

one instance for as long as a year. This patient is in a desperate condition but still continues to live. Vicarious activity probably varies markedly in different individuals, and though incapable of carrying on life alone for any length of time, it probably is a material aid in the maintenance of life when the kidneys are just verging on inadequacy. The balance is not long maintained, however, and death is continually imminent.

Uremia cannot occur without valuable evidence appearing, as decreased excretory phenomena, but cumulative phenomena do not always arise. With Hohlweg we consider increased blood urea and rest-nitrogen indications of renal insufficiency and not of uremia.

### *The Prognostic Value of Each Test.*

The employment of one test alone does not always yield all the information desirable. When only one is used, the phthalein test is undoubtedly the one of choice. Where it reveals decreased renal capacity, one of the blood tests, urea, total incoagulable nitrogen or cryoscopy, should be employed to determine the presence or absence of cumulative phenomena. These probably carry about the same significance.

Dye substances other than phthalein need not be employed prognostically, since they yield less quantitative and less reliable results and add nothing to prognosis.

The phthalein is the test for general use under all conditions. Its findings can be verified and its indications strengthened by the employment of selected tests in different conditions.

The iodide and salicylate tests are not of great prognostic value.

Lactose is unreliable, since its total suppression occurs in moderate lesions of a given type, but suppression in chronic nephritis indicates a severe lesion.

The urinary urea is of value only in relation to unilateral renal disease.

Phloridzin has a tendency to exaggerate the degree of functional injury and hence is not of great value.

Salt. A marked tubular hyposthenuria carries much prognostic significance, otherwise the chlorides are of only slight prognostic value.

Water. A very marked oliguria or anuria persisting is of significance.