

THE KOCH QUESTION AGAIN

There have recently been numerous inquiries sent into the Society regarding the standing of Koch's serum for the treatment of cancer and our opinion of it. As everybody knows, the Cancer Committee last year completed a rather exhaustive investigation of this matter, and their conclusive report was published in the Bulletin of June 30, 1921. The supply of these Bulletins is now completely exhausted, and in view of the frequent waves of interest manifested by the public as well as by some members of the profession who have not been acquainted with this report, we feel that it is appropriate at this time to reprint this excellent summary of the Cancer Committee's investigation.

Incidentally, most of us are aware of the offer of a \$100,000 cash prize made by the "Montreal Star" a number of years ago to the discoverer of a cure for cancer. It might serve to dampen the ardor of those who are inclined to over-enthusiasm about Koch's serum that this plump prize has not yet been awarded.

Report of Cancer Committee Koch Investigation

Report of the investigation of Dr. Koch's cancer cases by the Cancer Committee of the Wayne County Medical Society, November-December, 1923. The following letter written by Dr. W. F. Koch to the President of the Wayne County Medical Society on October 14, 1923, asks for a re-investigation of Dr. Koch's cancer treatment.

Dr. Frank Kelly,
October 14, 1923

Pres. W.C.M.S.
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Dr. Kelly:

In the fall of 1919, the Wayne County Medical Society invited me to submit my treatment for cancer to investigation by a committee appointed by the society's president. The investigation was started at the Herman Kiefer Hospital on several cases of cancer. Two-fifths of the committee did not see the cases at all and I was also judged neglectful in the treatment of the cases, so the investigation was prematurely closed before any of the cases could recover.

Of the several cases treated, at least two of the most severe made a complete recovery and are perfectly well today. This fact has become widely known throughout the profession and laity. And as other cancer victims have been similarly benefited by the treatment, the request has been frequently made and the duty emphasized, that I turn the treatment over to the profession so that it may be used to do the most good.

I have resolved to do my duty in every detail if the Wayne County Medical Society will do its part in placing the treatment in the hands of the profession. If the W.C.M.S. is willing to take this step in the fight against cancer, I invite the appointment of a suitable committee, including the president of the W.C.M.S., to examine the results obtained in the cases treated at the Herman Kiefer Hospital and report in accordance with the evidence obtainable today, four years after the cases were treated. If this committee should desire it may also examine the evidence in many cases of cancer cured in my private practice and report on them.

If this committee should then desire it may arrange and conduct such procedures toward placing the treatment in general use, as the instruction of the profession in the scientific and practical details, the distribution of material, and all other measures belonging to the common good.

The only qualifications of the committee I must demand is that it be manned with such as consider the importance of this work as above such interests as might interfere with their effectivity in carrying on the work of the committee.

I would like a reply by Thursday of this week.

Respectfully yours,

(signed) Wm. F. Koch

A meeting of the cancer committee was held on November 1, 1923, to discuss this matter. Those present were Drs. Kelly, Stevens, Saltzstein, and Spalding. The bureau of investigation of the Journal of the American Medical Association was consulted regarding the advisability of further investigation. The reply follows.

October 29, 1923

Dr. Harry C. Saltzstein,
306 Kresue Bldg.,
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Dr. Saltzstein:

There appears to be no reason or warrant for a further examination of the Koch "cancer cure." This man had his opportunity: in fact, two opportunities, with results that are a matter of record.

In spite of the unfavorable report of the Wayne County Medical Society and the publicity that was given this report, both through the society's official bulletin and also through the Journals of the American Medical Association, Koch has continued to commercialize his alleged cure.

To take any further official action in this case would, in our opinion, simply serve to advertise Koch and give his "cure" a dignity which is not in the public interest.

Very sincerely yours,

The Journal of A.M.A.

Propaganda Department

Articles on Dr. Koch also appeared in the "Propaganda for Reform" column of the Journal A.M.A., February 12 and 19, 1921.

The committee entered upon this investigation of Dr. Koch's case with open minds. Every member of this committee would gladly welcome a cure for cancer whether it came from Dr. Koch or anyone else. The committee decided that it would see some of Koch's cases, as he suggested, and decide whether there was any evidence worth following further.

On November 5, 1923, the committee met at Dr. Koch's office. Those present were Drs. Frank Kelly, Rollin Stevens, Ed. D. Spalding, Clarence Owen, and H. C. Saltzstein.

Nine patients were demonstrated by Dr. Koch as cases of cancer cured by his treatment. Some of these are described in Dr. Koch's booklet, "St. Mark's Sanatorium Bulletin."

