

author produced the same effect; but in rabbits he has not come to any conclusion, as complete removal is almost impossible. In a pig in which all but one-third of the gland was extirpated, sugar appeared five days after a meal of bread. It was diminished when meat was given, and disappeared after a day's fast. Slight forms of diabetes are also observed in dogs if not more than one-sixth of the gland is left behind. In birds and frogs diabetes cannot be produced as in dogs. In the latter the sugar appears in 24 to 48 hours, and reaches its height in 2 to 3 days. If the strength fails or complications appear, the amount of sugar diminishes and disappears before death in animals as in man. This function of the pancreas is a specific one, but sugar in the urine can be brought about in other ways than by disturbance of this function of the pancreas, as is seen in phloridzin diabetes. In this latter the sugar is not increased in the blood as in pancreas diabetes. Again, phloridzin diabetes occurs in birds and in animals whose pancreas has been removed without diabetes appearing. By grafting pieces of the pancreas into the tissues outside the abdomen, the development of diabetes after the removal of the piece of the pancreas left in the abdomen is hindered. Lépine's view is that a ferment is produced by the pancreas which causes the destruction of the sugar, and that the absence of this ferment brings about diabetes. Minkowski says, however, that many more facts must be known before a clear explanation can be given. The following are two striking events: (1) That glycogen should disappear so soon from the liver after extirpation of the pancreas; and (2) that *ævulose* can still be used up in the organism as it is excreted in a small amount in the urine, and it only slightly increases the amount of grape sugar.—*British Medical Journal*.

### GLYCOSURIA IN CHILDREN.

PAUL BINET has made a large series of observations as to the occurrence of glucose in the urine of children under various conditions (*Rev. Méd. de la Suisse Rom.*, February 20th, 1892). The tests he used were (1) reduction of Fehling's solution, (2) the reaction with naphthol, (3) the crystalline reaction with phenyl-hydrazine. He found that in the normal urine of healthy adults and children a small quantity was present in nine-tenths of the specimens examined, while in about half the urine behaved with phenyl-hydrazine like a solution containing  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of glucose. In children suffering from various diseases a distinct augmenta-

tion in the amount of glucose was only observed with any constancy in diphtheria; in 38 severe cases the reaction of glucose with phenyl-hydrazine was obtained in 27. The quantity was not in any case sufficient to give a precipitate with Fehling's solution. Grognot (*Rev. des Mal. de l'Enfance*, March, 1892) mentions that in 3 out of 4 cases of diphtheria he found that the urine contained some substance which reduced Fehling's solution, but that in another series of 25 cases examined *ad hoc* reduction was not observed in a single case. The 4 cases first mentioned were all treated by asepsol or naphthol, and Grognot suggests that the treatment may have been responsible for the appearance of the reducing body in the urine.—*British Medical Journal*.

### DEATH-ADDER BITE IN AN INFANT: RECOVERY.

AT 5 P.M. one day a female infant 16 months old was bitten on the third finger of the left hand by a death-adder. A few minutes later the top of the third finger was removed, and the stump sucked, and then drenched with ammonia, and ligatures applied to the arm. She was taken to the nearest hospital, where she was seen at 8 P.M. by C. A. W. Hunt, who records the case (*Austral. Med. Gaz.*, December, 1891). The child was almost comatose, body and extremities cold and clammy, pupils widely dilated and insensible to light, pulse too rapid, feeble, and irregular to be counted; the face was pinched and slightly cyanotic, and the strongest cutaneous stimuli failed to excite response. The clothes were removed, and the child wrapped in hot flannels with a hot bottle to the feet; liq. strychninæ (*m iv*) was injected into the right arm, the left being much swollen owing to the ligatures, which were now removed. A strong faradic current was applied to the nape of the neck and along the spine, and in fifteen minutes a second dose of strychnine of the same amount was injected. The pulse then improved markedly, the pupils began to contract and react to light, the body heat was restored, the stimulus of the battery was responded to more quickly every minute, and the child recognized its parents and took notice of what was going on. By 10 P.M. the infant was practically out of danger, and was quite well the next day. In the same journal several cases of the successful treatment of snake bite by strychnine are recorded, but this is probably the youngest patient known to have recovered. *British Medical Journal*.