ticipating. Also officials of many institutions not yet in the program have expressed intention to seek accreditation. This suggests that within a few years AAALAC's voluntary approach could encompass all scientific institutions which use significant numbers of laboratory animals. The willingness of member organizations and scientific institutions to finance AAALAC through contributions and site visit fees, in spite of their difficult financial problems, are further indicators of their support of the program.

Professional accreditation and peer evaluation are well established concepts in the scientific community; and there is no reason to doubt their value in assuring adequate care of animals during use in education and research. As more and more scientific institutions participate, this voluntary program will succeed.

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As an animal researcher, I agree with the general layman's feelings that standards for research animal care and housing should be set and enforced; however, I also favor imposing equally stringent controls on commercial firms which sell animals for pets. Probably the most serious violations of sanitation and evidence of neglect occur in department stores and discount houses which maintain animals as a subspeciality and have no properly trained persons to care for them. . . . Unfortunately, the profit motive does not insure against mistreatment anymore than does the research motive.

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AMA Persecution Complex

MacAulay's comments on the changing relationship between physician and patient ("Within the purview of the AMA," Letters, 15 Sept.) should not be allowed to pass without comment. MacAulay states that 80 percent of patients need no medical attention but only the physician's reassurance; formerly this was sufficient but now, with government intrusion, patients insist on their "right" of needless hospitalization. Even if I were to follow the Red Queen's advice to take a deep breath and try, I can't believe a statement like that. I suppose someone, sometime *wanted* to go to the hospital; after all, there is doubtless someone who gets his kicks by pounding his thumb with a hammer. That such occurrences are numerous is unthinkable. Even if one's taxes pay hospital bills and doctors' fees, they do not repay lost earnings nor provide compensation for inconvenience. A stay in the hospital may involve pain; it certainly involves discomfort and confinement and being treated like an infant.

The American Medical Association persecution complex, of which MacAulay's letter is an expression, contends that the rest of us are out to impose on them and "enjoy" medical services we don't need. This complex can be placed in perspective by comparing it with the opposite viewpoint. Cynical laymen in this country and foreigners who are not accustomed to the fee system of medical practice often express the opinion that the fee system generates unnecessary work. After all, the doctor can increase his income by *not* reassuring me but instead telling me to come back again next week; under Britain's national health scheme there is no such occasion for financial incentive to bias professional judgment.

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Alan T. Waterman

A quiet man in the corridors of power, Alan Waterman advanced the postwar union of science and government as much by his personal integrity as by the merits of the case. He matched reason with faith in arguing the values of science as a public good, defending both its utility and its deeper relevance to the aims of a civilized people. He made policymakers understand that no culture can call itself complete without a strong vein of creative curiosity and the will to pursue it for humanistic as well as technological reasons.

He was a man for his times, and his life had purpose. To those who had to make the hard judgments as to the course of public policies, Alan Waterman's word and the texture of his intelligence counted for a great deal indeed. In the process, he enriched more lives than he knew.

Now that it seems important, one remembers the small thing of coming upon him on the beach at Scientists Cliffs to find him poking in the clay for fossil teeth, as the September sun dropped behind the trees and a freshening wind stirred the ravines, and the man of science bent to his work.

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On Limiting Offensive Weapons

Your account of my remarks at the Atoms for Peace ceremony was so abbreviated as to change significantly the whole point of my argument (News in Brief, 24 Nov., p. 1029). In my paper, "Let us prepare for peace," I argued that the present military emphasis on offense (characterized by the posture of "assured destruction") and de-emphasis of defense was a more dangerous situation than the reverse: a de-emphasis of offense and an emphasis of defense. I therefore urged a deployment of defensive systems (antiballistic missile and civil defense), and a simultaneous and earnest attempt to limit offensive weapons. I believe it is only in this case, where offense is limited by tacit or explicit agreement, that defensive deployment will blunt the ability of man to destroy himself—but never so completely as to make nuclear war a rational instrument of policy.

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Virginia's Marine Institute

The proposed joint program between Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (8 Sept., p. 1154) bears resemblance to the much older cooperative program between the Virginia Institute of Marine Science and the University of Virginia and the College of William and Mary. Courses are generally offered at VIMS main campus at Gloucester Point and, less frequently, on the main campus of William and Mary or the University. The Institute, which has not sought separate accreditation, serves under these affiliations as the School of Marine Science of the College of William and Mary and the Department of Marine Science of the University. Responsiblity for the use of the Institute's laboratories, ships, and equipment by scientists and stu-

dents from both formal and casual affiliates is vested in the VIMS administration.

Virginia has led most other states in its expenditures in oceanography. When the present biennium is over, Virginia will have invested about $2.4 million of its own money in a total oceanographic budget of over $3.5 million.

The Institute facilities are at Gloucester Point on the York estuary of the Chesapeake Bay and on the Virginia coast at Wachapreague on the Eastern Shore. Three research vessels (55 to 90 feet), a group of smaller boats, IBM 360 and 1130 computers, library TWX hook-up, and electron microscope facilities, along with other equipment are operated by over 180 staff members and 55 resident graduate students. A hydraulic scale model of the tidal James River is operated and maintained by VIMS in cooperation with the Corps of Engineers Waterways Experiment Station at Vicksburg, Mississippi.

The chief study areas concern the biological, chemical, geological, and physical processes of estuarine and coastal waters. Year-around and summer graduate and advanced undergraduate courses in oceanography are offered and special undergraduate and postdoctoral programs receive support from the National Science Foundation.

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Rubber Tubing Disadvantages

I wish to confirm Middlebrook's warning on the use of rubber tubing ("Chromatography warning," 17 Nov., p. 855). We have experienced interferences in the 200- to 230-mμ range and trace the source to the tubing in our deionized water storage bottles.

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Social Sciences Report to DOD

Inquiries addressed to our offices indicate that inadequacies in Greenberg's story, "Social sciences: expanded role urged for defense department" (17 Nov., p. 886) have created some misunderstandings. These should be corrected.