

MAN-MADE ARTERIES

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Commenting on the article condensed from the *Saturday Evening Post* in *Reader's Digest*, February, 1958, by Steven M. Spencer, "Artificial Arteries Can Save Lives".

After reciting the dramatic results of this particular kind of surgery on two cases, he goes on to say that there is "scarcely a spot along the main channels of the body's blood stream which the vascular surgeons cannot reach for repairs."

He says that Houston, Texas, is the country's busiest artery-mending center and that the Professor of Surgery at Baylor University College of Medicine has in the past five years installed more than 1,200 arterial grafts—the mortality for thoracic aneurysm has run 31%, and while abdominal ones had a former mortality of 25%, the claim is made that in the most recent cases it was reduced to 2%. The claim is also made that without the operation all would have died. For this kind of surgical skill we should all be thankful, for who knows which one of us may be next. Certainly those who were saved were thankful.

The thing that disturbs me most is the fact that a lot of such cases are anticipated for the days ahead, as suggested by stock of 25,000 straight arteries and 3,800 Y-grafts already produced and ready for use; but worst of all are the conclusions of the head of the vascular group of surgeons at the above-mentioned College of Medicine that arteriosclerosis is in many cases a *local* condition, segmented in nature, and thus something they can do a great deal about. There is nothing in this article to enlighten us as to the cause of the ailment in any of the cases, or that anything was done for them by way of curative medicine.

One may be safely advised that every one of those cases could have been benefitted by medicine applied according to the Law of Similars (Homœopathy), and if reached early enough

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