

Kresge eye research benefits community

By NANCY STEIN

It has its own zoo, its own library and millions of dollars worth of equipment.

It's called the Kresge Eye Institute (KEI), a quiet, ultra-modern structure attached to the new

Webber Memorial Building of Harper Hospital, Detroit.

Beyond its heavily carpeted, hushed lobby, 34,000 square feet are filled with expensive equipment and specialized scientists doing basic eye research and providing education to future ophthalmologists studying at Wayne State University's medical school.

This institute came into existence almost by chance.

Dr. Parker Heath, an ophthalmologist, had as his patient, Stanley S. Kresge, Heath told Kresge that Michigan totally lacked a place where basic eye research could be done.

Kresge took it upon himself to see that this void was filled.

As a result, in 1948 the institute was created with monies from the Kresge Foundation.

THE MICHIGAN Eye Bank is centered at the institute under the direction of Dr. John W. Cowden.

In what appears to be a witch's cauldron spewing forth frozen fumes of liquid nitrogen sit eyeballs recently removed from donors who bequeathed them to science before their death.

Those eyes will bring sight to persons blinded by cataracts.

In 20 years, the success rate of these corneal transplants has gone from 10 percent to 80 percent, studies show, and research continues.

Retinal detachments, until a few years ago an almost certain cause of blindness, have in recent years been corrected by surgery that now has a 90 percent success rate.

The blinding of the pre-mature infant by a condition called Retrolental Fibro-lasia is almost a thing of the past, doctors explain.

DR. IRENE LOEWENFELD studies at the institute; her specialty is the movement of the pupil in a science called pupillography.

Through it she has discovered, among other things, that one can see in the minutest degree the mode of action and potency of autonomic drugs.

Dr. Michael A. Wainstock is an ophthalmologist who specializes in electronics.

He has investigated ultrasound and is today the director of the ultrasound laboratory at KEI.

Ultrasound is the use of sound waves.

WAINSTOCK, along with a handful of other scientists around the world, has applied the idea of using high frequency sound waves to examine the inside of the eye, even when it is so clouded that X-ray is useless.

Showing a "picture" taken by the method, he explained, "The doctor who referred this patient here knew something was wrong, even though all the tests were negative."

"That tumor would have gone unnoticed back there—since you can't just go in and take a biopsy of the eye—if it weren't for ultrasound."

What will happen to the patient now?

She'll be sent back to her own referring ophthalmologist who will operate and remove the tumor before it has a chance to blind her.

You don't just walk into the Kresge Eye Institute and ask for an appointment. Patients are sent there by their doctor.

RESEARCH IS on-going.

Dr. Robert Jampel, director of KEI continues his work on ocular movements in primates and man.

He has at his disposal for study a laboratory of monkeys, rabbits and cats.

Dr. Clifford V. Harding studies cells in the new electronic microscope laboratory that has equipment so precise it can enlarge things to a million times their normal size.

At that point one can see an individual protein cell.

CROWLEY'S

Have a PARTY PAJAMA

Decidedly the newest way to liven an evening; its our inviting collection of colorful monotone prints, mini-florals and stripes served up in soft, minimum-fuss polyester. At gatherings large or small, the party pajama mixes easily and comfortably. Sizes 10 to 18. Misses Dresses (#79) at the Birmingham, Farmington, Westborn Center and Livonia Mall stores.

\$48



**STOREWIDE
SUMMER
CLEARANCE**

1/2 off AND MORE

ALL SUMMER JEWELRY, CHAINS, AND SCARVES

75% OFF

ALL SALES FINAL • NO RETURNS OR EXCHANGES

Davidson's
of Pierce Street
BIRMINGHAM

Summer Store Hours
249 PIERCE 10 to 5:30 P.M. DAILY MI 4-7200

for all good sports

1/3 to 1/2 OFF

**WOMEN'S
SUMMER SPORTSWEAR
SALE**

Don Thomas Sports

We're open Thurs. & Fri. 'til 9.
Other days 'til 6.

Don Thomas
Sports

You're invited to use your
BankAmericard or Master Charge.

Somerset Mall, Troy Big Beaver & Coolidge Roads 643-0400 • Bloomfield Plaza Telegraph at Maple Roads 626-9500

Shop at Birmingham Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday from 9:30 till 5:30 and on Thursday and Friday from 10 till 9. Shop at Westborn Center, Farmington and Livonia Mall Monday through Saturday from 10 till 9 and on Sunday from 12 till 5

WESTBORN CENTER LIVONIA MALL FARMINGTON BIRMINGHAM

