



LYANNE WILKIE AND RALPH BAT INVITE YOU TO NEXT WEEK'S BLOOD DRIVE. HAVE YOU GOT WHAT IT TAKES?

—Bryan Wilson Photo

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Research Animals Treated Humanely

By Helene Chomiak

Persons involved in research agree that human life is more important than an animal's.

So says Dr. Charles Heath, associate professor of physiology at U of A.

Dr. Heath says animals subjected to a wide variety of experimental surgery and scientific experiments at U of A do not suffer.

"We are justified," he says, "providing the animal does not suffer. The animal's life must not be wasted and when anything is done, there is a definite object."

"A very strict code of rules applies to the treatment of animals," he adds. "The department of medicine has authorized laboratory supervisors to stop any research if they feel the conditions are not humane enough."

All work is done by qualified personnel or under supervision of qualified instructors, he says.

The term "vivisection" is not used by scientists. "It was developed by a well-meaning, but misdirected group of anti-vivisectionists and means the dissection of living animals for any purpose whatsoever," says Dr. Heath.

Anti-vivisectionists appear to be mainly opposed to experiments with dogs, cats and horses, he says. "This is shown in their literature."

"They base their attacks on a few examples of mistreatment," he says, "some of which unfortunately occur due to human error when scientists are working with large numbers of cases."

"This does not justify it," he adds.

The anti-vivisection society bases much of its literature on research done during the Second World War, when scientists were under a strict program directed by governments to find, for example, the effects of burns and shock, he says.

"The type of research required, was not the kind I would like to do."

At U of A the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals makes regular inspections of the vivarium.

"They come and go as they wish," he says.

SPCA officials agree that animals are necessary for research activities, and merely try to make sure they receive the best treatment possible, adds Dr. Heath.

The university buys its experimental animals from many places under an elaborate system designed to eliminate the use of stolen animals. Purebred animals are not used. Dogs must be within specific size ranges because their systems closely resemble the human one.

Dr. Heath says medical students operate on dogs "as preparation for surgery on humans."

After purchase, the animals are vaccinated, washed, fed and looked after for approximately two weeks. Their quarters are washed and disinfected every day and are much cleaner than most commercial kennels, says the associate professor.

"All animals are very well looked after while in the university. Most are received in very poor condition and generally gain weight."

They are caged in small groups for companionship. Dogs are allowed to run outside several times a day.

Before the operation they are anaesthetized and after the operation painlessly killed, he says.

If their postoperative state must be studied, they are allowed to recover under carefully "controlled hospital-like conditions."

But all are eventually destroyed and given an autopsy before cremation.

Edge, Atheistic Beliefs Upset County Council Business Manager Of 'Edge' Shocked At High School Teacher's Suspension

By Janet Orzech

Response at U of A to the suspension of Raymond Hertzog from Ardrossan High School ranges from indignation to relative indifference.

Mr. Hertzog was suspended 10 days ago by the Strathcona County council for upholding atheistic beliefs, and for using *Edge* in his classroom.

The publication has become a controversial topic on campus since it was banned from Tuck Shop.

Noel Parker-Jervis, *Edge* business manager, expressed shock at Mr. Hertzog's suspension for use of the magazine.

"Judging from report, it seems like an outrageous invasion of civil rights," he said.

"I consider *Edge* a popularly read magazine that can be put before the mature student."

Mr. Parker-Jervis pointed out there are 17-year-old students at the university who may read it.

He also commented that *Edge* is in the Toronto Board of Education Library and was favorably received in the *Educational Courier*, official organ of the board of Ontario teachers.

"That the magazine should be a lever to attack teachers proves that there is limited thinking in the school boards responsible," he said.

Professor Robin Mathews, *Edge's* associate editor and member of the English department, is equally indignant about the suspension.

"*Edge* magazine has been accredited nationally as a responsible journal of art, and to use it to have a teacher suspended makes one suspect that Social Creditors don't like criticism.

Dean Coutts of the faculty of education had this to say about Mr. Hertzog's introduction of the publication into his classroom:

"It is a matter for the teacher to make his own decisions himself. If he make an unacceptable judgment, he must take the responsibility for his actions," he said.



NOEL PARKER-JERVIS
... defends EDGE

Campbell Challenges A. J. Hooke

A 21-year-old U of A psychology major has challenged Hon. A. J. Hooke to defend his views on *Edge* magazine and higher education.

Bryan Campbell explained his action to *The Gateway*: "I feel Mr. Hooke's views can't stand up to a thorough examination, an Oxford debate would show this."

"Mr. Hooke has caused a lot of trouble for no seeming purpose. If he remains unchecked, he could do a lot of damage. One teacher has lost his job already."

Now it is up to Mr. Hooke, Campbell says.