

It goes without saying that a very large proportion of those suffering from cancer seek medical advice only when the disease has gained a firm foothold, and it is equally obvious that had the malady been diagnosticated in its early stages, the mortality from the disease would have been greatly lessened. The argument, then, is logical and reasonable that if people, and especially women, were cognizant of the nature of the early symptoms they would seek skilled advice ere the time for successful treatment had passed. Even if some nervous individuals imagine that they have the disease when they are free from the taint, and seek professional advice when they have no cause for alarm, this drawback will be more than counterbalanced by the saving of health and life which will result from the successful treatment of those who were right in their surmise that their symptoms were those of malignant disease.

Viewed from this standpoint, the propaganda for educating the public as to the early symptoms of cancer appear to be justified. At any rate, the most eminent surgeons of the country are of this opinion. Doctor Cullen, at the end of his address, made an earnest plea that the Canadian Medical Association should inaugurate a campaign against cancer on lines similar to these in vogue on this side of the border.—Edit. in *N. Y. M. J.*

HEALTH OF VANCOUVER IN 1912

In the annual report of the Medical Officers of Health of Vancouver for 1912—Dr. Underhill still styles himself Medical Health Officer, although many in Eastern Canada employ the better English designation, "Medical Officer of Health," but then Health men, whilst enthusiasts, are yet conservative, as many are still found employing "unsanitary" for insanitary—there is much valuable information and a very considerable volume of important statistical data. The report complains of the manner in which tenement houses are being built, and, as well, the too great tendency to crowd buildings upon small space. Tenements, Dr. Underhill blames for the increase in still-births. Apparently, there are numerous accidents from bad gas-fitting, as it is suggested that power should be given for the inspection of all installations and a permit issued before gas is allowed turned on. Particularly interesting are the figures as regards typhoid fever. Vancouver has a population over 111,000, and is quite proud of her water