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*SOME POINTS IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF ALBUMINURIA

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Although there is still much doubt as to the exact nature of albuminuria and especially as regards the exact mechanism of its production, there is an ever increasing body of evidence tending to show that albuminuria is dependent mainly on the action of toxic agents on the renal structures. Although there is much difference of opinion as to the exact source of the albuminuria whether it arises as a transudation from the glomeruli alone or also from the renal tubules, there is a general consensus of opinion that toxic agents are answerable for the lesion that results in albuminuria.

Some toxic agents act especially on the glomeruli, others on the epithelium of the tubules and it is especially in the case of the former that albuminuria results. In a considerable number of instances by suitable methods of preparation, the coagulated proteid can be seen in the glomerular chamber. It is, however, probable that the glomerular epithelium may be damaged to an extent sufficient to allow of the passage

*An address delivered before the Leicester Medical Society, November 6th, 1907.