

ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION IN THE DIAGNOSIS, TREATMENT AND PREVENTION OF DISEASES OF CHILDREN *

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An amplification of a fifteen-minute address before the American Humane Association on the occasion of its annual meeting at Atlantic City, Oct. 8, 1914. In the address, as originally presented, only tuberculosis and cretinism were used to illustrate the benefits to children of animal experimentation. For the purpose of the present pamphlet these illustrations have been multiplied by incorporating material previously utilized in a popular presentation of the subject. (*Public Ledger*, Philadelphia, May 14, 1914, Lesson No. 6, of Philadelphia County Medical Society.) For many suggestions in connection with the general subject I desire to acknowledge my indebtedness to papers read recently by Dr. Alfred Hand of Philadelphia and Dr. Henry Dwight Chapin of New York City before the Philadelphia Pediatric Society, and especially to Dr. Chapin for the courtesy of allowing me to examine his manuscript, part of which I have utilized without change of text. See Chapin, H. D.: What Animal Experimentation Has Done for Children. *Popular Science Monthly*, January, 1915, Vol. lxxxvi, p. 55.

Those who oppose animal experimentation do so on three grounds: First, that it is morally and ethically indefensible; second, that it is of no value in that it has not added to our knowledge of the diseases of man, and third, that it involves unpardonable cruelty.

As to the first of these, the moral and ethical right, the medical investigator claims that "Scientific men are under definite obligation to experiment on animals so far as that is the alternative to random and possibly harmful experimentation on human beings, and so far as such experimentation is a means of saving human life and of increasing human vigor and efficiency."

Now, if it can be shown that animal experimentation is of value, even if it be only in a single disease, in relieving the suffering of mankind, the claim that

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