

PAUL M. KOCH
10 LAKECREST LANE
GROSSE POINTE FARMES, MI 48236
1-313-881-2978
FAX - 1-313-881-2978

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Mr. Jon Meacham
Editor of NEWSWEEK
P.O. Box 2120
Radio City Station
NY 10101-2102

Dear Mr. Meacham:

The other day I started to write to you what was to be a "short letter to the editor" with my comments on your very interesting NEWSWEEK article: *"We Fought Cancer... And Cancer Won. After billions spent on research and decades of hit-or-miss treatments, it's time to rethink the war on cancer"* by Sharon Begley. This letter "on the subject of cancer research" got slightly out of control and ended up as an epistle in "booklet form.

First, my questions are:

- a) "Did cancer really win" or did the cancer researchers in the United States, like "Rip Van Winkle," fall asleep about ninety years ago and have yet to awaken to see the real medical progress in cancer research that occurred while they were sleeping?
- b) Why are the cancer researchers of today still willing to overlook the successful cancer research of William F. Koch, B.A., M.A., Ph.D., M.D., that he started, independently on his own, while in graduate school at the University of Michigan, nearly 100 years ago and that has been found to be more successful than the failed "Billion Dollar Cancer Research Programs" that have been sponsored by our government over the years?

You may or may not be aware of the fact that over the past ninety plus years there has been a history of "A.M.A. censorship" in the field of medical and cancer research that has been able to keep new types of cancer therapy off the market during the twentieth century. For this reason I felt that some of this medical research information, that you may not have heard of, may now be of interest to you. After all, we all are tax payers and we still have lives and billions of dollars at stake in more cancer research "where the official outlook looks bleak." Thus I am enclosing my "Booklet Letter" on this subject matter.

((CORRECTED VERSION))

First of all, some background information on why there has been slow "effective progress" in the field of "basic cancer research" during the last century. For years, prior to 1919, Dr. George Simmons and Dr. Morris Fishbein¹, two former editors of The Journal of the American Medical Association, were able to control the dissemination of medical and scientific information to the medical profession. Through their power as editors of the J.A.M.A. they were able to keep the true information on the successful scientific and medical research of my father, William F. Koch, A.B., A.M., Ph.D., M.D., 1885 – 1967, from medical press and the public in the United States. They were able to delay and/or prevent Dr. Koch from obtaining United States Patents on his therapeutic, medications that he had discovered over the years, while other countries were willing to grant him his patents.

Dr. Koch started his medical and cancer research at the University of Michigan in 1910 while he was in graduate school at the U. of M. Since 1920 his cancer and medical research was censored by these two editors of the J.A.M.A. from all A.M.A. approved medical journals and the A.M.A. controlled medical press in the United States. Only small independent medical journals would dare report on Dr. Koch's successful cancer and medical research. Also, all of the medications "that he developed were "Black Listed" as secret drugs by the American Medical Association. Any doctor who was caught using these medications, could and in some cases did, lose his license to practice medicine thru the power that the A.M.A. had over the controlled of the local State Medical Boards. If that doctor would be willing to discontinued to use the Koch medications, he would then be allowed to keep his license to practice medicine. Likewise, the Koch doctors were barred from using A.M.A. approved medical hospitals, etc.

These editors of the Journal of the American Medical Association thru their power and influence, after twenty years of agitating, were able to falsely influence the Food & Drug Administration to bring a fraudulent indictment on labeling charges against Dr. Koch and Koch Laboratories in 1942, which indictment F.D.A. was unable to prove in open court. In 1948, after the two of longest jury trials (of five months each in 1943 & 1946) in the history of the F.D.A., the F.D.A. voluntarily dismissed its unfounded indictment against Dr. Koch and Koch Laboratories, Inc. The prosecutor told the Court, at the time of dismissal of the government's case in August of 1948, that Dr. Koch's labels now conformed to the requirement of the current F.D.A. Act. One of the issues in the case involved the chemical structure of two of Dr. Koch's medications, Glyoxylide and Malonide. Thanks to Dr. Willard Dow and the support of the scientists at Dow Chemical Company, Dr. Koch was able prove the complex chemistry of his medications in court during the second trial in 1946. During both trials, Dr. Koch was able to clearly establish the therapeutic value of his medications. During the 1943 trial all three of the Detroit Newspapers reported daily on all of the trial activity and the evidence presented by the prosecution and by the defendant's. During the retrial of this case, in 1946, the government attorney directed the local newspapers not to cover and publish the daily court testimony as they had done in 1943. This resulted in a "complete blackout" of all the scientific and medical evidence that was produced in court. A form of "war time censorship."

¹ "Some people believe I run the A.M.A.' he often said." Referring to comments made by Dr. Morris Fishbein. Harper's November, 1949, p. 76.

In July of 1919, Dr. Koch published his first cancer research paper, *A New And Successful Treatment And Diagnosis of Cancer*, in The Detroit Medical Journal. This was his preliminary cancer research report to the local medical profession. At the time of this report, Dr. Koch was seeking the full cooperation of his local medical profession in order for him to set up a scientific clinical cancer research-testing program for his new method of treating cancer. With the full cooperation of the local medical profession, he would now be able to treat several hundred terminal cancer cases with his new method of treatment for cancer and then make a full scientific disclosure of the results. This was part of the overall cancer research program that had started years earlier while at the University of Michigan.

