

to be hoped that this life-saving operation will be resorted to earlier and oftener, when it becomes evident that the patient is otherwise doomed to die. In all of the cases reported by Dr. Hirst the uterus itself was so rotten that the finger could be pushed through its walls.

In the last number of the *Canada Medical Record* will be found an abstract of an article on the prevention and treatment of cancer of the uterus, in which I stated that the disease is becoming rarer in countries where lacerated cervix is recognized early by the general practitioner, and sent at once to be repaired by the gynecologist. Since then several papers have appeared in the journals of America noting that the writers, who are all men with large clinical material, are meeting with these cases much more rarely. On the other hand, the latest European journals are pointing out that cancer of the uterus is greatly on the increase. As every one who has studied in Europe knows, much less attention is paid to lacerations of the cervix there than on this side of the Atlantic. Many prominent gynecologists have prophesied that cancer of the uterus will gradually disappear when all the lacerated cervixes are repaired, and these experiences of the two continents would seem to bear them out. Haliday Croom, of Edinburgh, and Jacobs, of Brussels, both have recent articles in their respective journals pointing out that out of fourteen cases of cancer treated by abdominal hysterectomy, none of the patients were alive at the end of eighteen months, and out of three cases of vaginal hysterectomy for cancer none were alive after one year. Jacobs, who told me that none of his three hundred vaginal hysterectomies for cancer were alive after three years, has a recent article advocating the abdominal route for its removal, because it gives us a better opportunity of removing adjacent diseased tissue, especially the lymphatic glands. I recently had an experience of this kind in my own practice in a woman of forty-five, who came to me with cancer of the cervix involving the broad ligaments so that the uterus was firmly fixed in the pelvis. I told her she had cancer, but that she would die sooner and have more pain if I removed the uterus, and advised the curetting of all soft