

# Science Changing "Girl-Boy" to Man

## Dwarf Child Will Never Be Physically Fit.

Kittanning, Pa.—There is a long, uphill struggle ahead of Clara—now named Clarence—Schreckengost, the twenty-year-old dwarf whom surgeons are changing into a normal man.

The new science of the ductless gland treatments is being used with success, it was learned, and the physicians are confident that the "girl-man" will win the fight.

A physician familiar with the case said:

"Clarence will never be completely normal. We believe, however, that gradually he will improve physically. We have not changed his sex—such a thing is impossible. All we have done is to encourage the development of the patient's real sex."

The child is only 51 inches tall and unable to read or write, and has six normal brothers and sisters.

### Cases Not Rare.

Changes from one sex to another, as in the case of Clara Schreckengost, are far from being rare, although seldom heard about outside of medical circles.

Modern medical science has discovered that the change from one sex to another is the result of strange variations in the embryo or in imbalance in the ductless glands.

In such glands hormones are produced. They are responsible for the secondary sex characteristics, the masculine voice and beard of men, for instance.

If something goes wrong among the endocrines, a girl may grow more like a boy, and vice versa. This accounts for bearded women of the side shows and other like freaks.

### "Better Off Dead."

For twenty years Mrs. Lettie Schreckengost has guarded her secret, even from her husband, Clark Schreckengost, a silent moody man of this Pennsylvania backwoods farming country. And neither did Mrs. Schreckengost say anything when their family physician, kindly Dr. George S. Morrow, now dead, laid in her arms the malformed little creature who was to be named Clarence.

The ancient Greeks had a word for it, and a myth, to explain these thwarted children of Hermes and Aphrodite in whom the sexes were fused in a mystic union.

But to the country practitioner of two decades ago, the Schreckengost offspring was a biological quirk and better off dead, according to the mother.

"He said that it would be more kindly to put it aside and let it die," Mrs. Schreckengost said.

"The doctor told me," she said, "that it might be either a girl or a boy, and asked me how I would

## 47 Soviet Labor Unions to Be Split in 154 Units

Moscow.—In line with the Soviet union's new policy of decentralization in government and industry, the All Union Trade Unions council has decided to split Russia's 47 trade unions into 154.

The purpose of this decision which has the personal support of Josef V. Stalin, secretary general of the Communist party, is to make the unions more efficient and stronger, it was explained, and bring the men into closer contact with union leadership. The divisions will be both geographical and occupational.

For instance, the gigantic All Union organization of coal mines will be split into three unions—one for central Russia, another for the east, and another in the Donetz basin region. The railroad workers' organization will be divided into unions of engineers, trainmen and similar groups. The existing unions are felt to be unwieldy, some having more than 1,000,000 members each.

## NEW SUBSTANCE TO KILL CANCER CELLS

Important Discovery Made by Vienna Doctors.

Vienna.—The antidote of cancer, a substance which dissolves and kills the cancer cells or microbes,

has been found by Vienna scientists working under the guidance of Dr. Adolf Edelmann, director of the Vienna Cancer Research Institute, founded by the late American millionaire, S. Canning Childs.

Dr. Edelmann and his associates have produced from human cancerous tissues an organic substance which dissolves cancer cells just like the "bacteriophage" dissolves the bacilli of its own kind.

"Bacteriophage," or bacterium-eater, discovered by the French bacteriologist d'Hérelle, is a special type of cell produced only by organisms attacked by a contagious disease. The bacterium eaters can be found in the blood of diseased persons and they are believed to constitute a sort of counter-attack of the organism on the disease germs.

### Lost People of Guinea Plateau to Stay Nude

London.—The newly discovered race on the New Guinea plateau is to remain nude.

That is as far as the missionaries are concerned, for an expedition bearing civilization to a newly discovered race of people living in complete isolation from the rest of the world on a plateau in New Guinea, is excluding clothes from among its gifts.

