

Search For 'Key' To Life Leads To Amazing Findings

By KEN SMITH
MONTREAL (CP)—Dr. Hans Selye, a Canadian scientist, says he has led him into a mysterious world where rats are made to show their skin like a smiling snake, where the young are made old and—just possibly—vice versa.

The challenger collects calcium deposits in the part of the body where it is injected. The research has been pushed to the stage where calcium can be made to collect in a specific part of the body, forming a lump of calcified tissue, or a

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or blemishes that were present in the old skin. Curiosity about what would happen if only the sensitizer were injected, without the challenge, led to the discovery that a rat can be prematurely and deliberately aged. Dr. Selye suggests—and he emphasizes that it is no more than a theory—that under the influence of the first injection, the rat's body becomes abnormally sensitive to calcium. For some reason, as yet unknown, the calcium prefers to collect around arteries and joints, crippling the rat's metabolism. Almost overnight, the animal is old. Injections of the challenge, Dr. Selye theorizes, gives the calcium other places to collect, since the challenge seems to be more "attractive" to calcium.

By collecting excessive calcium in minute particles throughout the body, it can be disposed of as bodily waste. Does this mean that aging can be delayed, or even that an old organism can be made young? No one, least of all Dr. Selye, pretends to know the answers. But Dr. Selye gives the impression of a man who is going to try to find out.

Coca-Cola Firm Names President
NEW YORK (AP) — J. Paul Austin, a lawyer with a background in foreign sales, has been elected president of Coca-Cola Company. Austin, 47, succeeds Lee Talley, who remains chairman and chief executive officer. The Atlanta-based company last year earned more than \$2,000,000 from operations in the United States and 100 other countries.

CANADIANS ON VISIT
BONN (Reuters) — Sixteen representatives of the Canadian armed forces, industry and public service attending this year's Canadian National Defence College course arrived here from Bonn Wednesday for a nine-day visit to Germany, the Federal embassy said.



TAKE 3 and SEE

For 14 months the famous scientist and his assistants have been pushing into unexplored territory. The result, he says, already is the most amazing he has come across in 35 years of basic research into life.

The sign that brought this excitement from the gentle-spoken, white-haired researcher who 25 years ago gave the world the theory of stress, was two rats of the same chronological age.

As a result of careful experimentation, one rat looks—in Dr. Selye's words—like a scrawny old man of 90.

Its skin is wrinkled and blotchy and its back is hunched. Its movements are slow and feeble, its feet look like arthritic-crippled hands. Its arteries are hardened and eyes coated with cataracts.

OLD AGE INDUCED
Chronologically, the rat is young; biologically, it is dying of deliberately induced old age.

The other rat?

Under the same experimentation with only one more step added, it is bright, alert and vigorous. Its skin is smooth and supple, the muscles firm and eager. Dr. Selye says some of his assistants swear it is healthier and a better specimen than any of its untreated contemporaries.

The experiment is one aspect of a new research program Dr. Selye is conducting with Dr. Ralph Strebel under the imposing life of "calciophysix."

He doesn't know where the research will lead—basic research aims only at answering life's ever-present "why," leaving it to other studies to find out how to apply the findings for the benefit of man—but already several bodies have shown great interest in the program.

One is the Canadian Cancer Society, which sees in the research a possible pointer to new aids in combating cancer or even offering a clue to a cure.

HAS WRITTEN BOOK
Dr. Selye talked to a reporter about the research program just before going to Rome to outline the experiments in aging to a scientific congress.

He also has written a book, entitled simply Calciophysix, published today by the University of Chicago Press. The book reviews the experimentation to date and theories about where it will lead.

Calciophysix essentially causes abnormal sensitivity to calcium deposits.

Calcium, of course, is essential for a healthy life. As an animal—in a living man—grows old, however, calcium can collect around arteries, hardening them. It can gather at joints, crippling them.

The experiments in calciophysix actually had their origin in some of Dr. Selye's first research work, 25 years ago in Vienna.

Working with a vitamin D derivative, he noted that if a pregnant rat were injected with this substance, some of the litter could be born with broken bones and hard calcified patches on the skin.

Interested in another aspect of the work, he didn't pursue the finding.

"Why, I'll never know," he says.

QUALITY FOODS

Dr. Selye and his co-workers soon found that, by carefully controlled injections in experimental animals, fantastic results could be obtained.

Recently, an animal is injected with what he called a sensitizer—usually a vitamin D derivative.

After a certain time, the animal is injected again with what is called a challenge—a mineral element.

FAST CHECKOUT

RECALLED EXPERIMENT
Recently, however, an assistant at the Institute of Experimental Medicine and Surgery at the University of Montreal came across essentially the same phenomenon. Pointed out to Dr. Selye, the sight triggered the memory of that 35-year-old experiment and he was off, chasing another elusive "why."

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SKATERS DISLIKE SKATER'S WALTZ

DAREMOUTH, N.S. (CP)—Skaters at the Memorial rink apparently do not go for the skater's waltz.

Commissioner Doug Mills told a weekend meeting of the city's rink commission that skaters' musical appreciation tends toward the "hokey woggle."

"They go like hell in every direction. They really go for that Kentucky wig wag," C. A. Moir, commission secretary, agreed.

"They better bias murder every time we put on the skater's waltz."

And, added Commissioner Mills: "They even tried to take over the recording system one night."

Rinks now can purchase special recorded tapes containing safety of skating music, the commission was informed.

Commissioner Mills agreed but said "some of those good old tunes would be new to this younger generation."

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