

the lessening of the faith in heredity and increasing the proofs of irritation as the cause.

The eighth annual report shows that the funds on hand amount to £133,046. Nearly all of this is invested in revenue-producing stocks or debentures. The amount expended during the year on research work and other expenses was £6,782. The amount added to the endowment fund was £6,000; and £1,527 was carried forward for working expenses. This shows a very healthy condition of the account. Sir Henry Morris, the well-known surgeon, is the treasurer, and Dr. E. F. Bashford is the general superintendent of research and the director of the laboratory.

The report states that 13,000 cases of cancer have been investigated. These statistics throw light upon the alleged increase of the disease, the parts most affected, and the main causes.

Much importance is attached to cancer of the tongue, as it can be detected while quite small and its method of spread watched. The statement is made that if a suspicious ulcer or nodule is removed from the tongue, it must be completely made into sections and each one examined, unless a positive section be found. One or more negative sections are of no value, unless all be examined.

The serum diagnosis so far has yielded no positive results.

Much attention has been paid to the study of cancer in mice and cattle. No less than 90 cancerous growths were obtained from one abattoir in six months. These contained the histological forms met with in man. Primary cancer of the liver and the suprarenal bodies was common. The study of these growths has thrown light on the circumscribed nature of the origin of these growths.

During the year, 166 mice bearing spontaneous tumors were examined. Of these, 139 were malignant. It has been well demonstrated that cancer in the mouse can be transplanted. The careful study of cancer in the mouse goes to show that mice born from those suffering with cancer do not show any greater tendency to become cancerous than those born from healthy mice. This would tend to rule out the view that cancer is some sort of infection. One tumor strain has now passed through 166 successive batches of mice, and is still active and growing in mice after three years. Thus there is no apparent limit to the duration of cancer when transmitted from one animal to another. In the matter of transplantation it has been found that it can be done most readily in young animals; while the old animals are more liable to the spontaneous appearance of the disease. It has been shown that there is a strong tendency for the cancer cell to retain the same characteristics as to appearance for many successive experiments. While this is true, it is possible to modify the cell owing to