

New Procedure Critical For Aging Eye Research Developed At The Technion-Israel Institute Of Technology



Technion-Israel Institute of Technology adds approximately 1,200 engineering and science graduates to Israel's economy each year.

HAIFA, Israel - A new procedure to preserve crystalline vertebrate eye lenses essential for laboratory research on the human eye has been developed by Dr. Ahuba Dovrat of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology's Department of Biology. Previously, it was impossible to preserve these eye lenses intact in vitro for more than a week, since without adequate nourishment the cells of the lens die and are of little value to researchers. The new procedure makes it possible to maintain them for as long as 40 days.

Dr. Dovrat observed that the outer and the inner curved surfaces of the lens not only have different functions in the living eye - but they also are bathed by different body fluids. Consequently lenses in the laboratory may have deteriorated relatively rapidly because they were submerged in a single culture medium which, at best, could

Slaying Of Diplomat Aids Extremist Forces

The fatal shooting of 30-year-old Israeli diplomat Albert Atrakchi in Cairo provides a small demonstration of the state of relations between Jews and Arabs in the Middle East. Despite peace efforts and attempts at dialogue, there exists extremist forces in the region bent on disrupting any effort that may lead to a reconciliation between Arabs and Jews.

An organization calling itself the "Egyptian Revolution" claimed responsibility for the attack and said it had been involved in an earlier attack on Zvi Kedar, an Israeli diplomat shot in the hand in Cairo over a year ago in a little publicized incident. The group said it was carrying out attacks on "agents of the Israeli intelligence service" in Cairo.

The United States said the attack on the diplomat was aimed at derailing the peace process. A State Department official said it clearly "appears to be an effort at slowing down, impeding the peace process." The Department also said it regretted the attack and deplored this "demonstration of violence against members of the diplomatic community."

The ability of the Egyptian government of President Hosni Mubarak and Premier Shimon

properly nourish only one lens surface -- but never both.

By supplying two different culture mediums, one situated above the lens and the other below, Dr. Dovrat discovered that both surfaces could receive the required nourishment. Her technique will be instrumental in advancing research to impede and even reverse some of the natural aging processes that rob the elderly of their eyesight: the loss of transparency as changes in cell metabolic activity affect light transmission (as with cataracts) and the lens' loss of flexibility as cells lose their ability to change their shape with age.

Peres of Israel to overcome extremist forces and move ahead with a more meaningful relationship between the two countries remains imperative. The Israeli diplomatic corps cannot live in isolation in the Arab capital nor can the Egyptians live behind barbed wire in Tel Aviv.

Benjamin Lazarus Dead At 91

NEW YORK (WNS) — Benjamin Lazarus, New York Jewish community leader and founder of the Benrus Watch Company, died at his home in New York. He was 91 years old.

Mr. Lazarus was a former trustee of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York and a life trustee of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies. He was

also an honorary member and director of the USO of Greater New York and an honorary vice president of Congregation Emanu-El

in Manhattan. He founded Benrus in 1923 with his late brothers Oscar M. and S. Ralph Lazarus, the latter serving as treasurer of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency during the 1940s.

The fall training class for Community Action Against Rape, "Rape Trauma Syndrome," begins September 23 through October 4, 1985 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sessions are held at the conference room at 749 Veterans Memorial Drive. For information and application, please call 385-2153.

Dr. Dovrat and her associates at Technion are developing tests to objectively measure lens health. They are currently working on a computerized system where a scanning laser beam will impact on sensors to measure lens transparency. This project is likely to be of major significance in studying the harmful effects of otherwise valuable medications on the eyes.

For more information, contact the American Society for Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, 271 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016 (212) 889-2050.



The Staff and Administration of Desert Springs Hospital wish you and your family a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

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