

it grows. And yet, no word as to its appearance or behavior on the culture medium is mentioned. Nor have we a picture of it, although both Plimmer's and Sanfelice's organisms are depicted on plate 7. This omission is difficult to account for. Further, on page 537 a list of his injections into animals is found, and here also we fail to find a single instance where there is conclusive evidence of a pure culture of a germ being employed.

The major portion of the article is taken up with the examination of tissues hardened according to different methods, but, as Professor Welch pointed out at the Hopkins meeting, we might argue indefinitely upon the histologic changes without making an iota of progress. In fact, for years one body of men has been claiming that these peculiar bodies found in carcinoma are due to cell degeneration; the opposite faction, that they are parasites. It is only by cultivating the organism, if there be any, and then producing the disease afresh with this newly-found germ that we can prove the cause of this dread malady. As a matter of fact, Dr. Gaylord has confirmed the results of others but added little or nothing new,* and the cause of cancer is still an unknown factor. It is very unfortunate that the suggestion that cancer parasites were floating around in the blood has led a portion of the daily press to infer that cancer is a blood disease and consequently that the removal of a cancer will be useless, as the disease is sure to appear at another point. Such is certainly erroneous. We know that cancer is not a blood disease, but that in the early stages it is an entirely local process; that it is permanently curable is evidenced by the results in European and, to come nearer home, in our own hospitals, where patients are living and well, years after complete removal of the growth.

Dr. Gaylord and his associates should in no wise be discouraged. Many of the world's most able investi-

*In justice to Dr. Gaylord, it must be added that the above-mentioned article is a preliminary communication and that the completed work may solve many of the still obscure points.