

and now to compare the responses to immersion and injected doses, using a test similar to that used in these previous papers. But we clearly stated in our report (page 1489) that "Activity comparisons should also be made using other criteria, for example, limb eruption and growth (4)." [The "(4)" referred to experiments of Kollros.]

However, no adequately detailed data comparing analogs using the leg growth of the hypophysectomized tadpole or any other tadpole test have appeared in the references cited by Kollros, including the two symposium

papers [in *Comparative Endocrinology* (1959), and *Am. Zool.* 1, 107 (1961)] or in the abstract [which appeared in *Anat. Record* 136, 224 (1960)]. We are pleased to learn that recent studies by Kollros and associates, apparently also as yet unpublished, show 3,5,3'-triiodo-thyropionic acid to be only 10 to 50 times as active as thyroxin. This supports our contention that the larger values reported earlier were unrealistic, possibly reflecting, at least in the tail reduction method using normal non-hypophysectomized tadpoles, the test route of immersion.

It was suggested that certain skin responses may be favored in immersion experiments, because of the proximity of sensitive skin areas to the expected sites of absorption, for example, gills and skin. But we did not offer this as an explanation for effects on the limb response. We continue to think that using an immersion rather than an injection test route introduces the important additional variable of the rate of penetration of a test compound from the solution into the animal. It is not yet proved that the immersion system provides the tadpole with a continuous and relatively unvarying hormone source, especially in view of the permeability parameter, the instability of many of the compounds of the thyroxin series, and their variable absorption on glass as emphasized in our report in *Science*.

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## Censorship and Propaganda

Regarding your editorial "The reluctant dragon" [*Science* 133, 1677 (1961)], I wish to point out that there are two sides to this question. As you indicated, censorship can be dangerous. On the other hand, propaganda can be dangerous, else the communist conspiracy would not spend so much time developing the technique.

I disagree with the implications of the editorial that imposing censorship on foreign propaganda is wrong in principle because censorship "is symbolic of fear and manifests a lack of faith in freedom and in the good sense and good judgment of American citizens." That Americans are not immune to the effects of propaganda is attested to by the number of communists that have been exposed within our government; also, by the communist-inspired student riots in May 1960 against the House Committee on Un-American Activities, in San Francisco.

We can continue to play the ostrich and ignore the dangers of the cold war, but to do so is to court disaster. Those who feel there is no danger have either neglected to study the record or have ignored its implications. Freedom, like health, isn't fully appreciated until it is lost.

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