Rev. V. H. Sherwin of Gosport, who has left home to take religious and medical comforts to the 200,000 inhabitants of the new territory, expressed himself strongly on the point.

"One of our policies is to fight against clothing natives. The big mistake western civilization has made is to put natives into clothes. These people ordinarily have a high standard of morality, walking about often naked, and are not possessed by the sexual exaggerations that we have in civilization."

"Moreover, in humid heat the more the body is exposed the better from the medical point of view."

Washington.—A definite program for new taxation to be recommended to congress in January is being worked out by experts in the Treasury department despite the bland assurance of Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi, chairman of the senate finance committee, that no new taxes will be needed.

In fact, the program, with few exceptions, is almost "frozen" already. The goal is half a billion dollars more revenue annually—or at least until the present need passes. It will be recalled that President Roosevelt pointed out months ago that it was the drought relief cost, estimated then at \$525,000,000, that upset his budget balancing program.

One of the striking features of the new tax program is a new excess profits tax, graduated on much the same line as the income tax brackets, so that it will hit the big profit makers harder than those corporations making smaller profits. This, of course, will be in addition to the already very heavy corporation income taxes.

An interesting feature of this proposal is the theory behind it, involving regulation by the government of business, prices, labor costs and profits. Not long after the war the government deliberately scrapped the then existing excess profits tax, which had been imposed with a view to getting at war profiteers. It had been thought too difficult and time-wasting in the rush of war preparation to battle too much over prices paid for supplies. So this tax was devised with a view of catching any contractors or manufacturers who made too much money as a result of this more or less open-handed buying by the government.

But after the war it was discovered, in very careful investigations made under the direction of Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas, that the thing just didn't work the way it had been intended. Especially when the ordinary citizen and not the government was the buyer. It was found that prices were pyramided to include the excess profits tax and still give the seller entirely too large a profit. So the tax was repealed.

Now it is to be reinstated, but with the conviction that government regulation will prevent any such results.

### Perfect X-Ray Is Hot Enough to Make Jewels

London.—An X-ray machine ten times more powerful than any other in the world is nearing completion at the Davy-Faraday laboratory of the Royal Institution, London. It will have a power of 50 kilowatts, or nearly 70 horse power.

This apparatus will be used for "high-speed X-ray analysis." It will show exactly how the innermost atoms of materials are arranged.

One of the mysteries which has been solved by "X-ray analysis" is that of the permanent wave. Beauty specialists found various methods to produce the waves, but even scientists did not know why they were "permanent."

Now X-rays have shown that when the waving specialists have finished with a girl's head the arrangement of the billions of atoms in each hair has been completely changed.

This new machine will be able to produce rays of heat so intense that if trained on a block of steel several feet thick they will instantly burn through it.

Artificial diamonds could also be produced by training the heat rays on carbon; and rubies made from aluminum oxide.

### Easy Cure for Insomnia Is Just Stop Thinking

London.—A sure cure for insomnia is to stop thinking.

And to stop thinking, according to Lillas MacKinnon, a well-known British educationist, it only needs a little practice.

McKinnon said: "With practice one can learn to stop thinking altogether. The way to do it is to relax the muscles of the face, including the muscles of the eyes, and gradually all thought will drift away."

"You will have a feeling of delightful drowsiness and you will be able to fall asleep at will and at any time. This is a certain cure for insomnia."

Palestine's Synagogues were set facing in the general direction of Jerusalem.

## SEEN and HEARD

around the National Capital

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### To Cut Exemptions

Another provision of the new tax program, the writer learns, would reduce the present exemptions for married persons from \$2,500 to \$2,000 and for single persons from \$1,500 to \$1,000. Still another is a sharp raise in rates on the lower income brackets, the rates on the higher brackets having already been stepped up considerably from the low to which they had been reduced under the Mellon regime, in fact practically back to war levels.

