

## Delk Directs Legal Service

RALEIGH—Joseph C. Delk, III, has been named executive director of the newly formed North Carolina Prepaid Legal Services Corporation (NCPLS), according to Corporation President R. W. Hutchins.

A nonprofit organization, NCPLS offers prepaid legal services to groups and businesses of ten or more persons. It is sponsored by the North Carolina State Bar and was created through legislation enacted by the 1975 General Assembly.

Delk, a native of Asheboro, received his Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Davidson College in 1972. While in undergraduate

school he participated in a summer study program at Oxford University, Oxford, England, and following his graduation he was elected a delegate to the 1972 Democratic National Convention in Miami, Fla. In May of this year, Delk received his Juris Doctorate degree from the University of North Carolina Law School and is now licensed to practice law in North Carolina. He is currently working towards his Masters Degree in Public Administration and Affairs at North Carolina State University, Raleigh; and his Chartered Life Underwriter degree through the American College of Life Underwriters, Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Delk has been a college agent in Chapel Hill for Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, and has served summer internships in the Administrative Law Division of the N. C. Department of Insurance, and the Charlotte City Manager's Office.

He is married to the former Frances Yarbrough of Charlotte.

North Carolina Prepaid Legal Services Corporation is temporarily headquartered in the offices of the North Carolina State Bar, 107 Fayetteville Street, Raleigh.



Joseph C. Delk, III

## Protozoa-Caused Diseases Subject Of NCSU Research

By Gloria Jones  
Diseases such as malaria and amoebic dysentery are difficult to treat because they are resistant to drugs. They are caused by protozoa, which resist many kinds of poisons that affect the respiration of other cells.

Dr. Joseph S. Kahn, professor of biochemistry at North Carolina State University is looking at the respiration process in the cells of protozoa to gain a better understanding of why they show resistance to drugs.

"Protozoa continue to grow quite happily and normally in the presence of poisons that kill other cells," Kahn says. When the poisons are gone, the protozoa are still unaffected and function normally.

Bacteria, fungi and yeasts are generally killed by various drugs such as antibiotics, but with diseases involving protozoa we run up against a blank wall, Kahn says. "Drugs in use today for protozoan diseases are not very satisfactory."

Most cells contain small bodies which act as a power house, converting food into energy which the cell needs to function. These small bodies are called mitochondria.

Disease, or some drugs and poisons, cause mitochondria to waste energy, preventing a cell

from multiplying or from making proteins and other materials essential to its life. The cells starves to death.

Kahn says that changes which make protozoan cells resistant to some drugs seem to occur in the mitochondria.

"If we can understand how protozoa learn to live with certain drugs, we may be able to either alter the drugs or find combinations of drugs that can fight protozoan diseases," he says.

"We may also begin to understand how mitochondria convert food to useful energy in the cell."

The research, which involves the training of graduate students in the Department of Biochemistry at NCSU, is funded as a N. C. Agricultural Experiment Station project.

The researchers are also seeking the knowledge that would change the structure of some antibiotics which are now far too toxic for use on people or animals.

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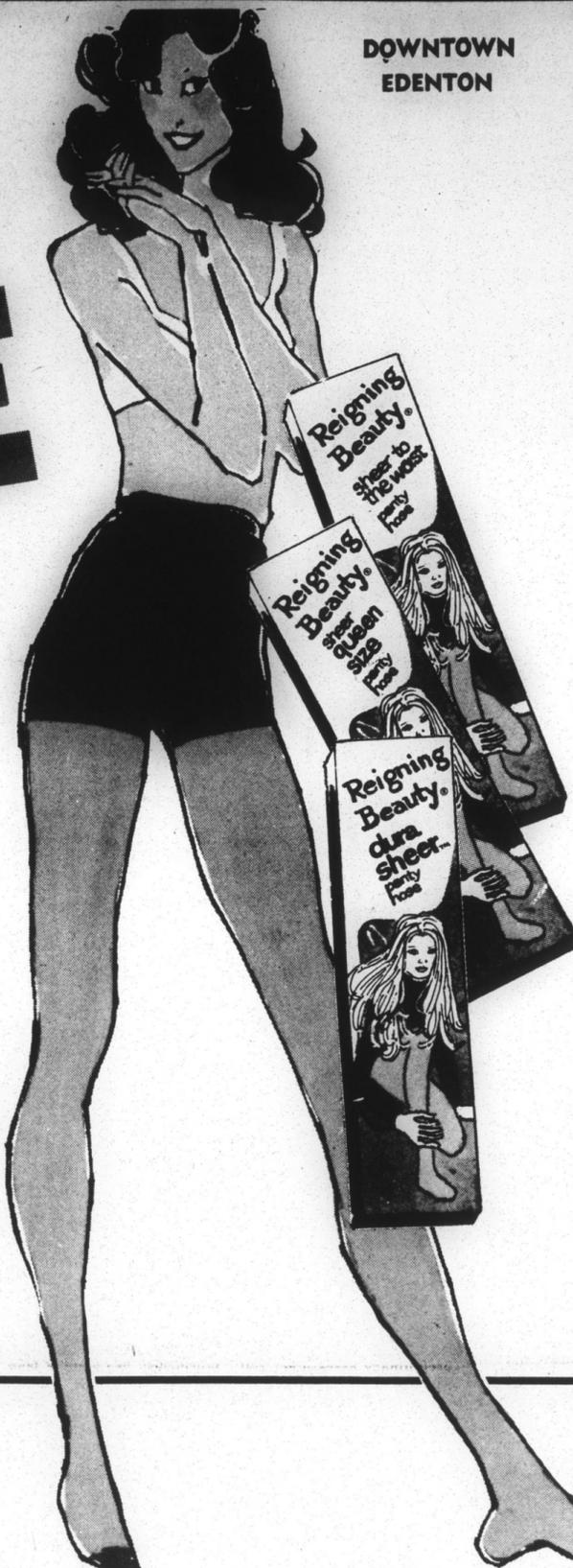
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