



***“THE GREAT DISCOVERIES DISCOVERED BY
BELGIANS”***

by Roxana Maricutu, class E2.2.2 Freia Haleyt

THE GREAT DISCOVERIES DISCOVERED BY BELGIANS

“Horum omnium fortissimi sunt Belgae”, [Julius Caesar](#) in De Bello Gallico

“The wealth of our country and our institutional system lies particularly in the fact that our diversity is strength. Whenever we find a balance between unity and diversity, the strength of Belgium is precisely to give meaning to our diversity”, [Philippe of Belgium](#), Telegraph (21 July 2013)



The Contraceptive Pill, Ferdinand Peeters

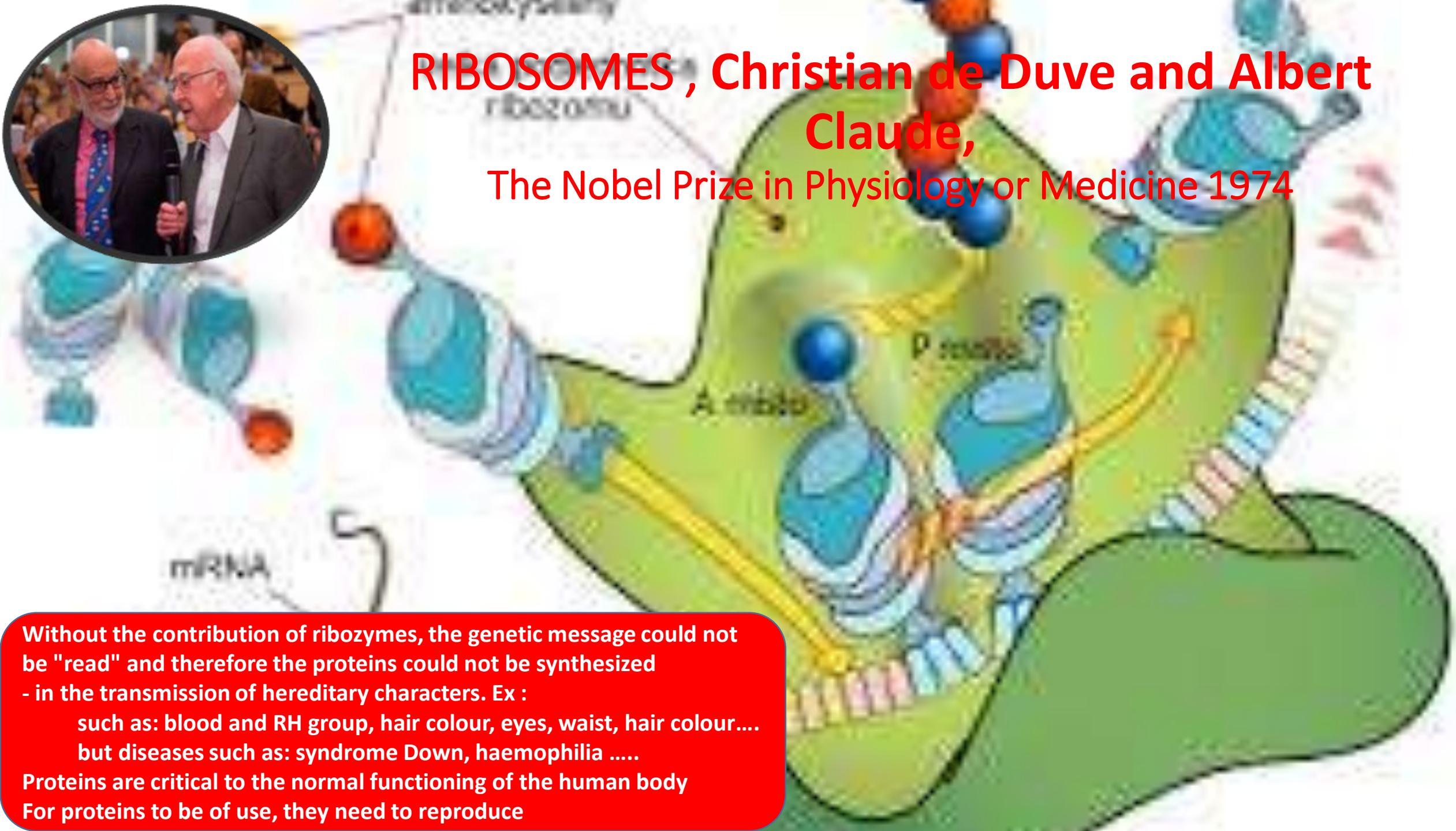
The First Widely Used Contraceptive Pill



The Belgian doctor's pill was the first combined oral contraception introduced outside the US that had 'acceptable' side effects and used on a global scale. Today the pill is one of the most used birth control methods.



