

prostate of the aged, where atony of the bladder existed. It has been remarkable to note the vigor this solution gives to the organ. Of course mercauro must be given preference where a history of specific disease exists, or is suspected. I feel under obligations to those of my colleagues who attracted my attention to these products, and I hope that some one among my hearers at the Polyclinic will in time work out their physiological effect. They are certainly valuable curative agents and deserve a careful trial. As illustrative, I mention an interesting case. Mr. R. J., aged thirty-two, widower, sent to me by Dr. L., to be examined for diabetes. He had at times, as the doctor informed me, shown traces of sugar in his urine. The patient was told by Dr. L. and other physicians in New York that his malady was diabetes—the result being that he came to me in a state of extreme mental perturbation, almost verging on nervous prostration.

Examination of urine revealed  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  of one per cent. of sugar, high specific gravity and hyperacidity. His family history was good, both parents alive and brothers and sisters healthy. He complained of violent headache, loss of sleep, in fact, he was in a profoundly anemic condition, and suffered from neuralgias in his arm, shoulders and lower extremities. Examination revealed hyperesthesia of the skin, tenderness along the lumbar spine, and last but not least, a well-marked specific macular eruption. Recently coitus was denied absolutely. Upon examining the throat mucous patches were discovered on the soft palate and a well-defined chancreous sore on the right tonsil.

The cervical glands were markedly enlarged. I made the diagnosis of syphilis, as the case was clearly this, and the subsequent treatment proved it beyond any doubt.

The patient was placed on a full diet, allowed some claret as he was sorely in need of a general tonic, and mercauro prescribed in ten drop doses three times daily, increasing one drop every other day until he was taking twenty drops three times daily, which was his physiological limit. His general condition began to improve in a very short time—sugar disappeared entirely, the eruption and sores improved, headache and nervousness left him, and he gained in flesh and strength. Here then was a typical case of the beginning secondary stage of syphilis benefited by mercauro, the case being one in which the use of other well known mercurials could not have brought about such a result. I mention this case to show the good effect this mercurial tonic will produce, especially in syphilitic anemias.

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