This new tax on the "lower middle classes," as it was called by a senator who learned about the program by accident, is apt to produce a real fight in congress unless President Roosevelt cracks the whip too hard. It is the one detail of the plan that may find rocks ahead, in the private views even of the experts framing it. For it is not regarded as particularly good politics, however sound may be the economics. There are too many voters in these classifications.

Incidentally, some of the old heads in the revenue service always have contended that the difficulty and expense of collection in the very low brackets did not make up for the burden imposed.

Taxation on corporation surpluses is another feature of the proposed program. This is an old hobby of the President. He indicated his thoughts on this subject as far back as in his acceptance speech before the Chicago convention, and has made frequent references to it since.

He believes that this "piled up surplus" was very close to the genesis of the depression. Had it been paid out in wages, in reduced prices, or even in dividends, it would have produced greater buying power, he has pointed out.

### G. O. P. Hopes in New York

With the Jim Farley-Vincent Daily upstate New York machine functioning in every precinct, Republican secret canvases do not reveal a prospect of gaining more than three seats in the house this fall in the Empire state.

This, despite the fact that the Democrats now hold 29 of the state's seats in the national house, and the Republicans only 16.

While details are not made public, naturally enough, of the particular spots where the Republicans hope to make these three gains, probability is that two of them are the seats at large, and the third is the Seventeenth district in New York city, once represented by Ogden Mills, and later by Ruth Pratt, but which the Democrats captured in the Roosevelt landslide.

There is excellent reason for believing the Republicans can win the Seventeenth district back. It happens to be the richest district in America. More securities in corporations whose profits may be threatened by the New Deal are held there than in most states.

Moreover, there is the fact that the old and famous "upstate" is no longer the Republican Gibraltar it used to be. For one thing, Farley and Daily organized it, back in the 1930 election, when Roosevelt was elected gov-

ernor and started on the road to the Presidency. The days of half a million and more majority in New York city being wiped out by a Republican sweep of the upstate apparently are gone forever.

### Of High Importance

Which raises the point: What has happened to the Republican party in New York? The question is of enormous interest in Washington because of its effect on the house of representatives, even in this off year. One of the reasons why no Republican has been so optimistic, at any time since last spring, to claim that the Republicans might capture the house of representatives in this election is that every well informed Republican realizes that no substantial gain can be counted on from New York state.

Which is rather amazing when one looks back just a few years. It would seem that something happened to the New York G. O. P., along about 1921. That year marks the dividing line. The 1920 election, which was the Harding landslide, marked the high tide of Republican members to the house from New York. The 1916 election had resulted in the delegation being composed of 16 Democrats, 26 Republicans and 1 Socialist. There was a Republican gain in 1918, and then in 1926 the Republicans elected 33, the Democrats a bare 9, and the Socialists 1.

But that was not only the high tide, it was the last time the G. O. P. elected a majority of the New York delegation.

In 1922 the Democrats went into the lead with 22 to 21. So, if the elder La Follette had won enough electoral votes in 1924 to have thrown the election of a President into the house, New York, which had cast nearly a million majority for Coolidge, would have been recorded for Davis!

Curiously enough, even this tremendous Coolidge majority did not pull through enough Republicans to give them a majority of the delegation. The Democrats held their 22 in that election, and the Republicans lost one, with one Socialist elected.

Nor did the Hoover landslide jar this Democratic majority loose. On the contrary, the Democrats gained one.

### No Rush for Bonds

Nothing like the expected rush to convert Liberty bonds into the new issue, despite the bait of a free month's interest for prompt action, followed the latest announcement of treasury financing. It may be that the half billion dollars' worth of bonds still held out will come in before October 15, the final date on which the outstanding bonds are called, but meanwhile there is considerable speculation as to the motives actuating bondholders who, at the moment, seem to intend to demand cash on October 15 rather than take the new issue.

