

must be ever on the alert, especially at this period of life, for symptoms which might mean cancer. It is not enough that these symptoms may be explained on other grounds; if there is the slightest suspicion, from the appearance of an irregular flow or discharge, that the patient might possibly be suffering from incipient malignant disease, a vaginal examination should be made, and malignancy if possible excluded. Why is it that so many more correct diagnoses of ectopic gestation are now made than formerly? It is simply because the profession is now on the lookout for that condition. This ought to be more and more the case in the search for cancer. Mistakes will be made and cases diagnosed malignant which are not, just as cases are diagnosed ectopic gestation which are not; but better far an error in this direction than in neglect till past help. It is the general impression that in early life we need have very little fear of malignant uterine disease, yet even here we find we are not safe. It is only a short time since the writer had under his observation a patient suffering with inoperable malignant disease of cervix and vagina, and who died before she reached the age of thirty. It is only by bearing in mind the fact that uterine cancer is possible at almost any age from puberty till death, that we can appreciate the importance of a vaginal examination, when presented with symptoms which are associated with malignant disease. Certainly in a patient who has passed the menopause and then experiences a bloody flow, not a day should elapse before an attempt is made at an accurate diagnosis.

This need of alertness in search for malignant disease will apply even more to the general practitioner than to the specialist. It is the family physician who is usually first consulted, and he it is who usually has the privilege of an early diagnosis.

The technique of operation for uterine cancer seems well-nigh perfect, but there is still a field, a large field, for improvement in early diagnosis. There is where we hope we are to make advance in the near future. The writer this evening does not expect that he has presented anything new. The object of the paper was entirely practical, viz., to impress upon the profession the need of alertness for indications for a vaginal examination. —Edwin B. Cragin, M.D., in *Med. Rec.*

WORKERS AND WEARINESS.

Professor Michael Foster has published his Rede lecture in the current number of the *Nineteenth Century*. Weariness is his subject, and it is one which demands the intelligent thought of all people of the present day. We recently called attention to the insanity which refuses to recognize weariness as the most dangerous symptom of mental

fatigue. It may be true or false that the world will not see the year A.D. 2000. It is, however, undoubtedly true that the Mother of Parliament, as the present House of Commons delights to call itself, is being rapidly reduced to a state of impotence which threatens the national safety. It is notorious that very young people frequently have abnormal energy which spurs them on to acts of foolhardiness, which may, and frequently do, have a fatal termination. It would be impossible for any business undertaking of importance to be conducted successfully on the principles which at present govern the conduct of business in the House of Commons. Those principles as laid down by the Premier in the resolution of which he gave notice for Monday, and which were to apply to the rest of the present, and the whole of the autumn, session, could have but one result. In its modified form it is fatal to all useful legislation. That it was not strenuously opposed proves to demonstration the condition of weariness to which Members of Parliament have been brought. Any legislation pushed forward by the continuous use of the spur and the whip must prove defective and harmful to the well-being of the people. Members of Parliament being men are subject to physiological laws as all are, and the absence of proper rest, and the refusal to conduct business within reasonable hours can only result in breakdown and disaster. The plan of business formulated by the Premier is opposed to every principle which enables any average mortal to master his work and maintain his health. In an ordinary business any such experiment as that about to be tried upon the House of Commons would very properly end in bankruptcy. We are no doubt a long way removed from national bankruptcy, but the ship of state is now within measurable distance of irreparable damage and discredit. This is not a political journal, but common-sense makes it apparent that the well-being of the people and the State demands the prompt presentation of a monster petition to the House of Lords not to pass the Appropriation Act, and to the Queen, urging the exercise of her prerogative, by the immediate dissolution of the present House of Commons.

Let us now see what Professor Foster has to say on the subject of weariness and its effects upon men and women. It is a popular belief that weariness is a physical symptom alone; that is to say, people become tired because their muscles are weary, whereas, in truth, muscular weariness depends not on the muscle alone, but on the manner in which the muscle in its work is aided and supported by the rest of the body. "The blood, sweeping throughout the whole body, washes out of the muscle all hurtful bodies, providing always the blood-stream is pure. If the blood-stream be sluggish, or if the blood coming to the muscle be already loaded with hurtful bodies, the clearance