

confused and complicated classifications too often found in works on dermatology. We have every confidence in affirming that this book will give satisfaction.

INFANTILE PARALYSIS.

The Treatment of Infantile Paralysis. By Robert W. Lovatt, M.D., Boston, John B. and Buckminster Brown, Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, Harvard Medical School. Second edition revised and enlarged. With 123 illustrations. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Son and Company, 1012 Walnut Street. Price, \$1.75.

This book takes up the pathology and treatment of infantile paralysis. The author states that the disease is a general infection, the results being most marked on the nervous system, manifested by hæmorrhages, cellular exudate and edema. The meninges and brain are often considerably affected, so that the morbid changes are by no means confined to the anterior cornua. The posterior roots and ganglia are involved and this accounts for the pains in the disease. When the motor cells atrophy their place is taken by a gliosis. The symptomatology is set forth in a clear and satisfactory manner. The diagnosis and prognosis are also outlined. The most interesting portion of the book is the one devoted to treatment. Some value is given to the use of serum, especially as a preventative. The author also claims value for urotropin, both as a prophylactic and curative agent. The later treatment by massage, electricity, exercise, surgery, braces, etc., is well stated and will meet with approval.

MISCELLANEOUS

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE UNITED STATES.

Washington, D.C., November 27, 1917.—According to a preliminary announcement with reference to mortality in 1916, issued by Director Sam. L. Rogers, of the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, and compiled under the direction of Dr. William H. Davis, chief statistician for vital statistics, the "registration area," which contained approximately 70 per cent. of the population of the entire United States, reported for that year 1,001,921 deaths. Of these deaths nearly one-third were due to three causes—heart diseases, tuberculosis and pneumonia—and nearly another third were charged to the following nine causes: Bright's disease and nephritis, cancer, apoplexy, diarrhoea and enteritis, influenza, arterial diseases, diabetes, diphtheria and typhoid fever.