to the photographs (Figs. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10) of patients actually undergoing treatment, which illustrate better than words could do the means taken to improve the co-ordination and the success which attends the effort. The photographs were taken indoors and received an exposure of approximately ten seconds. It may, therefore, be seen how complete a co-ordination was obtained in those cases where no blurring of the image takes place. This is true in many instances. In others, however, it will be seen that a certain ataxia developed before the expiration of ten seconds, which it is not difficult to understand when one observes the difficult positions which the patients are attempting to maintain.

The result of our application of the Frenkel method in the treatment of tabetic ataxia has led to the following conclusions: that the method is equally applicable to hospital and private patients; that the class system is useful but must be guardedly used; that the moral effect upon the patients is admirable, leading to determined efforts towards perfecting themselves in the exercises prescribed; that the other symptoms of the disease — sphincter disorders, general sensory defects and pain — are indirectly benefited; that if the treatment be carried out faithfully under direction for six months or more definite improvement is sure to result unless complications set in or unless the patient presents himself for treatment at too late a stage; and finally, that this method of treatment, conscientiously carried out, should not be neglected or postponed in any case of uncomplicated tabes.

PHYSICAL TRAINING OF GIRLS IN THE BROOKLINE HIGH SCHOOL.*

BY WALTER CHANNING, M.D.,

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A SYSTEM of physical training has been gradually developed in the Brookline schools under the able and careful supervision of Mr. Hartvig Nissen. All pupils have had nine years of instruction before reaching the high school and are able to do a fair amount of apparatus work. This work is expanded and broadened to meet the requirements of the following four years and is in the direct charge of an expert teacher. In order that the physical condition of the girls may receive thorough attention and no exercises given which will over-tax the strength of the girls, a physical examination blank has been prepared by the Hygiene Committee of the School Board and the Physical Training Instructors, after a careful study of examinations made in the New York high schools, the Teachers' College and Columbia University, Dr. Meylan, head of the Physical Training Department in the latter having given valuable advice.

The blanks for the girls include measurements to determine lung capacity; chest girth and breadth; strength of back, chest, legs and arms, and carriage. The facts as to the general health are recorded, as well as the condition of the throat,

nose, eyes, ears, skin, teeth, blood and so on. A separate physician's examination is made by a woman physician skilled in such work. This examination includes the heart, lungs and spine, with an opinion as to whether the girl should take a partial or complete course in physical training, or none at all.

It is evident that by pursuing a method such as the one outlined, a girl's actual physical condition can be accurately ascertained, which is most desirable as bearing on the work the girl can be expected to accomplish either mentally or physically in the school, and can serve as a basis for exercises which will tend to improve the general health, and also as a means for selecting games or sports which will not be injurious.

The school committee regret that a large number of girls have been in the habit of obtaining certificates from their family physicians asking that they be permanently excused from physical training because of disability. In the lower schools the same girls do not ask for excuses, showing that in most cases ill-health is not the real reason. The high school studies are exacting, it is some trouble to change the dress for the gymnastics, and with the sense of being more grown up and free, it is perhaps natural that many girls should be inclined to avoid work which they believe has no direct connection with their studies. It is almost too much to expect girls to appreciate the benefit to the health which is the object of the physical training.

The physical examination being made the present year, will help to correct these mistaken ideas, and will especially demonstrate to parents that their girls are losing a valuable opportunity for self-development if the high-school physical training is neglected.

It should be just as integral and vital a part of the high school work, as is any academic study, and worthy of counting two points, instead of one as is now the case. The objection that the curriculum is crowded is a serious one, but when parents realize how much healthier and happier and more useful their daughters will be in after life, if they receive four years of physical training such as we hope to make it, they will not rest contented until this objection is overcome. Parents, physicians and school authorities must work together to improve the methods of caring for the health of the children in the school. No question is more important, and yet up to a very recent period it has been almost entirely overlooked.

CHILD LABOR BILL TO BE INTRODUCED. — Senator Beveridge of Indiana has announced that he has prepared a bill to prevent the employment of children in factories, mines and other establishments, and intends to push it vigorously. The bill prohibits carriers engaged in interstate commerce from transporting or accepting for transportation the product of any mine or factory in which children under the age of fourteen are employed, and concerns affected by it will be required to make affidavit every six months to the effect that they have no children under the prescribed age in their employ, and have not had during the preceding six months. — *Medical Record*.

* Read at a meeting of the Brookline Medical Club, Nov. 7, 1906.