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TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE
ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO RACING
HELD BY
THE JOCKEY CLUB
AT THE
NEW SKIDMORE COLLEGE CAMPUS
SARATOGA SPRINGS, NEW YORK
SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, 1976

IN ATTENDANCE:
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William T. Ashton, New York State Racing Commission
*Ez. Col. Charles Baker, Breeder, Owner
**Thomas M. Bancroft, Jr., Vice-Chairman, The New York Racing Association, Inc.; Breeder, Owner
William W. Bancroft, Breeder, Owner
George B. Barrett, President, Santa Anita Park
John A. Bell, III, Breeder, Owner
E. V. Benjamin, Jr., Breeder, Owner
James E. Binger, Breeder, Owner
Edward S. Bonnie, Steward, National Steeplechase & Hunt Association
James Cox Brady, Jr., Breeder, Owner
Nicholas F. Brady, Chairman, The Jockey Club; Trustee, National Museum of Racing, Inc.; Trustee, American Horse Council; Breeder, Owner
Mrs. Nicholas F. Brady, Breeder, Owner
John L. Brennan, President, Harness Track Security
J. Newton Brewster, Jr., Chairman, Maryland Racing Commission
J. Elliott Burch, Trainer
Gerard Burke, Steward
Timothy T. Capps, Administrative Assistant, The Jockey Club
Hugh L. Carey, Governor of the State of New York
Joseph F. Carlin, Attorney and former Speaker of the New York State Assembly
George Carroll, New York State Racing and Wagering Board
Snowden Carter, General Manager, Maryland Horse Breeders Association
*G. W. Douglas Carver, Breeder, Owner
Mrs. G. W. Douglas Carver, Breeder, Owner
Anthony Chambin, Executive Director and Secretary Treasurer of the National Association of the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association
*George M. Cheston, Breeder, Owner
Melville Church III, President, Virginia Thoroughbred Association
Herman Cohen, President, Maryland Jockey Club; Director, Thoroughbred Racing Associations
Charles Colgan, Racing Secretary and Handicapper, National Steeplechase & Hunt Association
William Coman, Executive Director, Thoroughbred Breeders of Kentucky, Inc.
Nichols Combett, Trainer
*Leslie Combs II, Vice President, Keeneland Association; Breeder, Owner
Ed Comerford, Columnist, Newday
John E. Cooper, Retired Executive Secretary, National Steeplechase and Hunt Association
Mark Costello, Resident Manager, Saratoga Racecourse
Bill Creasy, Executive Director of Television, The New York Racing Association, Inc.
Fred P. Davis, Chairman, Vermont Racing Commission
Thomas A. Davis, Counsel, American Horse Council, Inc.
John I. Day, Director of Service Bureau, Thoroughbred Racing Associations
Jack DeFoe, National President, Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association
Walter H. Donovan, Retired Manager, Garden State Park
*Ogden Mills Phipps, Chairman, The New York Racing Association, Inc.; Breeder, Owner
Mrs. Ogden Mills Phipps, Breeder, Owner
Stanley Phillips, President, Sports Systems Pari-Mutuel Division
James Picou, Trainer
Alfred F. Polk, President, Ohio Thoroughbred Breeders and Owners
John P. Poole, Jr., Breeder, Owner
Jack Price, Breeder, Owner
Virgil W. Raines, Trainer
Calvin S. Rainey, Executive Secretary, The Jockey Club
William O. Reed, Veterinarian
Raymond Welch, Executive Vice President and Assistant General Counsel, American Horse Council, Inc.
Donald F. Ross, Jr., Steward, The Jockey Club; President, Delaware Racing Association; Breeder, Owner
Mrs. Donald F. Ross, Jr., Breeder, Owner
Bill Rudy, Columnist, New York Post
John H. Russell, Trainer
E. Barry Ryan, Breeder, Owner
Walter J. Salmon, Jr., President, Grayson Foundation; Breeder, Owner
Michael Sandler, Publisher, Triangle Publications, Inc.
Bertram D. Sarna, New York State Racing and Wagering Board
John O. Schapiro, President, Laurel Race Course; Trustee, National Museum of Racing, Inc.; Director, Thoroughbred Racing Associations
Kenneth Schiffer, Vice President, California Thoroughbred Breeders Association; Breeder, Owner
Mrs. Kenneth Schiffer, Breeder, Owner
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Warren Schweder, Executive Vice President, National Association of State Racing Commissions
Charles V. Schweizer, Ohio State Racing Commission
Paul Scavone, President, The New York City Off-Track Betting Corp.
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Ann Trommershausen-Smith, Assistant Research Geneticist, University of California
Harold Snowden, Manager, The Stallion Station
James D. Stewart, Chief Administrative Officer, Thoroughbred Racing Associations; Trustee, National Museum of Racing, Inc.
Richard Stokes, Breeder
Lynn Stone, President, Churchill Downs; President, Hialeah Park
Clayton Stormont, Professor of Immunogenetics, University of California
Mike Strauss, Columnist, New York Times
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Brian Sweeney, General Manager, California Thoroughbred Breeders Assoc.
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Dale K. Thiel, Director, Carolina and Colonial Cups
Joseph A. Thomas, Breeder, Owner
Joseph M. Thomas, Vice President, Thoroughbred Operations, Windfields Farm, Ltd.
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Joseph Wickman, Agent in Charge, New York Racing Association, Tracks, Thoroughbred Racing Protective Bureau
William H. Williams, Regional Manager, Triangle Publications, Inc.
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Jordan G. Woodcock, D.V.M., Administrator of Drugs & Medications Program for the American Horse Shows Assoc.

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William Hastings, Observer
Kim Brady, Observer
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Robert Fried, Observer
Leslie Thomas, Observer
Mrs. Raymond Gillespie, Observer
Barbara Wiedemann, Observer
John Guthrie, Observer
Ken Williams, Observer
Coordinator, Calvin S. Rainey

*Member of The Jockey Club
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MR. BRADY: I want to welcome all of you this morning: We appreciate you coming from all parts of the country. This is the 24th Annual Jockey Club Round Table Conference. The subject of the Conference this morning is horse identification, an important matter, and I'm sure you will all enjoy the work that's been done by the panel and enjoy hearing our guest speakers. The first speaker this morning is Dr. Clyde Stornont, Professor of Immunogenetics at the University of California at Davis. Dr. Stornont will speak on the Analysis of Equine Blood Typing. Dr. Stornont.

