

SCIENCE

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THE ADVANCE IN OUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE CAUSATION AND METHODS OF PRE- VENTION OF STOCK DISEASES IN SOUTH AFRICA DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS.¹

I.

TEN years ago, when I first came to South Africa, I was led to take an interest in the various great stock diseases which do so much damage and so retard the progress of South Africa as a stock-raising country. I thought, therefore, that a good subject for my address, in the center of the foremost stock-raising colony of South Africa, would be a review of the work done in advancing our knowledge, during the last ten years, of the causation and methods of prevention of stock diseases in South Africa.

South Africa is particularly rich in animal diseases, every species of domestic animal seemingly having one or more specially adapted for its destruction. Now it is evident that, in an address of this kind, it will be impossible to take up every stock disease, but I think you will agree with me that those shown on this table are among the most important: East coast fever; ordinary redwater or Texas fever; biliary fever of horses; malignant jaundice of dogs; nagana or tsetse-fly disease; trypanosomiasis of cattle; rinderpest; horse-sickness; catarrhal fever in sheep; heart-water of sheep, goats and cattle.

Now we may group these diseases in vari-

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¹Address of the president of the Physiological Section of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, South Africa, 1905.