

Pathology at Connecticut was Dr. Leo Rettger, who first identified the etiological agent of pullorum disease in poultry. His successor was Dr. Charles F. Helmboldt, another in the line of prominent avian histopathologists.

His interest in avian tumor viruses started in the early 1930s. His early publication on this topic (*Poultry Science* 12:184-188, 1933) described gross lesions of fowl paralysis and extolled the value of gross necropsy for clinical diagnoses (*conclusions that remain true more than 70 years later*). A later publication (*Amer. J. Vet. Res.* 2:116, 1941) presented a classification of tumors of the domestic fowl. This short paper institutionalized the term “Avian Leukosis Complex” which was used widely (at least in the United States) for more than 20 years. Although initially useful, this classification tended to obscure the etiologic differences ultimately recognized between leukosis and Marek’s disease and was ultimately replaced. However, this work was important and noteworthy at the time and was at least partly responsible for his designation as the recipient of the Borden Award in 1945. He was a “collaborator” with the Regional Poultry Laboratory (later known as Regional Poultry Research Laboratory and finally as Avian Disease and Oncology Laboratory) in East Lansing, Michigan from 1939-1949, a time when the research programs of the laboratory were directed in part by a committee of experts from State Experiment Stations. He participated in a 1958 conference at the East Lansing laboratory to evaluate whether experimental and naturally-occurring cases of leukosis were the same or different (*Amer. J. Vet. Res.* 20:223, 1959).

Jungherr published widely (Rosenwald indicated he had more than 100 publications). He was active in a number of professional societies. In addition to his charter membership in AAAP, he was also a charter member of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists. He was a member of the editorial board of *Avian Diseases* from its inaugural edition. He was a consultant to Harvard Medical School and the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology. He also consulted with the Fort Detrick laboratory, dedicated to research on biological weapons, from 1956 to his death. He appeared to be unusually influential in the field and spoke with authority on a variety of subjects.

On a personal note, Jungherr was a friend of my father, Frank Witter, and there were occasional visits to our home in Orono, Maine and by us to his home in Storrs, Connecticut. An early memory as a young scientist myself, was the opportunity to share the back seat of a car where Erwin Jungherr and Alfred Lucas, anatomist and histologist at the East Lansing laboratory, were discussing with enthusiasm and animation the pathology of the chicken spleen.

Supporting materials for this brief biography are as follows:

- A tribute written by A.S. Rosenwald and published in *Avian Diseases*, volume 9, number 2, 1965.
- A forward written by C.F. Helmboldt to the Special Edition of *Avian Diseases*, April 1969.
- Several news articles (1945, 1948 and 1965) obtained from the University of Connecticut. Photos were also provided.

- A database of published literature on avian tumor viruses, maintained by R.L. Witter

Biography solicited by the Committee on the History of Avian Medicine, American Association of Avian Pathologists.

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Additional biographical materials may be available from the AAAP Historical Archives located at Iowa State University. Contact information is as follows:

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