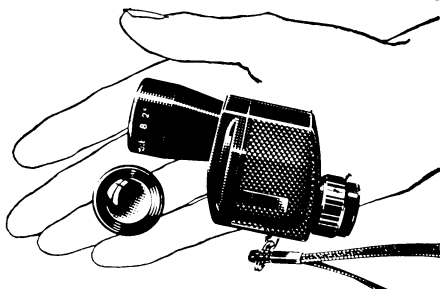


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LETTERS

to the editor

Pigs and men

Sir:

Your article, "Pigs Resemble Humans," (SN: 5/25, p. 504) was most interesting in its implication. In furtherance thereof, my paper on "Hypertension: A New Clinical Concept of its Etiology," *JOUR. UROLOGY*, v 46: 641-58, (Oct.) 1941, showed that the prehistoric pig and man were both primarily omnivorous and their kidneys with their vasculature were more alike than those of all the other animals which were primarily either herbivorous or carnivorous.

While the kidney with an extra-renal pelvis is the predominant type in only the pig and adult man (not at birth) all the other animals have the intra-renal pelvis. I found that essential hypertension in my urological patients occurred mostly in those with the intra-renal type of kidney pelvis, where the pelvis was more or less completely surrounded by firm kidney parenchyma. Increased back pressure within such a pelvis compresses the renal cortical tissues. This phenomenon was less in the yielding, distensible, extra-renal type of pelvis.

Thus your reference to the similarity in structure of the pig's heart, blood vessels and digestive tract with the addition of the kidney and possibly other organs, to that of man, may favorably influence organ transplantation in the future.

Abraham Ravich
M.A., M.D., F.A.C.S.
Miami, Fla.

Address communications to Editor,
Science News, 1719 N Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

films OF THE WEEK

Listing is for readers' information of new 16mm and 8mm films on science, engineering, medicine and agriculture for professional, student and general audiences. For further information on purchase, rental or free loan, write to distributor.

EMBRYONIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE FISH. 16 mm, color, sound, 28 min. Shows the development of the fish embryo from fertilization to hatching, a period of four days. The actual egg, about one millimeter in diameter, is that of the common Zebra fish. Audience: high school, college. Purchase \$300 from University Education and Visual Arts, 221 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10003.

FIRE LOSS MANAGEMENT, PART II: COMPUTER INSTALLATIONS. 16mm, b&w, sound, 20 min. Discusses fire protection of automatic data processing installations, including protective measures for building in which the computer is housed, the computer room, and the computer itself. Effects of actual fires are shown, and attention is drawn to appropriate codes and standards. Audience: professional. Purchase \$26.58 from Byron Motion Pictures, 1226 Wisconsin Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007, or free loan from AEC field libraries or Audio-Visual Branch, Division of Public Information, Atomic Energy Commission, Washington, D.C. 20545.

THE GREAT SWAMP. 16mm, color, sound, 29 min. The experiences of a young city boy during a visit to the Great Swamp in New Jersey depicts the values of a wilderness area. The meaning of the balance of nature are taught to him, and he learns that the refuge is important to people as well as to animals and plants. Audience: general. Purchase \$240 or rental \$8.65 from NET Film Service, Indiana University, Audio-Visual Center, Bloomington, Ind. 47401.

LAND LANDING OPERATIONS—MSC-67-441. 16mm, color, sound, 17 min. Depicts the work performed in advanced landing systems by the Landing and Recovery Division of the Flight Operations Directorate. Shows test of the parawing/terminal landing system and the progress made in developing a ground control capability for advanced landing systems. Audience: general. Free loan from National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Manned Spacecraft Center, APO, Houston, Texas 77058.

INTERPRETATION OF INFRARED SPECTRA. 16mm, b&w, sound, 4 hours. An American Chemical Society short course on film. Hour 1: Introductory theory—molecular vibrations and the absorption of infrared radiation. Hour 2: Origin of group frequencies, and interaction and coupling effects. Hours 3 and 4: Application of group frequency analysis to molecular structure determination. A film course consisting of lectures interspersed with problem-solving periods. Course is built around 66 charts which are also published in book form. The films and the book together constitute the course. Audience: junior college, college, chemical companies. For complete four hours of film, purchase \$750 or rental \$50 plus \$1.50 per day. Chart book single copy \$3.00, larger quantities at reduced rates. Preview film (15 min. in length) plus preview copy of book, \$3.00. Order from Education Office, American Chemical Society, 1155 Sixteenth St., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036.

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