

symptoms and physical signs which have not been thought sufficiently important to merit separate articles will be found in the general index at the end of the volume.

Treatment, pathology, and prognosis are not dealt with except in so far as they may bear upon differential diagnosis—the employment of salicylates, for instance, in distinguishing acute rheumatic from other forms of arthritis; the use of the microscope in distinguishing malignant neoplasms from inflammatory or other tumours; the value of the lapse of time in distinguishing between tuberculous and meningococcal meningitis.

Coloured plates and other illustrations have been introduced freely wherever it was thought they might be helpful in diagnosis. Most of them are original, but a few are reproduced from other sources, and thanks are due to the authors and publishers who have kindly lent them.

So far as the Editor is aware, although there exist indices of symptoms, and medical works in which various maladies are discussed in alphabetical order, the present Index of Differential Diagnosis of Main Symptoms is unique in medical literature. It rests with the medical profession to decide whether it strikes the mark at which it aims. There must be room for improvement in many respects, notwithstanding the great amount of time and labour that have been bestowed upon it.

However this may be, the work undoubtedly owes much of what value it possesses to the suggestions and kindly help of the many contributors who have assisted in its making; and to the practitioners and the authorities of various institutions who have generously lent the material for many of the illustrations. Indeed, it is difficult to see how the book could have been produced in its present completeness without their willing collaboration: they are enumerated elsewhere, and to all of them the Editor tenders his sincere thanks.

Criticisms and suggestions are invited, and will be received with gratitude by the Editor,

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