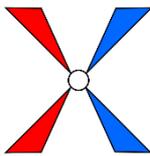


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bncdoc.id	GT7
bncdoc.year	1993
bncdoc.title	The Dictionary of National Biography: Missing persons.
bncdoc.info	The Dictionary of National Biography: Missing persons. Sample containing about 27189 words from a book (domain: world affairs)
Text availability	Ownership has not been claimed
Publication date	1985-1993
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<p>1154/c></p>  <p>Key: Footprint ConEn1 Footprint ConEn2 Footprint ConEn3</p>	<p><bncdoc> H F Oxbury, Sir John (1853-1941), veterinary pioneer, was born 17 June 1853, the younger son in the family of two sons and two daughters of Andrew McFadyean, tenant farmer, of Barrachan, Wigtownshire, and his wife Jane McKissoch. He left school at the Ewart Institute, Edinburgh, at the age of sixteen and worked on his father's farm, which was mainly concerned with a herd of dairy cattle, a small flock of sheep, and some pigs and horses. When high rents and falling prices threatened the farm with insolvency he decided to use the experience he had obtained with domestic animals by training to become a veterinary surgeon. In 1874 he entered the Royal ('Dick') Veterinary College, Edinburgh, and in 1876 became MRCVS. He was also awarded the gold medal of the Highland and Agricultural Society. From 1876 to 1891 he was lecturer in anatomy at the college, and in 1891 he was appointed dean and professor of pathology and bacteriology. Early in his career McFadyean recognized that the study and teaching of veterinary anatomy were handicapped by the lack of detailed knowledge of the subject and the consequent inadequacy of the textbooks then in use. Having considered the absence of any work on the anatomy of animals comparable with that obtained by medical students in the dissection of the human body he decided, first, to obtain qualifications in medicine, and secondly, to undertake his own studies in the anatomy of animals. Accordingly, in 1883 he obtained his MB and B.Sc. at Edinburgh University. Meanwhile, he was carrying out his own investigations on the carcasses of horses which led to the publication in 1884 of his The Anatomy of the Horse - a Dissection Guide, followed in 1889 by The Comparative Anatomy of the Domesticated Animals. As his experience increased his interest turned from the study of animal anatomy</p> <p>to problems in the fields of bacteriology and pathology, and at the same time his reputation as a pioneer in veterinary surgery steadily increased. In 1888 he founded the Journal of Comparative Pathology and Bacteriology. In 1892 McFadyean was appointed principal of the Royal Veterinary College, London, and he held that post until his retirement in 1927. In 1901, as a member of the British congress on tuberculosis, he created something of a sensation. Before a distinguished audience Dr Robert Koch, the eminent Berlin bacteriologist, who in 1882 had described the tubercle bacillus, lecturing on the subject of the disease, stated positively that the bacillus found in infected animals could not be transferred to human beings. At the end of Koch's discourse McFadyean took the floor, disagreed with the eminent doctor, and described his own research in which he was certain that infected cows' milk was responsible for tuberculosis in young children. His researches, which led to the discovery of the causes and means of treatment of bovine tuberculosis, were eventually published in his Tuberculosis as regards Heredity in Causation and Elimination from Infected Herds (1911). From 1889 to 1904 McFadyean was also keenly interested in the problems of anthrax disease in animals. The importance of</p>
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	<p>his work was recognized with a knighthood in 1905. He was president of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons from 1906 to 1910 and again in 1930-1; from 1904 till 1928 he was honorary consulting veterinary surgeon to the Royal Agricultural Society of England. In 1930 he presided at the eleventh International Veterinary Congress in London. In the course of his career he received many honours from medical, veterinary, and agricultural societies both at home and abroad, including an honorary fellowship of the Royal Society of Medicine. When he retired he had come to be regarded as the founder of modern veterinary research. In 1883 he married Mara Eleanor (died 1929), daughter of Thomas Walley, principal of the Royal Veterinary College, Edinburgh. They had three sons and two daughters. The eldest son, (Sir) Andrew McFadyean [q.v.], became a Treasury official, diplomat, and businessman. McFadyean spent the years of his retirement in Leatherhead and died in a Hindhead nursing home 1 February 1941. The Times obituary said `By his death the veterinary world has lost one of the last of the band of pioneers who successfully converted veterinarianism into the great profession which is constantly advancing both in scientific knowledge and in public esteem.' [The Times, 4 February 1941; Iain Pattison, John McFadyean: a Great British Veterinarian, 1981.] Asa Briggs, Peter Pendleton (1892-1963), broadcasting engineer, was</p>
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