RIBOSOMES, Christian de Duve and Albert Claude, The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 1974



Without the contribution of ribozymes, the genetic message could not be "read" and therefore the proteins could not be synthesized

- in the transmission of hereditary characters. Ex :

such as: blood and RH group, hair colour, eyes, waist, hair colour....

but diseases such as: syndrome Down, haemophilia

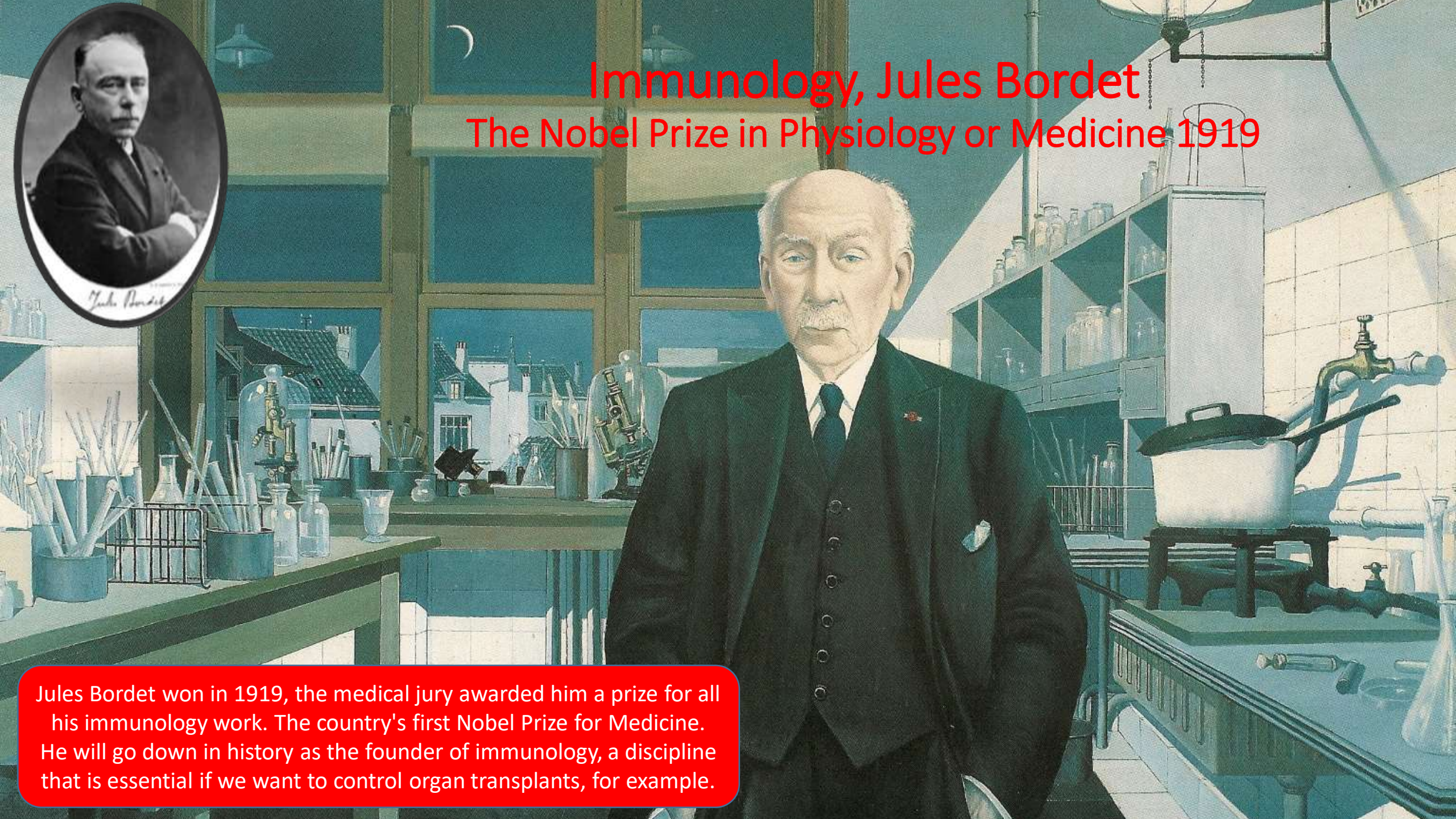
Proteins are critical to the normal functioning of the human body

For proteins to be of use, they need to reproduce



Immunology, Jules Bordet

The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 1919



Jules Bordet won in 1919, the medical jury awarded him a prize for all his immunology work. The country's first Nobel Prize for Medicine. He will go down in history as the founder of immunology, a discipline that is essential if we want to control organ transplants, for example.



