

two years, but yet ultimately to clear up completely. Although the outlook in probably most cases of syphilitic nephritis is good, yet this is not invariable and such cases may die during the acute stage of the malady. Still on the whole the prognosis is much better than that of the ordinary form of Bright's disease. The recognition of these syphilitic cases is not only necessary from the point of view of prognosis but still more so from the point of view of treatment. Mercury, as is well known, is usually held to be contra-indicated where albuminuria is present, and especially so where the degree of albuminuria is high, yet it is imperative that mercury should be administered in cases of syphilitic nephritis and this again affords an instance of the dangers of following a slavish routine.

The albuminuria that complicate certain cases of diabetes is also of considerable interest, and here this complication may be of serious significance. In that form of diabetes or glycosuria associated with arterio-sclerosis and occurring usually in middle-aged or elderly patients, a small quantity of albumin is frequently present in the urine. In these cases the amount of sugar present is usually small, but the patient is exposed to other risks dependent on the arterio-sclerosis and the presence of albumin is often a clue to the diagnosis of the arterial degeneration. Acute and chronic Bright's disease of the ordinary type may occur as a complication in diabetes and, as is well known, they are very serious complications. In these instances the other phenomena of Bright's disease are present and there is generally no difficulty in the recognition of the condition. Albuminuria in diabetes may, however, be sometimes present to a high degree without the development of any other accompaniment of renal disease, the urine simply containing a large quantity of albumin. The pathology of this albuminuria is obscure, but it has not the grave significance of the other forms.

Finally, with reference to the albuminuria of granular kidney, probably the most important point is to realize that in this formidable disease the albuminuria is not only slight in amount, but may be occasional in its presence, and thus repeated examination is often necessary in order to exclude this malady.