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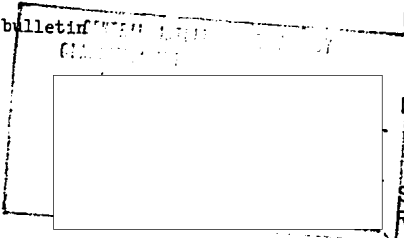
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FINLAND'S VETERINARY AND FOOD SANITATION SYSTEM

ADMINISTRATION AND SCOPE -- Helsinki, Mitä Missä Milloin 1951 (published in 1950)

Veterinary medicine in Finland is administered by the Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture. This department, established in 1930, has a director, and consists of the Bureau of Veterinary Medicine and the Bureau of Food Sanitation. Each bureau is under the supervision of a veterinary consultant.

The first veterinarian in Finland began practice in 1829, but the general development of veterinary medicine has been slow. There were 196 practicing veterinarians in the country in 1925 and 275 in 1950. The current number of veterinarians is considered inadequate.

A veterinary school was founded in Helsinki in 1945. For lack of a building of its own, classes are conducted in rented quarters of an apartment building. Facilities for postgraduate work are not available in Finland, and students must go to Sweden or Norway for advanced study.

Finland is divided into 67 veterinary districts, each administered by a district veterinarian employed by the government. The district veterinarian's principal functions include the control of contagious diseases of livestock and the supervision of food sanitation and the activities of other veterinarians within his district. He also treats diseased livestock. The greatest portion of the actual veterinary work is carried out by communal veterinarians, of whom there are approximately 100. The city and town veterinarians function mainly as food inspectors. The Finnish Defense Forces have about 20 veterinarians in the service, and an approximately equal number are employed by slaughterhouses, schools, artificial insemination centers, and other establishments. The number of veterinarians in private practice is insignificant.

The State Veterinary Laboratory in Helsinki carries on research in livestock diseases and in food sanitation, and produces and procures protective and diagnostic materials. Doctor Julius Holmberg is the director.



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Legislation on contagious livestock diseases and food sanitation has been progressive in Finland. The Veterinary Disease Act of 1937 lists the diseases that must be reported when their presence is suspected. The Meat Inspection Act of 1922 provides for the inspection of fresh and processed meat produced for consumption by humans in communities of more than 4,000 inhabitants. Slaughterhouses and meat inspection centers may operate only under permits issued by the Veterinary Department, which also appoints the inspecting veterinarian for each establishment. In areas where the meat inspection law applies, processing of meat must be carried out under the supervision of the Board of Health. Meat imported from abroad is inspected by the State Meat Inspection Laboratory, of which Professor R. Hindersson is chief.

The Milk Inspection Act of 1947 provides for the inspection of milk produced in, or shipped into, communities having more than 4,000 population. The inspection is performed in milk inspection centers approved by the Veterinary Department.

VETERINARY DISTRICTS -- Suomi Ilmoitus Tarttuvista Eläintaudeista, Jan 53

The following is a list of the veterinary districts of Finland.

[The numbers refer to the appended map. In some cases the Swedish equivalent of the Finnish district is given in parentheses.]

<u>District</u>	<u>District</u>
1. Alajärvi	36. Muonio
2. Forssa	37. Mänttä
3. Haapajärvi	38. Nummi
4. Haapavesi	39. Nurmes
5. Hamina (Fredrikshamn)	40. Oulu (Uleaborg)
6. Hartola	41. Paavola
7. Heinävesi	42. Parikkala
8. Helsinki (Helsingfors)	43. Perniö (Bjärna)
9. Hyrynsalmi	44. Pieksämäki
10. Hämeenlinna (Tavastehus)	45. Pielavesi
11. Härmä	46. Pori (Björneborg)
12. Iisalmi	47. Porvoo (Borga)
13. Ikaalinen	48. Riihimäki
14. Ilomantsi	49. Rovaniemi
15. Jalasjärvi	50. Salo
16. Joensuu	51. Savonlinna (Nyslott)
17. Juankoski	52. Seinäjoki
18. Jyväskylän	53. Sodankylä
19. Jämsä	54. Suonenjoki
20. Kaajaani	55. Taivalkoski
21. Karjaa (Karis)	56. Tampere (Tammerfors)
22. Kemijärvi	57. Tohmajärvi
23. Kiukainen	58. Tornio (Tornea)
24. Kokkola (Gamlakarleby)	59. Turku (Åbo)
25. Kouvola	60. Utajärvi
26. Kristiinankaupunki (Kristinestad)	61. Vaasa (Vasa)
27. Kuopio	62. Vammala
28. Lahti	63. Veteli (Vetil)
29. Laitila	64. Viitasaari
30. Lappeenranta (Villmanstrand)	65. Ylivieska
31. Loimaa	66. Ähtäri
32. Loviisa (Lovisa)	67. Äänekoski
33. Luopioinen	
34. Maarianhamina (Mariehamn)	
35. Mikkeli (St Michel)	