DR. STORMONT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman... Ladies and gentlemen. It's been thirteen years since I had the opportunity to meet with the stewards of the Jockey Club — it was in 1963 — and I talked to them at their Round Table Annual discussion about the progress we were making with our horse blood-testing procedures at the University of California at Davis. Now, to set the background a bit for this subject, let me tell you that it was the Jockey Club primarily that got us interested in doing research on horse blood groups and for the main reason, developing tests that would help then solve the difficult problem of double registry — that is, when a mare was served by two stallions, the foal was registered to both stallions. And when I was approached by Secretary Cassidy in 1958 with the idea of doing this work, they, of course, wanted to know whether I thought it feasible and I said yes, I said we had some background in cattle blood-testing, even sheep blood-testing and we're certain that we can do the same with horses. How long? Oh, I said, give us five years and a little money. The Jockey Club fortunately came through with several grants in aid to help us get started with this work. So when I appeared at the Round Table discussion in 1963, I briefly spoke about our developments to that date, and we had perfected blood typing to the extent that it would solve about 65% of the paternity cases involving two stallions. Well, to bring you up to date, we've increased the percentage now it's at least 90%. In other words, it's simply to say that if there is a paternity case arising, the probability that we can exclude the incorrect stallion is now at least 90%. I'm going to tell you, it's not going to get much better than that, not without a lot more work and a lot more tests, because the efficacy of these tests does not increase rapidly once you've reached that level of success. Now let me tell you a little bit about the genetic markers in horse blood that we work with and incidentally, in horses as in man, cattle, pigs and sheep, there is a great variety of genetic variation in these blood markers. One of the two classes or kinds of markers that we work with primarily are the red blood cell antigenic markers. These are the classical blood groups that we've known about in man since 1901. The other class that is rather new and developed largely since 1955 is known as the electrophoretic markers. These are just molecules of various kinds of protein in the blood serum or plasma and also within blood cells, like the contents of red blood cells, that can be electrophoresed in very special media and these molecules migrate on the basis of charge, net charge and also on the basis of their size and shape, because these gels have pores in them that also hold back the larger molecules; they don't migrate as fast. And then we stain these gels and we can actually see the proteins in the gels and they're rather remarkable to look at. Let me tell you a little bit more about the red cell antigenic markers and then we'll come back to some of these electrophoretic markers. We work very hard producing blood typing antisera. Now, one thing you may know about — I think most of you do — is that there is a disease in man commonly called RH disease, scientifically known as erythroblastosis fetalis, and there is an equivalent disease in horses, known as hemolytic disease of the new born foal, or nowadays called neonatal searthritis — it's an awful term — abbreviated NI. Well, at any rate, what happens in this disease is that late in gestation, there's a leakage of blood cells, red blood cells mainly, from the foal into the mare's circulation. Now if these red blood cells contain any genetic markers on their surface, antigenic markers, inherited from the stallion alone, they're recognized as foreign and the mare makes antibodies against these foreign red blood cells and these antibodies are largely deposited in the new milk or colostrum and when the foal takes its first meal, it soon starts to get sick because these antibodies are absorbed through his gut into his bloodstream and they attack the red blood cells of the foal, leading to a severe anemia in most cases, sometimes death. Well, the veterinarians know how to manage the disease pretty well, but one of the outcomes of our studies of horse blood groups is that we learned to identify the red cell antigenic markers that are most often involved in this disease and we can tell you which ones they are and that they belong to two different genetic systems — the A system and the Q system — and the main offending antigenic markers are A1 of the A system and Q of the Q system. That's how we happened to develop a little knowledge about the disease NI... in horses and we figure this is going to be applied more so than it ever been before. In fact, it's now possible to arrange matings in such a manner that you can avoid this disease. But now, let's imagine... We know about 26 of these red cell antigenic markers on the red blood cells of horses and they fall naturally into eight different systems of genetic blood groups. Some of these systems are rather simple and only involve a single antigenic marker, like the C system, the K and the T and U. The remaining four systems involved more than three antigenic markers apiece, so they're a bit more complicated and a bit more useful in parentage analysis. Now each of these antigenic markers is inherited in a very simple manner. They're inherited as simple Mendelian dominant traits which is simply to say that they make their appearance on the red cells of any horse, only when present on the red blood cells of one of the other or both of the parents. Any exceptions to that rule or law of dominance are regarded as illegitimacies and you can rest assured, in parentage verification tests should we find on the red blood cells of the foal any one of these markers, not represented in its parents, that foal is illegitimate and we've got to start looking for other parents, at least another stallion.

Okay, so much for those red cell antigenic markers. Now turn next to the electrophoretic markers that we see so nicely in our stained gels — an excellent example is horse serum albumin. This is the main protein molecule in horse plasma or serum and it comes in two electrophoretic forms which we call A, that's the faster migrating form, and B, the slower migrating form, and there are three types of horses — those who have A alone, those which have both A and B, and those which have B alone. So you've got three albumin types easily recognized in starch gel electrophoresis. Another system, the transferrin system — this is an iron binding and transporting protein which is very important; all the proteins you have are quite important, same with horses, and this protein picks up free iron which is very toxic and transports it to where it can be utilized again in the manufacture of hemoglobin and other protein molecules. This molecule comes in eight different electrophoretic forms, providing something like 72 divided by 2, that's 36 different transferrin types in this one system alone, which is a fair number of different blood types in just one genetic system. To mention a few more, we have a third system called post-albumin. This comes in two electrophoretic forms like the albumins. We have a system of serum esterases. These are enzymes that have esterase activity and they're stained with a particular enzyme dye, substrates such as alpha-naphthol acetate and so on are used, and they're very beautiful to see because they come in multiple zones and you get very nice zone patterns of these enzymes in the gels, but our experts here can read
them quite nicely and there are quite a few different forms of serum esterases in horses. I think I’ve mentioned the major systems — oh, I left out one system and the newest to be discovered, elucidated in 1970 — it’s called pre-albumin. The molecules are probably antitrypsin molecules found in blood serum and we have a great variety of electrophoretic forms of those molecules. So we have five very nice systems of electrophoretic markers in horse serum and we have seven more which can be detected by using hemolysates of red blood cells, but the techniques are difficult and costly, and the more of these systems you add to your tests, the more costly the tests become. The most interesting feature about these markers can be illustrated by just mentioning the albumin system again. Let me show you how that works. I told you there were three types: A, AB, and B. Now if you study horses, with respect to these three albumin types, you’ll find that the A type breeds true. Whenever you breed a stallion of type A to a mare of type A, all the foals from such a matting are type A. The same is true of type B. B times B always yields B. Now what happens when you breed B with AB, and a stallion with the B mare, or a B stallion with an A mare, all the foals are invariably type AB, and if you mate AB with AB, you get a one to one ratio of type A to AB to B, and so on. So these are very simple genetic rules, and this simply means that the albumin molecules, the two types are coded for by a pair of codominant allelic genes and by just examining the phenotypes which are directly ascertained from the gel patterns, we can make quite good laws about what a horse will have to show in its albumin types, once we know the albumin types of its stated parents or the converse. For example, a foal of albumin type B must have... must have both parents with albumin type B — they can both be AB or both B, one AB, one B — but that simply tells us that the foal must inherit this albumin from both parents. So I’m trying to give you a little idea how the genetic laws that we utilize in solving parentage cases and in verifying the fitness of a horse’s parents, and as I said in the beginning of my talk, we are now at a level of efficacy where we can solve 90% of the parentage cases arising in the breeding of horses. Moreover, if there’s an error in any registered foal, we are able to detect that error with a 90% probability — it’s exactly the same as in solving parentage cases.

So with those remarks, Mr. Chairman, I’ll conclude my talk.

MR. BRADY: Thank you, Dr. Stormont. I think we’ll hold the questions until both you and Dr. Smith complete your remarks. Our next speaker this morning is Dr. Ann Trommershausen-Smith, Assistant Research Geneticist at the University of California, also at Davis. Ann...

DR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, guests... This morning I am going to talk about just one subject that I think is very important in identification of horses. That subject is coat color in horses. What I will present to you are two rules of genetics of horse coats.

The first rule has to do with the breeding of so-called chestnut horses. If you breed a chestnut stallion, as seen in the slide on the screen, next slide, please... to a chestnut mare, there should be no doubt in your mind... next slide, please... you will never get a bay foal. As you can see by this slide, we are talking about chestnut horses, and the bay foal is not a chestnut horse.

The chestnut horse is a horse which has a chestnut color. The Golden Retriever dog in the picture will perhaps help you to remember this rule of the inheritance of red coat color since rules of coat color genetics in domestic animals follow the same principles. Many of you probably know that Golden Retrievers bred to each other always produce Golden Retriever colored dogs — you never get black or any of the various other colors occurring in dogs. Red coat color, whether it’s in horses or Golden Retrievers or in Hereford cattle is a recessive color and it should always breed true. You will never get browns or blacks or bays or grays; you will always get red color when two reds are bred together. If you ever get a foal of some other color from a chestnut to chestnut mating right there is an indication to you that the parentage is incorrect on that foal.