We present herewith a summary of the cases shown, together with data found on further investigation of these other cases:

CASE 1

Mrs. Edith May Fritz, Toledo Ohio. (Case 9 in booklet). She was presented to us as having a carcinoma of the uterus and whole abdomen, having been operated in 1919 in Toledo and given 6 months to live. The booklet states (page 14): Dr. Smead opened the abdomen and found what he diagnosed as inoperable carcinoma of the uterus, involving the structures of the abdomen. The patient as presented to us was apparently in good health.

In response to our inquiry, the following letter was received from Dr. Smead:

November 15, 1923

Dr. Harry C. Saltzstein

306 Kersge Bldg.,

Detroit, Michigan,

Dear Dr. Saltzstein:

Your letter regarding Mrs. Fritts received. At the time Mrs. Fritts was operated upon the condition was thought to be carcinoma from the gross appearance: but as no sections were made of the tissue at that time, an absolute diagnosis was, of course, impossible.

Sincerely yours,
Lewis T. Smead

THE A.M.A. AND WAYNE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY DECEPTION

One of the most flagrant methods used by the FTC and' the FDA bureaucrats to discredit Dr. Koch's contribution to progress is the report issued by the Wayne County Medical Society (WCMS) of Detroit and the AMA. It was not Dr. Koch, but these two organizations, which in 1919 asked for a group investigation of the Koch Treatment. He welcomed this challenge. It never entered his mind that this group of strangely gathered cancer patients, diagnosed as terminal cases, and selected by the WCMS, was not to be a bonafide investigation of the merits of Glyoxylide in overcoming the worst types of cancer. This pretend investigation, the truth of it completely perverted, was used by the Federal Trade Commission against Dr. Koch, 31 years later.

In 1950 the FTC Brief states:

“Five cases of undoubted cancer were placed in a Detroit hospital for treatment and observation, but nothing came of it, Dr. Koch and the Committee each claiming the other was at fault.”

First of all, the patients were chosen from considerable distances from Detroit even from out of the state, although Detroit's county hospital had more than enough suitable patients in dire need of this treatment. There were several reasons for this strange maneuver.

It must be pointed out that the WCMS Committee was supposed to examine each patient and to sign their names to the records of their examinations before treatment was to be given. This was put off while the patients rapidly got worse, and death could have ensued before the treatment

was given. These delay tactics could serve only one purpose! Dr. Koch appealed to the president of the Wayne County Medical Society, Dr. George MacKean, who angrily stated he would allow no crooked work while he was president. He ordered these doctors to appear the next day and do the job assigned them. Only two showed up and recorded their signatures to the examination of a Mrs. Fritts, the only patient examined, “as the time was too short to examine the others,” while a third doctor peeked in, then quietly closed the door and sneaked away.

The patients were treated and at least three of the remaining four turned out cured. Still the OFFICIAL REPORT issued was “NO RESULTS” and the treatment was denounced as a failure, and later as a fraud.

A few words are due about the other patients who recovered. One should recall that these were all far advanced cases of widespread hopeless cancer, fit subjects for an official test. Anyone can see, including the Commission, who had all the data in their hands, that the test was a most handicapped affair, with all the odds maneuvered against Dr. Koch at the very outset. Indeed, it was not Koch who asked for the investigation, but the A. M. A. and its Wayne County Medical Society, who were all unfriendly, and had been refused “business connections” by Koch for the exploitation of the treatment. They were out for his destruction. Yet Koch had sufficient confidence in his work to accept the challenge. In fact, he welcomed it. However, his nature was not sneaky enough to imagine that the vilest kind of dirty work would be planned and carried out against the service of the poor cancer victims. His disillusionment regarding the profession he honored so highly and for which he had made so many sacrifices in the past was only equaled by his disappointment in his government when it tried to destroy him and his work by this Commission and the Food and Drug Administration attacks. They had all the facts, but used the medical society’s lies against Koch.

If the A. M. A. and its Wayne County Medical Society branch could have denied even one fact of the cases under investigation as they are revealed for example in the two affidavits to be submitted, they would not have had to resort to the false opinions they gave as support of their innuendo and deceptions. But the facts could not be contradicted, and the report thus stands a “moral crime of the very worst kind”, as the opposition to this service was pronounced from the

bench of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts in 1926. Just two affidavits are sufficient to show up the fraud of the opposition and of the Commission that used the fraudulent report to support their intended injunction.

