

mane, to test drugs on animals before giving such drugs to humans.

I can certainly sympathize with you when you express concern about the possible cruelties involved in animal experimentation. This alleged cruelty is not in accordance with the facts. Our animals are well taken care of and are treated with the greatest concern and even love. Actually a mutual attachment often develops between the experimenters and the animals. Whenever painful procedures are absolutely unavoidable, general or local anesthesia is applied in the same manner as is commonly used in the hospitals on patients. Actually there is no more cruelty involved in our animal work than is encountered in the the best hospital operating rooms.

Apart from the benefit to mankind, animal experimentation also made it possible to protect animals against many diseases such as distemper, hog cholera, horse encephalitis and bovine tuberculosis. These protective measures could not have been developed without animal experimentation.

It is impossible for me to list all the benefits which accrued to mankind as a result of animal experimentation. To do this would require at least the pages of a full length book since the progress of medicine is practically synonymous with the progress of animal experimentation. The magnitude of these benefits can be appreciated from a recent statement by Dr. A. C. Ivy and Alfred Zobel. These scientists estimated that, as a result of medical progress based chiefly on animal experimentation, babies born in 1943 can expect to live 16 years longer than those born in 1902. Is that an example of wasted money and effort? Or take a more recent example. In the first World War more than 9 per cent of our soldiers died. Only 3 per cent of our men died in the last war due to newer medical discoveries based on animal experimentation. In other words, the lives of about 48,000 Americans were saved by experiments on animals during only two decades.

I have great respect for your feeling of compassion for all living creatures and for your humanitarian ideals. I am convinced that your opposition to our work is based not on malice but on misunderstanding. I suspect that the existence of this misunderstanding is

more our fault than yours. It is due chiefly to the failure of medical scientists to explain to the people of this country what they are trying to do.

If you are convinced that we are doing the right thing, won't you use your talents and your energy to help us eradicate disease, or at least alleviate the pain and suffering caused by disease? If I failed to convince you, if there are any questions in your mind, won't you tell me?

Very sincerely yours,

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## GADGETS

Many technicians use paper cups for weighing small amounts of chemicals. These cups, the type used by the housewife in baking cup-cakes, are very useful in weighing photo chemicals in the home dark-room, and similiar amounts of reagents in the school laboratory.

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