

# Domchowski-researching the cancer riddle

by Judy Hamaliuk

Cancer is the number two killer in the United States and Europe, heart disease, is number one. Over two million people die of cancer each year in the world. The costs of cancer treatment in the United States alone reach about 12 billion dollars a year.

The increase in population growth and the increasing proportion of older persons will mean an increase in the number of cancer cases in the future.

These were some of the important problems with which cancer researchers have to contend, according to Dr. Domchowski, one of the world's experts in cancer research. A Professor of Virology at the University of Texas System Cancer Clinic, Dr. Domchowski, was invited to Edmonton to present the annual Shevchenko Memorial Lecture. The lecture held in honor of the Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko, was sponsored by the Ukrainian Professional Businessmen's Club with financial aid from the Canadian Cancer Society and the Provincial Cancer Hospital's Board.

Dr. Domchowski claims that significant progress has been made in the last 25 years in the area of cancer research. One in every three patients in the United States survive cancer today in comparison with one in every four 25 years ago. This

means that 55,000 lives are saved each year.

"The increase in successful treatment is due mostly to early diagnosis, treatment within four months of diagnosis and development of new procedures, especially

possibility of cancer development.

"Chances of cancer development varies with age so check ups should be made every year beginning in childhood but especially after the age of forty."



chemotherapy." Surgery and radiation (x-ray or radium) are the current methods of cancer treatment.

Dr. Domchowski believes that periodic check ups is of utmost importance for each individual in order to reduce the

Risks are definitely associated with SMOKING, city residence and certain occupations which involve exposure to certain chemicals and radiation. Cancer producing chemicals in tobacco smoke and polluted air has lead to a

125% increase over 25 years in the death rate from lung cancer. Lung cancer is the leading cause of death for men in the United States, while cancer of the breast is the main site of cancer development for women.

"Disease should not be feared but should be made aware of." Dr. Domchowski feels that secrecy and ignorance which leads to fear of cancer are being removed through better public information. However, discoveries of treatment and origins have to go through long processes of laboratory research before they can be made aware of to the public.

Through basic research it has been found that cancer may be caused by a number of factors, the known ones being genetic factors, hormones, chemicals and various forms of radiation energy.

The main question facing researchers at the present time is whether or not viruses are involved in causing cancer. Immunological evidence, electron-microscopy, and biochemical tests provide more and more evidence that viruses are one of the causative factors of human breast cancer, leukemia and related diseases such as Hodgkins disease, lymphomas, bone tumors and soft tissue tumors, according to

Dr. Domchowski.

"Biochemical tests can prove that constituents of virus particles, (nucleic acid, enzymes and/or protein) which appear in human cancer cells are similar to viruses known to cause cancer in animals." Although immunological responses are similar for both animals and humans, Dr. Domchowski stresses that this does not mean that viruses cause human cancer.

Researchers are concentrating their efforts on biochemistry and immunology to try to find the cause and cure for cancer. But because there are at least 100 different types of cancer in humans Dr. Domchowski sees little hope of finding a final treatment within the next 20 years.

"We now appear to have reached a stage at which we have a bunch of techniques comparable to a bunch of sophisticated tools or keys. The question arises which one of the keys will fit the lock which will open the right door toward our understanding how to solve the problem of cancer."

Whenever a final treatment is discovered, Dr. Domchowski believes it will occur through the team effort of scientists and will be based on intimate collaboration.

## Just what you've always wanted - Ukrainian environment immersion

For the third year in a row, the Ukrainian Teachers Committee of the Ontario Language Teachers Association and the Ukrainian Chapter of the Manitoba Modern Languages Association are sponsoring a Ukrainian Language Seminar at the T.G. Shevchenko State University in Kiev, USSR. The seminar will run from July 05 to August 07, 1975, and is intended for teachers with an interest in the Ukrainian language and culture. Others may also apply.

With the current interest in offering instruction in the Ukrainian language in some Alberta schools, it is hoped that some teachers in this province will take an interest in this seminar.

Travel information may be obtained from East-West Travel (Globe Tours) in Edmonton,

Offering an opportunity for total immersion in the language and culture of the Ukraine, the seminar was most highly assessed by past participants. On the strength of these testimonials, the Department of

Slavic Languages at the University of Alberta has agreed to consider recommending the granting of credit towards a degree, on an individual basis, for future participants.

Inquiries regarding possible bursaries and university credits should be directed to Dr. Fred Ustina, Department of Mathematics.

### MODELS REQUIRED

#### Celebrity Hair Ltd. Men's Hairstylists

424-HAIR

10046-102 St.

#### Europe Charter Flights with C.P. Air


Take Advantage of These Low Fares & Book Now  
Edmonton - London  
Leaves June 9 Return Aug. 11 \$339  
Must Book by April 4  
Leave July 14  
Return Aug 4 \$399  
Must Book by May 9

We Can Make Additional Arrangements  
From London - Camping Trips, Bus Tours  
Aurail Passes - Rhine River Cruises etc.

Travel The World with Travel World  
Travel World Consultants Ltd.

10025 - 106 St.

Phone 429-6521



phone 433-2444

**Soon classes will be over so why not think of your summer plans before it is too late, call to-day for information on charters, youth fares, etc.**

Garneau Theatre Building, 8728 - 109 Street T6G 1E9

FLOWERS BY  
**RENE**

KERRISON FLOWERS LTD.  
AGT TOLL BLDG 102 Ave 100 AS

**One of Edmonton's  
Most Beautiful Shops**

CALL THE FLORIST  
WHO PROVIDES CONSISTENT  
QUALITY & SERVICE

Mgr. Virgil Pomeranz

**424-8202**

DAILY CITY WIDE DELIVERY  
AROUND THE WORLD  
WITH TELEX

Evenings  
422-7004  
439-0191  
Til 9 p.m.

10% Discount to Students

**Europe Charter Flights  
with C.P. Air**

Take Advantage of These Low Fares & Book Now  
Edmonton - London  
Leaves June 9 Return Aug. 11 \$339  
Must Book by April 4  
Leave July 14  
Return Aug 4 \$399  
Must Book by May 9

We Can Make Additional Arrangements  
From London - Camping Trips, Bus Tours  
Aurail Passes - Rhine River Cruises etc.

Travel The World with Travel World  
Travel World Consultants Ltd.

10025 - 106 St. Phone 429-6521

alberta contemporary  
dance theatre



**8:30 p.m.**  
**Fri., April 4**  
**Sat., April 5**  
**Sun., April 6**

**SPRING  
CONCERT**

**Students Union Theatre**

TICKETS - BAY OUTLETS & S. U. BOX OFFICE  
PHONE 432-4764  
FROM \$1.00

University of Alberta  
89 Ave. East of 116 St.  
PARKADE NEXT DOOR