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## The effect of nephrectomy upon the toxicity of magnesium sulphate when given by mouth. — A demonstration.

By **S. J. MELTZER.**

[*From the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.*]

Three rabbits were shown, one normal and two nephrectomized. The nephrectomy was performed nine hours before the demonstration. One nephrectomized animal received by mouth, soon after the nephrectomy, magnesium sulphate (6 grams per kilo in a 25 per cent. solution). The normal animal received by mouth 7 grams per kilo of the same salt. The other nephrectomized rabbit received no magnesium sulphate. At the time of the demonstration the nephrectomized rabbit which had received the salts was under profound anesthesia with complete muscular relaxation, while the other two animals were in an apparently normal state. This shows that in *nephrectomized rabbits magnesium salts produce a profound general effect even when given by mouth, and that the absence of such an effect in the usual administration of the salts is due to the comparatively prompt elimination through the kidneys of a large part of the absorbed salts, thus preventing at any given time the accumulation within the organism of a quantity equal to a toxic dose.*

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## Observations on a rabbit for thirty months after the removal of the superior cervical ganglion.

By **S. J. MELTZER.**

[*From the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.*]

Langendorff[1] reported that in one experiment on a cat one hundred and five days after the removal of the superior cervical ganglion, the paralytic symptoms of the eye disappeared, and stimulation of the cervical sympathetic nerve caused the typical effects. Microscopically no nerve cells could be detected, and Langendorff assumed that there was a union between the preganglionic and postganglionic nerve fibers. Langley,[2] on the other

[1] Langendorff: *Centralblatt für Physiologie*, xv, 483, 1901. The number of days is quoted here from Langley and Anderson; it is not mentioned in the *Centralblatt.*

[2] Langley: *Journal of Physiology*, xxv, 417, 1900.