For several years Dr. Koch had the full support and cooperation of about fifteen oncologists in the Detroit area that had permitted him to treat some of their terminal cancer patients. At the end of his research paper to the profession, Dr. Koch asked for "only cases that have not received Ray treatments" to be used in the clinical trials because he knew that radiation therapy had an adverse effect on his medications. Thus radiated cancer patients were not the proper type of cancer patient for clinical testing of his treatment. This disclosure to the medical profession created antagonism by some of the local radiologists towards Dr. Koch, his cancer research and his new form of cancer treatment.

*A NEW AND SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT AND DIAGNOSIS OF CANCER*²

By WILLIAM F. KOCH, Ph.D., M.D., Professor of Physiology, Detroit College of Medicine and Surgery; Research Pathologist to the Woman's Hospital; Director of Laboratory to the Jefferson Clinic

Statistics show that there are over 200,000 cases of cancer in this country alone. The mortality is one out of eight for females, and one out of twelve for males, in spite of the great advances in diagnosis, surgery, and in the use of X-ray and Radium. It is hardly to be wondered at that the successful treatment of this disease should be sought in some other field of endeavor, as chemistry, for instance. I am glad to be able to announce that such a search has not been barren, and that indeed a number of inoperable cancer cases have already been clinically cured through a bio-chemical treatment with which a fair portion of the Detroit Profession is now familiar.

It is the purpose of this paper to explain briefly the history and principle of this treatment in order to engage interest and co-operation in this very necessary work.

In 1912 and 1913 (1), I reported the occurrence of the toxic quantities of guanidine, methyl-guanidine and other alkylated guanidines in the urines of parathyroidectomized dogs, and concluded that these substances were responsible for the symptoms and death of such animals. In 1917 (2), this work was amply confirmed at the University of Glasgow. In the meantime, I was able to isolate from parathyroidectomized dogs' urines the precursor of the guanidines, namely, methyl cyanamide. (3) This substance which is formed by other body cells than those of the parathyroid glands after parathyroidectomy

² A copy of the full research paper is attached as an exhibit.

quite quickly combines the amino group liberated in the metabolism of amino-acids and thus becomes a guanidine.

I was never able to isolate guanidine from any normal tissue or unputrified protein. So it was presumable that whatever guanidine was formed in the body had its origin in a cyanamide. Now by preparing the protein of the various living organs so as to kill immediately all the ferments, dry it, and free it from all fats, those groups, which are metabolically active, are preserved for study. And by applying a certain chemical compound which readily binds the cyanamide group, it appeared that all normal tissue proteids contained this group. On testing cancer proteid, however, a peculiar behavior was observed which differentiates cancer and normal protein.

This substance when purified, taken up in water and immediately injected subcutaneously into a cancer patient, causes practically no local reaction; but instead, after about 24 hours, a very decided focal reaction takes place. Wherever the cancer tissue may be, its' cells are killed, their ionic concentration increases, the osmotic pressure increases, they take up water, swell and disintegrate. The swelling causes pain and the absorbed, disintegrated products are oxidized causing fever.

Those two things, focal pain and fever, constitute a reaction which lasts all the way from 6 to 48 hours, depending upon the amount of cancer tissue killed, and of course this depends upon the quantity of substance injected. Such a reaction occurs only in cancer cases and only in the presence of cancer tissue. After the cancer tissue has disappeared, no more reaction can be elicited, no matter how large an injection is given, an important diagnostic aid. The specificity of the substance for cancer is evidenced by the fact that while giving these injections in rapid succession (that is daily or every two days for a period of five weeks), a blood count will rise from 2,850,000 to 4,600,000 red cells and the haemoglobin from 37% to 82%. Thus the delicate red cells are not injured. At the same time a mass of cancer tissue, the size of a large cabbage, will entirely disappear, and all the signs and symptoms of the particular cancer will disappear with it, function return, and the patient become clinically cured.

Stomach, liver and rectal cancer clear up the quickest. Uterus cancer responds slightly more slowly. Squamous cell carcinoma responds about one-half as fast as stomach cancer. No cases of cancer that have previously received X-ray or Radium treatment respond to this treatment at all since these agencies have altered the chemistry of the cancer cell. I therefore, cannot make any statements regarding breast cancer, since those breast cases that I have treated have all been previously rayed.

Before presenting a few brief case descriptions, I wish to express my gratitude and appreciation to Dr. Carstens, Dr. Judd, Dr. Paterson, Dr. Irvine, Dr. Palmerlee, Dr. Palmer, Dr. Blain, Dr. Watkins, Dr. Hewitt, Dr. Friedlander, Dr. Hackett, Dr. John Burleson, Dr. Ash, Dr. Van Baalen, Dr. Hurst, for the excellent cases they have offered and for their kind co-operation in the treatments of their cases. I think that interviewing them would prove more interesting and instructive than any mass of details that I could here append. (Seven cases were briefly reviewed in this paper:)

It appears from these brief case histories, that each injection does its work and that the growth does not become immune to the treatment, that destruction of the cancer removes all its noxious activities as eroding blood vessels, nerves, etc., and that the toxic products are no longer generated, so that the cachecia disappears and a return to the normal strength, body weight and blood count ensue.

I believe that you will appreciate the importance of this cancer work and believe that you are all interested in my request for co-operation. I wish to work up very fully several hundred cases for final report. I shall be glad to interview anyone regarding this matter, but for reasons that you will appreciate, wish only cases, that have not received Ray treatments.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- (1) Koch Jour. Biol. Chem., 1912, Vol. XII., p. 313; Jour. Biol. Chem., 1913, Vol. XV., No. 1, p. 43.
- (2) Paton, Findley, Watson, Burns, Sharp, Wishart, Quart. Jour., Phys. 1917, Vol. X., Nos. 3 and 4.
- (3) Koch Jour. Of Med. and Surg., Jan., 1918, pp. 1 to 9. (727 Jefferson Ave.)

