Help Adelaide Scientists Fight Disease

WONDERFUL EXPERIMENTS AT UNIVERSITY

At the Adelaide University 300 white mice are being used to assist Professor T. Brailsford Robertson (Professor of Physiology) in experiments which have for an aim the eventual control of cancer.

At the Adelaide Hospital guinea pigs are assisting Dr. Lionel B. Bull (Director of the South Australian Government Laboratory) in the classification of disease bacteria.

Both the white mice of Professor Robertson and the guinea pigs of Dr. Bull are being made to serve mankind in the everlasting fight against disease.

Disease Defied

Before Professor Robertson began his work, he was faced with the fact that most of the diseases he sought to combat were incurable. This danger was removed by a world-famous scientist who told him the white mouse and the guinea pig were diseases which he had been working on a problem of the physiology of growth, and he was confident of being able to cure them.

What is the most important step in the battle to cure cancer? The relation of growth to longevity. The effect of growth upon the spontaneous tendency to cancer. The relation of nature to cancer.

Is the mouse a living test tube? The mouse is a living test tube. It is the most important step in the battle to cure cancer.

Weighed Every Week

For the first seven months of their lives, the mice are weighed once a week. After that time they are placed upon the scales every fortnight. The experiments are conducted in a laboratory and are supervised by a graduate student and a statistician. The student records the weight of each mouse every week, and the statistician analyses the data to determine the effect of the treatment on the longevity of the animals.

The guinea pigs are about three years old. They are weighed every week for the first few months of their lives, and then every month after that.

Professor Robertson maintained perfect health and was never sick during the course of his experiments. His_scripture is noteworthy, and the good fortune of his experiment. For some unknown reason, guinea pigs are a prison to the same disease, and as man. At the Adelaide Hospital guinea pigs are kept on hand to be used for experiments on cancer.

If the doctor wants to know whether a certain disease is contagious, he makes a test on a guinea pig. If the disease is contagious, the guinea pig will die, and it is then killed for purposes of examination.

The guinea pigs are essentially similar to the successful running of the Hospital laboratory. This is explained by Dr. Lionel Bull, who has conducted the experiment.

GUINEA PIGS

Guinea pigs are the only animal used at the hospital because they are easily bred, cleanly housed, and are quick to take the cure. A guinea pig is as free from disease as a bird is from the flight. A guinea pig will live for a few days after the birth. With rabbits, which are even more susceptible to some diseases than guinea pigs, the scientist has to wait a considerable time before he can utilize them in his experiments.

FOWLS, DOGS, AND PIGEONS

Pigeons, guinea pigs, but are not the only animal species employed by Dr. Bull and his staff. At present there is a lot of work being done at the hospital, which is helping to classify a species of tubercular bacillus. There are three kinds of tubercular bacilli—bovine, human, and avian—and all three are sometimes found in human beings.

It is to prove that an organism, taken from a patient is of the avian variety, that the services of the three mentioned have been requisitioned. Sometimes parrots, pigeons, and even dogs do similar service.

But guinea pigs are the principal ones of the Hospital laboratory, and this, after all, is rather hard on the guinea pig. His life has been eaten away by experiments, and

The gentle little guinea pig. He does not scratch at jellies, but can use his claws to dig through hay. They bury it at sight.

But even the life of all hospital guinea pigs does not appear to be a particularly long one. They are well kept, housed, and fed, and a radish will be found in their food. But the avian variety of the tubercular bacillus is a very virulent and deadly disease, and it is necessary to keep the guinea pigs in a special room, where they are kept in a special cage, and are fed a special diet.

The guinea pigs are essentially similar to the successful running of the Hospital laboratory. This explains the success of the work of the hospital.