

progress of the disease caused an awakening to the fact that tuberculosis was present.

Another error frequently made is to completely mistake the joint affected. Several cases were admitted during any outdoor term, in whom the knee had been blistered and otherwise treated for months, simply because the patient had complained of pain in that particular joint. The frequency of these and similar errors in diagnosis is a sufficient indication that the greatest care must be taken in dealing with cases that may possibly have disease of the bones or joints.

Limp is the most important of the early signs of the disease. It is due entirely to sensitiveness rather than to any restriction in the movement of the joint, the patient simply spending less time on the affected than on the healthy leg. It is noticed that he walks with a combination of flexion of the thigh and plantar flexion of the foot, the whole object being to make the limb more elastic, and thus prevent jarring at the hip. The degree of limping often varies in the course of a day, being usually worse in the morning or after a rest of any kind.

Very early in the disease pain may become a prominent symptom, although more frequently it does not assert itself until the process is pretty far advanced. The characteristic pain is not in the hip but on the inner side of the knee, and hence the errors in diagnosis that so frequently arise. In seven out of the ten cases that I admitted, the pain was referred to the knee, and in the other three it was seated in the hip. This peculiarity is readily explained when we remember that the same nerves that supply the hip joint also send terminal branches to the knee. Following the general rule, that pain along the course of a nerve is interpreted as arising at its terminal branches, it is easy to see how the knee is indicated as the part diseased.

The pain of hip disease is induced by sudden or unguarded movements or by injury, although there is sometimes present a dull ache which is wholly due to increased tension within the joint.

It will be well to note here a symptom occurring in acute cases, which is of very great importance from a standpoint of prognosis. This is night-cry. It is a symptom present in many of our hospital patients, so that I have had a good opportunity of observing it and the accompanying phenomena. The child is usually sleeping quietly with all his muscles relaxed, when suddenly he involuntarily moves in his sleep. The movement causes the diseased bones to rub together, and instantly all the muscles surrounding the joint contract to protect the site of disease. This sudden muscular contraction drives the head of the bone with great force into the acetabulum, the result of