

Little Girl Has Blood Disease—Usually in Men

London, (Science Service)—A rare case of hemophilia that usually occurs only in men has been reported in a little girl. With hemophilia, a person's blood does not clot readily and he may bleed to death from minor cuts or wounds.

The child, 16 months old, had always bruised easily. Doctors noted that her blood coagulated very slowly. In addition, she suffered from long bouts with nosebleeds. Prior to her birth, a brother had died with bleeding soon after birth.

Can Pigs to Sons
Her mother belonged to a hemophilic family. It is a well-known fact that females can carry this disease of the blood in their genes and pass it to their sons. Seldom do daughters suffer, however, because the hereditary gene is recessive.

Laboratory findings of blood and skin tissue of this little girl were found to be identical with those obtainable in severe hemophilia A in males, four Swedish scientists report in the British journal, *Lancet*.

A study of the patient's chromosomes gave the investigators an explanation for the oddity. The girl did not have the usual female XX chromosome makeup. Instead, she probably has the male XY combination. Knowledge of the sex chromosomes is not yet sufficient enough to identify this combination as the certain cause, however, the scientists caution.

Maturity Awaited
No exact determination of the child's sex can be made due to her age and the possibility that she is a hermaphrodite cannot be determined until she reaches sexual maturity, they pointed out. They also referred to four previous cases of hemophilia in females.

The investigators are Dr. Inga Marie Nilsson, Dr. S. Bergman, and Dr. J. Waldenström and J. Reitalu, all of the University of Lund, Sweden.

Portland — (UPI) — Sales in Portland department stores were up 18 per cent in dollar volume for the week ending Sept. 19 as compared to the same week in 1958. The figures were announced by the Federal Reserve Bank in San Francisco.

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