

one is justified in taking cases for treatment where cure cannot be looked for. I think so, providing a proper selection is made. One naturally does not care to treat moribund cases, as certain colleagues have occasionally asked me to do. On the other hand, radium as a palliative measure very often relieves pain, controls hæmorrhage, lessens offensive discharge and undoubtedly prolongs life. Surely the physician's duty in such a case is plain. It is not our province to hold up our hands and say, "Go home and die," if we know we can be of some, even temporary, service. If radium is capable of affording even such temporary relief in inoperable cases in which formerly nothing whatever could be done to mitigate the sufferings of the patient, it represents an adjunct to palliative treatment which must be regarded as of inestimable benefit.

Of the 387 cases, 271 are cases of malignant disease, while the remainder comprised benign growths, such as papillomata, angiomas, naevi, port-wine stains, cheloid, together with various other dermatological lesions such as eczema, psoriasis, tuberculides, lupus, etc. These figures will serve to clear up an erroneous idea which is widely prevalent both among the profession and the laity that cancer is the only condition for which radium is used. On the contrary, there are many varieties of pathological conditions which respond well to radium treatment. Of the 271 cases of malignant disease 116 are of rodent ulcers, 27 are true cutaneous squamous-celled epitheliomata; 27 carcinoma of the breast, 22 of the uterus, 14 of the lip, 5 of the tongue. There are 20 cases of sarcoma and of endotheliomata.

DERMATOLOGY.

I do not wish in this paper to dwell at any great length on the great field of usefulness that radium has in dermatological practice. On papillomata it acts as a charm. Port-wine stains and angiomas are removed. I have had 17 of the former and 9 of the latter. On lupus, while not a specific, it produces very good results. Cheloid is influenced in a specific fashion. Eczema and psoriasis also are greatly benefited. Radium is so useful in this department of medical science alone that, leaving out of consideration its influence on malignant growths, it is a powerful adjunct to the armamentarium of anyone undertaking to treat skin lesions.

GOITRE.

Dr. Robert Abbe, of New York, was the first to use radium for this condition, when in 1905 he treated a case of exophthal-