The surprising phase of the situation is that the new bonds bear interest at 3 1/2 per cent. This is 1 per cent less than the 4 1/2 paid by the Liberties being called, of course, but it is regarded as very high for government bonds, especially in view of the uncertainty with respect to private investments, and the eagerness of capital to find some investment which involves no risk no matter how small the return.

Yet apparently, unless holders of the outstanding Liberties that were called are just procrastinating, regardless of the "free interest" bait until October 15, a very large number of holders intend to take cash on October 15 rather than take the new government three and a quarters.

A Washington professional man who recently sold a house, taking all cash, was thinking of investing the amount in a small apartment house. On this, of course, he would have to borrow considerable additional capital. Within the ten days following the treasury announcement, he was offered all the additional money he wanted to buy the apartment house by two different banks. The interest rate each bank asked was 5 per cent!

Incidentally, the offer of each bank was predicated on the idea of a five-year mortgage, not callable during that time, yet with the provision that the borrower could make payments of any size he desired on any interest date.

### Banks Loosen Up

In other words, the would-be borrower was given all the advantage of any change in conditions. If he found after a year or at the end of three years that he could borrow money at 4 per cent, he would be at liberty to make the new loan, and pay off the mortgage. Whereas, if interest rates should rise, and the bank could easily make loans at 6 per cent, the bank would not have the option of calling his loan.

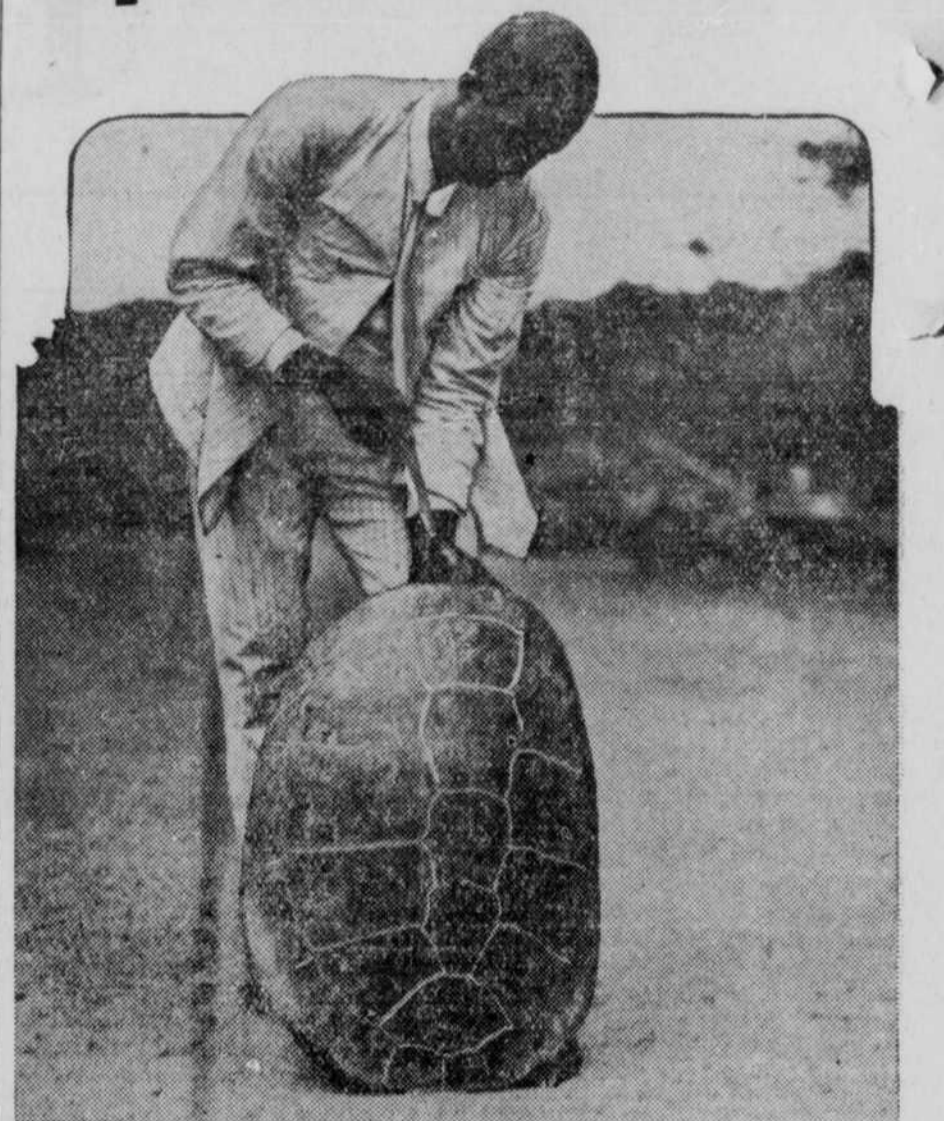
This situation of the banks here, anxious to make long term loans to trustworthy individuals on good security at 5 per cent, while government bonds do not seem to be in particular demand at 3 1/2 per cent, arouses considerable comment as to the whys and wherefores.

