A Mousellany of Animal Care Developments

They Said It Couldn't Be Done

Econo-Cage #37, Lid #32G

The remarkable new Polycarbonate Econo-Cages (Series "20" and "30" for mice, "40" and "50" for rats and hamsters) are clear, autoclavable and unbreakable.

To operate most efficiently, animal colonies must use cages which withstand the rough and tumble of mechanized washing systems and the high temperatures at which these systems and autoclaves operate. Because colonies must be inspected quickly, cages should afford maximum visibility. Until now the cages were either transparent or durable, but none had both characteristics.

The new Polycarbonate resin combines the optical and thermal properties of glass with an impact resistance unmatched by any other clear material. A good example of the degree of impact resistance was furnished when a cage did not break when dropped out of a fourth floor window. Polycarbonate retains this remarkable strength from 275°F to -40°F. It is the first clear plastic which can be autoclaved repeatedly.

This new material, a linear aromatic polyester of carbonic acid, has a very low absorption level. Odor-producing gases are not absorbed; resistance to most acids and bases is very good.

The cages are made to NIH and ILAR Standards. The cage illustrated above is one of the "30 Series" of Econo-Cages, which includes cages of fibre glass, acrylonitrile-styrene-copolymer, polypropylene and polycarbonate. There are three lid styles which are interchangeable on all "30 Series" cages.

Econo-Cages #88, #90, #91

Econo-Cage Restraining Cages are clear acrylic plastic units that afford rapid and safe immobilization of animals, easy access and maximum visibility. There are 3 sizes to accommodate varying sized animals. They prevent unanesthetized animals from attacking tubes, cannulae, and other fixtures; provide extended housing during nutritional studies; restrain animals during intravenous, intraperitoneal, intramuscular, and subcutaneous injections; and are useful for administering intravenous fluid drips and anaesthetic.

Working With Restraint

Econo-Cage Restraining Cages are clear acrylic plastic units that afford rapid and safe immobilization of animals, easy access and maximum visibility. There are 3 sizes to accommodate varying sized animals. They prevent unanesthetized animals from attacking tubes, cannulae, and other fixtures; provide extended housing during nutritional studies; restrain animals during intravenous, intraperitoneal, intramuscular, and subcutaneous injections; and are useful for administering intravenous fluid drips and anaesthetic.

4) Fruits, vegetables, and cereals, and among the animal products, poultry, are on the whole rapidly responsive to genetic modification. The genetic improvement of cattle and hogs, on the other hand, is progressing more slowly. Nevertheless, all are continually being adapted to possess the differing quality properties desired in fresh and in processed products. Basic research on flavor, color, texture, and microbiology, with more precise and sensitive tools, is providing information upon which to base practical improvements in each of the steps involved in making quality foods available to the consumer—better germ plasm, farm management practices, harvesting methods, protection during production and post harvest, processing innovations and control, and storage and distribution techniques.

In conjunction with the session on 27 December, the 1962 AAAS Campbell award was made to Robert N. Campbell and Raymond G. Grogan (University of California, Davis). The three scientists were honored for their published research entitled "The big-vein virus of lettuce and its transmission by Olpidium brassicae."

The retiring vice president, chairman of Section O, George W. Irving, was appointed to a 4-year term as committeeman-at-large, beginning 1 January 1963. The newly designated vice president and chairman of Section O for 1963 is A. H. Moseman (director, Agricultural Sciences, Rockefeller Foundation). Moseman will develop a symposium program on agricultural sciences for new developing nations for presentation at the 1963 AAAS meeting.

GEORGE W. IRVING, JR., CHAIRMAN
HOWARD B. SPRAGUE, SECRETARY

Industrial Science (P)

The session on research and development management was held on 26 December 1962. All speakers were present, and the program was conducted as shown in the official program. There were about 65 persons in the audience, and a discussion period was held at the end of each paper. It was interesting to note that there were only five members of the Institute of Management Sciences in the audience, so that there was a broad appeal in the subject among AAAS attendees. The discussion centered on various main points made by the speakers: the changing nature of research and development with its large projects, the importance of doing re-
search on research and development management, the need to evaluate the gains and costs of research and development, the need to make more precise and quantitative decision-making on research and development, and the experience with analyzing actual data derived from research and development projects. There were also some sober thoughts expressed by members of the audience on the need to minimize the stress on special or unique characteristics of scientists and engineers as against other human beings, since this emphasis creates more problems than it solves.

M. A. Geisler, Program Chairman

Education (Q)

One of the featured Section Q programs was the symposium on the preparation of elementary and secondary school teachers, which was cosponsored by the AAAS Cooperative Committee and Section Q. The basis of the program was a report on teacher preparation prepared by a joint study group of the AAAS and the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification.

Cosponsored programs were scheduled with the Council for Exceptional Children and with the American Educational Research Association. The program arranged by CEC involved aspects of educational problems associated with both retarded and accelerated children. The AERA programs included one session on the scientific study of classroom behavior and another on research in the problems of education in large cities.

The teaching societies scheduled their programs independently, but had their usual diversified schedule of offerings. Section Q scheduled its vice-presidential address and four sessions for contributed papers. The papers covered a variety of subjects ranging from philosophy to research on the selection and training of graduate students.

The business session was well attended. Problems related to this section's programs were considered. A meeting of the Section committee was scheduled and preliminary program plans for the Cleveland meeting were made.

In summary, the meetings at Philadelphia were disappointing in terms of attendance. Many excellent papers were presented and deserved a better attendance. There was some indication that the programs were not sufficiently advertised in the immediate area.

Herbert A. Smith, Secretary

Industrial Science (P)
M. A. Geisler

Science 139 (3555), 658-659.
DOI: 10.1126/science.139.3555.658