



#### ANCIENT CANDID CAMERA ART

*It is as old as the Egyptians. In this ancient sample Queen Nefertiti tries to kiss her husband while he is driving the royal chariot.*

In portraying the physical defects of women, Akhnaton's artists were going farther than modern art generally goes. Portrait studies of men may play up wrinkles, irregular features, and other traits that make the man. But women are generally flattered. And it was the same in Egypt, before Akhnaton, and again after his influence waned. Egyptian artists ordinarily knew that the right thing was to make a woman young and beautiful and slender, no matter what her age or figure. And in this fashion Egyptian women were portrayed in the tomb paintings and religious scenes. Against such a tradition, the stark realism that Akhnaton demanded of his artists in portraying women becomes a startling innovation.

As for his own features, Akhnaton

stood for seeing them portrayed even by artists who were not particularly expert, and who made him look even worse than he really did. All this is known, because, in the unearthing of his capital, sculptors' studios have been excavated. And in the ruins are found the molds of faces of the royal family. It appears that Akhnaton and his wife and daughters posed for the royal artists and permitted their masks to be made. A death mask of Akhnaton was also found, near the palace.

In one respect the artists did slip conspicuously from their ideal of serving truth. That was when they came to portraying other Egyptians with the King's physical defects. It was fashionable and good politics to be like the Pharaoh. So, many of the people of this time are shown with bulging heads, thin bodies, bay-window figures.

Akhnaton's reforms lasted as long as he did. His reign was only about twenty years, and then Egypt reverted to the old ways of worshipping many gods and not being quite so natural in portraying royal families for the immortal record of art.

At its worst, Akhnaton's art produced some grotesque exhibits. At the best, the art buried in the short-lived capital city is pronounced unsurpassed in the art works of ancient Egypt.

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#### MEDICINE

### Addison's Disease Successfully Treated by Diet

**O**NCE-FATAL Addison's disease may be successfully treated by diet alone, it appears from studies by members of the staff of the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.

Patients suffering from this condition, which is characterized by extreme weakness and wasting and a peculiar bronze coloration of the skin, can be kept in good condition by a diet low in potassium and high in sodium salts, Drs. R. M. Wilder, A. M. Snell, E. J. Kepler, E. H. Rynearson, Mildred Adams and E. C. Kendall conclude in a recent report.

Addison's disease is caused by disease or injury to the cortex of the adrenal gland which prevents its producing enough of its vital hormone, cortin. Extracts of the gland have been successfully used in the treatment of the disease during the past few years. The extract, however, is expensive and the treatment must be continued throughout the patient's life. This may deprive some patients of its benefits.

Research, continued after the discovery of the value of cortin, showed that a diet containing large amounts of salt was of benefit in Addison's disease. But in certain severe cases, not even adequate intake of salt and liberal use of the gland extract were sufficient to keep the patient from dying of lack of cortin.

Studies conducted by Drs. W. D. Allers, H. W. Wilson, and E. C. Kendall showed that dogs which had no adrenal glands at all could be kept alive without cortin if they were given proper amounts of both salt and sodium citrate and the amount of potassium in the diet was kept low. Giving the dogs more potassium, however, caused a critical condition similar to the crisis which may prove fatal to human Addison's disease patients.

Following this lead, a low potassium diet was given to Addison's disease patients. The patients did very well and required less of the sodium salts and less or even no cortin at all.

Studies made on three volunteer patients of the effects of different amounts of potassium and sodium salts showed definitely the importance of restricting the amount of potassium in the diet.

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Canned cheddar cheese is a new product tried out by dairy scientists at the University of California.

## ● RADIO

June 16, 2:15 p.m., E.S.T.

**CRIME LABORATORIES**—Dr. William Souder of the National Bureau of Standards.

June 30, 2:15 p.m., E.S.T.

**BIGGER AND BETTER BERRIES**—Dr. Frederick V. Coville of the U. S. Bureau of Plant Industry.

In the Science Service series of radio discussions led by Watson Davis, Director, over the Columbia Broadcasting System.