

Rats Aid Scientists In Heart Research

Rats in oxygen-filled garbages are giving research scientists new information about one of the last remaining obstacles in heart surgery on children.

Dr. Donald C. Fyler of Children's Hospital, Los Angeles, reported results of a research project on one possible cause of dangerous thickening in the arteries of the lung at a meeting of the Western Society for Pediatric Research, held in San Francisco, recently.

The investigation, financed with aid of a current \$4,500

grant from the Orange County Heart Assn. and previous grants from the Los Angeles Heart Assn. is focused on finding out why children with heart defects are likely to have difficulty with their lung circulation, because this condition greatly increases the risks of surgical repair of heart defects.

While most investigators believe that the thickening is caused primarily by the increase of flow in the circuit, Dr. Fyler and Dr. James Patrick are exploring the possibility that an increase of oxygen in the blood may be an important factor.

It is also known that a hole

between the chambers on the right and left sides of the heart, a relatively common heart defect, not only increases the pressure, volume, and flow of the blood going into the lungs, but the level of oxygen as well.

Many physiologists have observed that a high level of oxygen in the blood tends to make the arteries tighten up. Some basic research in animal physiology in the 1930s showed that rodents living in an atmosphere with a high concentration of oxygen over a period of months, developed high blood pressure in their lung circuit, and the same changes in the small arteries that physicians have noted in children with heart defects.

REASON for this increase is that some blood tends to go in a repetitive circle through the lungs, picking up more oxygen with each cycle.

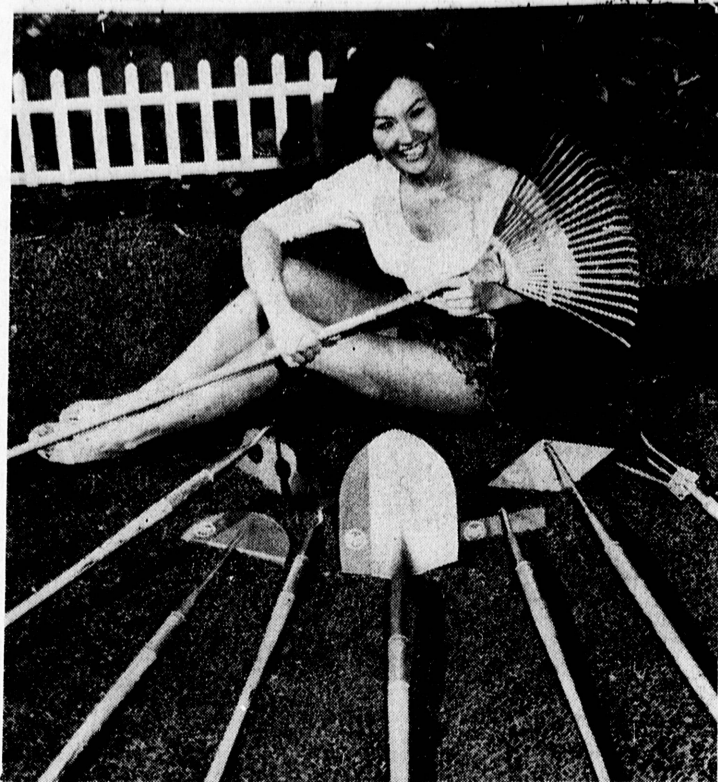
To find out the effect of this oxygen increase, Dr. Fyler and his co-workers housed rats for several weeks in garbages that were especially prepared to hold a regulated high-oxygen atmosphere.

He found that the rats developed the same thickening of the lung blood vessels as had been previously seen in children with heart defects.

The investigators are planning further research, creating major blood vessel defects experimentally in animals which increase the amount of oxygen to the lungs without increasing the pressure.

If these new experiments confirm the preliminary results on rodents, the findings would point the way to substantial changes in the treatment of children with heart defects to try to guard against the effect of excessive oxygen on the artery tissues in the lung.

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THE NEW LOOK... An "off-the-shoulder" look has been added to garden tools, according to an announcement here this week by United States Steel officials. Here Lori Campbell displays the new line of tools made by U.S. Steel's products division plant in Los Angeles. The implements boast a two-tone finish and high style combining glamour and greater strength and utility.

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Garden Checklist

1. Do not lift dahlias or late gladiolus until after the tops have ripened off. A few will take their time in doing this.
2. Bermuda grass lawns may be raked vigorously with a steel rake and seeded over to a winter rye grass which should keep them green.
3. Unwanted roses should be removed now to make way for new varieties next month. Turn the old soil well and work in plenty of steer manure.
4. Plant cyclamen to replace tuberous begonias—in pots or in the ground.
5. Prune geraniums back hard if you haven't already. Move pot-bound geraniums up to a larger pot size.

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Party Will Feature Skit

Congregation Ner Tamid of the South Bay plans a Chanukah Latke party Sunday at the Silver Spur School Cafeteria, 5500 Ironwood, Palos Verdes.

The party will commence at 10 a.m. with a performance by the religious school which will consist of songs, both in Hebrew and English, and a skit about the Menorah, or Chanukah lights.

Following the skit there will be a gift exchange by members of each religious school class. Parents of pre-schoolers or of children not enrolled in the school are asked to bring a gift for their own child (not to exceed 50 cents) which will be put into a general exchange bag.

Lunch will be served at 11:30 by members of the Sisterhood. The cost is 50 cents for each child and 75 cents for each adult.

The car is becoming a status symbol. Our purpose in getting into one is to wait in a traffic jam while empty trains go by.

WHAT DOES CHRISTIAN SCIENCE REALLY TEACH ABOUT PRAYER?

Hear this Free Lecture entitled:

"CHRISTIAN SCIENCE AND THE HEALING PRAYER OF FAITH"

by HOWARD H. IRWIN, C.S.
of San Bernardino, California

A member of the Board of Lectureship of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass.

at DAPPLEGRAY PUBLIC SCHOOL

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on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1961, at 3 p.m.

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