

ject to bronchitis. The mother died eight years ago of cancer of the liver and stomach. Patient is an only child.

I asked the Laryngologist of the hospital, Dr. H. D. Hamilton, to examine the nasopharynx in order, if possible, to determine the condition there present, and he reported that there was some postnasal growth with relaxation of the palate, but, owing to the fixation of the jaw by the enlarged cervical glands, a satisfactory examination could not be made.

I feared malignancy and thought there must be some primary focus about the nasopharynx to account for this marked enlargement of the cervical lymphatic glands. I could not think that the disease, if malignant, was primary in the glands themselves, especially when both sides were involved. To further the diagnosis and also to facilitate examination of the pharynx, on September 22nd, I anaesthetised the patient and excised the large mass of indurated gland tissue on the right side of the neck. It was very hard, but shelled out readily, and it was then seen that the condition was undoubtedly malignant, as all the structures were involved and infiltrated by the neoplasm, which cut like cartilage. There were a few small cysts in the mass but no hæmorrhagic spots. The linear skin incision was closed and healed rapidly.

The pathological examination of the excised glands, which was carefully made by Dr. D. P. Anderson, Assistant Pathologist to the hospital, showed that the neoplasm was "carcinoma of the scirrhus type." Now, carcinoma generally, if not always, begins in epithelial tissue, and one must needs, therefore, find the origin of this. As the infected glands receive the lymphatics from the nasopharynx, I naturally suspected that region and therefore I asked Dr. Hamilton again to examine the pharynx and if possible to remove a small piece of the growth there for microscopic section. This was done and the growth was now seen to involve most of the vault of the pharynx and showed no tendency to pedunculate. It bled freely on being excised. The pathologist reported on this section from the pharynx :—"sections here show the same typical carcinomatous growth as that seen in the cervical glands." So that here in a boy of fourteen, we have a case of carcinoma of the pharynx with marked secondary involvement of the cervical glands which drain the area affected.

The prognosis is hopeless; and the lad is rapidly losing flesh and strength since leaving hospital.

As regards the etiology of the trouble, I cannot do much more than put down the questions that occurred to me in thinking about it, as the whole problem of the causation of cancer has still to be solved. How much has heredity to do with it? The mother showed symptoms of cancer when the child was four years old and died from it two years