With everything against him, Dr. Koch then treated the five patients. 'He had confidence in his work. It was a challenge, and his duty to the sick was paramount to all else.' Three of the five cases were cured and possibly a fourth. The official "investigation" closed three weeks after the patients were treated and showed real improvement. We let these cases speak for themselves.

Mrs. F. was brought into the hospital on a stretcher. She had an abdomen full of cancer, was cachectic and the neoplasm had been found to have invaded the stomach and caused the hemorrhages. She had a laparotomy by the three best reputed surgeons of Toledo, Ohio, who made a diagnosis of Adenocarcinoma of the uterus widely metastasized and infiltrated throughout the whole abdomen and pelvis. Her case was recorded as hopeless.

Her husband's affidavit is herewith submitted. She lived fifteen years in perfect health after making her recovery and died from an accident. The coroner's inquest and autopsy showed no cancer was found, but that she died from a cerebral hemorrhage as a result of the accident. Thus, she was cured of cancer when treated under most adverse circumstances in the terminal stage. The "*nothing come of it*" lie is thus exposed.

In the Fritts case signatures were obtained from 2 members of the Official Committee. This was the only case on which any members of the committee could be cornered for signatures. The rest kept discretely away. On the other obligations the Committee defaulted completely. The Commission had all the facts on these matters but ignored them under protection of their great latitude granted by the F.C.T. act. This latitude must be cut so they can commit frauds of this kind no longer. The following data is taken from one of the exhibits in the hands of the Commission Toledo, Ohio.

July 16, 1924.

Dear Dr. Koch:

“I have had so many inquiries regarding your treatment for cancer from people that have heard of the wonderful cure of Mrs. Fritts that I feel it my duty not only to you but to the thousands of sufferers from this disease to publicly state just what the results of your treatment were in the case of my wife.

“In July 1918, Mrs. Fritts was first taken ill; from then until June, 1919, she was examined and treated by several physicians. Her case was diagnosed appendicitis, colitis and other maladies, but she did not respond to any treatment. At the beginning of her illness she weighed 172 lbs. By June, 1919, she had lost weight constantly, weighing only 97 lbs. At that time I took her to Dr. George Jones, a very prominent specialist. He and his associate, Dr. A. N. Smith, after three days examination decided to call in Dr. Louis Smead, one of our recognized surgeons. At the conclusion of their examination, Dr. Jones informed me that they were agreed that there was a growth in the abdomen, but could not say whether it was malignant or not; that the only way to determine was by operation.

This operation was performed the next morning by Dr. Smead; Dr. Jones, and Smith both being present. After possibly one-half hour, Dr. Jones came from the operating room to where I was waiting and informed me that they had found the trouble to be cancer, and in such a shape that an attempt to remove it would undoubtedly prove fatal, consequently there was nothing to do but close the wound and keep the patient as comfortable as possible. Both Dr. Jones and Dr. Smith told me that nothing further could be done; that it was simply a case of but a few months to live. In about two weeks the wound was healed and we were able to take her home.

“From then until October 1919, Dr. Smith called frequently but admitted he could do nothing for her. Early in October, I heard of Dr. Koch’s treatment and that he was conducting an experimental clinic in Herman Kiefer Hospital at Detroit. Accompanied by Dr. Smith, I went to Detroit and saw Dr. Andries, one of the committee appointed to watch this experimental work. We arranged to have Mrs. Fritts admitted to Herman Kiefer Hospital. A few days latter we took her to Detroit, Dr. Smith and the nurse going along. Patient was in the hospital three weeks during which time she received treatment from Dr. Koch. At this time, after some disagreement,

it was decided to close the hospital to Dr. Koch's patients, but as Mrs. Fritts was apparently being benefited by the treatment, I decided, if possible, to have Dr. Koch continue to treat her. I saw Dr. Koch and he told me he would continue the treatment if it was possible for her to go to his office. I made arrangements for her and her nurse to go to a hotel. From there they went to Dr. Koch's office at appointed times for two weeks. At that time, she had so improved that she was able to return to Toledo on an Interurban car. From that time on improvement was apparent and after several visits to Dr. Koch's office, he pronounced her cured. Today, four years later, she is enjoying splendid health, doing her own housework, besides enjoying all social activities, weighs one hundred and sixty pounds. A feeling of profound gratitude prompts me to make this statement.

Sincerely yours,

Signed — *F. F. Fritts*.

