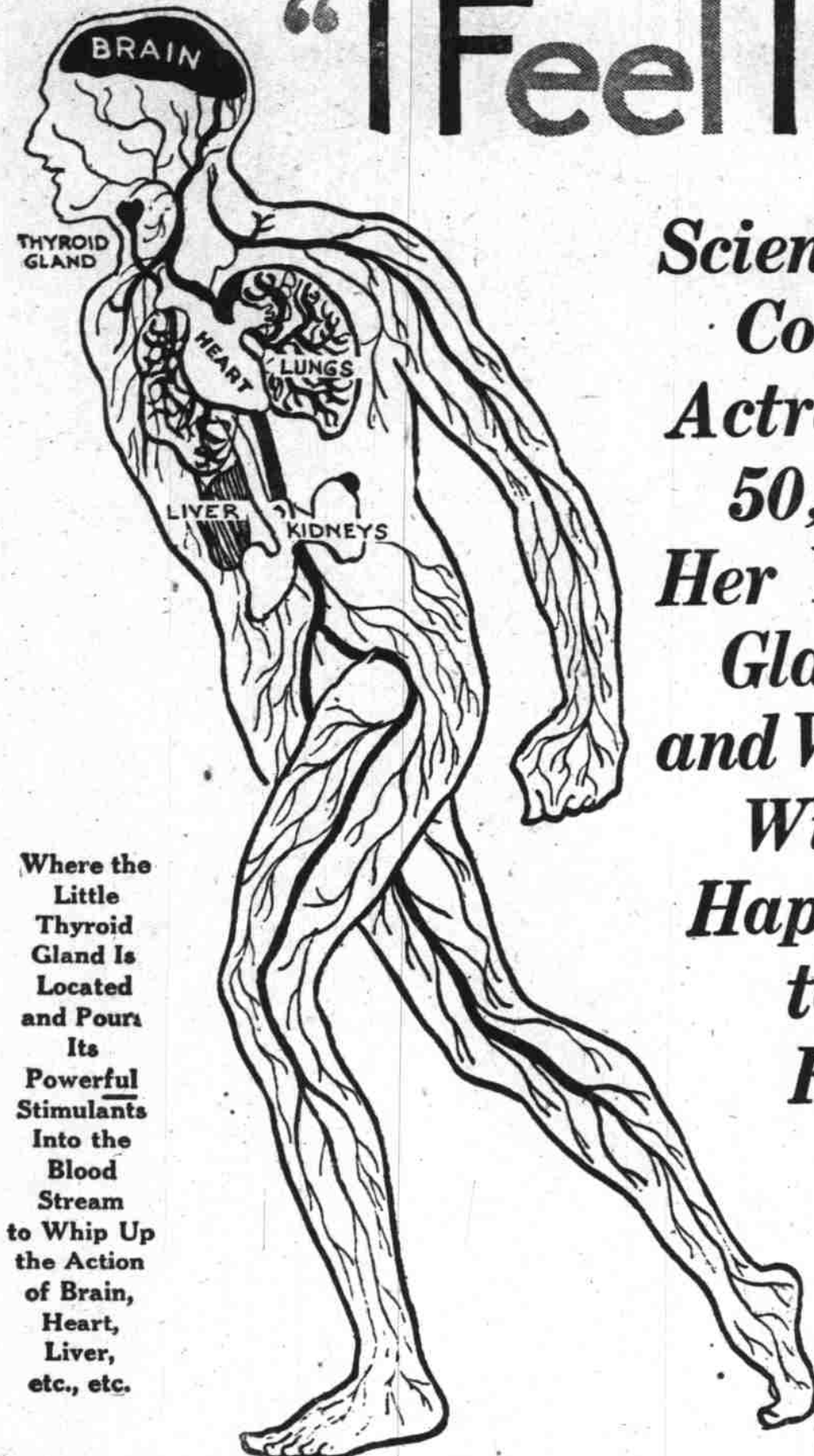


"I Feel I Could Jump Over A House"

**Science Explains How
Connie Ediss, the
Actress, at the Age of
50, Has Renewed
Her Youth by Thyroid
Gland Injections—
and What
Will
Happen
to
Her**



Various Photographs of Miss Connie Ediss, the Well-known English Actress. The One at the Left Shows Her at the Age of Fifty.