For the one explanation given by governmental critics—that people are reluctant to buy government bonds because they are afraid of some wild inflation—would seem to apply equally to long term private loans.

Also it would seem to indicate that the banks are not anything like so "tight" with their money as some of the governmental agencies have been charging. In cases, of course, where no question of an overzealous national bank examiner is involved.

### Up The Orinoco

# Up The Orinoco



An Orinoco River Turtle.

Prepared by National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.—WNU Service.

A TRIP up the Orinoco in the wake of Alexander von Humboldt, a century and a third after the voyage of that famous naturalist and explorer, finds the great stream little changed.

The Orinoco ranks third among the rivers of South America. Estimates of its length are as diverse as they are numerous, and all are but approximations for the uppermost reaches have never been charted; but probably the best figures are those of the Venezuelan national cartographic office—1,800 kilometers (1,118 miles). The mighty stream sprawls across the map of Venezuela like a giant fishhook, the shank flattened out to form a delta, the point stuck far away somewhere in the shadowy range called the Sierra Parima.

Its tawny flood is discharged into the Atlantic through no less than 36 distinct channels radiating northward from the main stream in the form of a fan. Only two are considered practicable for steamers. Cano Macareo, which offers the most direct route from Port of Spain, is used so long as the depth of the water is sufficient; at other times boats enter via Boca Grande.

Beyond the Delta. On the second day of a steamer trip up the Orinoco, the boat emerges from the delta into the Orinoco proper—a river of truly majestic proportions and a placid surface, though jaundiced of countenance. Wide savannas roll away on either hand, those to the south breaking against the rocky, gold-bearing hills that held Sir Walter Raleigh's last hope of redemption.

Some distance higher up, two ancient forts occupy strategic positions atop rocky eminences on the right bank where the river is squeezed into a narrow channel. These are Los Castillos, and mark the site of the old Spanish village of San Thome, which was captured and ultimately destroyed by Sir Walter's forces in 1618, on that infamous adventurer's last expedition to the Orinoco in search of El Dorado. This fracas with the Spaniards cost Sir Walter his elder son and his own hand.

For the third time passengers go to bed to the churning of the stern paddles, but awake to face Ciudad Bolivar, surmounting a low rocky hill on the south bank, her white-washed walls still somber when the first rays of sunlight strike the cathedral's checkered tower.

In Ciudad Bolivar. This little city of 17,000, 228 miles from the sea, is the capital of the state of Bolivar and gateway to an enormous region as yet served only by river. It is the metropolis of the Orinoco. It was founded by the Spanish in 1764, under the name of San Thome, and exhibits the massive, boxlike, flat-roofed houses built in solid blocks, the protruding, heavily barred and shuttered windows, and entrancing patios so typical of Spanish America. Its chief claim to fame is that it is the birthplace of the Venezuelan constitution and Angostura bitters.