By chance, about a month later, a newspaper reporter for the Detroit News came across Dr. Koch's research paper and became interested in his original approach to the treatment of cancer. Thus on September 7, 1919, the following front page article was published in the Sunday Edition of The Detroit News paper giving a full review on Dr. Koch's years of cancer research to the public.

THE DETROIT NEWS, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1919

REPORTS NEW CANCER SERUM

Professor at Detroit College
Stirs Medical Profession
by Announcement.

Members of the medical profession in Detroit have been stirred by the announcement of a new treatment of cancer by Dr. William F. Koch, professor of physiology at the Detroit College of Medicine and Surgery, and the statement he has already clinically cured a number of inoperable cancer cases.

Dr. Koch's announcement is made in the issue of the Detroit Medical Journal, in a paper entitled "A New and Successful Treatment and Diagnosis of Cancer."

He describes the treatment as "a subcutaneous injection of about 30 drops of a bio-chemical compound."

RESULT OF LONG STUDY,

This compound, Dr. Koch told a reporter, is the result of nine years of study and experiment which began, in the chemical laboratory of the University of Michigan, with his study of the function of the parathyroid glands, four glands, about the size of a small pea, lodged deep in the neck.

"The function of the parathyroid glands," Dr. Koch said, "was a mystery from the time these glands were discovered until some years ago when I cleared up the matter to a point where a very important disease, Eclampsia, and the change which constitutes cancer could be studied. Eclampsia treatment will be reported soon in some medical journal." (Eclampsia is an intoxication resulting

from insufficiency of the parathyroid glands. It occurs in pregnant women and is quite rare.)

"The parathyroid glands are necessary to life. If they are injured the afflicted person dies in a characteristic way – in convulsions.

"The first contributions to this subject were made at Johns Hopkins University. Unfortunately they were erroneous and only made the mystery deeper. It was when I discovered that when these glands are injured several poisonous substances develop from a previously useful substance that we were placed on the right track again. The poisonous bodies are certain guanidine and they develop from a hormone, which I found to be methyl-cyanimide.

COMPOUNDS ACTION,

"While testing the various organs for the presence of this compound and also testing cancer the same way, I noted the difference between cancer and normal tissue and it is this difference that forms the basis of my cancer treatment.

"The action of this compound, which Dr. Koch asserts, destroys cancer tissue and has no effect on normal tissue, he describes as follows:

The serum is carried to the cancer by the blood. The cells are killed. Their osmotic pressure increases and they become waterlogged and swell. The pressure of the swelling causes more pain until the killed part has been disintegrated and absorbed, and the absorption, or burning up, causes fever, usually occurring about 12 hours after the injection of the serum. Cancer tissue so absorbed also serves as nourishment. If the patient has been starved a long time because of cancer of the stomach, a large cancer, paradoxical as it is, is a benefit since, once killed, it supplies food elements and actually gives strength to the patient. Cancers previously treated with X-ray or radium, however, if killed by the serum treatment, gives products that are very toxic, sufficiently so, in some instances to kill the patient.

Dr. Koch's treatment will not, he says cure cancers that have previously had X-ray or radium treatment.

TYPES READILY CURED,

"I have treated 30 such cases and in every instance the treatment was a failure," he said, "Except that it is a matter of electron vibrations, I am in the dark as to the exact nature of the change in the cancer chemistry induced by X-ray or radium treatment. I am now trying to solve that problem.

Neither will Dr. Koch say that his serum will cure skin cancer or breast cancer.

"I have had good results with skin cancer several times," he asserted, "but I have not had enough experience with it to say that my compound will cure it. The compound was not constructed according to the chemistry of such growth. The material I used for analysis when starting the work was rectal and stomach cancer. The types that respond best to the treatment are cancers of the liver, stomach, intestines, rectum and uterus, which are apparently rapidly and completely cured.

About ten injections of the serum, Dr. Koch says, will completely cure a stomach cancer as big as a man's head and stomach cancers are practically always inoperable.

BAD CASE CITED,

"I had a woman patient last August," he said, "with a cancerous growth as large as a watermelon. She was too weak to walk and wanted to live only until her son returned from France. I did not expect her to live a week. Today she is as well as any of us. It is the same with all stomach cases I have treated; they are either entirely well or getting well as quickly as treatment proceeds. And the same is true of rectum or uterus cancer that have not been treated with X-ray or radium."

All Dr. Koch's cases have been well advanced. It makes no difference in the success of the cancer treatment how near death the patient may be, he asserts.

"Just as long as the blood is circulating to carry the serum from the site of injection through the growth, the compound will do its work," he said. "Of course some patients may be so completely exhausted as to die, anyhow, or they may have some other fatal malady. If one of the patient's vital organs is destroyed; curing the cancer obviously will not save his life. He is likely to die before the cancer is cured."

CONFIRMED BY PHYSICIANS,

The stomach, Dr. Koch, says, although important, is not necessarily a vital organ.

According to Dr. Koch, not one case of cancer in the history of the world had been cured by medical treatment until he discovered his compound.

Several Detroit physicians whom Dr. Koch thanks in his paper for their co-operation in his cancer treatment, have confirmed Dr. Koch's statement that he has established clinical cures of cancer in specific cases.

By "clinical cured" is meant they explained, that insofar as can be determined without exploring the patients by operation to justify a positive statement that no trace of cancer remains or by waiting five years to ascertain that there is no recurrence of the cancer, the patients have been cured.

