

patients, or a number of them, who came before the commission, felt that they had been benefited by the treatment which they received. The commission is of the opinion that the evidence adduced does not justify any favorable conclusion as to the merits of Essiac as a remedy for cancer.

**Suggest Samples Given.**

"If, however, Miss Caisse is desirous of having her treatment further investigated, and wishes to submit thereon further evidence, and is prepared to furnish the commission with the formula of Essiac, together with samples thereof, the commission will be glad to make such investigation, in such manner as is deemed desirable and warranted."

Sitting with Mr. Justice Gillanders were: Principal R. C. Wallace, Queen's University, Kingston; Dr. T. H. Callahan, Toronto; Dr. R. E. Valin, Ottawa; Dr. W. J. Deadman, Hamilton; Dr. George S. Young, Toronto, and E. A. Collins, Coppercliff.

Its first finding was made on a secret substance sponsored by Miss Sarah E. Powers, 56 Charles Street East, Toronto, which was ruled out as not warranting further investigation.

The remedy, Miss Powers told the commission, was "universal medicine," the formula for which she claimed was written in code in various ancient works, and solved by her.

The remedy, she said, had been kept secret through the centuries because, being a specific for all bodily ills, its disclosure would result in more harm than benefit to humanity, in that it would remove a powerful deterrent to wrong-doing.

Jacob Vet of Fergus, the report said, presented his views as to why the cause of cancer has not been discovered and expressed some hopes for prevention of the disease. But he did not present a substance or form of treatment.

**Not a Cancer Victim.**

Roy Green, R.R. No. 1, London, claimed to know several remedies for cancer and claimed to be suffering from a cancer on the back of his head which he was treating himself. With his consent, an examination was made by medical members of the commission who agreed that there was neither evidence nor suggestion of cancer on the head.

A negative report was made on the presentation of Miss Florence N. Farwell, 37 Cora Avenue, who claimed that her diet recommendation was made on the result of experience with her sister, who developed cancer, and subsequently died. John Henry Hill, 108 Soudan Avenue, recommended the use of crude oil, but, the report said, there was no evidence that this treatment had been employed or used with benefit.

Seven alleged cancer cures suggested by Mrs. Allen Peterson, South Bay, Ont., were also believed to be without value.

Dr. Hett, it is pointed out, has agreed to an investigation that will encompass laboratory work, to be performed by a "competent investigator appointed by the commission," and by a "qualified observer appointed to observe treatment and progress of various patients now

being treated." The investigator is pledged to keep secret the composition of the formula.

**Refused Formula.**

Miss Caisse, while refusing to reveal her formula, was desirous of submitting evidence, largely in the character of case histories. She has treated from 1,200 and 1,500 cases in the Bracebridge clinic during the past three years, and claimed that she has been treating cancer for fifteen years.

Two members of the commission, as a subcommittee, inspected the clinic and took evidence from thirty patients. Miss Caisse later attended the inquiry at Toronto and submitted the evidence of some forty-nine patients. At the conclusion she not only refused to reveal the formula but to allow it to be used by any one except herself. The commission stressed the only cases which were of real value in deciding as to the claims of the treatment were those in which a positive diagnosis of cancer had been made prior to the treatment. In the forty-nine cases there were only four in which the diagnosis was accepted and in which recovery occurred, apparently from Miss Caisse's treatment.

William Holder, 100 Bloor Street West, Toronto, claimed to have invented an electric machine. A diet plan was recommended in connection with the machine treatments. Evidence would not support a finding that Mr. Holder's suggested treatment had any merit as a remedy for cancer, said the report.

**Praised for Tenacity.**

Dr. George Francis Watson, 11 Webber Street, Kitchener, advised the commission of his work and studies "with respect to the aqueous extract of calves' spleens on which he has been working in connection with cancer."

There was nothing secret about the work and Dr. Watson presented reports of four cases in which he believed his treatment was effective.

"He is to be commended for the tenacity and care with which he has carried on his studies and recorded the results," the commission found.

While of the opinion the evidence did not justify a conclusion as to the merits or otherwise of the remedy, the commission expressed hope that he would be able to carry on his researches.

At Guelph, Dr. Donald MacKenzie, formerly of Saskatoon and now retired, claimed that he had used arsenic plasters for the treatment of external cancer, with good results. The commission claimed that the scientific consensus was against Dr. MacKenzie and cited authorities.

In the case of Mrs. Mary Jane Levitt, London, who operated what was known as the "Edwards Cancer Hospital," the treatment consisted of the application of escharotic plasters for the removal and cure of external cancers. She submitted a record of 446 cases treated since 1904 and claimed cures for all of them.

The commission held the sponsor's evidence indicated a disregard for the necessity of any satisfactory diagnosis of the condition under treatment and that there was no attempt to differentiate between benign and malignant tumors. It found that the removal of external

tumors by the application of caustic plasters was useful in only an exceedingly small group of cases. A similar finding was made in the case of Michael J. Hallo, 845 Joseph Genese Street, Windsor, who sponsored a caustic paste or salve for the treatment of cancer.

Referring to Ensol and the work in the Hendry Connell Foundation at Kingston, the report pointed out that early in 1939 the Ontario Department of Health appointed Dr. W. T. Connell, professor of medicine at Queen's University, and Dr. E. P. Johns, assistant professor of pathology of the University of Western Ontario, to take charge of and carry on the investigations of Ensol.

"It seems clear," they reported on Sept. 5 in a statement to the Minister of Health, "that Ensol, used according to directions, is harmless and that it produces no undesirable effects. In at least 65 per cent of cases temporary symptomatic improvement is noted."