Quite naturally, the town soon came to be known as Angostura (strait), because between its rocky hill and the one from which Soledad faces it, the whole Orinoco is squeezed to a width of only 800 yards. Swirling with tremendous force through this narrow gap, the river has scoured out a channel to a depth of 232 feet below sea level. The mean depth of water is 335 feet, but the river has been known to rise 52 feet above low stage and flood the entire business section of the town.

Ciudad Bolivar is a pleasant place in early morning, when the market bustles with activity, and at evening, when the town turns out to take the air on the breeze-swept

Paseo; at noontime it swelters in the glare and heat of a tropic sun, and even the imperturbable burros nod as they mince along the steep, flag-paved streets.

Above the Angostura constriction the Orinoco is again a splendid stream, maintaining for several hundred miles an average width, including islands, of three and three-quarter miles. Of course this does not compare with the Amazon, but because of its numerous playas (sand beaches and exposed sand bars in midstream) and the relief of its banks, the Orinoco is the more picturesque of the two. Flocks of water-fowl, and numerous caymans lying like water-soaked logs on the margins of the beaches, add life to every scene.

Below the little mid town of Mapire the Orinoco is doubled back sharply by a range of hills and forced through two rocky channels so narrow that during the rainy season the current at times attains a velocity of 12 miles an hour. This is El Inferno, the most respected rapid of the middle Orinoco.

Gathering of the Turtles. Above La Urbana the hills become higher and some sweep up from the very stream. A thin line of gallery forest still hides the savannas from the river, but no tree relieves the somber slate-gray of weathered granite. Table-lands break in sheer cliffs; isolated bosses, knobs, and smoothly polished domes rise on every hand; monstrous rocks are thrown here and there in utter confusion, and where they are touched by the Orinoco in its rise and fall, are covered by a highly burnished enamel as black as ink.

Here on two islands of fine, buffy sand takes place the great annual gathering of turtles, one of the most remarkable phenomena of the Orinoco.

To these sand bars at the beginning of each year the big turtles come literally in thousands, followed by a human horde bent upon their destruction. Formerly there were no restrictions, and those who were able helped themselves, but in the many fights which ensued the natives spilled so much of their own blood along with that of the turtles that the authorities finally intervened.

Now each year the turtle rights are sold as a concession to the highest bidder. In December the concessionaire raises small white flags on tall poles as a warning to steer clear of the island and not frighten the turtle vanguards.

In season the camp at Playa Pararuna, where the turtles concentrate in greatest numbers, is on a high sandy bank, the only roof a thatched hut serving as a storehouse for provisions. Hammocks, unsheltered, hung from almost every tree. Craft of every description are tied up at the bank.

Upper Reaches of the River. As far as the "turtle islands," and a little beyond, both sides of the Orinoco are Venezuelan territory. From the Meta southward to San Fernando de Atabapo the western bank belongs to Colombia. On a point of sand in the angle between the Meta and the Orinoco, backed by a low hill of naked black rock, stands Puerto Carreño, the only Colombian village on the whole frontier. It did not exist in Humboldt's day.

A short distance above Puerto Carreño the Raudal San Borja—a swift rapid—confronts the voyager. A small steamer has great difficulty in fighting its way through to calmer waters above. In Humboldt's time there was a mission here—a strategic place for salvaging souls that had been frightened into repentance.

Approximately 50 miles farther up stream is the small settlement of Puerto Ayacucho, just below the two impassable rapids of Atures.

## First View of Argentina's Disastrous Oil Fire



Aerial view, the first to arrive in the United States, of the fire that ravaged the oil tanks of the Compania Nacional de Petroleos, a subsidiary of the Standard Oil company at Campagna, Argentina. Three persons were killed in the fire, and about \$3,400,000 damage was done.