Although all spoke of Dr. Koch's treatment with that reserve which, in discussing the value of another man's discovery of a disease-treatment, marks the utterance of reputable physicians, jealous of their own professional reputations, they were unanimous in the opinion that Dr. Koch's treatment has shown remarkable results. That, from the viewpoint of the physician, caution in indorsing a "cancer cure" is natural, is emphasized by the statement of Dr. J. H. Carstens, and solemnly echoed by two others of the physicians interviewed, that "the man who discovers a cure for cancer will be the greatest man in the world."

BRILLIANT CHEMIST,

Dr. Alexander W. Blain, surgeon, head of Jefferson clinic: "Dr. Koch is one of the most brilliant physiological chemists in the country. It is too early to say he has a cancer cure, and it should not be regarded as a 'cure-all' but as an adjunct to the treatment of cancer. No cure can be established until five years have shown there is no recurrence of the disease. But what he has done is this: He has made people well who were so far gone with cancer that they had only a few weeks to live. Several patients he treated for me are working hard and enjoying life a year after they 'should have been dead.' Even if Dr. Koch gets no further with his work than he is now – and he is experimenting now with his

fifteenth mixture, I believe – even if he has not discovered an absolute cure for cancer, he has added years to the lives of cancer victims. There are nearly 300,000 victims of cancer in the country and if they could all have a few years of usefulness added to their lives the saving to the country would be enormous. What he has already done is a boon to humanity and a great step forward in physiological chemistry."

CONFIDENCE IN KOCH,

Dr. Walter L. Hackett, visiting gynecologist and obstetrician, Woman's Hospital: "There is no question of Dr. Koch's sincerity and ability. It will take five years to determine whether or not he has a real cure for cancer, but I have enough confidence in his treatment to let him inject his serum into any cancer patient of mine. I had, as a patient, an old woman who was very far gone. At Koch's suggestion I operated on her and took out such cancerous growths as were apparent. Later, the cancer grew again. Dr. Koch gave her four injections and she is now apparently entirely well. I have seen some excellent work done with radium, but never anything so remarkable as this. Dr. Koch should be given every opportunity to prove the value of his treatment."

Dr. C. Hollister Judd, president of the medical board, Women's Hospital: "When we stop to consider that one woman in every seven and one man in every 12 have cancer, the importance of the work Dr. Koch is doing can not be overrated, though it is too early to say that he has a cure for cancer. He has been working under many handicaps. The cases given him have been the 'hopeless' ones, where the surgeons saw the uselessness or impossibility of further operation, and his treatment has shown remarkable results."

SHOULD BE HELPED,

"Everything should be done to encourage him in his work. He should not be obligated to think, for instance, of expense. Yet his serum costs him \$8 an injection, I believe. He ought to be given \$100,000 to carry on his work and he ought to have a ward in a hospital where he could concentrate his patients. Women's Hospital is arranging to give him 12 beds. Dr. Koch's work, which is still experimental, is important in this sense, he is studying cancer physiologically rather than pathologically. That is, instead of working on the cancer tissue of a dead person, he is working on patients who are alive. There might be a question as to which method is more interesting to the physician, but there is no question of which appeals more to the patient."

Dr. J. H. Carstens: "He has apparently effected some wonderful cures, but it is too soon to say this positively. I am against publicity in the matter, as we do not want persons afflicted with cancer to flock to Detroit for treatment when they will not be able to be taken care of. Dr. Koch will get all the cases he needs."

TOO EARLY TO PREDICT,

Dr. G. H. Palmerlee: "Dr. Koch treated an old man for me. The growth seems to have reduced materially and the patient began feeling better after the first few treatments. It is too early to say that Dr. Koch has a cure for cancer. He should be given a ward in a hospital with a number of cases proved beyond the shadow of a doubt to be cancer. Then a commission of physicians should be

appointed to watch the effect of Dr. Koch's treatments on the patients. If he had 100 cases of positively proved cancer and he established cures in 90 per cent of the cases, he would be getting somewhere.

"If he can cure 75 per cent of his cases – even if he has not a positive cure for all cancer – his discovery is a boon to humanity, for the man who discovers a cancer cure will be the greatest man in the world. One of the difficulties of curing cancer is that ordinarily it is not discovered until the case is too far advanced to be operated. Operations are successful if the cancer is caught early enough and if all the cancer cells are removed. If, however, a few of the cells escape and spread through the lymph tracts or blood vessels to other parts of the body, the cancer will break out again and it is obvious that only a certain amount of tissue can be removed from the body.

WITHHOLDS FORMULA,

"Where a case has been operated and cancer breaks out again, there is almost no curing it by further operation. The trouble with making any announcement of a cancer cure is that too much will be expected of it, as too much was expected of X-ray and other innovations. The X-ray is of wonderful assistance in diagnosing, in locating foreign particles in wounds, obstructions of stomach or intestines, and in discovering broken or dislocated bones, but it is not a cure all, as people thought when its discovery was announced."

The establishing of a commission of physicians to study the progress of the cases he treats is, Dr. Koch says, exactly what he wants.

"I do not want to make the formula public just yet," he declared, "because I fear it might be commercialized. The compound is difficult to make and it deteriorates rapidly. If I published it and quacks or unscientific men started mixing it and treating cancer with it, the results would be disastrous, not only possibly to the patients, but to the ultimate success of the treatment. Improperly mixed or administered the compound would fail to do its work. It would be discredited by the medical profession and it would take years to establish its value. When I have proved to the satisfaction of the medical world that it does its work, it will be time enough to make the formula public."

Later that month the following newspaper article appeared in a local newspaper.

DOCTORS SEE PROGRESS IN CANCER FIGHT

Wayne County Medical Society Plans to Give

New Serum to the World

The Koch cancer serum is to be given to the world.

