Veterinary Is Picturesque Business Here

The Lafayette Animal Hospital is one of the more picturesque enterprises in the community and so is its owner.

Dr. L. Leonpacher comes from a country where, as he expresses it, "people start something". He started the animal hospital here; Hitler, born near Dr. Leonpacher's birthplace, started something else. Some of the background of the Leonpacher family includes the fact that the doctor's grandfather was born in Halten, Germany, where the song "Silent Night, Holy Night" was first sung, and his cousin Herman Koehl was the first trans-Atlantic flyer westward.

The doctor, a graduate of the University of Munich, left Germany in 1913, the same year of his graduation, with "no money and a thorough knowledge of infectious livestock diseases."

The charbon outbreak of 1924 cost Southwest Louisiana livestock owners over a million dollars, but the next outbreak in 1931 gave Dr. Leonpacher an opportunity to use his knowledge. Never since 1931, he reports, have Louisiana charbon losses gone into the six figure column.

Dr. Leonpacher with Dr. W. S. Hornsby introduced a new type of charbon immunization, which has become a national standard. Dr. Leonpacher has been called to distant points of the United States to explain the Southwest Louisiana infectious disease control system to veterinary practitioners of the south and middle west.

The Lafayette Animal Hospital has been written up a number of times in national magazines, as part of its work is done by airplane. Mr. and Mrs. Leonpacher and son are certified pilots and have been "air-minded" for the past 15 years.

At present Dr. Leonpacher reports he is trying to "start something" again. He is building at his Pin Hook estate what is known as a residential airpark. His airport is listed with the C.A.A. as the Bois de Lafayette airstrip and includes 1000 feet of runways, 200 feet wide, and he has extended an invitation to folks interested in aviation "to build their homes along the runways and have their hangars where their garages used to be."