

observation, that of a polypus expelled through the vagina causing a compression necrosis of the vaginal walls. This patient has not been heard from since. Dr. Mercier also favoured hysterectomy in cases of fibroids on account of possible degeneration.

Dr. HARWOOD asked Dr. Mercier on what he based his opinion that the first patient had died of cancer developed in the degenerated fibroids.

Dr. MERCIER replied, that such was his impression, though there had been no post-mortem.

Dr. DEMARTIGNY thought Dr. Mercier's opinion the right one, for, as assistant of Drs. Pean and Delaunay, he had seen several cases of fibroids with a microscopical examination showing distinct cancerous degeneration. It was a rule in the International Hospital to have all specimens of uterus fibroids examined by the pathologist, and the report often was positive when the naked eye could detect nothing.

Dr. DECARY was of opinion that it was very difficult to reach a positive diagnosis even with the aid of a microscope.

Dr. DUBÉ asked what course should a physician follow, when in presence of a woman who had passed the "change of life," and suffered from fibroids which otherwise did not inconvenience her.

Dr. HARWOOD believed that if no trouble existed the patient should be left alone.

Dr. DEMARTIGNY said such cases were embarrassing, and that the tumour alone should not determine the procedure. The family history should be carefully examined, and if there existed any trace of cancer, an operation was necessary.

Dr. DUBÉ did not believe that heredity had much to do with fibroids, though the possible germ theory of cancer was daily making progress.

Dr. DEMARTIGNY added that even if cancer were an infection like tuberculosis, which was far from being proven, it was evident that patients born from cancerous or tuberculous patients were more prone to suffer from cancer or tuberculosis than others, and as future was most uncertain, it was better to be on the safe side.

Dr. BOUCHER then called the attention of the meeting to a regulation moved by Ald. Dagenais rendering obligatory the declaration of births at the City Hall, and compelling the physicians themselves, under penalty, to make such declarations. This was in contravention of professional dignity, and even in certain cases would be a violation of professional secrets.

After a lengthy discussion, in which took part Drs. De Cotret, Dubé, Décary, Le Cavalier, DeMartigny, Dagenais, Cormier, the principle of the regulation was approved, discussion of its several clauses being postponed.