Dr. James H. Carstens, president of the faculty of the Detroit College of Medicine and Surgery made the announcement today.

The Wayne County Medical Society, which is closely affiliated with the American Medical Association, will distribute the serum through a committee of

five.³ It will be manufactured by Prof. William F. Koch and his associates in the laboratories of the medical college (The Detroit College of Medicine).

Mayor Couzens is expected to ask permission of the city council to turn over a section of the Herman Kiefer Hospital for Detroit tests. He discussed the matter with Dr. Carstens yesterday.

No claim had been made as yet that the serum will "cure" Cancer. But a nation-wide effort will be made to learn just what the preparation will accomplish. Really marvelous results have been achieved by Dr. Koch in Detroit, physicians report and the medical society is unanimous in the belief that the profession everywhere should be given the opportunity to try out the serum and report on its effects. In this way a successful march upon the dread disease at last may be accomplished. Again the attempt may fail. Time will tell.

Recently, through publication in a medical journal of an article by Dr. Koch, news of the serum was spread abroad. Newspapers took up the cry with the result that today every train is bringing cancer sufferers to Detroit; every hour more telegrams and letters from the hopeful who, misled in the belief that a 'cure' actually has been found, hope to obtain some of the serum, or come to Detroit for personal care and observation.

This rush of afflicted persons to the city perhaps has hastened the decision of Prof. Koch and his associates to give the serum to the medical profession. Physicians everywhere now will be given the opportunity to use the preparation under every conceivable condition and upon every variety of the disease. The serum will rise or fall upon the verdict of the profession in whole, and in this finding Prof. Koch and his friends are content to concur.

This article pointed out the extensive interest and wishful involvement of certain members of the Wayne County Medical Society in Dr. Koch's cancer research. It also pointed out the importance of proper, independent, scientific clinical testing in the support of all cancer research. Certain members of this medical society already knew, first hand, that some of their terminal cancer patients had "clinically recovered"⁴ from various forms of cancer through the use of the Koch Treatment when other methods of cancer treatments had failed. This article also indicated how Dr. Koch's cancer treatment would be taken over, controlled and distributed through the Wayne County Medical Society, a division of the American Medical Association. It should be noted that some of the members of this medical society expected that they would individually receive financial benefit through the early commercialization of Dr. Koch's cancer research and treatment as soon as his method of treatment had been officially approved. After these doctors, on this committee, learned that Dr. Koch was first interested in proving the therapeutic activity of his discoveries before these medications could be made available to the medical profession which takes months of additional clinical research, and that he would not go along with their proposed exploitation of his research, they prematurely closed down this clinical investigation after about six weeks. They then tried to blame Dr. Koch for their own actions. The medical doctors who were

³ This was the beginning of the attempted take over and control of the manufacturing and distribution of Dr. Koch's cancer treatment by some members of the local medical society.

⁴ The accepted five year period for proof of a "cure" of these cancer patients, that had been treated by Dr. Koch, had not passed at the time of this report. However, these treated "terminal cancer patients" appeared to be "clinically recovered" according to their personal treating doctors at that time.

Koch that he would never receive the full cooperation from all of the members of the Cancer Investigation Committee appointed to conduct the Herman Kiefer Hospital clinical cancer tests. Their antagonism and lack of cooperation resulted in this premature closing of the clinical cancer investigation of his treatment. All of the out of town patients were then sent home. At the time this investigation was closed, one of the official cancer patients, Mrs. Edith Fritts who was from Toledo, Ohio, was discharged from the hospital. She elected to continue treatment in Detroit under Dr. Koch's personal care. While under Dr. Koch's medical care, she made a full recovery from her cancer and lived cancer free until her death in 1935 that resulted from an accident.

As a direct result of the failure by this cancer investigation committee to cooperate with Dr. Koch and because of the erroneous report published on the first page of the weekly issue of the Wayne County Medical Society's Weekly Bulletin on the December 22, 1919, Dr. Koch wrote the following letter to the Wayne County Medical Society.⁶

WM. F. KOCH, A.M., Ph.D., M.D.

Detroit, Michigan

December 22, 1919

To the Wayne County Medical Society:

Gentlemen – A committee appointed by the Wayne County Medical Society met me last Friday and requested me to present information regarding my cancer treatment.⁷

I was told the information was desired so as to ascertain:

1. Whether the work was worth continuing.
2. To dispel misunderstandings and prevent further false reports that have arisen against my methods.

Now the first question requires no answer. This method has tentatively cured a sufficient number of cancer cases to demonstrate that there is a scientific principle underlying it. This principle needs development, both chemical and clinical, so there can hardly be any question about whether the work is worth while.

The second question can be answered by a short history of this work.

⁶ *The Wayne County Medical Society Weekly Bulletin*, Jan. 5, 1920, pp. 4.

⁷ Note that Dr. Koch refers to his treatment as a "cancer treatment", not a "cancer cure"; it was the Wayne County Medical Society that referred to this treatment as a "cancer cure".

1. *Only cases beyond other means of help have been treated by me. For a long time, indeed, most of the cases that have come to me were moribund before treatment.* A large number of these cases needed most urgent relief from changes secondary to the cancer. They offered material for experiment rather than cure.

