

Dominion Medical Monthly

And Ontario Medical Journal

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Published on the 20th of each month for the succeeding month. Address
all Communications and make all Cheques, Post Office Orders and Postal
Notes payable to the Publisher, GEORGE ELLIOTT, 219 Spadina Road,
Toronto, Canada.

Vol. XLIV.

TORONTO, MARCH, 1915

No. 3

COMMENT FROM MONTH TO MONTH

Cancer still continues to claim many lives annually in the Province of Ontario. The deaths have gradually increased from 1,253 in 1904 to 1,806 in 1913. The number is a fraction over four times as many as typhoid fever; whilst it approaches those from tuberculosis, and almost equals the deaths from tuberculosis of the lungs—1,955.

When the mortality statistics of cancer and tuberculosis are compared, and when the actual campaign against tuberculosis in the province in the past fifteen years is remembered, it will be appreciated that it will only be a few years before cancer will be claiming as many, if not more lives, than tuberculosis in all its various forms. What is going to be done regarding cancer? How can it be neglected much longer!

Were cancer a communicable disease it would, of course, come within the active consideration of the Board of Health. But that has not yet been established. The cause of cancer is yet unknown. Until such times arrive it must still continue to claim its victims. And there is a dread of cancer almost as intense as that of tuberculosis, if not more so!