

The use of the pancreas by rectal injection may be only temporary in its effects, but even so, it may prove to be an important factor in the treatment of diabetes by the more permanent engrafting. We know that in the diabetic the germicidal activity of the blood is diminished, and that inflammatory processes are apt to occur in a patient the subject of this disease, hence it might be deemed inadvisable to inflict the wound necessary for the grafting, as union might not occur, and the purpose of the operation be defeated by the inflammatory processes liable to be developed. Pavy states that "no serious results occur in diabetes as long as the blood is kept free from sugar." Might it, then, not be possible to raise the vitality of the tissue temporarily by means of the rectal injection sufficiently to allow the successful use of the grafting.

In the above-mentioned case the time was too short to note any appreciable difference in the condition of the gangrenous foot, but the perusal of Dr. Jones' paper and the fact that, even after the brief attempt above referred to, the percentage of sugar decreased when other means had failed to produce this result, satisfies us that this relentless disease may in the near future be rendered amenable to treatment.

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ANTITOXIC TREATMENT OF DIPHTHERIA.

A sufficient time has now elapsed to allow a thorough testing of the efficacy or otherwise of antitoxin in the treatment of Diphtheria. Many reports and statistics of its use are already to hand but most of these are records of its use in Hospitals. The greater number, in fact almost all these reports are distinctly favorable, in many cases markedly favorable, to the employment of the serum. Hospital statistics, however, do not form a fair criterion by which to judge the effects of this treatment in private practice; it being notorious that hospitals receive as a rule the worst cases. On this account a peculiar importance is attached to the report of a committee of the American Pediatric Society at their meeting in Montreal in May of this year. This report comprises a series of 5,794 cases of diphtheria met with either in the private practice of various physicians or treated by the Health Boards of Chicago and New York in their own homes. Of these cases, 3,384 were furnished by 615