2. The first compounds used were tentatively curative in carcinoma of gastrointestinal and endometrial origin, but there was the possibility of preparing a large number of closely related compounds all of which should possess some positive or negative value in treating cancer. Moreover, there were types of cancer that did not respond to the first series of compounds and the fact that rayed cancer was clinically different from unrayed cancer made it paramount to prepare as many of the compounds of the series as could be prepared and to try them clinically for positive or negative value. Most of the time since last March was spent preparing and testing these compounds. Now, when we remember that the rule in advanced cancer is that the patients run their course and die, instead of getting well, as in pneumonia, for instance, and since the vitality of my patients was, as a rule, very low, and because they were treated by compounds of uncertain action used in sequence as they were prepared, the number of tentative recoveries was necessarily small; but yet some valuable information has come from the small amount of autopsy material. Likewise, pieces of tissue removed during treatment have given valuable information. Of the clinical results, a number of tentative cures have been established, also a number of clinical improvements, all of which has demonstrated that among the 22 compounds used, as far as can be judged from the small number of cases treated, one compound specifically kills cancer arising in the gastrointestinal tract and endometrium and endocervix; one compound kills breast cancer of one type only, specifically; one compound kills rodent ulcer specifically. Several compounds have no demonstrable effect, and several recently prepared compounds very markedly increase the rate of growth of cancer of the gastrointestinal tract and prostate.

So much for the results to date.

The maintenance of the work was for the first year entirely personal. The meager facilities of the Laboratory of Physiology of the Detroit College of Medicine and Surgery were used then also. Since March about 30 percent of my patients have contributed to the work. The other 70 percent are treated free.

In regard to cooperation: *I am greatly indebted to those member of the Wayne County Medical Society that have given their clinical support. I believe they are physicians in the true sense of the word.* It must be expected, however, that the necessary element of falsifiers have in their number those and their adherents who at one time expected that financial advantage would accrue to them from the work. Moreover, there always are those who are jealous.

My aim is entirely idealistic, and so far as I know now, I shall contribute my findings in every detail only when I can establish them completely

scientifically, so completely, indeed, that any question can be answered by the scientifically obtained facts in hand.

In order to establish this work in such a way, money is needed to pay a clinical staff. Ehrlich was given a million dollars to find a remedy for syphilis. *I have attacked this heretofore impossible cancer problem on my own resources, together with the very small facilities of my college laboratory.*

From this effort something tangible has developed, which, if applied in the treatment of cancer, should relieve many sufferers, and which, when scientifically extended, should afford new means of relief.

Whether or not the Wayne County Medical Society wishes to cooperate with me is up to the society. The cooperation must be spirited. In the first place, the attitude expressed in the editorial in the Bulletin of December 22 must be corrected. The first paragraph of this editorial is false, as the editor could have easily determined if he had taken the trouble to ascertain. The third paragraph is also a misrepresentation. *The Board of Health and the Wayne County Medical Society offered something which at first promised to become the long hoped for chance for a scientific study, but very soon proved to be only an opportunity for something not worth while, simply a preliminary clinical report.*

Such a report we already have, and no report is of value unless the compounds are reported. This I will consent to do only when I can make a scientific report showing the how and why certain compounds act on cancer.

To make such a report, a clinical staff and at least one paid chemist and one assistant chemist is necessary. I was not able to secure a chemist under less than one-year contract, and the beds at Herman Kiefer hospital were not allotted for that time. Indeed, the superintendent informed me four weeks after the beds were granted that they would be needed for contagious diseases. No working arrangement could thus be made for the desired report. *Then the committee did not cooperate with me. One member never visited the hospital and only attended the final meeting to subscribe his name to the report of my negligence.*

Another member, who is supposed to have a corner on cancer tissue, when this work was first started and when I was introduced to him to ask for cancer material, turned his back on me and refused the introduction. *Other members of the committee, who seemed to be fair and unbiased at first, soon came under the sway of those whom they knew and said were distinctly unfriendly to me and my work. There was thus no common aim and could be no cooperation.*

The fourth paragraph says I promise much and charge well. Nothing is further from the truth. I promise nothing. My patients know this, and I require them to be examined from time to time by their physician that refers them to me. This aids my judgment as to the results and keeps the patients informed accurately. I have referred already to the 30 per cent that pay and the 70 per cent that do not.

The last paragraph of the editorial touched on the secret of my success. I try to discuss this problem with those I respect sufficiently in

the hope that they will offer encouragement and guidance; and from them only do I wish to receive it.

Otherwise the best cooperation the Wayne County Medical Society can give is to leave alone a matter they have never advanced. I should not be asked to give my time to any activity that cannot aid me in placing this work for the treatment of cancer on a distinctly scientific basis. *All of my time is needed and given to this end. In the future I shall have no time for any further activities that are not directly constructive to the intrinsic value of this work.*"

Sincerely yours,

W. F. Koch

On Christmas Day, December 25, 1919, the following article appeared in the Detroit Free Press. This newspaper article illustrated the importance of independent financial support for basic medical research, free from the control of the politicians and the medical associations.

KOCH ASKS AID TO TEST CURE

Won't Some One Pay Cost of
Real Trial? Is Plea of Cancer Foe

Is there not some rich man in Detroit with enough interest in his fellow men to pay the bare expenses of the trial of a cancer cure that has already shown enough tentative cures to have attracted the attention of physicians of prominence in New York, Chicago and Detroit, as well as of minor practitioners in all parts of the country?

This was the query Wednesday evening of Dr. W. F. Koch, whose assertion that he has discovered 22 chemical compounds useful in the treatment of as many different varieties of cancer, has been under investigation by the Wayne County Medical society. The investigation resulted in a disagreement that found an airing at last Monday evening's meeting of the surgical section of the society.

Wants Nothing for Self

"I don't want a penny for myself," continued Dr. Koch, referring to the reported intention of the Wayne County Medical Society of asking the city authorities to pay him a salary of \$5,000 a year and place a full staff at his disposal for 12 months in an effort to fully test his claims. "What I want and what I am determined to get before I go ahead with any test are the right conditions."

