

*Treatment of Animals*

merous types of experimental operations. In the majority of cases anaesthetics are no doubt used, but there are certain types of painful experiments where this is not possible or where the pain continues after the anaesthesia has worn off.

Some of these latter experiments may be justified in terms of their value to science, but we believe that, just as the private individual who inflicts suffering on an animal must defend his action in court, so the scientist should be required to justify the infliction of pain on an animal before a competent body of experts, before proceeding with a painful experiment. In particular, he should be called upon to establish that the information sought cannot be obtained by any other means, that fewer animals or lower forms of life cannot be used, and that the probable value of the results justify the suffering inflicted.

As I said, these words from the report made to the Prime Minister in December last year place the entire problem in its real perspective. It is unfortunate that in our country we have not had the interest we should in the use of animals for research. We have never had a proper inspection service composed of qualified people. By "qualified people" I mean scientific experts who know what they see and what it is all about. We have never had legislation to control the utilization of animals in medical and scientific research. From all my reading, it is also my belief that we are falling behind other countries in the world in that in other countries of which I have read they have discovered they can do their medical and scientific research to a great extent through the utilization of simulants, through utilization of tissue and through utilization of computers. I had the privilege of spending some three days last March at the research institute at Suffield. I was interested to note that on the chemical side the ratio there of simulants and tissue in laboratories was 20 to 1 compared to the use of live bodies. In bacteriological research, I was interested to note that 98 per cent of their laboratory work is through the use of simulants and tissue.

What information do we have about any progress being made in our universities and medical and scientific institutions along these lines? I cannot find any. What information do we have that they are trying to adapt to the use of simulants and tissue? What do we know about whether or not they are trying to develop or utilize in any way in Canada, as is being done in the United States, computers instead of animals, simulants or tissues? I was interested to read only the other day a report which appeared in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* under date of October 2, 1969. The

title is "Computer used in drug tests". The report states:

Dogs and cats are gone from the teaching program at the University of Pittsburgh's Department of Pharmacology.

Pitt medical students, who until recently had to experiment on animals to learn to prescribe drugs wisely, have found a better approach.

● (5:10 p.m.)

A new system, just getting started, promises to replace living creatures with wires and tubes that can simulate the symptoms of disease without feeling them.

Instead of trying a drug on an animal, students now try it on a computer.

The result, according to Dr. Gerhard Werner, the department's chairman: medical students are learning more about drugs in far less time.

I do not want to take up too much time on this matter, but I think what I have said is sufficient. I hope to bring about a concern in the minds of hon. members and I believe it is high time that a committee of the House looked into the situation, called in experts, interested individuals and associations, and after study made their recommendations for the consideration of the House and of the government.

I would now like to proceed to the matter of the conservation of wildlife, something which has been of great interest to me for many years. I must say that I am afraid that we, as parliamentarians, have been derelict in our responsibilities in that we have not yet paid the attention that we should to the conservation of our wildlife so as to give a guarantee that the generations that follow us will be able to enjoy wildlife as we and our predecessors have. I do not claim to be an expert, and the best thing I can do is to give a couple of quotations. First of all, I should like to refer to an article in the *Montreal Gazette* of Saturday, May 9 of this year under the heading "Man Against the Animals" and the sub-heading "Much Canadian Wildlife Facing Disaster". It is a most interesting article of which I should like to quote only the first paragraph which reads as follows:

The Canadian Wildlife Federation says 65 Canadian wildlife species are being endangered and face possible extinction.

My next quotation is from the *Toronto Telegram* of January 18, 1969. This is a very good article from New York which reads in part as follows:

This generation may witness the end of most of the world's wild animals.

Trapped, hunted, and crowded out of their natural habitats, hundreds of species are already