So that’s the first rule; chestnut to chestnut must always produce chestnut.

The second rule has to do with gray horses... next slide, please. Gray is a difficult color for some people to understand and, as I see what Thoroughbred breeders call coat colors of some of their horses I think that there is a particular problem in this respect. Gray is a dominant gene and its effect is to produce progressively graying in individuals. Gray is the gene for gray for gray it will be born chestnut, bay, or brown, but it will progressively turn gray. The darker the color of the foal, the more slowly that animal will change to gray. The slide shows a horse seven or eight years old. This was probably a black horse changing to gray very slowly. Next slide, please... this is probably a bay horse that’s changing to gray very slowly. Next slide, please... here is an old gray horse which is now almost white. Any horse that has a gray gene will turn either white or flea-bitten with old age. Slides off. The important thing about the principles behind gray pigment in horses is that gray is a dominant gene, which means to horse breeders that a gray horse must have one gray parent, so, if you have a gray foal or a foal that is starting to gray, out of parents at least one of which was not gray, the parentage is incorrect.

I’m sure that many of you have heard these two rules of horse coat color before, but you’ve also heard of exceptions to them. Are there any legitimate exceptions? Recently we have asked various horse registries to help us study the rules of coat color inheritance by sending us blood samples from foals and their parents which were in exception to these stated rules. What we are doing is to apply the principles of blood typing to verify the principles of horse coat color genetics. All of these exceptions are rare cases which we were not able to bone samples involved either a non-chestnut foal out of chestnut parents, or a gray foal out of parents, one of which was not gray. We would expect, in all of these cases, that with the use of 15 or more genetic systems, and blood typing, in addition to the genetic systems of coat color, we would be able to show that the parentage was incorrect on those foals. Indeed, blood typing in these cases was able to verify the exclusion of parentage which had already been identified on the basis of coat color incompatibilities. You can be assured that these principles of coat color genetics are indeed correct.

The fact that there were cases to be studied indicates that errors in registration do occur and we can assume there are probably other errors in registration that can get by because the coat color rules are violated. In almost every case we studied, if we could specify which of the parents was incorrectly assigned, it was the stallion that was incorrect. The mare had been bred to the stallion to which she was supposed to be bred but to another stallion. These coat color cases point up an important problem in broodmare management which you may want to take steps to solve.

With the genetic systems that we have in use at the serology laboratory at the present time, we are able to identify incorrect parentage on animals in somewhat over 90% of the cases. This percentage figure is not a reflection on the accuracy of our blood typing procedures but rather of the efficacy of the tests. The combination of coat color genetics with the greater than 90% efficacy for determination of incorrect parentage by blood typing we feel is a very powerful tool for the use of horse breeders.

Thank you.
MR. BRADY: Thank you, Ann. I think maybe the thing to do would be let the panel go because a lot of the questions people might have will be raised in those proceedings. The next gentleman I'd like to introduce is Mr. James Moseley, who's head of The Jockey Club Horse Identification Committee. Jim . . .

MR. MOSELEY: Thank you, Nick. About a year ago, a committee was formed that embraced all the facets of Thoroughbred racing, a committee that has worked hard and accomplished much. They were charged with the task of developing ways and means to improve the horse identification system. In the early stages of researching the problems inherent in the present system, they were encouraged to contact any and all people or organizations that they felt would be best lead them to formulating their conclusions. They were asked to: one, study the horse identification system at the farm level; two, study the identification system at the track level; and three, to look into the establishment of an owner-breeder's registry. They have done this and have traveled throughout the country, listening to people at every level and formulating their recommendations, which we will discuss now. My first speaker on the panel who will talk on Identification in the Breeding Shed, is Lee Eaton, well known owner and breeder. Lee . . .

MR. EATON: Thank you, Jim. I want to first say it's been a very interesting and informative experience for me to be on this panel and I consider it a real privilege — I've learned quite a lot. Mr. Moseley, oddly enough, picked someone who hasn't been in the breeding shed very often in the last five or six years, which might point out part of the weakness in our present system. Today, under the way that we manage and operate our broodmares and stallions, an owner of a mare orders a van that comes to his farm in a far-away state, and he puts the mare on the van, or possibly mares, and sends them to one of the states that is a breeding center or center of stallions. This mare usually goes to a farm or, in certainly a high percentage of cases, goes to a farm where the stallion that she's to be bred to is not in residence. The farm manager of this boarding farm receives the mare that the van driver tells him is the correct mare. The van, after loading the original mare, may have stopped at two or three other farms loading other broodmares, horses that are going to racetracks and various and sundry other things. So we accept, usually, without identification, the van driver's word that this is the mare we are to receive. We then identify her for our own purposes by way of a neckstrap or a halter name plate if she doesn't already have this on. Frequently these mares arrive without correct identification or tag of any sort. We advise the man in the far-away state that mare A arrived. We begin to tease her, we begin to palpate her and we pick the optimum time to breed her. We call the farm on which the stallion stands that we'd been advised to breed her to and we work out the time for the mating. Some of us fill out a little card to send with the mare that usually states her name, her owner, possibly her tattoo number, the stallion she's to be bred to, the name of the farm where the stallion stands, and the time she's to be there. Probably more frequently, we send nothing or we take a scrap of paper and write down the horse's name and the farm, give it to a groom or the van driver and send her on her merry way. She arrives at the farm, the stallion manager calls for the mare and she is bred. The mare is returned to the farm and, hopefully, she's in foal. Now, as I see it, there is no one, including the owner, the farm manager and the stallion manager, that can positively say that he knows that that mare was bred to the correct stallion. We have gone for years on the assumption that no one makes a mistake. We assume that when the van leaves the farm, he takes the right turn and he goes to the right farm and he's paying attention — the groom or the van driver or both of them — is paying attention when the stallion manager calls for the mare; a mare he has never seen, he does not even know the color of, and she's bred.

Now, when I was first put on the committee, I had some very definite ideas and some ideas that were certainly not popular and possibly not too workable. That was to make the stallion manager the person who was primarily responsible for the identification of the mare, and this manager of the stallion to ascertain to The Jockey Club satisfaction that mare A was bred to stallion Z. This would, of course, mean a lot of work for the farms that stand stallions, and obviously is not anything anyone relishes doing. I have since decided that I was wrong, primarily because of the recommendations that the committee is going to make or is in the process of making to the stewards of The Jockey Club. I feel that if these recommendations are implemented, it would not be necessary to require anyone to identify the mare at time of breeding. But I also feel that with these recommendations it will behoove all of us, including the owner in the far-away state, the manager of the farm that will domicile the mare, and the stud manager, to do everything possible to be very certain that the proper mare is bred. Now the reason being, if the blood testing program is implemented and with it being better than 90% effective, there's going to be a lot of very upset people, beginning with the owner and going right across the line to the farm manager who bred the mare, to the stallion manager, when someone finds out that the yearling they just bought at a possibly very high price cannot possibly be by the stallion that we say he's by. Or when someone gets ready to race their horse for the first time and they find out that this horse cannot possibly be by the stallion that he or she is reported to be by. If it goes further, when you get ready to register your first foal, or get ready to put your filly in production or send your stallion to stud and you find out that he or she cannot possibly be by the sire reported to be, the ramifications of this are beyond my comprehension, but I'm sure that when this occurs, the first time, we'll all get very careful and whether we feel like it's convenient or not we'll be darn sure thereafter we'll breed the right mare to the right horse.