The Ford Hospital, for instance could easily place 50 beds at my disposal, or rather at the disposal of the test, for one year. The city could provide nurses and chemists and other attendants necessary for a proper investigation of the results of the treatments. It would cost probably \$65,000, but this is an insignificant amount when you remember that Sir

Edward Speyer gave Ehrlich \$1,000,000. and that the German scientist experimented with 610 compounds before he discovered the famous "606."

I have an offer to go to Chicago but have decided to refuse it because the conditions are not the ideal ones for which I am searching.

In Touch With Other Cities

I probably will read a paper before the February meeting of the American Congress of Internal Medicine in Chicago and I am in touch with New York doctors of prominence. If Detroit will not prove itself big enough for this thing, I am sure some other city will.

Dr. Koch was never given a chance to demonstrate his cancer and medical research in any A.M.A. approved hospitals or any University Hospitals in the United States. When Dr. Koch applied for his first two U. S. Patents for the medications he had developed, the A.M.A. was successful in stopping his patents application from being approved by contesting the chemistry of his research and therapeutic activity of his medications. Finally these two patents were approved in the 1930s. At one time the J.A.M.A. tried to claim that his treatments were secret medications and "Black Listed" them. The power of the J.A.M.A. became strong enough to be able to prevent Dr. Koch from obtaining additional patents in the United States. However, Dr. Koch was able to obtain patents other countries such as in Canada, Great Britain, Brazil, etc where the A.M.A. did not have any influence over the governmental patent offices.

In 1934, Dr. Koch traveled to Europe to conduct the cancer and other medical research that he was unable to do in the United States because the A.M.A. had denied him access to the research institutions in our country. Dr. Koch had been given an introduction, by Father Roosens, to Professor Joseph Henri Maisin, Director of the Institute of Cancer, at Louvain University, Louvain, Belgium, one of Europe's leading cancer research Cancer Institute. Professor Maisin opened his research laboratories to Dr. Koch over the objections of important American medical doctors who had been personal friends of Dr. Maisin. When Dr. Koch returned to the United States many months later, Dr. Maisin continued his medical research with the two Dr. Koch's medications that had been given to the University. One of the many research papers published by Dr. Maisin was "*The Use of Peroxide of Diformaldehyde and Organic Unsaturated Compounds in the Treatment of Anergy and Hyperergy*".⁸ In this research paper Dr. Maisin described the Koch products that he was using in his experiments, the results that were obtained and his scientific conclusions. Dr. Maisin wrote:

Actually, our best results have been obtained with dilutions from 1×10^{-9} to 1×10^{-18} . These very high dilutions (1×10^{-18}) still contain several thousand molecules per cc.⁹

⁸ THE MEDICAL PRESS AND CIRCULAR, September 7, 1938, Vol. CXC VII, NO. 5183

⁹ The Federal Food & Drug Administration and government experts during the two F.D.A. trials (1943 & 1946) and during the F.T.C. hearings continued to mislead the courts by claiming that the Koch Treatments had no therapeutic activity and that they were indistinguishable from distilled water though they knew their claims were untrue.

Dr. Maisin equates the use of these medications that were used in doses of extremely high dilutions (that is, in homeopathic dilutions) as exhibiting biological activity in trace amounts, as do catalysts, or enzymes. In the discussion in this paper Dr. Maisin wrote:

"Discussion

"The results obtained are clear, and can be repeated easily by anyone wishing to do so. They are obtained with doses of extremely high dilution, which serves to prove that the active substance can act when exhibited in extremely small traces, as do catalysts, or enzymes. The injections have a lasting action, and do not often have to be repeated, which is an advantage from the patient's point of view. **The treatment is absolutely harmless.** We have given several thousand injections without the least untoward incident, except that some may have a passing malaise, due to a fall in the blood pressure. It is still too early to be able to say with certainty exactly how these substances act, but we know already with certainty that peroxide of diformaldehyde has a deep and prolonged action on the catalase of the blood.

"There is no doubt that we are dealing with new phenomena, which deserve to be carefully investigated, and whose application in therapeutics appears to us to be of interest.

"This work is not finished, but is leading us to believe that these two substances are not alike in their action. Finally, a curious fact which we have proved and one which we would stress, is the lengthy effect produced in a large number of cases, as well as **the prophylactic action which we have proved the peroxide of diformaldehyde to have on benzpyrene cancer produced in white mice.**

"Conclusion

"I. Peroxide of diformaldehyde and certain unsaturated compounds have a definite physiological action on the organism **when only minute traces are injected.**

"II. Their therapeutic use is indicated since they are very effective in **the treatment of various infections and hyperergic states.**

"III. The results obtained are **better than those obtained with any other shock-producing therapeutic agents, especially from the point of view of the general health of the patient.**

"Investigation carried out at the Cancer Institute at Louvain. Director, J. Maisin.

After Dr. Koch returned to the United States in 1935, Dr. Maisin continued his medical research with these two Koch medications in the treatment of cancer and other diseases. The results of his medical research with these Koch medications were published in European Medical Journals and presented at medical conferences. This medical research was not limited to Dr. Maisin's laboratory and hospital at Louvain University. On occasions Dr. Maisin made trips to the Belgium Congo¹⁰ where he was

¹⁰ In 1936, Dr. Koch met with Dr. Thomas Parran, Surgeon General of the U. S. Public Health Service and offered to treat leper's at the Federal Leper Colony in Louisiana. Dr. Koch wanted to duplicate the successful medical research of Dr. Maisin in the Belgian Congo. Dr. Parran, on advice of his A.M.A.

able to successfully treat lepers. Other contagious diseases that he was successful treated including syphilis.¹¹ Subsequently one of these medications, that Dr. Maisin had experimented with, was given the commercial name "Ethylene Disulphonate" and used in England. During the 1940's this medication of Dr. Koch was subsequently brought to the United States by Spicer-Gerhart Company in Pasadena, California. A report to the public on the therapeutic activity of Ethylene Disulphonate appeared in The Science News Letter's article *Chemical War on Allergy*, for November 17, 1945, p. 309 and in NEWSWEEK's article *The Chemistry of Allergy*, on November 26, 1945, p.100-102. Each article referred to it as an allergy medication.