F. F. Fritts, being personally known to me, swears the foregoing is a true statement to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Signed — *John H. Laycock*, Notary Public,

My commission expires Aug. 9, 1926

Mr. Fritts also wrote the following letter to Dr. Koch restating the circumstances surrounding his wife's illness:

"Mrs. Fritts, Toledo, Ohio, weighed 172 pounds in 1918. In June 1919, only 97 pounds. She was brought to the Detroit hospital on a stretcher. She had an abdomen full of cancer, was cachectic, emaciated and the neoplasm growth had invaded the stomach and caused the hemorrhages. She had a laparotomy by the best-reputed surgeons of Toledo who made a diagnosis of Adenocarcinoma of the uterus, widely metastasized and infiltrated throughout the whole abdomen and pelvis. Her case was recorded as hopeless.

“She was in the hospital three weeks, apparently benefiting from the treatment, when it was decided to close the hospital to Dr. Koch’s patients. I decided, if possible, to have, Dr. Koch continue to treat her. I saw Dr. Koch and he told me would continue the treatment if, it were possible for her and her nurse to go to his office. I made arrangements for them to go to a hotel. From there they went to Dr. Koch’s office at appointed times for two weeks. At that time, she was so improved that she was able to return to Toledo on an interurban car. From that time on, improvement was apparent and after several visits to Dr. Koch’s office, he pronounced her cured. Today, four years later, she is enjoying splendid health, doing her own housework besides enjoying all social activities, and weighs one hundred and sixty pounds. A feeling of profound gratitude prompts me to make this statement.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) F. F. Fritts.”

Does this indicate that “nothing came of it”?

THE FOLLOWING TESTIMONY WAS GIVEN BY MRS. FRITTS AND WAS ENTERED INTO EVIDENCE ON BEHALF OF DR. FREDERICK DUGSDALE, WHO WAS BEING PROSECUTED IN THE MASSACHUSETTES COURTS FOR USING THE KOCH TREATMENTS:

EDITH MAY FRITTS, Sworn.

Q. (By Mr. Lehr) What is your full name?

A. Edith May Fritts.

Q. Did you have an illness?

A. I did.

Q. Tell us when. When was your first serious illness?

A. My first serious illness was in 1917.

Q. What was the nature of it?

A. Well, I don't know. At that time it went from one thing to another. I had different doctors, I had different doctors who said different things each time.

Q. Were you operated on?

A. I was.

Q. By whom?

A. By Dr. Louis Smead, Toledo, Ohio.

Q. Do you know what he did?

A. He opened me up and made an exploratory operation but did not remove anything.

Q. Did you go home after that?

A. About two weeks I left the hospital.

Q. Who was Dr. A. W. Smith of Toledo?

A. He referred me to Dr. Smead. Oh, before that I had had about three or four; and after that Dr. Smith.

Q. Dr. Smith was your family physician?

A. Yes.

Q. After you returned from the hospital what did you do?

A. They gave my husband a prognosis of six months, and told him to take me home and make me comfortable.

Q. What did you do after that?

A. I laid there for five months.

Q. In bed?

A. Yes, under the doctor's constant care.

Q. Then what did you do?

A. They heard of Dr. Koch and his treatment. My husband decided to try it.

Q. They took you to Detroit?

A. Yes.

Q. How did they take you?

A. In an ambulance.

Q. And you were treated by Dr. Koch?

A. I was.

Q. When was that?

A. In 1919, November, just around Thanksgiving time.

Q. What had Dr. Smith's diagnosis been at the hospital?

A. He didn't tell me; he told my husband.

Q. Mrs. Fritts, that is ten years ago?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you remember each of your reactions at that time?

A. Yes, I had very severe reactions at that time.

Q. What did they consist of?

A. Vomiting, fever, chills, not able to walk, dizziness.

Q. Was your abdomen swollen?

A. Yes.

Q. To a large extent?

A. Yes.

Q. And did you have diarrhea, do you recall?

A. Yes.

Q. Any trouble with your feet?

A. Yes.

Q. How long were you under Dr. Koch's care?

A. I was under Dr. Koch's care about two years.

Q. What was your weight at the time you were treated by Dr. Koch?

A. Between 85 and 90 pounds.

Q. What is it now?

A. 155 pounds.

Q. What is your normal weight?

A. When I got sick I weighed about

Q. And your weight now is 155?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you learn at any time subsequently what your trouble was?

A. I found it to be carcinoma.

Q. What did that involve?

A. Everything.

Q. The uterus?

A. Yes, stomach, and all the lower organs.

(At this point the Court took a recess until 2 o'clock.)

