

Endangered Nonhuman Primates

A growing threat to some species of nonhuman primates in their natural habitats is not well known even to those scientists who value them for biomedical laboratory investigations. These primates are endangered by human urbanization and agricultural expansion which intrude upon their natural habitats. They are extensively hunted for food and wastefully utilized for export. Chimpanzee mothers are often shot dead in order to obtain single babies for shipment. Many animals die of diseases contracted after they are trapped.

Only recently the first effective action was taken to protect the primates. The Committee of Scientists for the Use of Primates in Medical Research, of which I am chairman, adopted the following resolution in January 1968 and requested the Surgeon General that it be brought before the World Health Assembly:

Whereas there is general recognition by the scientific community of the importance of non-human primates for bio-medical purposes,

Whereas there is a widespread belief among competent scientists that some primate species are in danger of depletion as a result of capturing and of encroachment on natural habitats by developing human populations,

Therefore it is requested that WHO convene a meeting of a scientific group as soon as possible to examine the problem in detail and recommend measures designed to ensure the continued supply of these animals for the welfare of man and also for the conservation of the species.

The U.S. delegation to WHO introduced the topic for discussion with the result that conservation of primate species is now established as a matter of international concern. These beginnings are occurring none too early, for the task of implementing methods of protecting the primate populations will be long and thorny. Nevertheless, this development represents an interdisciplinary effort (medicine, zoology, anthropology, conservation, and others) and these moves offer hope that certain endangered species will be protected before they become extinct. Strong support by the scientific community will be required to convert platitudes into successful procedures.

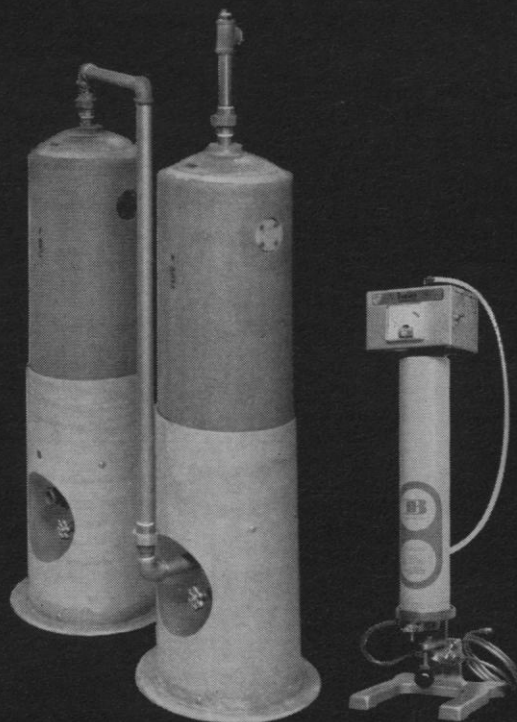
EDWARD I. GOLDSMITH

*Department of Surgery, New York
Hospital-Cornell Medical Center,
525 East 68 Street,
New York 10021*

6 DECEMBER 1968

Quick-Change Artists

(Barnstead cartridge demineralizers meet any need from 5 to 3,000 gph. Some are both reusable and disposable.)



Look at the choice:

Low-cost throw-aways you attach to a faucet. 5 to 25 gph "Bantam" lab units with a purity meter on top (more informative than color changes or "idiot lights"). Portable "Suprcartridges"® for pressures to 100 psi, flow rates to 3,000 gph. Standard; mixed-bed; organic, oxygen or cation removal; special types. We make them all. And many of our larger cartridge demineralizers offer the options of disposal, reactivation by Barnstead, or regeneration in your plant. Write for the complete story on the industry's most complete line of cartridge demineralizers. The Barnstead Company, A Division of Ritter Pfaudler Corp., 225 Rivermoor Street, Boston, Mass. 02132.

Barnstead
A DIVISION OF RITTER PFAUDLER CORPORATION

Circle No. 26 on Readers' Service Card

1077