

New Way To Unclog Body's Plumbing

(Continued from page 1)

altogether in the heart's coronary artery, in the brain, in the lungs or in the appendages, causing a heart attack, a stroke or oxygen deficiencies in other tissues.

In 1974, the latest year for which complete national health statistics are available, heart attacks and strokes accounted for 872,278 deaths

or 45 per cent of the total deaths in this country.

Vane's theory of how the hormone prostacyclin works, the Duke scientist explained, is that when platelets touch cells along the inner lining of normal blood vessels, they release chemicals known as prostaglandin endoperoxides.

How Hormone Works

Cells in the arteries respond by converting the endoperoxides to prostacyclin which in effect neutralizes the tendency of platelets to clump together. Why this process quits working in some people is not known, Menzel said.

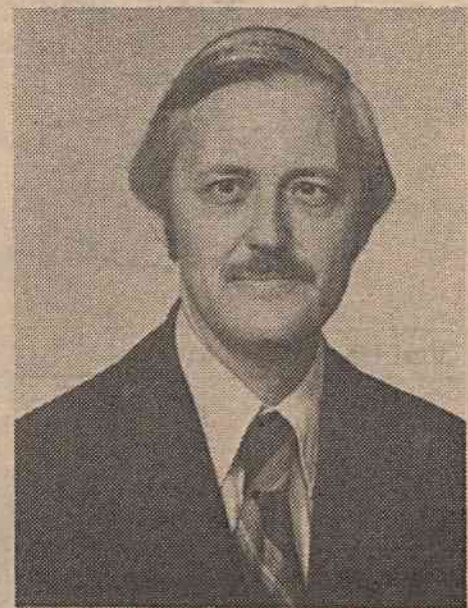
Wounds or physiological changes, perhaps related to the aging process, seem to interrupt the production of prostacyclin and encourage clotting, Menzel said.

"The system we used to synthesize monocyclic peroxides is very similar to the way the body makes prostacyclin," he said.

The researchers found the compounds to be as effective as certain other chemicals, including common aspirin, currently being tested as anti-clotting agents.

May Reverse Clotting

"The peroxides have the additional property that they appear to reverse platelet aggregation," Menzel pointed out. "That's hard to believe, but that's what happened in the laboratory tests."



DR. DANIEL B. MENZEL

As a result of their reversing action, the low molecular weight compounds also may serve as models for similarly structured drugs that are effective in treating patients who have already had heart attacks or strokes and would be unlikely to survive second or third incidents, he said.

The study, conducted over the past three years by Menzel, Porter and their associates, was supported by a grant from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, a division of the United States Public Health Service.

Duke Seeks New Approaches To Local and Global Hunger

As its first major project, the Duke University Committee on Hunger will award a \$100 prize and two \$25 runner-up prizes for the best undergraduate papers on some aspect of the hunger problem.

The committee, which is chaired by Prof. Creighton Lacy in the Divinity School, also plans to bring a major speaker to the campus in the spring and is proposing to develop an inter-disciplinary course on hunger to be offered in the spring semester of 1978.

Papers in the contest are to report on independent research by the student and are to be signed by the professor for whom the research was conducted. They may deal with any approach to the hunger situation, such as the physiological, philosophical, political, historical, economic, sociological or ethical aspect of global, national, regional or local hunger.

Active Concern with Hunger

Prof. Bruce Bolnick in the Department of Economics, who is directing the competition, said its purpose is "to encourage throughout the academic program at Duke, active concern with problems of hunger" and "to stimulate hunger-related research in as wide a variety of disciplines as possible."

Additional details on the

competition, which closes April 11, can be obtained from Bolnick.

President Terry Sanford established the Committee on Hunger last fall and said its goals were to include "investigating ways of raising the consciousness level of the Duke community regarding the serious problems of local and global hunger, and orienting the diverse resources of the university toward study of these problems."

Committee Members

In addition to Lacy and Bolnick, other committee members are:

Medical student Martha Arthur; Trinity senior Tony Baker; Barbara Echols, director of the Grants and Contracts Office in the medical center; Dr. Lowell Goldsmith, associate professor of dermatology; Teresa Graedon, assistant professor of nursing; Trinity senior Jean Horstman; Sheridan Jones, associate professor of political science.

Terry Johnson, professor of botany; Dr. Sue Kimm, assistant professor of pediatrics; David McCallie, analyst programmer in the Department of Community Health Sciences; Chaplain A. J. O'Brien; nursing student Katie Oppenheim; religion and public policy graduate student William Rankin; John D. Riebel, associate professor of health, physical education and recreation; and Deborah Stone, lecturer in the Institute of Policy Sciences and Public Affairs.

