

## Blood from March of Dimes Center Proves Lifesaver for 5-Year-Old Girl

When most five-year-olds have an "off" day, as all children do from time to time, adults tend to blame it on a need for more rest.

But when pretty, brown-eyed Angela M. of Augusta, Ga., gets cranky, they're apt to think she needs a blood transfusion.

Angela has an hereditary birth defect of the blood called "thalassemia major" or Cooley's anemia. By the age of four, she had received a total of 60 pints of blood, and still requires a transfusion about every two to three weeks.

"Transfusions are such a 'way of life' for Angela that people tend to feel sorry for her and excuse perfectly normal misbehavior," says Dr. Dorothy Hahn, chief clinic physician of the March of Dimes Birth Defects Center at the Medical College of Georgia where Angela is a patient.

"Instead of the mild discipline needed at school or elsewhere, she often gets misplaced sympathy. Like all bright, obedient children, she quickly learns to take advantage of this with adults outside her home."

Angela's young parents, East Indians who came to Augusta from New Delhi, cope very well with her condition and upbringing. Her father, an Oxford-trained biochemist on the faculty of the Medical College, and her attractive, sari-clad mother, treat their youngest child as firmly as they do her brother and sister—despite the seriousness of Angela's condition. Good behavior is impartially expected of each member of the family.

Victims of thalassemia major tend to die in their first or second decade. Their red blood cells last only one-third to one-half of the normal length of time. Frequent transfusions help, but children with the disease are vulnerable to infections and even a mild cold can develop into fatal pneumonia. An estimated 25,000 children and young adults in the United States are believed to have thalassemia.

Angela is too young to understand the words "survival" and "transfusions" in the sense adults do. But she does understand that she is different from normal children and



ALTHOUGH SHE'S SERIOUSLY ILL and knows it, Angela M. of Augusta, Ga., thoroughly enjoys coloring books and kindergarten. A patient at a March of Dimes Birth Defects Center, the pretty East Indian child needs frequent blood transfusions to treat a severe form of anemia called "thalassemia major."

knows that something may happen to her.

A caller at her family's pleasant suburban home quickly realizes, however, how much Angela's parents have helped her to learn to live with her condition. While the little girl played beyond hearing, her mother spoke frankly to a visitor about Angela's sometimes disturbing questions.

"Last year, Angela asked her father, 'Am I going to live or die?' My husband answered, 'Child if you want to live, you will live.' I think that was a beautiful answer, full of wisdom. Angela told her father she very much wished to live."

At the March of Dimes Center, Dr. Hahn and colleagues are doing everything they can to enable Angela to live normally. They have helped her overcome a natural fear of

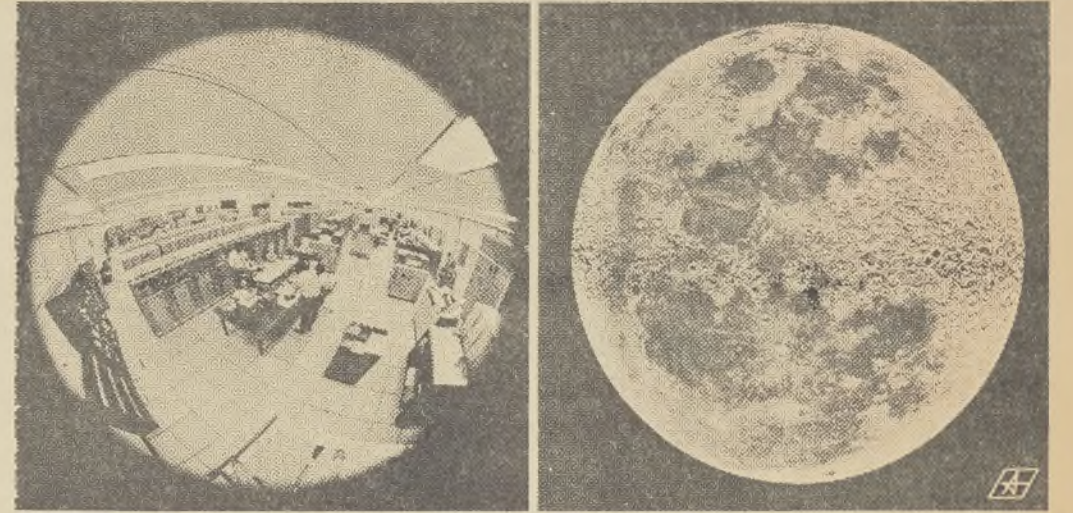
needles, bottles of blood and bandages.

"She's a brave child," says Dr. Hahn. "She is no longer afraid of our white coats and equipment. She has learned to accept frequent transfusions and has come along to the point where she even 'super-vises' us and gives transfusions to her dolls."

