D., spent his entire professional career at the University of Kentucky and was a pioneer in mineral and vitamin nutrition of chickens. W. M. Insko, who worked closely with Buckner, became Head of the Poultry Department, which was formed later.

In the sheep area he brought in L. J. Horlacher from Purdue, who later became the Associate Dean for Instruction. He upgraded the sheep program and was instrumental in establishing an ongoing livestock judging program and was the driving force in starting the Block and Bridle Club. In addition he employed R. C. Miller, who became an outstanding sheep specialist, and Harold Barber, an Englishman, who became the country's outstanding shepherd in the area of selecting, breeding, fitting, and showing sheep.

After the resignation of J. J. Hooper, Good employed Fordyce Ely to head the dairy program. Ely became President of the American Dairy Science Association and later resigned to become Head of Dairy Science at the Ohio State University. In the swine area he attracted E. J. Wilford of Cornell. More importantly, however, Wilford established one of the early meats teaching and research programs in the country. In the horse area, he employed W. S. Anderson to teach genetics and later head the horse research program.

Good himself did much of the beef cattle work with the able assistance of W. J. Harris. When he was nearing retirement, he began looking for a person who could assume responsibility for the beef cattle program and possibly could direct the Animal Industry group. He chose W. P. Garrigus, a new Ph.D. from the University of Illinois. He was not disappointed, for Garrigus became Chairman of the Animal Industry Group in 1941 upon Good's retirement, or change-of-work. As noted earlier, Good remained on the emeritus faculty and taught for several more years.

Professor Good was a member of the American Society of Animal Production, Association of Southern Agricultural Workers, Kentucky Academy of Science, Kentucky Livestock Sanitary Board, Sigma Xi, Alpha Zeta, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Kiwanis Club, and Second Presbyterian Church, Lexington.

One of his greatest honors came in 1940 when his portrait was hung in the Hall of Fame of the Saddle and Sirloin Club in Chicago. This was particularly notable because he was the first person from the Southeastern area of the United States to receive this honor. After the demise of the Union Stockyards in Chicago, the gallery was moved to and the portraits are exhibited at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center and in the Executive Inn West in Louisville. A posthumous honor was the naming of the on-campus dairy barn, which had been converted into an office and conference center, the E. S. Good Barn. The University of Kentucky, the livestock industry in the state and nation, and many individuals are greatly indebted to this outstanding teacher, researcher, and leader in animal agriculture.