Acute attacks occurring in the course of granular kidney do not differ from other cases in their treatment, but do not keep up too vigorous treatment too long.

In the very late stages it is a merciful and justifiable thing to allow a liberality in diet, and all irksome instructions should

be withdrawn.

Some say the kidney has an internal secretion and that splendid results are obtained from feeding the cortical extract of pigs' kidneys. Some reliable writers have reported favorable results in a few cases. I have been giving Reed and Carnrick's tablets to a case of granular kidney with edema for a week past, and as yet there is no result at all.

A cheerful prognosis ought to be given all these cases. The specific gravity taken together with the quantity is a good indication of the renal condition and would only lead you astray in case there was a large quantity of albumin suddenly excreted.

Uremia, retinal changes, general skin lesions, all indicate a dissolution within a year as a rule. Cardiac failure is not so easy to forecast. Your prognosis will be best and easiest if you diagnose granular kidney before it is granular.

## THEORY OF HEADACHE.\*

BY E. L. WILLIAMS, M.D.

Mr. President and Gentlemen,—Headache, taken broadly as meaning pain in the head, is one of our most common symptoms. Indeed, we meet it so often that we rarely place much value upon its presence or absence in making a diagnosis. It is only in those cases where a definite head lesion is present that it becomes important. The reason for this is that we are yet ignorant of its nature, that it appears and disappears we know not how. But we believe that it is not an accident, but the natural result of certain causes, and that its significance will some day be ascertained.

The value of pain in diagnosis is often a difficult question. Individuals differ to a remarkable degree; what may be insignificant to one may be agony to another. Again, in any condition of lowered vitality the experience of pain is usually accen-

<sup>\*</sup>Read before London Medical Society, January 14th, 1907.