

## RADIUM A CAUSE OF CANCER.

Dr. Walter S. Lazarus-Barlow a short time ago addressed a meeting of medical men and stated that he thought radium could cause as well as cure cancer. He expressed the opinion that radium in the human body might do this. It is reasonable that there is some one cause, and said that radium and radiation may be that cause. He pointed out the influence of radium on bacteria and thought it might have a similar stimulating effect on the cells of the body. Under certain conditions the radium present in the body might be gathered into one part and excite the cells into the formation of cancer.

The theory is an ingenious one, but must go through a lengthy period of trial before it can be accepted. In support of it he said that irritation had a marked tendency to cause bacteria to appear in the location irritated. He then pointed out that bacteria had a very marked affinity for radium, and could gather it into their cells from any solution containing the element. His theory then is that repeated irritation cause bacteria to appear in a part. These in turn attract the radium of the body to that part, and this stimulates the cells into the formation of cancerous growths.

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## SCIENCE HEALING BILL VETOED.

After due consideration, Gov. Glynn of New York, on April 23 placed his veto upon the bill passed at the last session of the Legislature, which was intended to legalize the practice of Christian Science healing in the State. The Governor stated that the bill which permitted "any person who ministers to or treats the sick or suffering by mental or spiritual means without the use of any drug or material remedy" to practise in this State without interference, would "open the gates to all kinds of medical pretenders, who would swarm across our borders and pretend to practise medicine upon our citizens." "Under this phrasing of the proposed law," he added, "I am precluded from passing upon the claim of the sincere believers in Christian Science." The Governor also refused to sign Senator Herrick's bill which gave to osteopaths in New York City the right to sign death certificates. The bill exempting drug store employees from certain provisions on the labor law, and fixing a separate schedule of hours for drug store employees was signed by the Governor, who considered the exceptions proposed entirely reasonable.