Now, I think that in conclusion, The Jockey Club will need to provide us with the means to easily identify the mare in the breeding shed. We've talked about and thought about many things. Possibly the registration papers or a copy could be on file with the stud farm prior to the time of the actual mating. However, they don't give convenient nor adequate information for proper identification. Mr. Rainey has come up with a plastic covered identification card. It includes the color, the night eyes, the entire description and the mating. The card could be reproduced at minimal cost; they could be made available to any mare owner that wanted them — he might have three of them on file. When he gets ready to send his mare to me in Kentucky, for example, he could drop one in the mail, then when the van pulled up, I could look at this and say I'm sorry, Mr. Van Driver, but this isn't the right mare. And we could start right there. The stud manager could have one; when the mare came to the breeding shed: I'm sorry, Mr. Van Driver, Mr. Groom, this isn't the right mare. It's very simple and very easy. I think that with the blood typing program, if it is implemented, it will be imperative that we have an identification card available to all breeders similar to this. Thank you very much.

MR. MOSELEY: Thank you, Lee. The next topic is going to be Earliest Possible Identification of Foals, Including Blood-Typing, and to speak on this subject for us will be Joseph O'Farrell of the Ocala Stud and Joseph Thomas of Windfields Farm.

MR. THOMAS: Thank you, Jim. I'm going to pick up the hall first and then Joe will carry it later on. As it's been pointed out, I think pretty much in several of the articles that Kent Hollingsworth has written in the Blood Horse, we go pretty much on faith in the accepting of a lot of things in the stud book — the pedigree of a horse, and so forth. And where a lot of mistakes, either inadvertently or inadvertently were made, they're accepted in the stud book as true. One of the problems
we have is, for example, we don't register our foals until August 31st; most of them have been weaned and we assume that there hasn't been any mix-up between the time that the foal was taken from the mare and when it comes time to take the markings and so forth to apply for registration. What Joe and I have thought about and what we're suggesting and recommending is an earlier application right after foaling. In this case it is true that foals, right after they're born, are very difficult to get all their markings and quite often, even when they're taken at weaning time or after they're weaned for the application on August 31st, subsequently, when we get them to the race track the man comes to tattoo them, there's a mark there or there's something that we have that isn't correct and she has to send it back to the Jockey Club to be corrected and so forth. Most of these are little ships and little marks . . . but it's pretty much established that the horse that was on the registration is this horse, but it doesn't necessarily mean it's the proper pedigree and so forth. So with all the tool of blood identification or identification through blood, it gives us something we've never had before. It's easy with the color, if you have a chestnut sire and a chestnut dam and you don't have a chestnut foal, you know immediately there's something wrong. But if you do have a chestnut foal, that still doesn't mean that it's by that chestnut sire and out of that chestnut mare. So what we're suggesting and recommending is that we have a preliminary application for registration. This would be done within probably ten days of the foaling in case the mare should die, or something should happen to her, the blood from the foal would be taken — I think Dr. Smith said, to get the proper identification, at about seven days — then you would take some preliminary markings that would pretty much identify the horse — there may be some little ups, colors might be a problem with gray horses, but if you did have a gray parent and if you could have some suspicion that the horse was going to be a gray, and you'd send this preliminary application with your blood samples to the Jockey Club. Then at about the same time as now, when the foal was about four months old, August 31st or something like that, you'd make your formal application. And when the formal application came to the Jockey Club and it was pretty evident from the markings that you're applying for registration, the markings are not quite what appeared on it originally, then to insure that there wasn't a switch, it would be simple then for the Jockey Club to have someone go and take the blood from that foal and they would have the original one on file and compare them and make sure that you're still registering the same animal. Now as times go on, pretty soon all of the horses would eventually have their blood on file and then the mare subsequently would have her blood on file and you wouldn't necessarily have to take her blood, but then when the foal came in, you could very easily identify it if there was any suspicion that it wasn't out of that mare and by that particular stallion. Joe?

MR. O'FARRELL: Well, you know, we're all very familiar with the present means of identification of the foal and really, it's rather haphazard. Many farms will use a number system. The larger farms will give each foal a number, or other farms will use a neckstrap with the name of the mare on it; there are many other diversified ways of identifying the foal. Frankly, I agree with Joe. I don't think there's any mix-up, at least . . . unless it's been done on purpose . . . with a foal at the time he's sucking the mare. I am a firm believer that most of the mistakes are made after the foal has been weaned, or at about weaning time. So that blood-typing that we're advising seems to me to be a must in the horse business. We're in a position that when we identify the foals, within a few years we're going to have every Thoroughbred in America identified by having his blood in the blood bank and there just can't be any mistakes with this practice followed. Frankly, as far as the identification goes, we all know at the time the usual drawing out or taking pictures of the foal in question, many foals in certain parts of the country, or in all parts of the country, I'll say, still have baby hair and they're just not easily identified. I told Joe this morning of a little suggestion which seems foolish, I'm quite sure, but it's a neat little suggestion. Joe was interested and it will eliminate all our problems that will come up later, if the identification of the foal is carried out in the methods that we're trying to recommend. Thank you.

MR. MOSELEY: Thank you, Joe and Joe. My next speaker, speaking on Identification at Racing Age, is Ken Schiffer, and owner and breeder from California. Ken . . .

MR. SCHIFFER: Thank you, Jim. Like many of you, when I sent my horses to the track, I knew they got tattooed eventually, and until Jim appointed me to this committee, I didn't realize exactly how it was done, and my idea was to go briefly over the steps that we take to identify these horses before they are tattooed and before they run, to be sure that we have the right horse. When your two-year-old is about ready to run, the race track identifier comes around and has a big pad of paper where he takes a very technical and detailed description of your horse. He includes all the cowhocks and the whorls, if he has any dents on his neck or on his mane. He's more interested in that than in the horse itself. It seems to work very well with him. For example, when you have your foals, you're about ready to take the identification markers, he doesn't do a thing but clip them all, and then you've got a true identification because the baby hair is gone, there's nothing to hinder your being able to identify the markings on the horse or anything else that may be on them. Frankly, I think that this is almost a must in the industry, to start this identification program early and it will eliminate all our problems that will come up later, if the identification of the foal is carried out in the methods that we're trying to recommend.
on yet this morning is the cost of the implementation of these procedures. We all know that the present system of identification isn't good enough. We also know that for a five thousand dollar registration fee, we probably could take every horse in every way to ensure that both the identification of the horse and the verification of its parentage could be done completely. We know that this fee is not a realistic one in the industry. What we have to do in evolving solutions and improvements of this thing is to evaluate the cost curve against the performance curve and the point where they intersect; to find where the improvements that are being made are affordable and where we get into a question of overkill in expense. I don't believe anybody breeding or selling or racing horses today can be indifferent to factors of expense. I know that the committee wasn't when we looked at the problems.