Research in thalassemia is proceeding in several directions. Today some patients can be helped to live into their thirties. This was not possible a few years ago. Some investigators theorize that it may soon be possible to transplant hemoglobin-producing bone marrow or to use other techniques to fight the disease.

If Angela is to be granted her wish for life, researchers working on the problem have no time to lose.

## ASTRONAUTS TO COMPUTERS: "FLY US TO THE MOON!"



As the Apollo astronauts hurtle toward the moon, seen close-up at right, five UNIVAC 1108 computer systems developed by Sperry Rand Corp., will provide data on their fuel loads, oxygen consumption and psychological condition. The computer systems capable of performing one million calculations per second are seen, at left, in NASA's Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston, Tex.

HOUSTON, TEX.—The world's most efficient communications system—including a globe-girdling network of super-high speed computers—will make Apollo astronauts the best informed, least lonely explorers in history as they fly to, and explore, the moon.

The astronauts will be in far closer touch with earth than are pilots on commercial airplane flights. Almost every second of their journeys, a torrent of data will be transmitted from the spacecraft

to tracking station computers for instantaneous flashing to the Mission Control Center in Houston. Like an invisible umbilical cord, messages and vital signals from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Apollo support facilities also flow through the computers to the spacecraft.

The tracking station computers—UNIVAC 1230's from Sperry Rand Corporation's Univac Division—can process up to 288,000 separate bits (pieces of informa-

tion) per second! Super high speed UNIVAC 394 computers in the global communications network route the telemetry and command data flowing to and from the 1230's allowing most messages between moon and earth to reach their destination in five seconds at most.

During the 11 days Apollo 7 flight, the computer-aided global network conveyed over two billion bits of high speed data information!

## Chemist's Dream: TO MAKE AN UNBREAKABLE WORLD

Worcester, Mass. — A world in which all man-made objects are unbreakable — that's the dream shape in chemical laboratories here today.

Unbreakable windows, street signs, air conditioners, coffee cups, baby bottles, furniture, fish bowls — even meteorite-impact lunar observatories — are well within the grasp of modern technology.

Some of the amazing products already on the market, including windows made of Lexan carbonate sheet, a material as tough as glass and as clear as water, baseball bats and even hammers just bounce off rugged glazing material.

First installed in schools and in projects in high vandalism areas, the new product developed by General Electric may completely replace the use of glass in factory and store fronts as well.

Study of vandalism in schools shows 60 percent of the total damage is due to the total vandalism expense figure, which includes fire and theft. The figure is as high as 70% in some school areas. Last year, in New York City alone, an estimated 218 windows were shattered, costing taxpayers with a phenomenal replacement bill of \$1,026,000 an average of \$5.00 is spent to replace a broken window with Lexan was to be substituted for a glass window would be \$20 plus installation. The figure might seem high with Lexan there is no such

thing as replacement. The window has an indefinite life span, and within a short period of time the fantastic strength pays for itself.

Shatterproof street lamp globes molded of Lexan have been utilized in New York City's public parks. Because they are weather-proof and virtually indestructible, they have already saved New York tax-payers thousands of dollars per year in replacement costs.

Secret of the new product's versatility is the fact that it can be cut by nearly any kind of saw and machined or drilled on most kinds of equipment without chipping, splintering or breaking.

The new product, 50 times as strong as common glass and with five times more impact resistance than any other transparent plastic, has been fabricated in the form of face shields and safety goggles for workers in hazardous industries, offering protection from metal fragments and molten weld spatter.

Helicopter glare shields, panels for vending machines, outdoor signs, greenhouses, skylights and windows for police cars and airplanes have also been made from Lexan.

Because of its exceptional burn/flame resistance, the lighter than aluminum material has also been fashioned into food warmers for airplanes.

But it is primarily as a glazing compound that the new product promises to revolutionize civilization, according to the chemists peering into their "crystal" ball.

## 1968 Was Eventful Year

(Continued from page 1)

Judice Chronister, Theresa Es, Sandra Spencer, Karen very and Tim Farris.

Alfred Best won the Pharmacy Senate Best Speaker Award in the University of North Carolina School of Pharmacy. Lobby McDonald was selected to attend the Advancement Council conducted during the summer months in Winston-Salem.

Bessemer City Jaycees sponsored two local girls in state competition in two beauty contests. Sylvia Kincaid was crowned Bessemer City 1968 paragon in the North Carolina Beauty Pageant held in Charlotte. Annette Smith, Miss Bessemer City 1967, participated in the Rhododendron Festival in Bakersville.

Other events were held during same week with Mrs. James Ham serving as Sylvia's sponsor and Mrs. Jessie Putas Annette's chaperon.

