

MEDICINE

Krebiozen Merit Argued

One man presents seemingly contrary views concerning the Krebiozen treatment for cancer. Called incapable of checking cancer but deserving of further trials.

➤ KREBIOZEN, hailed last March as a promising treatment for cancer, is now called incapable of checking cancer and at the same time said to deserve further trial in human patients.

These seemingly contradictory views are given, all in one statement, by one man, the distinguished scientist who last March sponsored announcement of Krebiozen. This scientist is Dr. A. C. Ivy, head of the department of clinical science of the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Because of the interest in scientific and lay circles in Krebiozen, the editorial board of *SCIENCE*, official journal of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, requested an opinion on it from Dr. C. P. Rhoads, director of Memorial Center for Cancer and Allied Diseases, New York, and a recognized authority on cancer. Summing up a detailed and completely adverse criticism of Krebiozen, Dr. Rhoads states in the Sept. 28 issue:

"From the evidence presented concerning Krebiozen, it is not possible to conclude that it is capable of exerting a salutary effect on the course of neoplastic disease (cancer) in man."

"I agree with everything Dr. Rhoads states in his communication," states Dr. Ivy in his reply, thus seeming to agree that Krebiozen is worthless.

Then he goes on to say that he holds the same conviction he did last March, "namely, that the substance merits further careful clinical investigation."

"The fact that Krebiozen has been distributed for clinical investigation free of charge constitutes," states Dr. Ivy, "unequivocal evidence of conviction that it may prove to be of value."

Krebiozen is described as a white powder prepared from the serum of a horse after treatment. The kind of treatment and the method of preparing the powder have not been divulged. Krebiozen was discovered by Dr. Stevan Durovic who, Dr. Ivy says, produced Krebiozen in Buenos Aires in the pharmaceutical concern owned by his brother.

Lack of controls, lack of uniformity of patients as to age, sex and stage of cancer, and irregularity of results are among the points in Dr. Rhoads' criticism of the report of 22 patients treated. Eight of these patients are dead. The good effects reported in others, he points out, "were not established as due to the treatment employed."

The reports of patients that they feel better and have less pain are quite commonly

met in patients getting almost any new treatment. These reports are considered as being only psychological in origin.

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PHYSICS

"KKK" Robe, Light Skin Help Foil A-Bomb Heat

➤ A LIGHT skin and a Ku-Klux-Klan-like robe will be a help in case an atomic bomb falls.

This is the conclusion of Dr. Konrad J. K. Buettner, a German scientist now doing research for the U. S. Air Force School of Aviation Medicine in San Antonio, Texas.

Black skin, he found, reflects only 10% of the heat rays to which a man or woman might be exposed by an A-bomb, while white skin reflects 40%. Nearly the full force of the bomb's heat radiation is absorbed by a dark-skinned person, heating

the surface layers of the body to a fantastic temperature. The difference in the amount of heat radiation can be a critical factor in survival.

The answer, according to Dr. Buettner, is not to expose the skin. He has found that a hooded suit resembling a Klansman's robe and covered with aluminum foil is the best available shield against intense heat. The scientist wants civil defense authorities to develop such a garment on a glass-fabric base for use by civilians.

Dr. Buettner created the intense heat needed for his experiments with a powerful sun reflector, which focused the sun's rays on a point. He used cuts of pork from black and white pigs in his experiments.

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VETERINARY MEDICINE

Dogs, Cats and Cattle Benefit by Earth Remedy

➤ DOGS, CATS and cattle as well as humans are benefitting from one of the newer antibiotic, or so-called mold remedies, terramycin. The drug, from an organism that comes from the earth, saved all but one of 120 cattle sick with shipping fever and pneumonia, Drs. C. W. Cromley and J. M. Hagely, Ashville, O., veterinarians, report in *VETERINARY MEDICINE*.

Science News Letter, October 13, 1951



CONCENTRATED HEAT—Heat as intense as that of an atom bomb is concentrated on this piece of wood, held up to the focal point of a powerful sun reflector by Dr. Konrad J. K. Buettner of the U. S. Air Force School of Aviation Medicine in San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Buettner converted an old searchlight for his heat experiments. The wood bursts instantaneously into white-hot flame, as it would if an atomic bomb exploded nearby.