

Report Forward Step In Fight Against Polio

By ELDON STONEHOUSE

A step forward in the fight against poliomyelitis was reported yesterday at the American Veterinary Medical Association convention in the Royal York Hotel.

Three University of Maryland research workers reported resistance to one strain of polio virus had been built up in monkeys. However, the method had not been successful in fighting another polio strain.

The report was made by Dr. R. L. Reagan, Dr. W. C. Day and Dr. A. L. Bruechner. They spoke at the third day of the convention, when 3,352 persons attended day-long sessions.

In their tests the three men used virus of Newcastle disease, a poultry disease, as a polio preventive. Monkeys were injected with two types of polio virus about a month after they had received several inoculations of a modified type of virus which causes the Newcastle disease in poultry.

None of the monkeys injected with the virus developed polio symptoms from one polio virus, but those which had not received the inoculations developed polio. Some animals showed polio symptoms when injected with the other type of virus, the men reported, showing less immunity.

They recommended further study of Newcastle disease virus in combating polio.

Lieut. D. Darlington of Edgewood, Md., reported that the latest veterinary medical progress in the control of cancer in household pets might help in the fight against cancer in humans.

He reported on the use of radon, a chemical agent created by the deterioration of radium, in treating malignant tumors in animals. For dogs, he said, x-ray and radium treatments remain the standard, but radon was "safe and capable of being used on a larger scale."

Dr. C. DeCamp of Indianapolis said information on the care of older people could be used in the care of old dogs.

Dr. Homer E. Dale and Dr. Samuel Brody of the University of Missouri, said heat and light could cause changes in the chemical content of the blood of cattle. As the temperature goes up, they reported, cattle eat less to maintain their normal body temperature and milk production falls off.

Another effect is the increased rate of breathing. Panting causes a lowering of the carbon monoxide content in the blood and the acid content goes up. Bright light makes them breathe faster too.

Cattle kept in dim light in 95-degree temperature increased their breathing rate almost 300 per cent when exposed to bright lights for four hours, although the temperature did not change.

Also dealt with yesterday was "hardware disease" in cattle. This is the habit some cows have of eating pieces of metal. A large magnet was described at the convention by Dr. W. P. Bond of Bloomsburg, Pa., who said it was handy in locating small pieces of metal which threatened an animal's life.

Use of radioactive penicillin in treatment of mastitis in cattle was described by Dr. A. R. Drury of Michigan State College, Lansing, Mich. He told of tests he and his associates made at the college with penicillin infused into the udder of a cow.

Tests showed, he said, that penicillin is taken up by the blood and filtered out by the kidney even when infused into the udder.

Recommendations of the Michigan speaker included use of 100,000 units of penicillin G in 10 to 20 cc's of sterile distilled water for chronic mastitis. Sometimes, too, the same method could be used for handling acute mastitis in cows when milk is still normal in appearance and in normal flow.

Fun with Figures

By J. A. HUNTER

"That's just like Mike, not to let me know he couldn't come," Molly grumbled to her husband. It was her birthday-party, and she had relied on her brother to make the numbers even; now two women would have to sit together when they had dinner at the big round table. But the dinner was a great success, despite Mike's absence. There were five women at dinner; six of the party were married; six were not married women. How many sat down to that dinner?

Thanks for the idea to: L. Stewart, London, Ont.

Answer: Nine altogether.