CONCLUDING COMMENTS BY DR. DUGSDALE'S ATTORNEY:

Now I want to call your Honor's attention to the last case, and I urge this upon your Honor because it was a case which shows that recovery must have been complete on account of the lapse of time. That is the case of Mrs. Edith M. Fritts. That is the one where she had an extensive cancer of the uterus involving the abdominal organs. It was as bad a case as that of Mrs. Caton's. She testified she had an operation performed by Dr. Louis Smead, of Toledo, Ohio, upon the request of her attending physician, Dr. A. N. Smith of Toledo, that a cancerous growth was found of such an extensive nature that no attempt whatever was made to remove it; that she was taken from the hospital to her home and later was taken to Detroit in an ambulance and placed in the Herman Kiefer Hospital, having been selected and accepted by the cancer committee of the Wayne County Medical Society as one of the seven test cases upon which Dr. Koch was to demonstrate to the society the benefit of his treatment. Mrs. Fritts testified that she was first treated in October of 1919 at the Herman Kiefer Hospital. Because of the nine or ten years lapse of time since her recovery and because of her desperate condition at the time she was treated, Mrs. Fritts was unable to tell the Court anything definite regarding her reaction symptoms.

CASE 2

Mrs. Pete Reeckko,

This patient was operated upon by Dr. Brooks-1 year ago (November, 1922). There had been projectile vomiting, falling to right, etc. X-Ray, November 8, 1922, at Harper Hospital, had shown new growth in the region of the pituitary, probably a Glioma. Dr. Brooks performed a decompression Nov. 25, 1922. This was preceded by deep X-Ray therapy. Two months after operation the patient went to Dr. Koch and was treated with injections. She stated that she started to improve immediately. As we saw her, her cerebral symptoms were arrested. Dr. Stevens was of the opinion that she was just beginning to get good effects from the X-Ray treatment two months after exposure-when she went to Dr. Koch.

The following letter concerns this case:

June 16, 1924

The Cancer Committee,
Wayne County Medical Society,
City,

Gentlemen:

Mrs. R. was referred to the Department of Roentgenology of Harper Hospital in November 1922, with a clinical diagnosis of intra-cranial tumor. The ordinary X-Ray plates revealed the findings of a brain tumor, and in order to more accurately localize the tumor, air was injected into the ventricles and further plates made. Diagnosis of a Glioma was made with localization of the tumor at the base or in the vicinity of the sella turcica or pituitary gland.

In order to afford the patient immediate relief from the increased intra-cranial pressure, a decompression operation was done and when the patient had recovered from this operation a series of deep X-Ray treatments were given. The patient received four hours of deep therapy over the tumor region, these treatments being given on December 6 and 9, 1922.

Patient was then discharged from the hospital with advice to the relatives that there would be no immediate results following the X-Ray treatment, but, as observed in 8 or 10 previous cases of a similar nature which had received deep Roentgen therapy, improvement should begin after a lapse of two months and continue for several months longer.

Very truly yours,

Wm. A. Evans

Dr. T. Leucutia.

CASE 3

Mr. Avery (Case 2 in Bulletin, page 7.)

This man, a tall farmer, showed a healed smooth, round scar 1 inch in diameter on the dorsum of the left hand, evidently the scar of a healed epithelioma. He had been at Ann Arbor April 29, 1922. His statement and that of Dr. Koch were that he was merely examined in Ann Arbor, that an X-Ray picture was taken "to see if the bones were involved." Soon after this, he received Dr. Koch's serum, to which he ascribed his cure. There is a sworn statement in Dr. Koch's Bulletin from Mr. Avery, saying that he never took an X-Ray treatment. He stated that he was under the X-Ray machine in Ann Arbor 5 minutes, however.

In response to our inquiry, the following letter was received from Dr. Parnell:

November 17, 1923

Dr. Harry C. Saltzstein,
306 Kresge Bldg.,
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Dr. Saltzstein:

I think your committee is in possession of copies of the correspondence between Dr. Cabot and Dr. Koch. Any statement of Dr. Koch or of his patient, Mr. Avery, to the contrary, the fact remains that Mr. Avery, was examined at the University Hospital and a tentative diagnosis of carcinoma of the hand was made. A biopsy was done in order to get a specimen for pathological examination. In the meantime Mr. Avery was given one X-Ray treatment. Whether the treatment of Dr. Koch's "divine healing" was responsible for the disappearance of the growth, if growth has disappeared, I am unable to state.

Very truly yours,

O. G. Parnell,

Supt. University Hosp.

Dr. Steven's opinion was that this X-Ray treatment was sufficient to destroy the growth.