I believe that the information on the cancer research of Dr. Koch, Dr. Szent-Gyorgyi and Dr. Egyud over the last 100 years, in my attached "Letter to the Editor," may be of interest to Sharon Bagley and that this may be the answer, that she has been looking for, in the solving of the cancer problem. It might be noted that on February 27, 2004, The Detroit Free Press reported that the Food & Drug Administration approved Avastin, a drug that extended the lives of patients with advance colon cancer about five months. This was considered a great accomplishment by our F.D.A. by extending life of a cancer patient a few months. However, if the F.D.A. and the N.I.H were honest with the American public, they would report the truth about the medical research of Dr. Koch and the success that he was able to achieve with Glyoxylide, a Koch Treatment. This is the treatment that is credited with curing, in 1948, a three-month old baby girl with cancer involving 85% of her liver. She is now a mother of several children and living from last report.¹²

The fact that the F.D.A., N.I.H., the American Cancer Society and the A.M.A. continue to refused to recognize the therapeutic activity of the Koch medications is a crime of the worse kind. Why would they prefer that little babies, like Judy McWhorter, to die then to give such a child a chance to live and permit that child to receive the Koch Treatment?

In 1974, Albert Szent-Gyorgyi, Ph.D., M.D., N.L. confirmed the cancer research of Dr. Koch and the function of the dicarbonyl group to stop uncontrolled cancer cell division.¹³ He wrote in 1974:

"The transformed proteins have very special properties, like electric conductivity. It is here in the electronic dimension that something is out of order in cancer. *Carbonyls arrest cell division* and my laboratory was led to the conclusion that it is still the carbonyls which arrest cell proliferation and it is the carbonyl which make the cell return to the resting state, after it completed division. If the carbonyls are missing, proliferation has to go on, and cancer results. We were not the first to be led to such a conclusion. A

adviser, Dr. Carl Voegtlin, turned down Dr. Koch's research offer to treat the lepers at no expense to the United States Government.

¹¹ The Government might try using the Koch Treatment in treating AIDS.

¹² See Post Script I to the attached letter booklet: The Judy McWhorter Case, "Doctors Convinced That Little Judy Overcame Cancer Ailment Herself."

¹³ THE SEARCH FOR A NATURAL CURE FOR CANCER, NOBEL PRIZE WINNER ALBERT SZENT-GYORGYI, PH.D., M.D., CANCER NEWS JOURNAL, VOL. 9, NO. 4, P. 7, 1974.

decade ago a very intuitive researcher, W. F. Koch, came to the same conclusion."

This letter has turned out to be longer than anticipated. However, there was so much medical research of Dr. Koch that has been kept in the dark by the American Medical Association, the National Institute of Health, The American Cancer Society and by our Governmental agencies, that should be made public, accepted and used for the benefit of mankind. Maybe Sharon Begley might be interested in the cancer and medical research of Dr. William F. Koch, Dr. Albert Szent-Gyorgyi and Dr. Laszlo G. Egyud. She will find a lot of important medical and scientific research that has been, and is being, over looked by the present day cancer experts.

Sincerely yours,

Paul M. Koch

Enclosure:

Booklet Letter to Mr. Jon Meacham, Editor of NEWSWEEK with exhibits attached.

William F. Koch Research Site

<http://www.williamfkoch.com/web/version1/biography:ph>

<http://www.williamfkoch.com/web/version2/biography:ph>

<http://www.williamfkoch.com/web/version3/biography:ph>



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WHAT IS CANCER?

Cancer is a word for a large group of diseases characterized by an abnormal seemingly unrestricted growth of body cells. Normal cells divide and grow in an orderly fashion, and during the early years of an individual's life, cell division is rapid. Once full growth is attained, normal cells of most tissues divide only to replace worn-out tissue and repair injuries. Cancer cells divide and grow out of control. When a mass of cancer cells build up, a tumor is formed that spreads and destroys surrounding normal tissue. Cells that break away from the original tumor may be carried by the lymph system or the bloodstream to other areas of the body where they may settle and form "colony" tumors. When this occurs, the tumor is said to have METASTASIZED and the new growths are called METASTASES. Not all tumors are cancerous. Benign tumors, which are contained and limited in their growth, are usually not life threatening.

Approximately 3 out of 10 Americans will develop cancer. Of that number, 40% will be considered "cured," that is, they will be living 5 years after diagnosis and be free from any signs of cancer. The survival rate increases with the early detection and treatment of the cancer. Additionally, positive changes in a person's lifestyle can help prevent many forms of cancer. There are more than 100 different types of cancer, classified by the part of the body in which they arise and of their microscopic appearance. Because the behavior of each type of cancer and its response to different treatment varies, it is necessary to treat each cancer and each cancer patient individually.

REFERENCES:

A Cancer Source Book for Nurses, Sixth Edition, ACS 3010-PE, 1991.
Cancer Manual, ACS Massachusetts Division, Eighth Edition, 1990.

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