Where the Little Thyroid Gland Is Located and Pours Its Powerful Stimulants Into the Blood Stream to Whip Up the Action of Brain, Heart, Liver, etc., etc.

THE English newspapers publish the details of a veritable miracle of science, which has been performed on Miss Connie Ediss, long one of the most popular, refined comedienne on the British stage.

Connie Ediss is over fifty years old, and this fact was beginning to be apparent to the British theatre-going public, although they are very patient and very much attached to old favorites. It was growing difficult to be amused by this tired, gray-haired, middle-aged lady behaving as a flirtatious and skittish young woman. Poor Miss Ediss, like so many other women, was faced by the tragedy of giving up her life-long position on the stage.

Then she appeared in a new and very frivolous society comedy, called "Lord Richard in the Pantry." The miracle had happened. As a vivacious and flirtatious young woman, Connie Ediss was as attractive as she had been at twenty.

Her eyes were bright and sparkling, her cheeks dimpled and rounded. She jumped about like a kitten, and she was full of vitality.

Her friends immediately hastened to her and congratulated her, but they also expressed their surprise.

"What has happened to you, Connie?" they asked. "You're not the same person you were a month ago."

"I've recovered my lost youth," replied Miss Ediss very frankly. "Injections of thyroid extract have worked the miracle. I was an old woman and had just about made up my mind to quit the stage, when a doctor suggested that I should try the extract. I was so tired I could scarcely drag myself around, and now I don't know what fatigue is, and I am able to sing and dance all the time."

"I had heart trouble, too, and now that is over, and I can smoke fifty cigarettes a day without feeling any the worse for it."

"My hair was growing thin and gray, and now you see it is growing again as thick as ever and not gray at all. I feel I could jump over a house!"

All this and a great deal more Miss Ediss told her friends and the reporters, and now all the women in England are beginning to feel that they can conquer their greatest enemy—premature loss of charm.

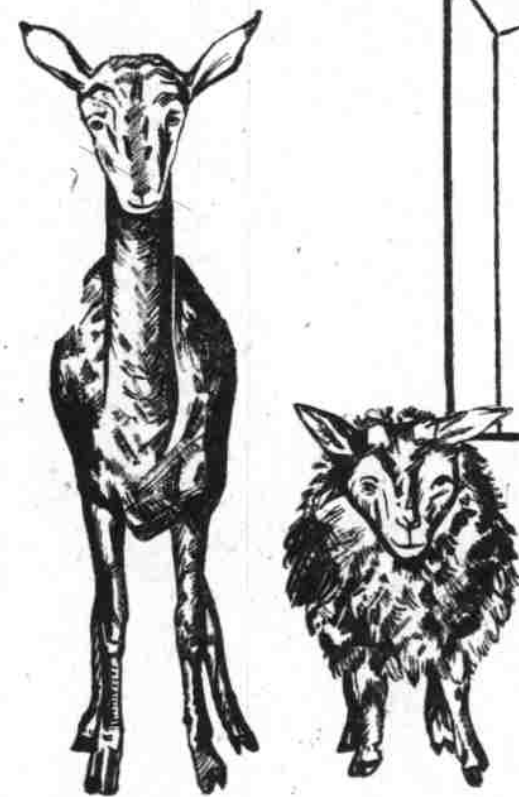
Can all this be true? Is it in accordance with medical experience? Will it last, or is this exuberant new-found vitality like that of the man who dances about and throws his hat in the air under the temporary stimulus of a bottle of champagne? If a reaction is inevitable, when will it come?

And will it leave her worse off than before, and must the injections be kept up for the rest of her life?

Inquiry of a New York physician who has had much experience with this form of medicine brought out the information that thyroid extract will in reality restore many of the functions of youth and vitality, although it must not be supposed that every manifestation of old age can be cured. The object of the thyroid extract, usually given in the form of sheep's thyroid, is to restore the strength and activity of the human thyroid gland.