CASE 4

Mrs. Chas. Plumb. (Case 4 in booklet, page 10.)

This case is described in the booklet as having been diagnosed Paget's disease of the breast by Dr. Jas. E. Davis, and is followed by the statement. "Remember the statement of Dr. Mayo and that of Dr. McFarlan about the absolute failure of surgery even in the earliest stages of breast cancer, and then remember that Dr. Evans urged her to have a radical breast amputation immediately.

She presented a normal appearing breast.

Dr. Davis supplied us with the following data:

"Mrs. Plum was seen by me and an external examination only was made of a small tumor close to the nipple. At the base of the nipple there was a slight irritation of the skin surface with very slight fissuring. My advice was asked, not for the purpose of personal treatment, but simply for general aid to the patient in determining the course of treatment to be pursued. A general explanation was made concerning the outcome of such growth and that it could not be

determined at the time whether a malignancy would develop, but for the purposes of safety it was advised that the lump be removed by excision. No microscopic examination was made of the tissue and no positive diagnosis advanced. A diagnosis of cancer was not made.”

(signed) Jas. E. Davis

CASE 5

Mrs. Celia Alpert.

The history presented to us was that Dr. Friedlander removed the breast for carcinoma in 1920, that 6 months later there was recurrence in the scar, a specimen was taken and the patient referred to Dr. Koch. His treatment had removed the recurrence. She presented a well-healed scar and was in good health.

Dr. Friedlander stated to us that the breast had been removed for carcinoma but that there never had been a recurrence. He had seen the patient every month or two since operation.

CASE 6

Mr. John S. Ackley. (Case 21, page 21, in booklet)

Presented to us as cured cancer of the rectum.

The booklet describes this man as “suffering from intense pain of cancer of the rectum, which practically obliterated the anal opening.”

Dr. Koch told us there were lumps of squamous carcinoma to the edge of the anus.

The history we obtained was:

Pain in the rectum which cut like a knife, one hemorrhage. No diarrhea, no constipation, the entire duration one month, relieved 2 days after treatment.

Dr. Clarence Sayres saw the case just before the man went to Koch. His data follows:

Rapid onset of acute knife-like pain in rectum July, 1922. No constipation, no diarrhea, no persistent bleeding, 25 lbs. Loss in weight. After 2-3 weeks the patient saw Dr. Sayres. No growth or other abnormality was noted externally, digital or proctoscopic examination impossible because of extensive tenderness. After this one visit the patient went to Dr. Koch, who says a lumpy growth was found extending to the edge of the anal orifice. He instituted his special treatment by injections and shortly afterward, while at stool, patient had a tremendous gush of bloody material from the rectum. This brought immediate relief and was followed by a rapid subsidence of all symptoms.

Dr. Sayres' impression was that the man had a perirectal abscess with spontaneous rupture into the lumen of the bowel.

CASE 7

Mr. Marsh. Presented to us as having been cured by Dr. Koch of cancer of the rectum. The man appeared only fairly well; leaned against the wall, had sallow complexion, but said his weight, 135 lbs., was up to par. He said he still passed urine per rectum.

The following data obtained from the patient and the doctors who had treated him prior to Dr. Koch.

Mr. Charles F. Marsh, 1919, W. Grand Blvd. Referred by Dr. Husband to Dr. Ray Andries for operation on cauliflower growth in rectum. Admitted to Providence Hospital April 11, 1921. Four-year history of protruding and bleeding hemorrhoids and long-standing constipation. Five months before, bleeding reappeared and rectal growth later discovered. Rectal examination showed an irregular cauliflower mass two inches long situated on the left rectal wall two inches within sphincter and not very tender. Operated 4-22-21, the growth being destroyed with heat cautery and four 12 mg. Radium needles embedded for ten hours. Same radium treatment repeated 6-4-21, shortly after which a small growth, size of a marble, was noted to be still present. On 7-17-21 radium application with 50 mg. Inserted for nine hours, after which the lesion seemed to clear up. Slight bleeding per rectum was again noted in January, 1922, and on

