

apt to develop on any scar tissue. It is also well known that occasionally a tumor which after removal has been proved microscopically to be only a simple adenoma, has eventually been followed by true carcinoma in the cicatrix or elsewhere, under the stimulation of surgical procedure.

Metastatic development, after or without operation, can only be readily understood on the ground of the disease being a constitutional disorder. For, as far as I have observed, there is seldom or never any continuous attempt made after an operation to alter the dyscrasic condition producing the tumor, but the patient is dismissed with the vain hope that there will be no more trouble. It is quite natural, therefore, that the transference of cancerous cells, by the lymphatics or blood vessels, will form foci which are readily made to grow further by the vitiated blood stream.

Regarding, then, cancer as a systemic disease, of which the tumor is but a local expression, often or perhaps always the result of local injury or irritation, possibly of one or more "embryonic rests," let us briefly review the evidence in support of this view and the measure found successful in combating the basic cause of the disease.

First let me remind you of the *negative* and *positive* results of laboratory and other study, which are pretty well conceded by those who know most about the disease; and in presenting these I cannot do better than to quote what I have collected in a former article.

1. Clinically and experimentally cancer is shown to be *not* contagious or infectious; although under just the right conditions, certain malignant new growths can be inoculated in some animals of the same species, but not in other species, and human cancer cannot be transplanted on animals.

2. Although micro-organisms of many kinds often have been found and claimed as the cause of cancer, there has been no concurrence of opinion in regard to them, and it is now pretty conclusively agreed that cancer is *not* caused by a micro-organism or parasite.

3. Cancer is *not* wholly a result of traumatism; although local injury may have much to do with its development in some particular locality, even as in connection with the late lesions of syphilis.

4. Cancer is *not* hereditary in any appreciable degree; although some tendency in that direction has been demonstrated in certain strains of mice.

5. Occupation has *not* any very great influence on the occurrence of cancer; although it is more frequent in some pursuits than in others.

6. Cancer is *not* altogether a disease of older years; although its occurrence is decidedly influenced by advancing age.