Trading Post

FOR SALE—Gold/white three-piece living room set, \$275; two chairs, two lamps, two end tables, coffee table; all in good condition. Air conditioner, 12,000 BTU, in good shape, \$175. Call Anderson, 688-1172.

WANTED—Surgical resident with wife and two young children wants to rent a furnished house or duplex for one year beginning July 1; looking for neighborhood fond of kids. Call Dolores Watson, 477-7609.

FOR SALE—Estey two-octave chord organ with bench, \$25; Sears three-speed record player, \$10; autoharp, Chromaharp blue grass model, \$75; Brother knitting machine, cost \$149, asking \$75. Call Hillsborough, 732-4742, after 2 p.m.

FOR SALE—1970 Chevrolet Impala, four-door A/T, power steering, air conditioning, in excellent condition; one-owner, auto properly maintained and repaired over years; new brakes; transmission and battery just one year old; good, reliable transportation; \$800. Call 477-9134, evenings and weekends.

FOR SALE—1972 Vega hatchback; 67,000 miles, four-speed, A/C; \$1,000. Call Joe Long, 383-6806.

FOR SALE—Kenmore electric automatic washer, white, three cycles; \$50. Call 471-1333.

FOR SALE—Knotty-pine table/desk, unfinished with detachable legs (78" long x 30" x 30"), \$25; end table, wood and wicker, painted black (24" long x 12" wide x 22"), \$5; natural burlap curtains (58" long x 38", hemmed), \$2 each. Call 489-4430.

FOR SALE—Snow tires for compact car, four-ply nylon tubeless by Viking, size C78-13, also known as 700-13; used only three weeks, perfect condition; retail range, \$37-40; \$22 each. Call 489-4430.

FOR SALE—Fostoria crystal, "Laurel" pattern; ice teas, waters, sherberts and salad plates; half price. Call 489-9874.

FOR SALE—25-inch Magnavox color TV, Early American, very good condition. Call 477-8855, after 5 p.m.

FOR SALE—10' x 12' geometric design carpet. \$60. Call 489-0540.

FOR SALE—New "Songs in the Key of Life" album by Stevie Wonder; never been opened; \$7. Call 489-3729, after 5:30 p.m.

Intercom

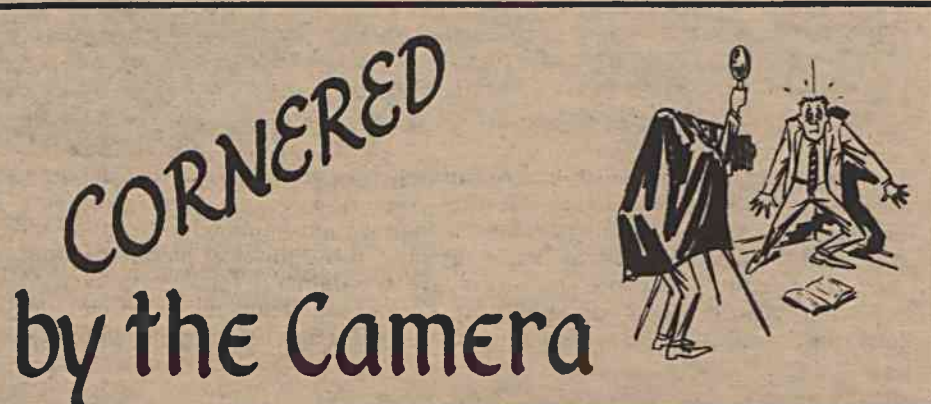
is published weekly for Duke University Medical Center employees, faculty, staff, students and friends by the medical center's Office of Public Relations, Joe Sigler, director; David Williamson, medical writer; William Erwin, Comprehensive Cancer Center medical writer; Miss Annie Kittrell, secretary.

Editor

Mrs. Ina Fried

Public Relations Assistant

John Becton



ON THE CUTTING EDGE—If you work in a remodeled area of the medical center, your hot and cold air may be brought to you courtesy of the Sheet Metal Shop. Herbert (Wilkie) Lawrence, left, Richard Summerlin and coworkers in the basement of the Bell Building cut, shape and weld metal for heating and cooling ducts. When Sea Level Hospital got a new air conditioning system last summer, they spent five weeks there building, insulating and helping to install ducts. Lawrence has worked here since July 1973 and Summerlin since August 1975. (Photo by Ina Fried)