

Author's Experiment.—On May 4, 1901, I inoculated myself with carcinoma tissue immediately after I had completed a radical operation for advanced carcinoma of the lower lip. The patient from whom the malignant graft was obtained was an Irishman, 60 years of age. The submental and submaxillary lymphatic glands were involved. The excised glands were immersed in a warm saline solution, and from one of them a fragment, the size of a split pea, was used for implantation. A small incision was made about the middle of the forearm, over the supinator muscles, under strict aseptic precautions. One of the margins of the skin wound was undermined sufficiently to make a pocket large enough to receive the graft. After implantation of the carcinoma graft the wound was closed with a horseshair suture and iodoform collodium. The carcinomatous nature of the glandular affection was proved by microscopic examination of the gland from which the tissue was taken. In the course of a week a subcutaneous nodule, the size of a pea, made its appearance, which remained stationary for two weeks, when it gradually disappeared. At the present time a faint linear scar remains, indicating the site of the incision. This, as well as a few similar experiments made by Alibert, furnish strong, if not convincing, proof of the non-parasitic nature of carcinoma. The bacteriologic search for the supposed microbic cause of carcinoma will continue in the future, but undoubtedly will be as devoid of positive results as it has been in the past.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION INVITED.

It seems to me that the time has come when it is necessary, by joint and persistent action, to study the etiology of carcinoma from other standpoints, and it is for this reason that I have chosen as the subject for my oration "A Plea for the International Study of Carcinoma." The vast importance of this subject merits united systematic efforts, in which representatives of all nations should take a willing active part. It is only by such concerted action that we may expect to reach the final solution concerning the true nature of this strange disease, and in doing so prepare the way for a rational and more successful treatment.

So far as our present knowledge goes, carcinoma must be regarded as a tumor caused by an atypical proliferation of epithelial cells from a matrix of embryonic cells of congenital or postnatal origin. The epithelial proliferation takes place in vascular tissue where epithelial cells are never found in a