

and are of dietetic value. As the treatment of these severe cases is so difficult, the oatmeal treatment must be regarded as a distinct advance.

Friedenwald and Ruhrah (*American Journal of the Medical Sciences*, October, 1905) recorded the result of their observations on the treatment of diabetes mellitus with milk, with potatoes, and with oatmeal.

1. Milk treatment. The authors state that they have rarely found it advisable to place any of their patients on an exclusive milk diet, except in severe cases, in which diacetic acid is present in the urine and coma threatening. But they have utilized half a liter or a liter of milk daily in many cases, in addition to other allowable food, with excellent results. The effect of the milk should be carefully watched.

2. Treatment with potatoes. In a number of cases the authors have replaced a portion of the bread taken by diabetic patients with potatoes. They have not found any bad effects from the change. "In a not inconsiderable number of cases very beneficial results were obtained," and the change of diet was very pleasing to the patient.

3. Oatmeal treatment. The authors give a summary of the observations of von Noorden and others on the oatmeal treatment: "In a general way it may be stated that the oatmeal cure is especially useful in those forms of diabetes exhibiting diacetic acid in the urine, and that in mild forms it is not only a useless form of treatment, but may even prove harmful."

In the severe forms of diabetes the authors obtained remarkable results. In certain cases they report that it was "possible to rid the urine of sugar entirely, when this is impossible on an entirely carbohydrate-free diet (standard diet)."

In another class of cases the oatmeal diet caused both sugar and diacetic acid to disappear from the urine.

In a third series of cases the diacetic acid disappeared when the patient was placed on the oatmeal treatment, but the sugar excretion continued unaltered.

Lidwill (M. C.) (*Intercolonial Medical Journal*, Aug. 20, 1905) recommends rye bread (the pumpnickel of Germany) in cases of glycosuria occurring in old or middle-aged individuals. The rye bread contains 45 to 49 per cent. of starch, and yet the sugar in the urine diminishes when the bread is taken. The probable explanation is that the rye bread is "satisfying, and that the patients only eat a small amount of it. Also, it contains but little digestible starch, and it is laxative, combating constipation."