

Aspirin

A Miracle Drug?

by Cheryl McDaris

Condensed from Reader's Digest Dec. 1980 "Aspirin's Amazing New Promise"

The ever popular headache remedy, aspirin, is fast becoming a new miracle drug.

In past years aspirin has been taken daily by millions of people to relieve headaches, muscle pains and fever. While this is still the main use of the drug, researchers are using it for more major ailments.

Aspirin is now being used in research for the treatment of cerebral transient ischemic attacks (TIAs), or small strokes, heart attack victims and the reduction of blood clots in kidney-dialysis patients. Today aspirin is recognized as being as important as antibiotics, digitalis and other miracle drugs.

In a study led by Dr. William S. Fields, neurologist at the University of Texas Health Science Center, a group of 303 patients suffering from TIAs were given 4 aspirin tablets a day or four placebo tablets. After six months the patients taking

aspirin experienced fewer TIAs, strokes and death.

In a similar study in Canada 585 patients were given aspirin or a gout remedy. Male patients taking the aspirin had 48 percent fewer strokes and deaths than the patients not receiving the drug.

Aspirin achieves its effects by turning off the body's prostaglandins — which create fever, pain and inflamed joints, and form platelets, which cause blood clots — which are secreted by every cell.

The drawback of aspirin is its side effects. Since aspirin causes bleeding at the stomach lining, patients taking it can suffer from dyspepsia, nausea and vomiting. People with ulcers are especially affected and some are so sensitive that death can occur from a single tablet.

Doctors are cautioned not to recommend daily doses of aspirin to people unless there is a true medical need for them. Even then they are careful about the doses since, as in blood clots, too large of a dose can have negative results.

"Misery Loves Company" says Reagan

By Richy Haymaker

After Jimmy Carter left the Presidential office, a number of Americans have questioned his economic plan and are waiting for the results of President Reagan's economic intentions.

According to the New York Times, Carter, in 1976, emphasized income distribution should be more wisely distributed with more attention given to the unemployment group. Carter also wanted to expand the fiscal and monetary policies that are required to bring over all adult unemployment down to 6.4 or 5.4 percent. Carter also issued a stand-by wage and price control if it was needed.

President Ronald Reagan feels

the nation is in the worst "mess" since the depression Reagan proposed a 10% tax cut in nearly every government department. He also is going to cut governmental spending.

A tax cut was announced by Reagan at the state of the nation address of \$44.2 billion for individuals and \$9.7 billion, according to the Washington Post

Reagan met with a coalition of conservative groups in the Cabinet Room and stressed that all Americans will bear equal burdens. "The only thing about the program is that if misery loves company then everybody better love everybody else, because we didn't overlook anyone," Reagan said.

Circle K Meeting The Needs Of The Community

By Laura Gabel

A new club recently founded on the Brevard College campus is Circle K. Circle K was started by the Kiwanis Club of Brevard. Already the club has begun various activities; their most recent is the "adopted grandparents" program. Each member of the club becomes a friend to an elderly citizen of Brevard.

Circle K was also responsible for the lovely atmosphere in the

gym during our Valentine's Dance. Sometime in March a convention will be held in Greensboro, N.C., for all Circle K members in North and South Carolina. Here elections for district officers will be held. The officers for Circle K at B.C. are Pete Mercier - president, Bryan Batton - vice president, Lori Hoffman - secretary, and Carla Lybrand - treasurer. Coach Witek is the faculty adviser. Thank you, Circle K, for recognizing the needs of our community as well as the needs of our school.



Scenes from the One Act Plays. (Photo by Steve Rabey).

Talent Show

Sign Up — March 12

Where:
Student Union During
The Coffee House
Who To See:
Scott Corbett
or Kathi Levine



Auditions — April 1st

Show Date — April 25th