

She was discharged at her own request, the urine still containing sugar; no acetone or diacetic acid reaction at any time; weight, 175. In twelve years she seems to have lost no ground, and her case is probably to be classed as a favorable one.

5. Seven years ago a man, then sixty-three, of large business responsibilities, first consulted me. Ten months before that a competent observer had found no sugar in his urine. I found a moderate polyuria, and a percentage of sugar. Weight 184. He was easily rendered sugar free, and after a time could tolerate a moderate amount of starch. From time to time he broke loose, has gradually developed a marked arterio-sclerosis, which last spring led, through rank imprudence, to a uremic attack. This has necessitated some change in his diet, and he has never fully regained the weight he lost last spring, now weighing 165, and passing about 2 per cent. of sugar without polyuria. He feels well and is in active work, having few mental resources outside of his business.

6. Shortly after this his brother, one and a half years younger, came to me with great polyuria and much sugar, recent in onset. All symptoms disappeared rapidly under diet, and I have not seen him professionally for six years. About that time he was elected to Congress, and has been since active in political and campaign work, feeling very well with moderate dietary restriction. These brothers are fair examples of diabetes coming on after middle life, in well-nourished though not obese persons—the milder type of the disease. It is usually not necessary to enforce an absolute diet in such cases long; moderate restriction can then be allowed. Some of these cases can later return to practically an ordinary diet without reappearance of sugar. The experience of all of you can, doubtless, duplicate such cases as I have sketched.

In the young, treatment can at best only delay the fatal result. In those in the prime of life great service can generally be rendered, though actual cure occurs only in the minority of cases. In those past middle life the disease is usually well tolerated, and may be of comparatively little moment, provided that reasonable care be exercised; and yet, now and then we encounter cases the course of which proves other than first impressions would lead us to expect.