

## "TRUE," OR GRAVE DIABETES—PANCREATIC TREATMENT.

TALBOT JONES, of St. Paul, Minn., in *Medical Record* for May, has an admirable paper dealing with the proposed treatment of the above disease by means of the pancreas or its extracts.

After quoting authorities, who conclusively show that in animals the extirpation of the pancreas is followed by persistent diabetes, and that this condition is improved by the introduction into the system of the pancreas or its extract, he concludes as follows: "After due consideration of the foregoing, three possibly successful methods of treatment appear available, (a) rectal injection of pancreatic extract, (b) subcutaneous injection, (c) pancreatic grafting." Along with many others working at the same subject Prof. Lépine, who reports removing the pancreas in forty dogs, and in each one of whom sugar was found in the urine within forty-eight hours afterwards, believes that the blood has the power of constantly destroying the glucose by the action of a ferment made in the pancreas. Bearing this in mind, then, we can understand the importance of the conclusions, above mentioned, of Dr. Jones. The treatment heretofore has been directed against the production of sugar—the proposed treatment is based on the belief, substantiated by experiment on animals, that the introduction of the gland by grafting or its extracts by injection into the body will yield that ferment which normally destroys the sugar. We had a case last month of diabetic gangrene. Under suitable treatment (dietetic and medicinal), the percentage of sugar in urine was reduced to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  p.c. She was passing about 100 oz. per diem. We had all preparations made to insert under the pectoral muscle a portion of the pancreas from an anæsthetized sheep. On explaining to her our intention, she at first consented, but afterwards changed her mind, stating she did not wish any experiment made on her. We obtained her permission, however, to use rectal injections, and so, Armour of Chicago having prepared for us desiccated pancreas from the sheep we made an emulsion with cod liver oil, 1 in 10, and injected one ounce of this emulsion night and morning.

Dr. W. T. Connell kindly took charge of the urinalysis. The day before the injection there was  $3\frac{1}{2}$  p.c. sugar present. The day after 3 p.c.; 2nd day after  $2\frac{1}{2}$  p.c.; 3rd day,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  p.c.; 4th day, 2.; 5th day 2. At this point she left for home, promising however to come back (a promise unfulfilled as yet).