2-28-22 two small recurrences were found. Four 12 mg. Radium needles embedded in these recurrences for 12 hours on 3-3-22, and again for 22 hours on 5-4-22. In the meantime, X-Ray treatments were commenced by Drs. Chene and Weaver on 3-13-23 and about once a week through May. These were given over the sacrum, 20 minutes each, 5 milliamperes, 9-inch gap, 12-inch distance with filters of a half-millimetre of copper and one millimeter of aluminum. This was followed by improvement in the local conditions and on 7-24-22 it was noted that there was a filling in of the cavity in the wall of the rectum by some cicatrization. A second course of X-Ray was instituted at this time, running through to October, a total of about 20 treatments being given in the two courses combined. Though there was no definite evidence of further malignant recurrence locally, the patient's general condition was apparently failing and the dubious prognosis frankly discussed with his wife. It was also suggested at this time that he go to Dr. Evans at Harper Hospital for deep X-Ray therapy with the new apparatus just being installed there, but this was never done. About this time the patient developed a rectovesical fistula which distressed and further discouraged him, and he went to Dr. Koch instead. It should be noted, however, that just before going to Dr. Koch he began to gain a little weight. Dr. Koch gave him three of his special treatments and at this juncture he began to improve and has continued to do so to date.

Seen by the committee Nov. 5, 1923, he appeared fairly well, though sallow. He weighed 135, being nearly up to par. Rectovesical fistula still present but no urine passed per rectum except a time of refectionation.

Pathological report of tissue removed at operation, 4-12-21. Neoplasm (of rectum) epithelial in character with stypical glands and inflammatory supporting tissue. Diagnosis: Adenocarcinoma of Rectum.

(Signed) Jas. E. Davis.

IMPRESSION: Adenocarcinoma of rectum destroyed locally and possibly totally by intensive and extensive treatment with radium and X-Ray prior to treatment by Dr. Koch, with a slough following radiation resulting in a rectovesical fistula.

I want to call your Honor's attention to the case of Charles S. Marsh because of the length of time that elapsed before the completion of the reactions and the consequent recovery. This was a case of cancer of the rectum, involving the pelvic organs in which the diagnosis was confirmed by specimens removed upon two different occasions and microscopically examined and reported on by Dr. Alfred Warthin, Professor of Pathology at the University of Michigan and Dr. James E. Davis, Pathologist at the Providence Hospital, Detroit. Mr. Marsh testified that he received three treatments respectively on November 5th, 1922, December 1st, 1922, and January 20th, 1923. The reactions to the treatment were extreme distension of the abdomen; in his own words he said he felt as though the abdomen would burst. Pains through the hips and legs, which he had not felt before treatment, and a feeling of general misery that continued for a year and a half after treatment accompanied by continued pain in the abdomen and legs. He testified that he saw Dr. Koch rarely, having only seen him two or three times from March to September 1923. He testified that from the time of his treatment by Dr. Koch, he had no morphine or medication of any kind.

CASE 8

Mary Siegel. (Case 20, booklet page 20)

Described to us as having a mass the size of a grapefruit in the left and mid-abdomen with pain unrelieved by morphine. The booklet describes this case as cancer of the sigmoid with the usual symptoms of obstruction, bleeding, loss of weight, etc. After one treatment by Koch, she had no further symptoms.

Since there was no laparotomy, no section of tissue, we were unable to judge anything about this case. She had been referred to Dr. Koch by Dr. Tom Robertson.

CASE 9

Simon Grace. (Case 27 in booklet, page 25)

Described to us as a massive carcinoma of the liver and stomach who had been under continuous morphine treatment because of the pain. After a few serum treatments he gradually and soon went back to work. There was no operation, no section.

Another case of cancer throughout the abdomen giving rise to gastric hemorrhages, was that of Mrs. James whose affidavit is also submitted. She was from Union City, Michigan, about 150 miles from Detroit. Her physician, Dr. Hancock, informed Dr. Koch that she had a growth removed from the inside of her thigh which metastasized to the abdomen so as to make it a hopeless case, and one that was fit for the investigation. She had had an abdominal exploration too which established the spread of the disease to the abdomen and its hopeless status. Her affidavit is given here to show, like in the case of Mrs. Fritts, that she was in the cured status five years after Treatment. The other case was an equally advanced cancer of the uterus with widespread pelvic and abdominal involvement. She suffered terribly and had taken morphine constantly. After the Treatment she improved and when the investigation was closed she returned to Ohio and was lost track of for a few years. One day she was met while boarding a streetcar in Toledo, Ohio. She said she was perfectly well, and her doctor had examined her a number of times and could hardly believe it for every organ was normal. Her terrible bladder trouble was gone and she was normal and without pain or inconvenience in every way, back to full health and strength. These, then, are some of the “NO RESULTS” or “NOTHING CAME OF IT”, — only three or four cures out of five.

Two members of the committee, Dr. Kelly and Dr. Owen, spent considerable time going over cases of Dr. Koch. These cases were as follows:

CASE 10

Father Joniatis, 8300 Longworth Avenue, Detroit.