Recent investigations have proved that this little gland, which was once considered of no importance, plays a most important part in keeping us strong and

On the Left, a Normal Goat at the Age of 4 Months, on the Right, Goat of Same Age Whose Thyroid Gland Was Removed 3 Months Before. The Loss Has Stunted Its Growth and Given Its Face a Blank Unnatural Expression.



healthy. The thyroid gland consists of two connected lobes, situated in the neck, in front of the wind pipe.

This gland sends out mysterious substances, sometimes called "hormones," meaning "messengers," which have never been isolated, but which have been proved by experiment to supply strength and activity to the body. It is one of the ductless glands, of which the others are the suprarenals, the thymus, the spleen and the parathyroid. All these glands pour invisible substances in the blood, which are necessary for an active and lively existence.

There are other glands, like the liver, which in addition to their primary work have a secondary duty of pouring invisible energizing substances into the circulation, just as the ductless glands do.

The studies of Dr. G. W. Crile, the famous American surgeon, have proved that the substances produced by the thyroid gland, give the body much of its virility and liveliness. They furnish ferocity to the fighting soldier and charm to the vicious young woman.

When the activity of the thyroid is great, the person's energy may become exuberant. At times, indeed, the pace becomes so fierce as to lead to a condition called Graves' disease, which is marked by tremor, excessively rapid heart action, marked nervousness, protrusion of the eyeballs and irrational conduct. On the other hand, there is a condition in which the thyroid is not sufficiently active, which produces entirely different symptoms.

Evidently Miss Connie Ediss was suffering from a deficiency of her own thyroid secretion when she found herself growing old, dull and gray haired. This condition is called "hypothyroidism," while excess of thyroid secretion is called "hyperthyroidism."

An immense number of persons past



Faust Selling His Soul to the Devil for the Gift of Renewed Youth—and Faust Made Young Again. From Drawings by Retsch.

middle age suffer from insufficient thyroid secretion; so much so, that the condition is probably the usual one, but it is none the less desirable to check it.

The duties of the thyroid are to keep other essential organs at work—to assist in driving oxygen through the body, to distribute nutrition to all parts of the system, to renew the tissues, especially the skin, hair and nails, to eliminate waste material and to produce energy. Hence, it will be understood that when it fails to do these things a person must become sickly, dull, heavy, unattractive—in a word, old.

In the extreme form of deficient thyroid there is swelling of the eyelids, a dull expression to the eyes themselves, loss of hair, absence of perspiration, fatigue, general sluggishness, tendency to sleep most of the time, decay of nails and teeth, a stiff gait, thickening of the skin and of the mucous membrane of the nose, pallor, slow heart action, violent digestive disorders, subnormal temperature, hallucinations of sight and hearing, many mental abnormalities and even actual insanity at times.

The most peculiar feature of this condition is the change in appearance of the skin. The tissues immediately under the skin are invaded by a thick gelatinous substance, which gives rise to a peculiar surface fullness, most marked about the face and suggestive of dropsy. The condition may be distinguished from dropsy by the peculiar firmness of the flesh in the sufferer from too little thyroid secretion.

Deficient thyroid gland is much more common in women than in men—in the proportion of seven to one.

In a woman with only a moderate degree of deficient thyroid the doctor usually finds mental sluggishness, irritability from slight causes, general moodiness, inability to concentrate, forgetfulness and fatigue, lack of confidence, tendency to sleep a great deal, and morning weariness, sometimes wearing off during the day.

There is a tendency for the hair to come out and for much dandruff to form. There is no brilliancy to the hair, which becomes coarse, dry and dusty looking.

The head aches after any slight effort to work, either over the brow or at the back of the head. The eyes sink in and are dull in expression. The outer part of the eyebrows tends to thin out. The outer half of the upper eyelid is likely to become puffy.

The lips are dry and cracked, and the teeth become soft and tend to decay. The tonsils are enlarged and attacks of tonsillitis are frequent. These patients are susceptible to colds and are slow to recover. There is a tendency to winter cough.