Three BCHS band students scholarship to a state clinic held at St. Andrews Presbyterian College in Laurinburg, Lester Harmon, Pat Har-

and Steve Kindschl. Its summer recreation program, Bessemer City Area Fund, Inc. purchased ed bus.

Mrs. Margaret Hook Mitchell the annual Week-at-the-School contest conducted by Bessemer City Jaycees. Her brother Tommy Hook won a auto in a contest conducted in Gastonia.

Lincoln High School Future Teachers Quartet won the State contest for the FFA quartet petition.

August events for August were included with top five new gories.

Phyllis Lutz won the title Miss Bessemer City 1969 in the third annual Miss Bessemer City Pageant sponsored by the Jaycees. Beverly Har-

was first-runner up and Andy Boone, second runner-

at Faulkner won Miss Congeniality.

The United Fund center was dedicated to the memory of the Rev. Mr. W. H. Pruitt.

Mrs. Janet Guffey Devenny hit in her car by a train in the Lithium Crossing and

rs. James B. Randolph was

hit by a train while in a car at a crossing in Gastonia and was killed instantly.

October: Four persons were killed, including James Robinson of this city, when their car was struck by a train at a crossing near St. James Baptist Church.

After six auto accidents in a three-week period, the state highway put four-way stop signs at the intersection of Maine and 12th Street.

Maine is a connecting road between Gastonia and Cherryville roads and North 12th leading to the high school.

The United Fund topped its set goal of \$12,753.95.

Five members of the Issac Cavender family were injured in an auto accident that occurred in Corbin, Ky., when the driver hit the corner of a residence.

BCHS Homecoming was held versus Cramerton and Phyllis Queen was named Homecoming Queen.

November: Al Froneberger was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Becky Bowlin won the title of Miss Tryonota 1968.

Marshall Rauch and George Lewis were named directors of First Union National Bank of Gastonia.

For Who's Who at BCHS, listed were Ronnie Riddle, Pat Harmon, Vickie Stinnett, Mott Reta, Donna Albright, Wanda Young, Penece Grant, Melva Whitesides, Sharon Mauney and Debbie Millwood.

Melva Whitesides won Miss Golden Hours with Donna Davis first runner-up, Linda Scarborough, second runner-up; and Debbie Payne, third runner-up. Debbie Millwood won the first Miss Congeniality title to be given for the contest.

Mott Reta served as the 1968 Carrousel Princess for Bessemer City High School.

December: Ted Williams was named Leader of the Year for the Carver District in Boy Scouting. Building permits reached the amount of \$565,550 without including permits for the month of December.

Lola Adams was selected as "Miss Lincoln High."

The Rev. George W. Shuford was elected editor of the North Carolina Lutheran published by the North Carolina Synod Lutheran Church in America.

## "DISCOVER AMERICA" THIS YEAR



The Seven Sisters Butte in Fort Robinson, Neb., a natural wonder.

To be or not to be Europe-bound this year is the question vexing millions of Americans who have travel dollars to spend this year.

Chances are, most families will elect to vacation in the United States, according to spokesmen for Discover America, a non-profit organization which encourages Americans to count their blessings by traveling their native land.

Researching the sayings of sages of old, Discover America historians have advanced persuasive reasons for touring America the Beautiful.

In the days of ancient Rome, philosopher Seneca observed, "When a person spends time in foreign travel, he ends by having many acquaintances but no friends."

A similar comment appears in

FROM ROCK HILL Mrs. Alice Carpenter of Rock Hill, S.C., spent several days visiting with her daughter, Mrs. Jim Schofield and family.

FROM FLORIDA Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Schofield and family of Cape Kennedy, Fla., visited with Mrs. Schofield's mother, Mrs. Robert McCluney, and with Mr. Schofield's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Schofield.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen E. Bowser of Route 1 this city announce the birth of a daughter on Friday, December 20.

Mr. and Mrs. Clint Day of Ohio Avenue announce the birth of a daughter on Saturday, December 21.

of my life traveling abroad, if I could anywhere borrow another life to spend afterwards at home."

English essayist Hazlitt remarked, in typically sly fashion, "I should like to spend the whole

of my life traveling abroad, if I could anywhere borrow another life to spend afterwards at home."

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**U.S. Savings Bonds, New Freedom Shares**

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**IN HOSPITAL**  
Mrs. John Rollins has been a patient at the Shelby Hospital where she underwent treatment for pneumonia.

**MILLWOOD VISITS**  
Tommy Millwood who has been attending quarter master school for the U.S. Army at Ft. Campbell, Ky., spent a furlough with his mother, Mrs. Jack Millwood.

Daddy, how do people get big cars?

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