Was operated upon in Chicago by Dr. T. J. O'Donoghue, for tumor on the right forearm, which was diagnosed after removal as Myxosarcoma. This tumor recurred and in September 1923, the patient visited Dr. Angus McLean, who advised amputation of the forearm. He then visited Dr. Jos Andries, who removed the mass with knife and cautery.

CASE 11

Homer Tayler, living at 721 Distel Street, was operated upon at Mayo Clinic, April 1923, for Hypernephroma of the left kidney. He had also been operated upon in Milwaukee in October

1922, and one in September 1923. Was treated by Dr. Koch in October 1923. Upon examination of the patient, numerous tumor masses were found throughout the abdomen, especially one large mass in lower abdomen, six by five inches.

CASE 12

Lena Schonscheck, living at 14 Forest Street, River Rouge, Michigan.

38 years of age, had been operated upon at Delray Industrial Hospital by Dr. Edwin Durocher. Visited Dr. Koch and was informed that she had carcinoma. Dr. Koch did not remember whether it was of the stomach or the uterus. Patient generally well, weighing 200 lbs. Dr. Durocher was consulted, as also was the Delray Industrial Hospital. We were unable to find any record of examination of tissue. An abdominal operation had been performed with removal of ovary which was clinically non-malignant.

CASE 13

W. Thayer.

Was operated upon in the spring of 1923 by Dr. Andries. He had a tumor of the testicle which, upon microscopical examination, proved to be a teratoma. A few weeks later the tumor having recurred he was again operated upon and several weeks after that he was seen by Drs. R. H. Stevens, Frank A. Kelly and Clarence Owen. The tumor had been extended up into the abdomen and an X-Ray examination revealed metastases in the lungs. The case was pronounced hopeless and was permitted to go to Dr. Koch for treatment. The progress of the case was followed during the treatment, X-Ray examinations being made at intervals and the disease was found to increase. The patient died in the early part of 1924.

SUMMARY

Thirteen cases presented to us as having been cured of cancer by Koch's treatment showed:

CASE 1. Presented as cured of cancer of uterus by Koch's serum. Gross diagnosis at laparotomy "Thought to be cancer, though not sure." Statement by Dr. Smead of Toledo.)

CASE 2. Glioma of brain which had had decompression plus two deep X-Ray treatments. Improvement probably due to above treatments.

CASE 3. Epithelioma of hand- X-Ray therapy at Ann Arbor sufficient to cure condition.

CASE 4. Demonstrated as Paget's Disease-Wrong Diagnosis. Was not Paget's Disease but simple ulceration with associated lymph adenitis. (Statement Dr. Jas E. Davis.)

CASE 5. Demonstrated as a cure of recurrence of breast carcinoma. Never had recurrence. (Statement Dr. B. E. Friedlander who operated upon her and has observed her since.)

CASE 6. Demonstrated as cured rectal carcinoma. Probably was perirectal abscess which ruptured spontaneously. (Statement of Dr. Clarence Sayers.)

CASE 7. Carcinoma of Rectum. Had severe radium and X-Ray therapy, sufficient to cause fistula and to arrest growth.

CASE 8. Carcinoma of sigmoid-clinical diagnosis. No laparotomy; no section.

CASE 9. Carcinoma of stomach and liver. Clinical diagnosis. No Laparotomy.

CASE 10. Myxosarcoma with no results from Dr. Koch's treatment.

CASE 11. Hypernephroma, with no results from Koch's treatment.

CASE 12. Non-malignant tumor of ovary. Treated by Dr. Koch for cancer.

CASE 13. Hopeless metastatic treatment of testis. Died soon after Koch's treatment.

CONCLUSIONS

This data was reviewed at a meeting of the Committee November 23, 1923, and again on June 16, 1924.

Recently the daily newspapers have printed the reports of five of Dr. Koch's cases as "a few of the startling cases presented to the committee." Four of these five are included in this investigation under the following numbers:

CASE No. 1. (*Detroit Free Press*, June 14, 1924).

CASES No. 2, 4, 7, and another case we could not identify (*Detroit Free Press*, June 16, 1924.)

Out of the hundreds of cases Koch has probably treated, these were demonstrated to us as his best results.

In no instance have we found a case where the diagnosis of cancer was absolutely established and where no other form of treatment had been used in which a cure or any decided benefit had ever been obtained.

Respectfully submitted,
Harry C. Saltzstein,
Chairman.

Frank Kelly,
Rollin Stevens,
Edward D. Spalding,
Clarence Owen.