We also were concerned about the tendency on the part of people to attempt to swaddle this problem whole — that is to say, immediately that you say something about blood typing they say, “Good heavens, there are a hundred thousand horses here, the wherewithal doesn't exist to get this job done.” Well, we've been fortunate in horses that the generations move so quickly that if we take today as a benchmark and start just dealing with one segment, in a matter of fifteen or twenty years, we've achieved almost a hundred percent effective result without going back to all the prior generations of horses. If we assume that, as far as blood typing is concerned, history starts today, it makes the problem a much more manageable problem; and I think that this is true in other segments of the procedures that we're looking at. One of the things that interested me most was in a previous discussion, when Dr. Sturmon advised that from ten days after foaling the blood of a particular horse, compared to the blood of the same horse at any time in his life, is as definitive as the fingerprints of a human being. For this reason, we have strongly urged that as quickly as we practically can, we go into a program of storing the blood of every foal, if not typing it. Dr. Sturmon has not been able to give us exact costing, but we know that the question of drawing the blood and keeping it refrigerated for future reference is infinitely less expensive than the question of doing the full blood typing on every foal. Our feeling is that, if we then... when the foal is a foal, get that blood and put it on record and store it at a lesser cost than doing the typing, that it will be there available to be drawn on for the rest of that horse's life. This means that we're in an affordable area now where the other may not be affordable. We're also of the opinion that the only time that it matters as to verification of parentage are one, when the horse is to be sold, or two, when the horse is to race, or three, when the horse is to breed; so that if we merely store the blood for reference against any one of these three purposes and then do the typing at the time that that purpose is anticipated, we will not be living with the weight of 50,000 blood typings to be done on a foot crop at one time, because these three factors in some cases never happen. There are certain Thoroughbreds that are never raced, never bred and never sold, in which case they have no impact on the future or the integrity of the stud book. They're merely there as somebody’s pleasure horse or whatever and they have no consequence to the future of the breed.

If we do the storage and then, as the need exists, when a horse goes to the sales, or when he goes to the racetrack, or when he goes to the breeding shed, we will do the typing to verify the parentage and know that we have the proper animal. Then we're in a position to be sure that the horse has the needed accuracy, but also the work load for the person doing the work will be much more gradual because they don't all go to the sales at the same time, or go to the breeding shed at the same time. So we're very, very strong on the question of, as an initial thing, at least taking the blood and storing it, which we know to be an affordable thing.

With respect to the identification card, this we would consider around the sales to be an extremely useful tool. It particularly would be a flag to catch obvious errors by the van men, the people receiving the horse and so on. We don't, how-
ever, know about the cost of that yet, in that, as Lee accurately said, these things are very easy to reproduce. That is to say, once the work of taking the photographs and assembling the data is done, they're very quickly and easily reproduced, but the production cost could be very difficult if they were to be universally put in use. It does require good cameras, it does require highly qualified technicians; and, if these things were to be put in all around the country, it might not be affordable yet, in terms of the performance curve against the cost curve. But we certainly strongly urge that we continue to evaluate ID cards and see if we can perhaps work out centers or schedules where we could move a crew around to produce these cards because they would be extremely helpful. With respect to the question of an owner-breeder registry, that would also be extremely helpful to the sales companies in handling the horses that we're selling. The sequence of ownership would be very useful to us, but that one is not nearly as critical a factor to us as the first question which is as quickly as we properly and efficiently can, to start a program of taking the blood of every foal that's registered and storing it so that we have in effect his fingerprint for life. Thank you.

(Appause)

MR. MOSELEY: Thank you very much, John. Our next speaker will be Mrs. Cecilia Harper from California, again an owner and breeder, and she will be talking on the Importance of the Complete Use of the Blood-Typing Systems. Cecilia...

MRS. HARPER: Thank you, Jim. John has made part of my speech, so I won't be very long. I think that we're all in accord: we certainly were on the committee, that blood typing for all uses is going to be a very fine thing for the clearance of any confusion we may have in the industry. We all know it won't always be absolutely perfect, but it is something we need very, very much. John talked about cost — there are several things that are possible. There is no one who stands a stud who wouldn't be willing to pay the cost of having his sire blood-typed because he would like that protection. There's some thought in my mind that a mare who is pronounced in foal might also be blood typed, by her owner, not by The Jockey Club. Then the foal itself would be typed by somebody that was sent from The Jockey Club. Now this is a question of cost, but certainly the original breeding is the place to start. In very little time we would have ample records. Dr. Stormont has told me that at this time, they can actually do about five thousand tests the first year and they think perhaps ten thousand by the second year. In the country now, there are approximately seven thousand stallions standing. I don't know the number of mares that were bred last year. However, it's obvious that the seven thousand stallions can't all be typed at once. We will have to think of some way in which to choose stallions that will be typed the first year. The blood could be kept and typed at a later time. I think there is no question in the minds of anyone that typing is needed, and that provisions must be made for anyone who applies for stalls at a racetrack to be willing to have his horse typed, if the identifier so requests, perhaps with the permission of the stewards, and that anyone who enters a horse in a sale be agreeable to having the horse or colt he's selling typed. I think these are all provisions that will make identification more exact than it is now. I think that before we are able to really complete this system, which will take several years, there should be spot checking, spot-checking at racetracks, spot-checking at sales, and spot-checking of mares. Perhaps such checking will make those who are not doing things exactly as they should be more cooperative and be a little less sure that they will be undetected in any wrongdoing. I know we all make honest mistakes; I have made them; everybody makes them. I would like to be protected and have my horse protected and I'm sure all the rest of you would. I hope that you all agree with us that this is the way to go.

MR. MOSELEY: Thank you, Cecilia. Why don't we take a stretch at this point and we will continue with the Breeder Ownership Registry with Warren Schweder after we sit down.

MR. BRADY: Ladies and gentlemen. Can we try and get seated so we can keep going. Jim, I think we can get back into action.

MR. MOSELEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our next speaker, speaking on the Breeder Ownership Registry, will be Mr. Warren Schweder, Vice President of the National Association of State Racing Commissioners, Warren...

MR. SCHWEDER: Thank you, Mr. Moseley. Ladies and gentlemen. While the NASRC may be excused for having a keener interest in some aspects of horse identification than others, we are fully aware that the integrity of the stud book is the cornerstone of racing, and we are pleased to have even a small part in the proposals that are being advanced here today.

However, a reasonable guarantee of lineage is only part of racing's problem. The other part is the identification of the owners of the animals. Hence, a recommendation The Jockey Club and the National Association of State Racing Commissioners cooperate in establishing companion but non-duplicative registries that would:

1. Locate all horses in the stud and establish their ownership.
2. Identify as accurately as possible the true owners of all horses on the racetrack.

Clearly, The Jockey Club cannot efficiently police the stud book and swiftly and accurately resolve crises of identity if it does not know where the animals registered with it are located and who owns them.

Therefore, it is suggested by the Identification Committee that The Jockey Club establish a breeder registry for all animals under its jurisdiction and that, henceforth, all transfers of ownership be promptly and reliably reported to it.

But horses on the track are another matter, and a special committee of the NASRC will recommend to our Executive Committee, when it meets next month in Colorado Springs, that the Association establish and maintain a separate registry for racing animals and their owners, and it is this, especially, that I want briefly to discuss with you today.

But first it needs stressing that this proposal I'm advancing is to be construed largely as a starting point for intense study that necessarily must involve key elements of the entire sport.

As nearly everyone acknowledges, the problem of hidden ownership has been with us for a long time, and it was not until 1974, when the NASRC developed a telecommunications system that goes by the acronym of NASRIS for National Association of State Racing Information Service, that we had the capability of doing very much about it. The advent of NASRIS gave us a tool that, imaginatively used, could make transgressions against the rules of racing considerably more easy than they now are.

For those not familiar with NASRIS, let me say only that this is an on-line network linking terminals in racing commission offices with a computer in Lexington in which we are storing all official rulings and certain other security information, along with the licensing and fingerprinting record of nearly everyone in pari-mutual racing. The service is available 24 hours each day and provides instantaneous retrieval of information.

The system is managed by our Lexington office and is overseen by a special NASRIS Committee composed of Commissioners William H. May and Leslie Brownell Combs of Kentucky, Pat McCann of Florida and Harry Buch of West Virginia.

The racing registry, as conceived by this committee, would derive from two univer-
sal documents — a lifetime certificate to race, which every animal would be required to have before he was allowed to start, and a simple transfer-of-ownership notification.