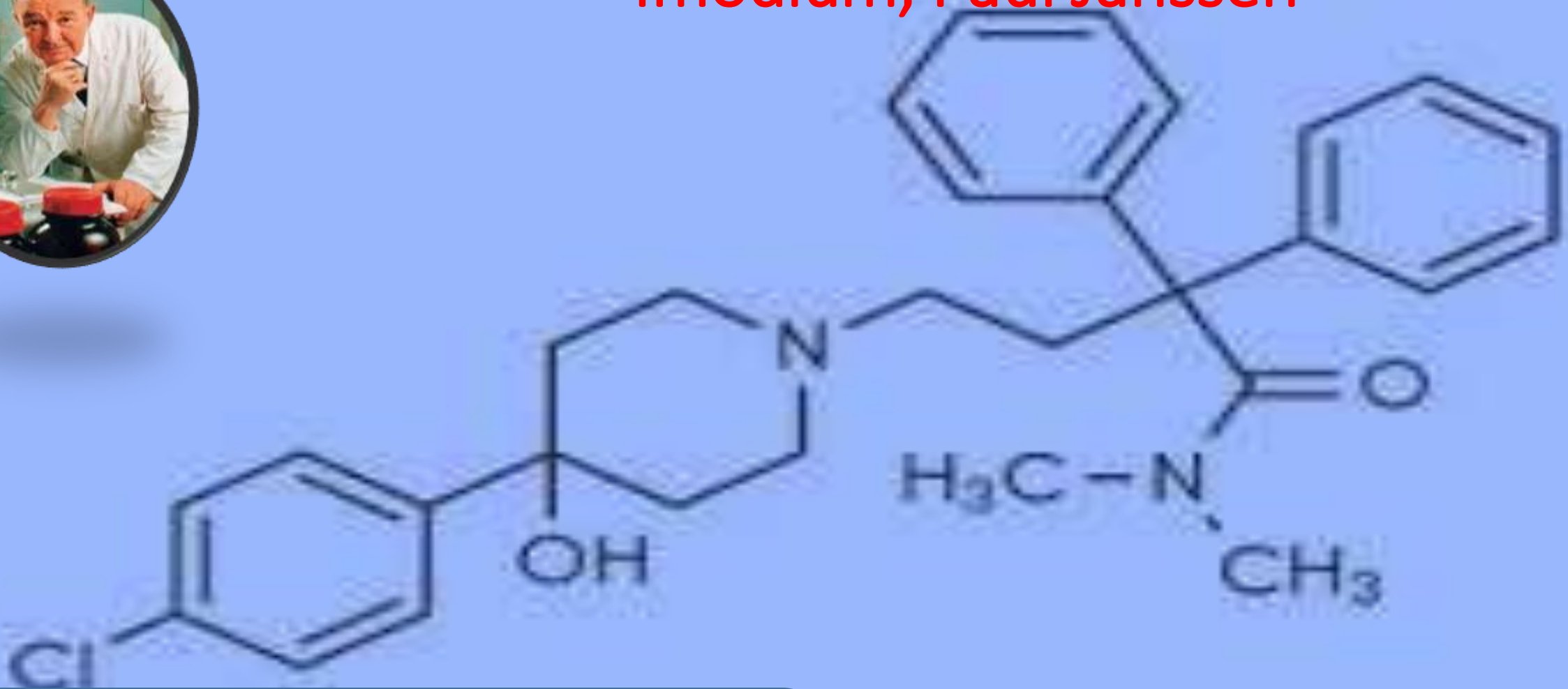
Body mass index (BMI), Lambert Adolphe Quetelet

$$\text{BMI} = \frac{\text{weight (kg)}}{\text{height}^2 \text{ (m}^2\text{)}}$$

Lambert Adolphe Quetelet who designed the easiest way to calculate whether your adult body weight is more or less where it should be: weight in kilograms divided by the square of height in meters. Any result between 18.5 and 25 should indicate a 'healthy' BMI.



