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ALBUMINURIA AND GLYCOSURIA.

A POST-GRADUATE LECTURE DELIVERED AT WESTMINSTER
HOSPITAL, SEPTEMBER 18, 1928.

By ADOLPHE ABRAHAMS,
M.D.,

*Physician to Out-Patients, Westminster Hospital ;
Physician to Hampstead General Hospital.*

THERE cannot be one practitioner who at some period or other of his career has not found reason to regret the omission to perform the elementary tests for albumin and sugar in the urine; and he is fortunate indeed if the omission occurs on a relatively unimportant occasion. This examination is in fact a fundamental precaution, whatever

the condition from which the patient is suffering or the complaint he advances; and although I make no pretence to advance any new information, and can only claim the attempt to provide a convenient summary, there is no need to apologize for the elementary character of my subject. This is logically considered under two heads: the identification of albumin or sugar in the urine; and secondly, the significance of their presence.

ALBUMINURIA means the passage into the urine of protein that is coagulable on boiling. The protein substances that may be encountered are serum proteins—serum albumin and globulin; compound proteins, nucleo-albumin and mucins; and proteolytic products—albumoses.