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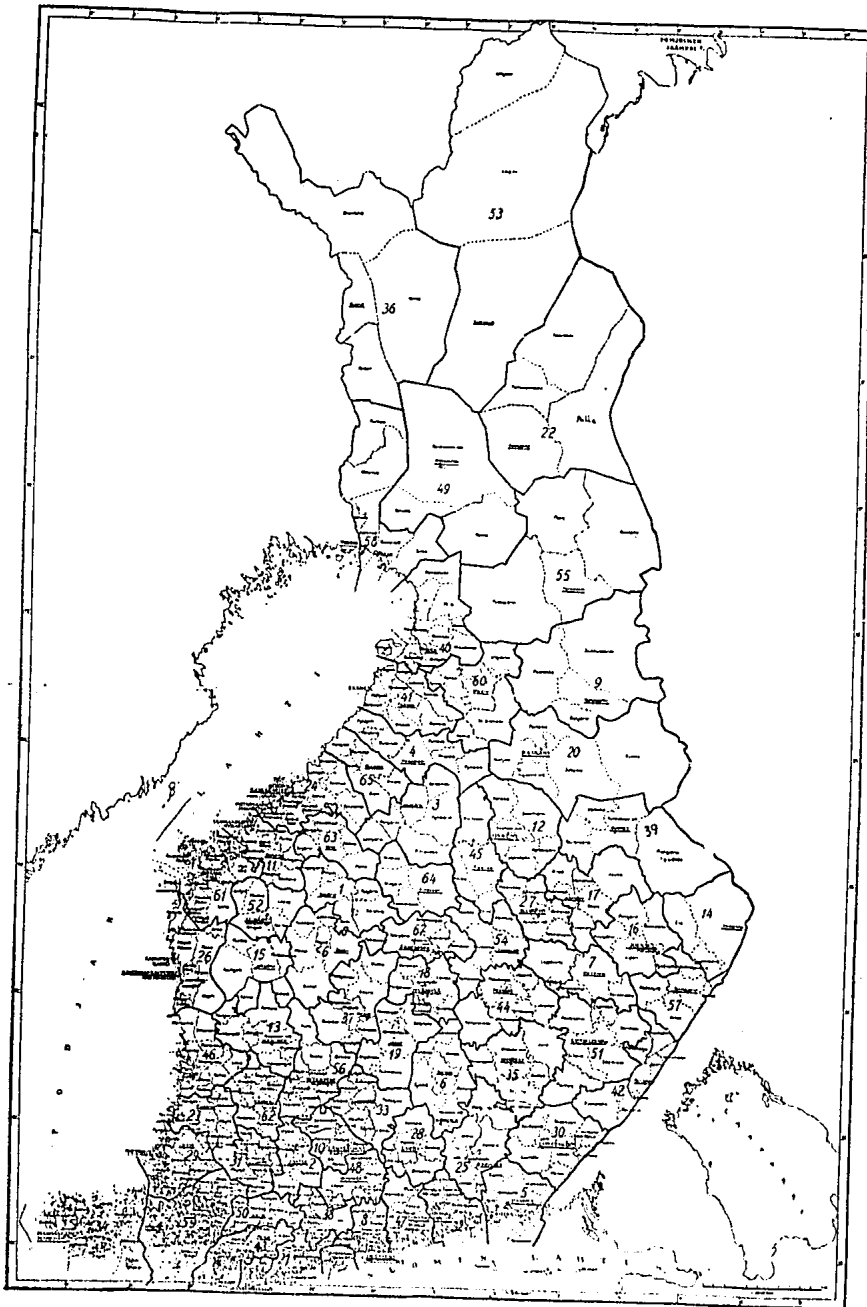
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Veterinary Districts of Finland



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