Imodium, Paul Janssen

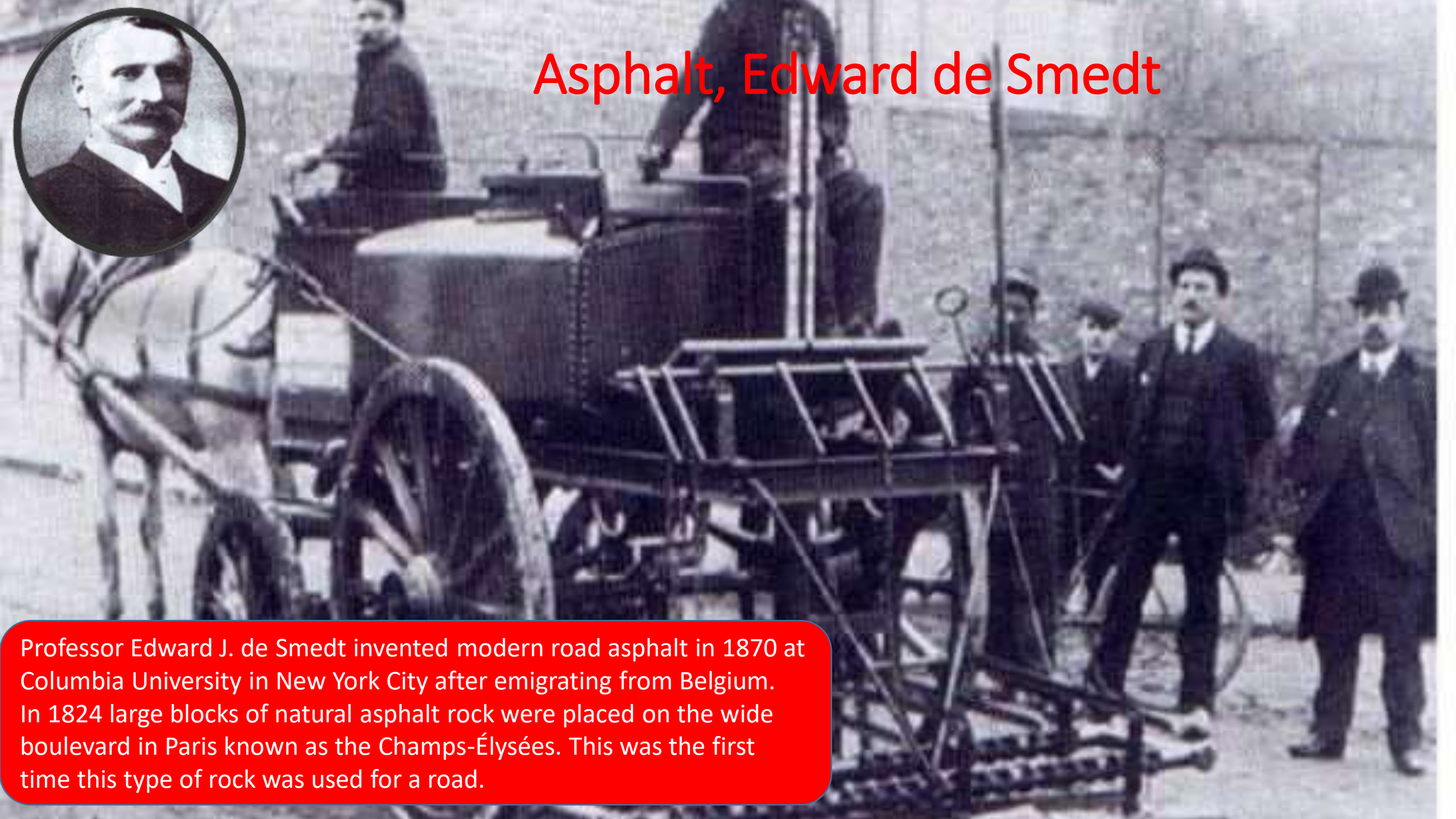


Loperiamid, was first synthesised by the Belgian doctor Paul Janssen, in his Belgian-based company Janssen Pharmaceutica in 1969. The fast-acting medicine is used to decrease the frequency of symptoms for patients suffering gastroenteritis and bowel issues, and has been listed on the World Health Organisation's (WHO) list of essential medicines.

mide



Asphalt, Edward de Smedt



Professor Edward J. de Smedt invented modern road asphalt in 1870 at Columbia University in New York City after emigrating from Belgium. In 1824 large blocks of natural asphalt rock were placed on the wide boulevard in Paris known as the Champs-Élysées. This was the first time this type of rock was used for a road.



World Wide Web, Robert Cailliau



Robert Cailliau is considered a co-inventor due to his role in creating the proposal that led to the invention of the WWW. Berners-Lee and Cailliau co-wrote the proposal in November 1990 while they were both employed at CERN in Switzerland.



JPEG conversion, Baroness Ingrid Daubechies



Daubechies Wavelets created JPEG2000 standard for image compression, which efficiently strips images of unneeded data so they can be saved in smaller file sizes.



The Saxophone, Adolphe Sax

Sax



Feeling



Antoine-Joseph (Adolphe) Sax was a Belgian builder of musical instruments. He achieved his greatest fame through the invention of the saxophone.



Belgica, World's first team who studied the arctic life

International team started out on a research expedition to Antarctica, aboard the ship Belgica. The expedition was led by the Belgian officer Adrien de Gerlache, who was also the ship's owner (they left the port of Antwerp on 23 August 1897).

What is sad is it in the bay of Harstad is the wreck of the Belgica, sunk during the Second World War.