

harmful, and Mr. Ford has a notice posted in his workshops that cigarette smoking will not be allowed. Edison is equally emphatic.

Very eminent medical men attest the fact that the use of tobacco is a potent factor in causing disease of the heart and vessels, of the nervous system, of lower muscular tone, and lessening resistance to disease.

SIR THOMAS GEORGE RODDICK.

To no man ever did knighthood come more worthily than to Dr. Roddick, of Montreal. When his Majesty conferred his favor upon this distinguished member of the medical profession in Canada, he acted wisely, justly and popularly. We congratulate Dr. Roddick on his high distinction, and wish to say that he has worthily won it. We can say of him:

He is a scholar and a ripe and a good one,
Exceeding wise, fair spoken and persuading,
And to those who seek his council, sweet as summer.

INFLAMMATION OF THE GALL-BLADDER.

The importance and time of surgery in inflammation of the gall-bladder is emphasized by J. Tyson, Philadelphia (*Journal A. M. A.*, April 25), who reports three cases of cancer following this condition. The fulminating form often terminates in abscess and if unrecognized may terminate in perforation. Next to the typhoid bacillus the colon bacillus is a frequent cause. A result appreciated only recently is adhesions now recognized as a frequent cause of pain in the right upper abdominal quadrant, formerly unrecognized. Other predisposing causes are: Sedentary habits, lack of exercise, tight lacing, childbearing and abdominal tumors, which contribute to explain the four times greater frequency of the condition in women. The most important consequence on account of its frequency is gall-stones, and the relation of these to cancer is now recognized; hence the necessity of prompt operation. Other results of neglected cholelithiasis are hardly less serious, such as abscess of liver and biliary fistulas into various organs, including the veins, the intestine, the stomach, the bronchi and the external integument. Atrophy of the gall-bladder is not infrequent. Tyson believes that in doubtful cases exploratory operation is sometimes justified, the more so since other conditions may be discovered which would also require operative relief. He does not deny that cancer may precede gall-bladder inflammation, but there is as much reason to believe that they were consequences in the cases reported.