

surface area of the animal, m its maintenance requirement per unit surface area, g its gain in live-weight, and c the energy stored in unit live-weight increase. Where A , m , and c are known, and g is given a desired value, R , the net energy of the ration to be fed for the purpose of producing the desired rate of gain of live-weight, can be calculated. He demonstrated, further, that under certain conditions of experiment, the equation can be used for computing the net energy or starch equivalent of a feeding stuff.

Space forbids more than this fragmentary sketch of Prof. Wood's scientific work. To do this justice must form the theme of some future monograph. Nor can adequate reference be made to his influence as teacher and lecturer, his gifts as author and editor, his powers as organiser and administrator. His energy was amazing. It has well been said of him that for many years there was not an agricultural project of any importance on which he was not consulted before it was finally adopted. From modest beginnings he patiently developed an imposing organisation for teaching and studying agriculture in all its manifold phases. This was his crowning achievement. He was concerned also to house his subject worthily. Hence rose the School of Agriculture at Cambridge, which fair and gracious building is his enduring monument.

So much for the man and his work. On both, posterity will pass its judgment. But to us who mourn his loss, to us who shared his labours, his aspirations, his successes, and sometimes, alas, his disappointments, to us, in these early days following his death, it is the character of the man which stands out pre-eminently. Noble and just of temperament, with an infinite capacity for kindly thought and action, he endeared himself to all who came within his influence. How many of his younger associates, amongst whom the present writer, with gratitude, numbers himself, will cherish his memory through the years to come. Truly it may be said of him: his generation was the better for his having lived.

H. E. W.

WITH very great regret—a regret which is shared by his hosts of friends—I have read the news of the recent death of Prof. Wood. To the value of his stimulating work in many branches of agricultural science, many competent judges will give, or have already given, their testimony with far greater knowledge than my own. I confine myself here to the personal acknowledgment of the invaluable services which he rendered during the last three years of the War to the nation and to more than one great department of State, and especially to the Board of Agriculture. I feel that I should like to add something, if I can, to the memory of a most loyal colleague.

In December 1916, when I became president of the Board of Agriculture, farming in England seemed to be almost at its last gasp. The late Lord Oxford's "Reminiscences" contain a report to the

Cabinet in the preceding autumn, which presents a striking picture of the widespread sickness that had gripped the industry. If any attempt was to be made to revitalise agriculture, a definite policy must be framed and steadily pursued. The note of the German Government that, on Feb. 1, 1917, the unlimited U-boat campaign would begin, emphasised the necessity for immediate action. The problem set the Board was the production, with the greatest possible speed, of the largest possible supply of indispensable food for the needs of a beleaguered city.

In the anxieties of this gloomy period, the visits of Wood were welcome as the sun. He seemed to radiate health, energy, and cheerfulness, and his optimism, when the difficulties were so obvious and apparently so insurmountable, was invigorating. He came to me fresh from the Food Council, of which he was a prominent member, master of its latest opinions, ready, with unflinching good humour, to explain their mysteries in simple language. He proved an excellent counsellor. We had to form an idea, as exact as possible, of the food requirements of the nation, of the constituent parts of a ration which should be physiologically satisfactory, of the quantities of each constituent required, and with these facts in our minds to concert the means for their supply. On all these initial points, which included a host of subsidiary questions, Wood was most useful. But he was especially valuable in reference to the most advantageous utilisation of the live-stock of the country for our purpose. Here his practical knowledge and experience came into full play.

Nor was it only in the inauguration of the movement that Wood's services were employed to advantage. In the summer of 1917 the reserves of frozen meat for the army were running dangerously low. Until the reserves could be restored, it was decided to feed the troops at home with fresh meat. Wood served on the committee set up for the purpose, with Mr. Gavin as its secretary. The work was done so efficiently and quietly that it passed unnoticed by the country. Another work on which he was engaged at the conclusion of the War was the compilation not only of exact details of the number and age of the cattle, but also of their whereabouts, so that no district should be disproportionately depleted. He even found time to direct the work of the committee formed to disseminate among farmers information respecting the use of feeding stuffs and approved methods of alternative feeding.

I have dealt only with my personal relations with Prof. Wood, and have not referred to his work on the Inter-Allied Scientific Food Commission in Paris and afterwards in Rome. At the former conference his influence is shown in the adoption, for all allied countries except France, of the policy pursued in Great Britain on the relation of live-stock to available food supplies. His War-work is a striking record of a most unassuming and lovable man who spent his great abilities and untiring labour in the cause of his country.

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