The certificate to race would establish the owners of record of all horses immediately in training. It would be in three carbonless parts — one copy to be attached to the foal certificate as the animal’s permanent history of ownership, one copy to be sent to The Jockey Club for its file, one copy to be submitted to the NASRC with a $10.00 fee for maintaining the system.

The certificate would serve as something of an affidavit, since the owner or his agent would be required to sign the document, personally attesting to the completeness and accuracy of the information. In the case of multiple ownership, one signature would be sufficient, except possibly in an instance when the reliability of the information was questionable.

Using the data on the certificate, the NASRC would create a special NASRIS file — the horse’s name, year of birth, the owner or owners of record at the time the certificate was issued, and maybe, in order to fix responsibility, the date and place it was issued or amended. This file would be formatted in such a way that inquiry could be made either on the name of the horse, to see who his owners are, or on the name of the owner, to see which horses he owns or has a part of.

In the event of a transfer and presentation of a proper bill of sale, the name of the new owner would be recorded both on the certificate to race and on the transfer-of-ownership form — and both again would be attested to by signature. One copy of the transfer would be sent to The Jockey Club and another, with a small fee, would be sent to the NASRC, which would then update the NASRIS file.

Should The Jockey Club desire to computerize its own record, as I am certain it would, the NASRC every thirty days would provide an updated tape that could be read directly into The Jockey Club’s system.

In summary, these registries would establish the horse’s lifetime record of ownership. The Jockey Club would keep the book until a horse went to the track, at which point the NASRC would lock him into NASRIS. When he left the track, he once again would be the responsibility of The Jockey Club.

Now, if it’s worth its salt, every new service ultimately produces its by-product, and in this instance, it very likely may be reciprocity in licensing. The addition of the ownership record to data already available to racing commissions through the NASRIS system could make licensing much simpler and less expensive both to the licensees and to the regulatory agencies — and without any sacrifice of standards. Consequently, our president, Cyrus Wells of Colorado, has asked the NASRIS committee to make a project of reciprocity, and the committee’s chairman, Commissioner May, has asked Commissioner Combs to take the leadership in advancing a program that would be acceptable both to the jurisdictions and to those who race horses. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. MOSELEY: Thank you very much, Warren. Our next and last panelist will be talking on the Legal Aspects of Identification and that will be done by Edward S. Bonnie, attorney from Kentucky.

MR. BONNIE: Jim, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and honored guests; I’m in the same spot on this program that I too often find myself in the practice of law in the horse industry — that is, last on the docket, trying to work out a reasonable solution after all the damage has been done, people are mad at each other, and certainly don’t want to hire a lawyer and work him a fee to straighten the problem out. So I’m going to try and keep my remarks brief and I’m also going to suggest that the more the recommendations we’ve made here this morning are accepted by the industry, the less often you’ll have to hire members of my profession to bail you out, and that’ll please everybody, except us. But we, as horse race attorneys, would much prefer to be hired to dispose and as judges to place the blame on the appropriate party who has breached a clear standard of conduct within the industry, than we would hire the multivarious witnesses all over the country to establish what the standard within the industry is and then try and get a judge or a jury or a commission to determine who is in error. So, I applaud The Jockey Club, Jim Moseley, Nick Brady, Cal Rainey and his staff, for undertaking the review of these issues in the Thoroughbred industry. They’ve developed a national consensus within the industry, through months of meetings and drafts of plans and redrafts. It’s another innovative step in the improvement of the breed and the industry which depends on the reliability of the breed itself.

The two obvious issues are the positive identification of horses and the ownership and transfer of horses which Warren has made considerable allusion to. Breaking down the legal aspects of this issue into two general categories, it seems to me that the first one is the administration of racing through governmental agencies — state, obviously, and private, such as the TCA through the TRPB. The identification system in that area is one which, as many of you said, first depends on faith and secondly on the foal certificate, the tattooing procedure. But picture yourself at eleven o’clock at night, it’s thirty-five degrees above zero, it’s the last race and everybody — the bettors may be warm but the identifier has a flashlight in his right hand, trying to read the lip tattoo with his left hand, hoping the groom can hold the horse on the ground (he’s a seven-year-old gelding) so he can read that tattoo number. Consider the salary of that fellow who race track management hires and picture the conceivable problems which occur day after day, after night. We need a new and better system; the one which is being suggested to you here today is certainly a major step forward, because when that horse comes in the paddock is improperly identified, it then becomes a dollar investment by the industry in finding out who made the mistake, who is responsible and whether there are breaches of rules, and the chasing around that has to be done is inappropriate; the headlines which the industry receives are damaging to its image. There is a better way. The way, I believe, is the system which is being suggested today. I’ve been, and many other lawyers have been personally involved in these mistaken identity cases, ringer cases as they involve racing stewards and commissions. Most are not staffed to do this work, the TRPB jurisdiction is not nationwide with the problems which flow therefrom.

The second general area which has caused perhaps more law suits than the previously expressed public area has been the private transaction area. Mistaken identity at the private sales and in the obviously great areas has become an area of major concern in the courts. Fraudulent misrepresentations of horses as well as mistaken identity is a second problem. And three — what is ownership of a horse? Is it like the title registration of an automobile? We have a foal certificate but one person will often hold the foal certificate, a second person has possession of the horse, a third person has possession of a security agreement or chattel mortgage on the horse, and a fourth person thinks he has ownership of the horse — I’ve seen as many as three foal certificates Xeroxed and sent . . . everybody thinks they’ve got half ownership in the horse. It’s only at that impossible period when there’s a law suit or a sale of a foal that the truth is finally known. The suggested blood typing and the transfer of ownership, if regulated through The Jockey Club and other groups, such as the NASRC, could help resolve many of the now complex and confusing questions of ownership.

Another area which may come to you with a certain amount of surprise, is the security transaction area. The loans which could be made on horses but are not made on a national basis are obviously a great area for improvement of the economic stability of the industry. But I know of few banks other than one in Fort Worth, Texas, who really will even discuss any substantial loans on horses. One of the reasons is that the positive identification of the horse to the borrower is virtually impossible and many bankers have told me: Ned, I’m lending money on that individual and not on horses because, he said, that individual walks me out in the middle of a hun-
dredged-acre field and says, Auntie Mame over here and Josie Z. over there, and you can't even catch them, much less would I know whether that was a horse when it was brought up to me. And the same for insurance coverage. I've had many insurance agents who were hustling insurance for various insurance companies say, it's a frustrating business. I'm insuring people, not horses. The reason I'm insuring people, not horses, is that I haven't the foggiest idea whether that horse that I'm insuring is actually the horse that is being represented to me and he said, when the horses are led out and in, I don't even bother, because I have no basis for making a positive identification. And if you've heard Dr. Stormont state this morning, that will be a thing of the past if you have blood-typing of the foal which later on in life can be positively identified as that particular horse. And as Kent Holingsworth said in Blood Horse Magazine, you can buy a hundred thousand dollar piece of real estate and you spend five hundred or a thousand dollars for a title search on that property. The $27 blood-typing cost obviously is dimminished with that valuable horse. With the prices of horses today, the possibility of making substantial loans on those horses and getting them insured at the proper rates is important. The losses which the insurance companies suffer are losses which are passed on to this industry and have increased our cost of operations. I get them after the problems have already arisen; I'd like to see this group accept the recommendations so that those problems will recede certainly in quantity.

