

THE HOME STUDY COURSE.

In No. 3 of the Home Study Course from the National School of Chiropractic we find the following on pages 3 and 4 as an explanation for the causation of subluxations of the spinal column: "The muscles of each segment of the spinal column are supplied by the outgoing fibres in the posterior root of the spinal nerve of that segment on each side. In a reflex act, therefore, those muscles of the spinal column, on the side that the ingoing impulse entered, will contract. If this contraction on the one side is continuous, the corresponding vertebra must inevitably be drawn toward that side. We see, therefore, that although the ligaments of the spine are strong enough to hold the vertebrae in proper position, if the potential strength of one side be increased by contraction of the ligaments the vertebrae will be drawn to that side. And thus the student will see that the possibilities of subluxations are present in the body itself, and do not necessarily depend upon external violence."

This theory is as erroneous as what is said about the functions of the posterior root. We would advise the writer of the Home Study to revise his anatomy. But this is the sort of thing one encounters everywhere in chiropractic books and articles.

WHAT N. C. ROSS HAS TO SAY.

In No. 3, Vol. 1, of the *Journal of Chiropractic*, N. C. Ross, D.C., president of the Ross College of Chiropractic, Fort Wayne, Indiana, writes this: "Health, therefore, is the expression of a co-ordination between all the various parts of the human machine through a properly working nervous system. It follows that a partial interference in any degree with the work of the nerve system will proportionately produce inco-ordination between the various structures of the body and in the same degree ill-health is sure to follow. Health is therefore the expression of correct nerve conditions. The practice of chiropractic involves the locating of the nerve interferences, and then by adjustment removes the obstruction, thus restoring the nerve system to its normal condition. The result is normal organic action, which means perfect health."

One could hardly imagine a greater amount of nonsense in the same number of words. The number of diseases that belong to the nervous system are limited, and do not by any means cover the whole field of human ailments. Then, they do not arise in the manner laid down by chiropractors. A man has an attack of influenza, which is followed by poly-neuritis; another one is exposed to severe weather and suffers from facial paralysis; a third has luetic infection, followed by tabes dorsalis; and a fourth had rheumatic infection, valvular disease, an embolism and now is a hemiplegic. Here, then, goes to pieces the chiropractic