compares ankylosing spondylitis with rheumatoid arthritis, and suggests that the former condition is due not to an arthritis but to an extension of bone through articular cartilage—a “toxic osteopathy.” The influence of the sex glands on bone formation is discussed. Although no concrete relationship has been established between endocrine disturbance and ankylosing spondylitis, either from the aetiological or therapeutic standpoints, work on this is continuing. Assuming it to be an osteopathy unconnected with rheumatoid arthritis, the author outlines his concept of the sequence of changes in the condition. He reviews the symptomatology.

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BOOK REVIEW

N.A.P.T.: Handbook of Tuberculosis Activities. Edited by Harley Williams, M.D. 12th Edition revised and enlarged, with Commonwealth and Empire Supplement. Published by The National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, 1946. Pp. 276. Price 7s. 6d. London.

This is a valuable work of reference, comprising detailed information about all hospitals, dispensaries, clinics, and sanatoria for tuberculosis throughout Great Britain, the Dominions, and the Colonies. It also includes information about

the organizations interested in tuberculosis, and about the veterinary services and rehabilitation offices. It thus brings together a mass of information not readily accessible elsewhere. To those interested in the study of rheumatic diseases, the book's chief value lies in the fact that a list of orthopaedic hospitals and clinics is included. This list, although not complete, will be found useful.

EDITORIAL NOTE

The Editors regret the delay in publication, which is due to causes over which they have no control—shortage of labour in the printing works, and difficulty in obtaining the necessary supplies of paper. It is hoped to bring out the succeeding numbers more quickly, and to catch up with the nominal dates of publication. Subscribers may rest assured that they will receive their copies in due course. It is proposed to make the next issue (June, 1946) a special one dealing with the history of the 1939–45 war. Several important papers are already in hand, and anyone wishing to send in articles should communicate with the Editors without delay.

The Editors would like to take this opportunity to urge those working on the many problems of the

rheumatic diseases to communicate the results of their research in the form of original articles for publication in this Journal. The group of diseases summarized under the vague title of rheumatism is full of unsolved problems. Many attempts to find the solutions must in the nature of things be only tentative. Although a strict standard of acceptance of articles must be maintained in a specialist journal such as this, the Editors, nevertheless, hope that medical men will not hesitate to submit articles for consideration, even though their conclusions are negative.

It is hoped shortly, with the help of the British Medical Journal abstracting service, now in process of organization, to begin publishing abstracts of articles from the world's medical literature.