

If all four parathyroids are taken away, the animal succumbs rapidly, with symptoms just such as have been described under the heading of thyroidectomy, tetany being a marked feature. The signs are the same whether the thyroid gland is removed or left. Leaving one parathyroid is usually sufficient to prevent death, but tetany may still ensue.

It would seem that in man, myxœdema is due to loss of the internal secretion of the thyroid itself, but that tetany and fatal symptoms in both man and animals are due to loss of the parathyroids. The convulsions of tetany in dogs may be arrested by feeding on a watery extract of twelve to twenty horses' parathyroids (Moussu).

REMOVAL OF THYROID ALONE.

Removal of the thyroid gland without the parathyroids is usually not fatal; myxœdema results in man; occasionally, perhaps, in animals also, but more commonly only cachexia. In young animals, however, the results are much more distinct, and Eiselsberg and others have induced very convincing cretinism, with a remarkable stunting of growth, in lambs, goats, rabbits, and asses. It is interesting and important to notice that the animals so treated developed exceedingly marked atheroma of the aorta, of which Eiselsberg gives good figures.

THYROID FEEDING.

We now turn to the effects of thyroid feeding in the normal man and animal. These are perfectly