

invaluable experience. In a relatively short time, they would learn new techniques but most important of all, they would be in a position of "picking the brains" of a number of experienced scientists in their field.

Such a cooperative research centre could not fail to attract interest within the host University and would facilitate the integration within its research program of additional staff members desirous of contributing their own competence.

Two other advantages of this type of research should be mentioned. One bears on the standardization of methods. Lack of standardization between different laboratories is one of the most serious and most costly problems in research. The scientific literature is replete with conflicting results which can be explained by different experimental conditions. This is not to say, of course, that lack of uniformity cannot have its usefulness. Very often a discovery is made by repeating an experiment in a slightly different way. The other problem is that if different scientists tackle a given problem by making different measurements with different techniques, their results will be directly comparable only if they have all used similar animals of similar sex, age and weight, similar diets, similar environmental conditions, etc. Such standardization from one laboratory to another, let alone from one country to another, is almost impossible. A partial solution to this very real problem lies in occasional cooperative research such as we are advocating.