Another area is the Internal Revenue Service. They have made continual references in audits of clients of mine and many other attorneys regarding the lack of bona fide in transfers of horses between individuals, and they pull out whatever happens to be convenient to them to establish the lack of bona fide. They get the Jockey Club rule which says that ownership transfers must be made and that the owner must transfer the foal certificiate to the purchaser and they must sign on the back to effect that transfer. We know, as an industry custom that that has not been the practice and it's only in recent years that the racing secretaries and racing commissions have required ownership of horses to be recorded on the back of foal certificates in the hands of the racing secretaries in order for that horse to run and that the ownership or the ownership of the horse must be identical to the ownership as shown on the back of the foal certificate. But that again is insufficient often for Internal Revenue Service purposes. If we had a rule of The Jockey Club and of the Racing Commissions which could be adopted as a standard for transfer in the industry, it would make those problems much simpler.

And another area in which these recommendations would help is in the area of disease regulation. If you have positive identification of horses, it would prevent what is now being done in certain parts of the country, and with Thoroughbreds as well as other breeds. When a horse is found to be positive for EIA or some other disease, he immediately goes underground and that horse, instead of being destroyed, crops up in other parts of the country, he is a carrier, or he actually has the disease. But if that horse . . . the blood is taken from that horse and sent in, it would resolve a great many of the problems which we now have with diseased horses staying in the flow of commerce in the horse industry. There are so many other possible ramifications of the use of the positive identification system, as suggested to you, that I could go on but I've already breached my promise to be brief. But the laws suits, which are represented by just these seven areas which I have discussed, are in the hundreds and thousands. True ownership in the identification of the Thoroughbred horse is going to do a great deal for our industry, and if we combine the foal certificate with the passport, which Lee Eaton has talked about, (that is the photographic card which could go with the horse when it's sold, raced, transferred or exhibited,) with tattooing and with blood-typing, I think we're going to find that the value of the Thoroughbred will be enhanced, the public, including the racing public, your banker, your insurance agent and others will have greater confidence in the integrity of the industry and lastly, you won't have to pay your lawyer as much or as often. Thank you.

MR. MOSELEY: Thank you very much, Ned. And now that you have heard our panels, I would like to present to you the recommendations of the Horse Identification Committee to The Jockey Club to better guarantee the integrity of the stud book. They are:

1) All stallions should be blood-typed, both animals currently in the stud and those who have not entered the stud during the 1977/78 period. This program would commence on January 1, 1977, and be completed by December 31, 1979.

2) All foals and their dams should be sampled and their blood stored for testing purposes, beginning with the foal crop of 1979.

3) The Jockey Club should establish, starting on January 1, 1977, a breeder ownership registry to determine the ownership, identity and blood type of each breeding animal and to properly record transfers of ownership.

4) The Jockey Club should develop a photo identification card to be provided to owners and/or breeders at their request.

In conclusion, I would first of all like to thank the entire committee. A harder working one I am sure never existed. I would also like to remind them that now their work has just begun. I would further like to thank the Keeneland Association, Jimmy Kilroe at Santa Anita, the Maryland Horse Breeders Association, as well as the scores of people who gave their time and effort to our committee, and particularly to Cal Rainey, Tim Capps and Mickey Smithers, the latter, who in addition to everything else she had to do, corrected my faulty English and atrocious spelling, and with that, I would like to see the committee members after this meeting for a moment. Now if we have some questions, I would like to turn this over to Mr. Nicholas Brady, Chairman of the Jockey Club.

MR. BRADY: Thank you, Jim. As you heard, the suggestions that are being made are comprehensive ones. We haven't thought through every detail of how we'll put it into practice before it's submitted to the stewards, there's a lot more work to be done. We're pretty much on schedule this morning, but we would like to entertain any questions that people might have. Everybody's in agreement, I guess. Yes sir, Wheelock.

MR. WHITNEY: I didn't hear much discussion about the financing of this kind of a proposal. I assume that it will be probable that a lot of this will be borne by the owners, and I wonder about the fact that this might make a difference to some people who have a five hundred or a thousand dollar foal versus those who have forty or fifty thousand dollar foals; since there was no discussion of the financing of it, I wonder if you could say a few words about that, or someone on the panel could.

MR. BRADY: It's obvious that a man with a hundred thousand dollar foal would care less about this than a man with a five hundred or a thousand dollar foal, and I think the reason we've stayed away from finances is that we're not exactly sure yet. We haven't done our homework as to what this is going to cost. It's not going to be expensive. The cost now, as you all know, for registering a foal with The Jockey Club, is $35.00 — it's been so, I think, for ten or eleven years. Cal?

MR. RAINEY: Thirty and thirty-five.

MR. BRADY: Thirty and thirty-five. It's been so for about ten years. We're a little bit behind; we're being eaten by inflation like everybody else. It's possible that we're going to have a recommendation put to the stewards of The Jockey Club that our own charge go from $35.00 to something like fifty dollars. I think another fifty dollars, for a total of a hundred dollars, is about what it will cost us to get this program into
action. So what you’re talking about is a raise from what we think will be the present level of fifty to a hundred dollars a foal, but we haven’t got it pinned down. Dr. Stormont’s lab has some figures, but they’re preliminary. They’re going to have to expand the lab, but I don’t think it’s going to be anything back-breaking; it’s obviously more expensive for an owner that has a cheaper yearling than it is for an owner with a more expensive one. Yes, sir, Walter.

MR. SALMON: I had a discussion with Dr. Stormont. . . . We do an RH test on every one of our foals — we take the foal’s blood, spin off the white corpuscles and mix the red corpuscles with one part saline solution and two parts saline solution and then the mother’s milk, and if it coagulates, then we know whether they are active or not active RH negative foals. And I asked him whether or not this blood would not be sufficient for your test. Now he told me that he felt that, in the time that we do it, the foal’s blood is not developed enough for your tests, so there must be a time to take the test against the time that we ordinarily take the test. Isn’t that right, Dr. Stormont?

MR. BRADY: Would you like to add to that Dr. Stormont?

DR. STORMONT: We wouldn’t like to attempt blood-typing of foals until they’re at least ten days of age. There are several reasons for this. The main reason is that the blood proteins are not sufficiently developed at birth, not all of them, and the red cells are immature stages. Many of the red blood cells are nucleated at that time. Moreover, the blood’s a little bit more susceptible to what we call non-specific hemolysis in the test tube. It’s difficult to manage and work with. That’s why we like a little age on these foals before we attempt blood-typing. I hope I’ve answered the question.

MR. BRADY: Thank you very much, John.

MR. FINNEY: I’d just like to comment on Mr. Whitney’s question about the financing. Obviously, in our side of the business, everybody is immediately aware of costs because somebody is picking up the tab and it’s right there and it’s immediate. But in the days before we had pregnancy and barren mare certificates at the sales, there was a great hue and cry as to who was going to pick up the tab for that. Now we operate on the basis that we require a certificate provided by the breeder or the seller, and following the sale, the buyer has 24 hours to either accept the certificate or to have it checked by his own vet and see that he concurs. If we do the same sort of thing, if we require the consignee to give us the certificate of the blood within 24 hours and before removing the horse from the grounds, he is exercising his right to protect himself. If that’s a $50.00 cost or $40.00 cost even, it certainly, in view of the investment that’s being made, even in a fall sale yearling, is a prudent investment; and I think that these costs are in the main one time costs, rather than what happens to you when the feed bill goes up or the blacksmith’s bill goes up where it’s repetitive. I think that when we see in the industry practical costs of certain of these things and see how small it is in comparison to the assurances that it can give, I don’t think there’ll be much trouble with acceptance of it.

