

motor ataxia was substantiated by showing definitely that the percentage of locomotor ataxia in those who had syphilis was far greater than the percentage in other disease. If Dr. Spiller's statements are to be accepted, he should show that a large percentage of patients suffering from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis are the subjects of syphilis. I can recall perfectly well three cases treated for some years for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis in all of whom a history of syphilis was obtained.

DR. E. E. SOUTHARDT, Boston: I am inclined to think that one should not assert lues on the basis of leukocytosis. It is well known that anterior poliomyelitis shows lymphocytosis in a particular characteristic way. Tuberculosis of the meninges shows it. I have seen cases of pneumococcal meningitis which showed monocuclear infiltration. We might wake up some day suddenly to find that many things called syphilitic are not syphilitic.

DR. ISRAEL STRAUSS, New York: I think that what Dr. Southard has said is true. We find leukocytic infiltration in tuberculosis and in other conditions of the nervous system. It is the method by which the nervous system reacts to infectious states in the acute or subacute types. In the chronic states we do not know of anything in the present state of our knowledge which gives us the lymphocytic infiltration which syphilis does.

DR. JOSEPH COLLINS, New York: I venture to suggest that this paper that Dr. Spiller has presented is an extremely important one and will mark a very distinctive period in our interpretation of spinal cord disease. There can be no doubt that what Dr. Southard has said is true, but it does not invalidate the importance of Dr. Spiller's claim and contention. It will permit us now to make investigation of our cases clinically, to demonstrate a syphilitic disorder. For instance, we will not be justified in allowing any case of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis to go through our hands without repeated investigations as to whether or not the syphilitic poison exists in the system, and it seems to me that that is the great application to our problem of the contribution that Dr. Spiller has made.

Dr. Spiller, in closing: Of course I do not expect to have my views accepted in large part. It would not have been worth while to present the paper if I had expected that. I emphasize that I did not say that every case of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or chronic bulbar palsy is syphilitic. I wished only to call attention to the possibility of syphilis occurring in a number of such cases and feel that I am justified in reporting a study.

(To be continued.)

Book Review.

Diseases of Children. A Practical Treatise on Diagnosis and Treatment for the Use of Students and Practitioners of Medicine. By BENJAMIN KNOX RACHFORD, Professor of Diseases of Children, Ohio-Miami Medical College, Department of Medicine of the University of Cincinnati; Pediatrician to the Cincinnati Hospital, Good Samaritan Hospital and Jewish Hospital; ex-President of the American Pediatric Society and Member of

the Association of American Physicians. New York and London: D. Appleton and Company. 1912.

This text-book, of nearly eight hundred pages, is one of the very best of those dealing with this subject, not only in English, but in any language. It represents the best in American Pediatrics, and is written from the American rather than from the foreign point of view. It is impossible, in a work of this size, to analyze the different portions in detail, especially when they are so uniformly good as they are in this instance. The author's views as to infant feeding are safe, sane and reasonable, as are his views as to treatment in general. It gives us great pleasure to recommend the work most highly.

The Principles of Human Physiology. By ERNEST HENRY STARLING, M.D. (London), F.R.C.P., F. R. S., Jodrell Professor of Physiology in University College, London. Octavo, 1423 pages, with 564 illustrations, some in color. Philadelphia and New York: Lea and Febiger. 1912.

In this book Professor Starling has made a valuable contribution to the general literature of Physiology. By permitting himself a wider scope than does the usual writer of text-books of Physiology for medical students, he has been able to include much interesting matter not ordinarily found in such text-books. Particularly does this appear in his discussion of the less well-known phases of the subject. Here he presents the most recent advances with sufficient detail to satisfy the requirements of the reader to whom these phases are new, and in a manner both interesting and instructive.

In a section headed General Physiology the author deals concisely with certain facts of physics and chemistry essential to a clear understanding of physiology, but not included in the college courses in these subjects usually taken by medical students. Such chapter headings as "The Mechanism of Organic Synthesis," "The Energy of Molecules in Solution," "The Properties of Colloids," indicate both the scope and the value of this section.

Special stress is laid throughout the work on the relation of the facts described to clinical conditions, the object being to impress the reader with the importance of physiological knowledge as a basis for rational therapeutics.

The book is not intended for beginners in physiology. To profit most largely from its use the elements of the subject should have been previously studied. To the advanced student, or to the practitioner, however, it will be found a valuable work of reference.

A feature which commends itself is the subdivision of the book into a great many short chapters. This arrangement facilitates that use of the book for reference which is likely to prove its chief function.