

Farr and MacFadyen consider that the crises are due to an acute disturbance of metabolism, because the characteristic fall in serum amino-nitrogen, as measured by the ninhydrin method, does not occur in pharyngitis or otitis media in these children. However, we have noted the same degree of fall in

serum amino-acids in pneumococcal meningitis and peritonitis, the common skin erysipeloid which occurs in nephrotic children, and in a child who developed chicken pox. We feel that a similarity of clinical picture and fall in amino-acids does not exclude active infection.

REVIEW

Annali Italiani di Pediatria

We have received the first number of this new Italian paediatric journal (Vol. 1, Nos. 1-6, December, 1948), which is to be published bi-monthly at Cagliari, Sardinia. In his foreword the editor, Prof. Macciotta, points out that in spite of the large number of Italian paediatric publications there is still a long time lag between the submission of an article for publication and its appearance in print. This constitutes a serious obstacle to progress which

he hopes the new journal will do something to eliminate.

The articles in this first number are followed by summaries in French and English, of which the former are more comprehensible to the Englishman than the latter. In welcoming this new addition to paediatric literature and extending to it our best wishes for the future, we hope that succeeding numbers will, for the benefit of those of us whose Italian is poor, contain more useful English summaries.