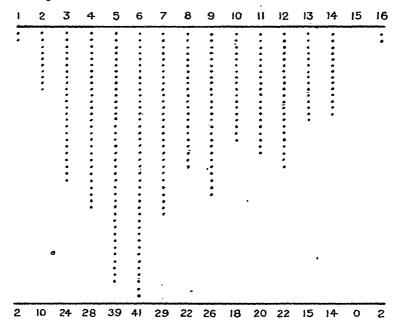
this we arrive at the same conclusion, that injury or overuse is the starting point in the onset of the disease.

It is of interest to note just here that of our total number of tubercular patients fifty-nine per cent. were males and forty-one per cent. females. It is well known that boys play and hurt themselves much more than girls do, so that the statistics simply add additional evidence to prove the conclusions just arrived at.

Before leaving the subject of the influences which favor the growth of the specific germ I shall give a little space to a discussion of the age at which tuberculosis attacks the bones and joints of the body.

I have here the original sheet upon which I made up the totals of the various ages, and as it stands it gives a more graphic idea than figures of the period at which the disease is most prevalent.



You will notice that the columns representing the cases of the age of five and six are much longer than any of the rest and that as you go farther away from these on either side, the length of the column gradually diminishes. That is to say, starting at the first year of life and advancing to the sixth year, the number of cases increases, but after the sixth year the number diminishes until about the seventeenth year no more new cases occur. A study of this remarkable regularity of rise