MR. BRADY: Thank you, John, and again, I want to thank all of the panelists for the work that they’ve done. Governor Hugh Carey needs no introduction here. Governor, we’re very grateful to you for taking the time to be with us this morning. We know that this is a most difficult time for all governing bodies and we all feel extremely lucky to have you as Governor of New York with your strong and firm hand at the wheel. Governor Carey is well known nationally as a businessman, legislator and governor. But perhaps he may be most welcome here as a former member of the 101st Cavalry, Squadron C, of the New York State Guard. I’d like you all to join me in welcoming the 51st Governor of the State of New York, The Honorable Hugh L. Carey.

GOVERNOR CAREY: Thank you very much, Chairman Brady and members of The Jockey Club and panelists. I am delighted to extend to all of you, particularly those who come from states other than New York, a warm welcome on behalf of our state to the Thoroughbred racing capital of this state, one in which we have a great deal of pride.

I was listening with great interest to the panel discussion on positive identification and speculating that, if we applied the same sort of genetic standard and identification system to the stakes in which we’ve been entered, sometimes a lot of political contenders might never leave the gate. I understand they’re having a great deal with the entries in Kansas City right now. We’ll all watch that with interest this week. Let’s hope we will still to the Thoroughbred coming from both sides

As far as our welcome here in New York State to The Jockey Club during this time, we in the state are intent on showing a very receptive and constructive attitude toward Thoroughbred racing, and do that more in terms of a fundamental demonstration of our attitude toward our biggest tax payer by doing all that we can to encourage attendance at stakes events and bring the interest of the public to the race meets because we find it to be productive for us on the revenue side and the governor in any state among the fifty these days has to be very mindful of the revenue side.

I listened with great interest also to the counsel’s able documentation and description of how provident it is to in some way lessen the legal costs involved in ownership of race horses and I have always hoped that some day I could get some distinguished counsel, particularly one from the bar of the State of Kentucky, to explain to me what we did when we passed in the Congress, on the Ways and Means Committee where I served, something called the double declining deduction. I have never understood it, never hope to understand it, but I voted for it because Rogers Morton told me it was a good thing.

In our state this year, it is a special honor as well to welcome you here during the time of our Bicentennial when Saratoga played such an important part in the winning of the great Revolutionary War. We call this the Battle of the Turning Point, when I accepted the invitation to address this distinguished gathering, I was proud to do so because we are proud of racing in New York. I think that our racing system is the heart of racing in the United States. What we need is to improve the racing industry in this nation. I would say a word here because I think it is appropriate, of the great effort made by Jack Dreyfus as the Chairman of the New York Racing Association this year to educate and indeed enlighten this governor, my administration, and the legislators as to the needs of the NYRA in the state and what we needed to do to cope with the problems that the NYRA is facing.

I think it is fitting that as you gather in this Bicentennial State of New York, we have here, and we’re proud of it, the oldest existing racetrack in the country and one of the most enchanting settings for Thoroughbred racing in the world. We’re proud — I know the Mayor of Saratoga is here and he would second this — that Saratoga has been the home of the Thoroughbred since 1854, surviving a century of wars and economic depressions and political upheavals. It has been threatened and shaken and battered but remains an essential element in the fascinating world of Thoroughbred racing.

As most of you know, organized racing in the United States began on the plains of Long Island during the 1600’s under the leadership of the first British Governor of New York, Richard Nicholls. The first racecourse, located near the present site of
Belmont Park, was known as Newmarket and established the position of quality in Thoroughbred racing in New York which has been scarcely interrupted since that time.

It would be stating the obvious to say that the health of horse racing is of great concern to many states, particularly here in New York. As I said, in our state our revenue is enormous and Thoroughbred racing contributed over $77 million to our state revenue this year. The bulk of that came from the New York Racing Association, which is our largest individual producer of corporate tax revenue. We are mindful that since the introduction of pari-mutuel wagering in New York in 1940, racing has provided the state with over $3.1 billion in taxes.

Recently we signed a bill into law which will provide considerable relief to NYRA by returning a substantially larger share of the pari-mutuel take to the Association, while also allowing for the establishment of a fund to finance necessary capital improvements at all NYRA tracks. It is important to remember that Thoroughbred racing is one of the nation’s leading spectator sports, an activity which belongs to the millions of racing fans who patronize it on a daily basis. In New York during 1975, we had more than six million fans attending race meetings. They wagered over $774 million in 433 programs, so we have a great interest in what you’re doing and talking about here.

With this in mind, it is also easy for us to understand the problems facing the Thoroughbred industry in the states which conduct Thoroughbred racing all over the country. It’s important to provide the track patron with an enjoyable show, good facilities, good horses and good racing. At the same time, it is necessary, and we know it, to protect the interests of those who put on the show — the owners, the horsemen, thetrack management. In 1978, purses paid to horsemen in New York exceeded $34 million, and the state breeders’ fund paid out over $700,000 in breeder awards. However, sharply rising costs have placed many owners, horsemen and racetracks in difficult financial situations. To compound the problem, more and more state and local governments, with steadily increasing demands on their services, are being forced to look into pari-mutuel wagering as a prime source of revenue. The result is that we all find ourselves, in a sense, chasing the same dollar, with not enough to satisfy everyone’s needs.

It is becoming increasingly important, therefore, for all persons connected with the Thoroughbred industry to approach their problems in a coordinated manner, as you are doing here today. As all of you know, the Thoroughbred sport presents a very complex picture, particularly to government officials or legislators who try hard to comprehend it. There is a multiplicity of organizations in racing, many of whom seem to be pursuing divergent interests.

In the final analysis, the health and future stability of Thoroughbred racing in New York and elsewhere depends upon the willingness of all of us participating to actively develop a common level of understanding. It is in this spirit that I have come to speak to you today.

I want to say that after a careful search and very intense process of screening, we have named now to the State Racing and Wagering Board a person who I consider eminently qualified, with a constructive and very interested attitude to chair that board and to work with the NYRA and all the other racing interests in our state, so that our governmental involvement will be such as is needed to secure our revenues, but also to plan for a better future for Thoroughbred racing and all racing interests in New York. I’m referring to the appointment of William Barry, whom I consider to be eminently qualified to hold the post to which I have appointed him, and you have this assurance as well, that a governor who has an interest in the animals, in Thoroughbred racing, will be as earnestly involved in the problems of this industry as are you who make the investments.

We had a good record this year in the legislature. The legislators listened very carefully to the case made for a better take-out for the NYRA and it was ably, as I say, lobbied and handled by Jack Dreyfus. We all owe Jack a great debt of gratitude for his service as Chairman and also to the new chairman, Mr. Phipps, as he takes the leadership of NYRA. So we’ll be looking very carefully at racing’s needs, and because we must be mindful of our taxpayers at all times, doing it with a constructive and indeed enlightened attitude.

I’ll close by saying that it is delightful to come back to Saratoga. I’m mindful that the Bernard Baruch Stakes was run here this week, and although this does not appear in my genealogy or any history you’ll find in political tomes that were written about this Governor, I had a very provident uncle who, after he had tired of accumulating some small means in the stock market, decided it was much more inviting to become a betting commissioner in Saratoga. And I’m one of the few persons who knows, that when that late beloved Barney Baruch sat on a bench in the park and ruminated in the sunshine, day after day, he wasn’t really thinking about his investments, he was thinking about what he would do in the wager he placed with his uncle, who was his favorite betting commissioner in Saratoga in those days. I was named for him; his name was Hugh Collins and I am very proud of my association, going back to those days, with racing in Saratoga. Welcome to all of you here and it’s delightful to be among you. Thank you very much.

MR. BRADY: Governor, thank you very much for being with us. I want to thank all of you for coming, from far parts of the country and for the work that you’ve put in to make this Conference possible. I again want to thank Cal Rainey and Mickey Smithers — as I said last year, these conferences just don’t happen . . . they’re a result of hard work. Thank you very much for being with us.