

TRIED METHODS STILL RELIED ON TO HALT CANCER

Commission, in Third
Report, Unable to Find
Progress as to Others

BACKS ENSOL STUDY

Benefit and cures result in a considerable number of cancer cases when surgery, X-ray and radium can be "promptly and properly used," according to a report of the Ontario Cancer Commission tabled in the Legislature by Hon. Harold J. Kirby, Minister of Health.

In a summary of the Commission's investigations, opened in 1938, the report stated inquiries have been confined to substances and methods of treatment "other than these recognized methods, and the Commission wishes to make it clear that from any evidence before it to date, whether or not any further or other methods of treatment may be thought beneficial or possessing some merit, importance should be attached to the early diagnosis of the disease and the use of one or more of these recognized and efficacious methods of treatment in all cases where it or they can be used."

The report is the third since the Commission opened its investigations.

In the third report, the commissioners recalled that in November they expressed the opinion "that the investigation of this substance being carried on under the direction of Drs. W. T. Connell and E. P. Johns be continued. No further comments are indicated at this date."

In the second report, they noted also, the commissioners expressed the opinion that the "evidence adduced did not justify any favorable conclusion as to the merits of Essiac as a remedy for cancer." Essiac is sponsored by Miss Rene Caisse of Bracebridge. The Commission pointed out in the most recent findings that Miss Caisse had furnished neither the formula nor samples for investigation, and concludes: "The view of the Commission is unchanged and is still that expressed in its report as of Dec. 31, 1939."

In the 1939 interim report, the commission considered that further investigation of Glyosylide, sponsored by Dr. David Arnott, London, should be made on both the laboratory and clinical side. Dr. Arnott expressed willingness to co-operate and some progress has been made on the clinical side in 1940, but little "unfortunately" on the proposed laboratory investigation.

"The commission is still hopeful that progress may be made in such an investigation and thinks it desirable to defer any review of the evidence before it to date or the expression of any opinion until it either has the benefit of some laboratory study or it is finally successful in having such an investigation made."

The commission on several occasions in 1940 received from Dr. John Emil Hett of Toronto further reports on the progress or condition of patients under his treatment. In connection with laboratory investigation Dr. W. J. Deadman (commission member) and Dr. George Philp, on behalf of Dr. Hett, attended on Dr. C. H. Best, professor of physiology at the University of Toronto, with a view to having him make a laboratory study.

Dr. Hett expressed willingness, but "owing to heavy demands made upon Dr. Best and his associates by pressing work incidental to the present war, progress in the Hett investigation has been delayed."