

diarrhœa (with perhaps bloody stools), muscular cramps, or twitchings; and the diagnosis can be clinched by an examination of the urine, and perhaps of the fundi.

(e) **Acute Glaucoma** should be borne in mind as a cause of uncontrollable vomiting. The previous history, the intense orbital pain, and an examination of the eye, would decide the diagnosis.

(f) **Leukæmia**.—We remember one instance in which a leukæmic spleen was mistaken for an inflammatory mass.

A man was sent up to hospital with a week's history of abdominal pain and fever. On examination, there was a temperature of 102°F., left femoral thrombosis, and an indefinite tender mass in the left loin. This lump was considered by several competent observers to be an inflammatory mass, but a white count, instead of revealing the expected polymorphonuclear leucocytosis, showed a typical leukæmia.

(g) **Acute Osteomyelitis of the Lumbar Vertebrae** may give rise to symptoms and signs suggestive of peritonitis; an interesting case in point, where the lesion was successfully diagnosed and treated, has been recorded by Fraser and McPherson (*Lancet*, December 2nd, 1911, p. 1543), to which paper the reader is referred for the bibliography of the condition.

It may occur at any age, though the majority of the subjects are under the age of 20. There may be a history of some slight spinal injury, and sometimes a septic focus, such as a furuncle, may be present elsewhere. The onset is sudden, with high fever and frequently rigors; pain is the predominant feature, and it may be excruciating; it is most intense in the spine, but there is usually abdominal pain in addition. This abdominal pain may be associated with abdominal distension, tenderness, and rigidity, and with diarrhœa and vomiting, so that the existence of peritonitis may be suspected. The intense spinal tenderness to palpation or movement usually indicates the correct diagnosis, which may be confirmed by the early appearance of meningial symptoms, or of evidence of pressure on the cord,