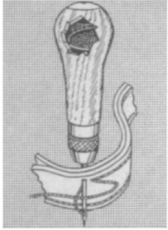


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MEDICINE**Peanuts Control Bleeding In Hemophilia Sufferers**

PEANUTS CONTAIN a substance that controls bleeding in hemophiliacs, or "bleeders," two researchers report.

Hemophilia is a hereditary disorder characterized by delayed clotting of the blood and consequent difficulty in checking hemorrhage. It is inherited by males through the mother as a sex-linked trait. There are several types, depending on the particular blood deficiency that prolongs the clotting time.

An unknown peanut factor is reported in the British scientific journal *Nature*, 185: 469, 1960, to effectively control bleeding in persons suffering from the most common type, antihemophilic factor hemophilia.

Treatment with the peanut factor was reported by Dr. H. Bruce Boudreaux of Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, and Vernon L. Frampton of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, New Orleans.

Dr. Boudreaux, himself a sufferer from this common type of hemophilia, found that eating a large handful of roasted peanuts brought about a rapid loss of tenderness in his knee, which had a blood-containing swelling.

Since then, he has taken peanuts in all available forms, including peanut butter, raw and roasted peanuts, whenever he has had a hemophilic attack. In each instance, he says, clinical symptoms were relieved in one or two days.

Whenever he has avoided peanut products, the tendency to bleed has recurred. Upon resumption of a peanut diet, bleeding is again controlled.

Dr. Boudreaux, who also reported successful treatment of several hemophilic patients with the peanut factor, has removed the active factor from peanut flour by extraction with 90% ethyl alcohol. The residue proved ineffective, whereas the alcohol-extracted material relieved clinical symptoms in one or two days in doses of 14 grams a day. This is the equivalent of one pound of peanuts.

Exactly what the beneficial peanut factor is has not yet been determined, but Dr. Boudreaux hopes his report will incite the interest of medical researchers to investigate further. Meanwhile he is continuing efforts to concentrate and identify the active factor.

Science News Letter, February 27, 1960

MEDICINE**Studies Fail to Link Smoking and Cancer**

THIRTY-EIGHT SCIENTIFIC studies supported by the Tobacco Industry Research Committee give no evidence of a direct link between smoking and lung cancer.

The studies support the Committee's contention that "circumstantial or inferential data" on the existence of such a link are "not a substitute for experimental and clinical evidence based on direct observations."

The Committee, formed in 1954, claims that the experiences of the past six years,

during which it has made grants to 90 scientists in 61 U. S. institutions, support the beliefs that: any role of cigarette smoking in lung cancer and certain other diseases has not been proved as causative; if tobacco has any role, it is uncertain, unidentified and unanalyzed.

The 38 studies are summarized in the Committee's 1959 report of the scientific director. The original reports were published in medical and scientific journals during 1959.

In one study, mice were exposed to smoke five times weekly for nearly two years with no resultant invasive cancers of the lung. Another test involved sewing pellets of tobacco into the cheek pouches of hamsters for long periods of time. Again, no cancerous growths were produced.

The Committee's report points out that much more research is needed to help clarify and define significant problems on research in this field, and to determine the best way to find the answers to them.

"All evidence," it says, "including that which demonstrates the gaps and uncertainties and contradictions in our knowledge, should be presented to the public honestly and fully. The individual can form his own considered opinion only on the basis of complete information."

The Journal of the American Medical Association, commenting editorially on smoking and lung cancer last December, said that neither the proponents nor the opponents of the smoking theory have sufficient evidence to warrant the assumption of an all-or-none authoritative position.

Science News Letter, February 27, 1960

TECHNOLOGY**Simulator Will Aid Study Of Roll-over Crashes**

See Front Cover

A simulator has been developed at Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory to study motion and impact of passengers during roll-over crashes.

Test results indicate the velocity and impact point of occupants. A camera under a shroud outside the rear window records the motion of "dummy" occupants, as can be seen on the cover photograph of this week's SCIENCE NEWS LETTER.

Science News Letter, February 27, 1960

Questions

ASTRONOMY—When is the next lunar eclipse? p. 138.

MEDICINE—With what other disease has brucellosis recently become linked with? p. 136.

NUTRITION—What new method has been developed to package milk? p. 137.

Photographs: Cover, Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory, p. 135, University of Miami; p. 142, W. R. Grace & Co.