

of 250 grammes of cane sugar in one meal, and at forty-five only 150 grammes. If we should examine him at the latter age, without any knowledge of his previous capacity for sugar, we could not say that he is unhealthy, although his capacity to utilize sugar had diminished forty per cent. in five years. This patient, I submit, is in a condition which cannot be determined by our clinical methods. He has a sluggishness of metabolism which I believe is a common cause of disease. The only way to overcome the difficulty in diagnosis is for an examination of the metabolism of a person from time to time during life. This, I believe, will in the near future be one of the duties of the physician.

Diabetes in patients above the middle of life, and especially between fifty and sixty years of age, is frequently due, I believe, to hyperalimentation. I am unable to say or even to suggest, whether the disturbance is due to excessive eating of carbohydrate, fat, or protein, or a combination of foodstuffs. The fact that diabetes is very frequently associated with gout and obesity is evidence that there is a common cause. I may also add as evidence the occurrence of diabetes at this period of life almost exclusively among the well-to-do.

According to my experience, chronic furunculosis is another disease in which hyperalimentation is probably an etiological factor. In many cases a history of overeating combined with diminished loss of energy is obtained. In five cases which I tested for glycosuria e saccharo according to the usual manner, glucose appeared in the urine in two. This is all the more interesting inasmuch as furunculosis is a common complication of diabetes. I may add, as further evidence of the etiological relationships of overeating to furunculosis, that I have found hypoalimentation for a few days, followed by a normal dietary, a most useful measure in the treatment of furunculosis.

PSYCHIC DISTURBANCES AS AN ETIOLOGICAL FACTOR OF GLYCOSURIA, AND PSYCHOTHERAPY IN ITS TREATMENT.

Since 1855, the date when Claude Bernard demonstrated that a puncture of the floor of the fourth ventricle in a limited space produced a transient glycosuria in animals, very many observations have been made showing that a similar disturbance of metabolism may result from many other injuries and diseases of the nervous system, such as cerebral concussion and hemorrhage, epilepsy, tumors of the pituitary body, cerebral tumors in general, disseminated sclerosis, traumatic neuroses,