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THE PATHOLOGY AND TREATMENT OF DIABETES MELLITUS, VIEWED BY THE LIGHT OF PRESENT-DAY KNOWLEDGE.

BY

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The last of three lectures delivered before The Royal College of Physicians of London, 24th November, 1908, published under arrangement with the author.

[The first of Dr. Pavy's lectures deals with the normal disposal of carbohydrate in the body, with the arguments that may be brought against the so-called "glycogenic" theory, and with the mechanism associated with the passage of carbohydrate from its seat of absorption in the walls of the alimentary canal to that of utilization in the tissues. He points out that sugar does exist in the normal urine in proportion to the quantity in which it exists in the blood. The diabetic can handle carbohydrate up to the point of his tolerance and over this, the ingested carbohydrate is excreted as sugar, just as if so much sugar had been intravenously injected. Beyond the point of tolerance, carbohydrate must increase the sugar in the blood. The question of the function of the liver in safeguarding the circulation from sugar sufficient to cause glycosuria is discussed, and the negative view upheld. Incidentally there are some interesting figures upon the efficacy or otherwise of so-called "Diabetic foods."

The second lecture deals with the state in which food is conveyed in the circulatory system to the tissues, the author believing that the existing theories imply that the food material is carried in a form susceptible of excretion through the urine, and that such implication is untenable. The protein food molecule is broken down into fragments that can be at once re-synthesized into a reconstructed protein; this process probably occurs at the seat of absorption. The process is completed by lymphocyte autolysis, and the reconstructed protein reaches the blood through the thoracic duct. The digested material in blood plasma which has escaped