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**Cyclic AMP:**

**The Body's Messenger Chemical**

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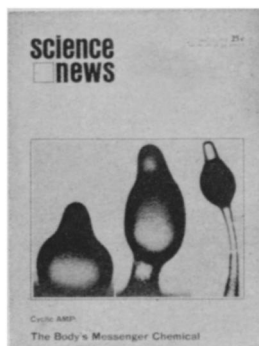
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**Cyclic AMP is a body chemical that mediates the activity of most hormones. In cellular slime mold, pulses of the chemical cause single-celled organisms to coalesce into a multicelled creature. Studies of cyclic AMP have become fashionable recently. See page 450. (Photo: Gunther Gerisch)**

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