

Still more are the reports of cancer among the savage races to be discredited. The assertion that cancer is a disease peculiar to Europeans, and when occurring in the natives of other parts of the globe is due to a communication of the disease to them, is without foundation. When a definite search is made among the savages, cancer of various parts of the body is noted among them. There is, however, this peculiarity that certain races have cancer in certain regions of the body more commonly than others. Thus the Irishman with his short pipe has cancer of the lip, and in Egypt where Bilharzia infection of the bladder is frequent, there too is cancer of this organ quite common. Natives of Kashmir, who wear small earthenware pots with charcoal fire, about their waists, are commonly affected with epithelioma of the abdominal wall, resulting from frequent Kangri burns. Cancer of the mouth is frequent in India among the natives who chew a mixture of betel nut, tobacco and slaked lime, and in Ceylon more than half of the recorded cases of cancer are of the mouth and lips. The frequency of cancer of the penis is apparently associated with chronic irritation, due to the accumulation of dirt and secretion under the prepuce, and it is practically unknown in the Mohammedan races who practice circumcision.

Again, although cancer in civilized countries seems to be on the increase, this is probably only apparent from the improved records. Diagnoses are made with much greater accuracy to-day, and the methods of precise registration of death have been much improved.

In short, all races are affected with malignant growths; the sites of these growths vary, however, among different races, dependent upon certain race or individual customs.

These conclusions are borne out by the report of Dr. Seligmann, who notes that tumors both benign and malignant are to be found (although infrequently) among the Melanesians and inhabitants of New Guinea.

*Zoological distribution of Cancer.*—Evidence is rapidly accumulating that malignant new growths occur in all vertebrates, from mammals to fishes. Although the frequency of the occurrence appears to be on the increase, this is to be attributed to the closer observations that are made. Sarcomata are known to occur in the following mammals, jackal, bear, lioness, tigress and dog, while cancers have been found in jackal, opossum, lioness, rabbit, cow, cat, sheep and others.

Cancers and sarcomata too, are reported in birds, the most frequent site being the intestinal canal. Likewise tumors of various kinds are found in reptiles and amphibians. Quite a number of skin cancers have been reported in frogs, but these have shown the peculiarity of not producing metastases.