The patient usually gains weight. The smaller joints crackle easily. The skin is dry and thick and scales easily. Eczema is common. There is but little perspiration. The nails become ridged, thickened and frail. The heart beats sluggishly, and the extremities are cold and damp.

When this condition becomes so bad that there is change in the appearance of the skin, it is known as "myxedema."

From the long list of symptoms it will be understood that there are many stages of the disease, the more moderate of which would entail the loss of a woman's youthfulness and attractiveness.

Now it has been found after many experiments that preparations of animal thyroid gland will remedy in a human being the ailments due to a defective thyroid and restore some of the youthfulness lost through that defect. Sheep thyroid is usually employed, although there is some reason to believe that monkey thyroid would be more effective. It is very difficult to obtain the latter in sufficient quantities.

Animal thyroid may be administered through the mouth, or injected under the skin. Its effect is more lasting when injected. This is doubtless the form in which it has been given to Connie Ediss. As she is possessed of ample means, it is possible that she has been treated with monkey thyroid, by one of the few physicians who can command a sufficient supply of this substance.

Judging by Miss Ediss's own statement about her case, she has shown the youth-restoring power of thyroid extract as per-

fectly as any person upon whom it has been tried.

In previous cases it has been found that a person treated with animal thyroid relapses to his original condition after a certain time, unless the treatment is repeated. The worn-out thyroid of the human being seldom, if ever, "comes back" completely, and it is customary to continue the administration of the remedy in small doses, or give an occasional intensive course of treatment. Connie Ediss will probably have to take animal thyroid for the rest of her life in order to keep up a semblance of gayety and youthfulness.

Thus there need be no reaction and the improvement may be regarded as permanent, as it is not difficult to keep up the treatment. It is not like those remedies which produce a temporary improvement and then cease to have any effect, however much they may be used.

There is no doubt that thyroid extract is a remedy that has added considerably to the happiness of the human family. Equally remarkable results are expected from the use of other ductless glands of animals in treating human diseases and defects. The methods of treatment are still in an experimental stage. In many cases the animal glands are transplanted surgically to the human subject.

That the thyroid possesses all the powers here attributed to it has been amply proved by the observation of persons suffering from deficiency or excess of the gland. These observations have been

confirmed by removing the gland from animals. Failure of the gland has long been recognized as the cause of the peculiar form of idiocy known as "cretinism," which is common in certain parts of Switzerland and hereditary in many families.

Excess of the gland produces the condition called "exophthalmic goitre," in which the eyes pop out, as well as Graves' disease, already mentioned. Strange to say, an excess of thyroid, which produces abnormal activity for a time, often ends with a similar condition to that caused by deficient thyroid. Some medical observers have reasoned that Napoleon Bonaparte during his years of greatest military activity was a victim of hyperthyroidism, while the lethargy which characterized him at the time of the Battle of Waterloo was a symptom of myxedema.

While thyroid extract has worked wonders in the case of Connie Ediss and may do so in other cases, it must be borne in mind that she was suffering from a distinct ailment in which there was deficiency of her thyroid secretion. Men and women who are growing old must not jump to the conclusion that they can stay the inevitable advance of old age, with all its varied symptoms, simply by taking this extract. Even though some deficiency of thyroid may be present in ordinary old age, there are many other conditions that enter into the problem, and no specific for curing them exists. Thyroid extract is said to have very dangerous results if given where it is not needed or in excessive quantities.

It is a significant fact that since the earliest times man has sought—and vaguely believed in—a substance or a miraculous treatment that would give him perpetual youth. The most interesting illustration of this is the ancient legend of Faust, which goes back to the earliest middle ages, and was made into a drama, first by Marlowe and then by Goethe. In that case it was the devil who gave Faust, the coveted secret in exchange for his soul. Other philosophers believed there was a fountain somewhere that would give them perpetual youth, and Ponce de Leon, the early explorer of America, reported that he had located this fountain in the Bahama Islands.

