aqueous solution of methylene blue. One of the rats in this group developed myeloid leukemia and died on the 32nd day of the experiment. The findings at autopsy with a description of the cells are reported. The author comments on the extreme rarity of spontaneous leukemia in the rat and concludes that the occurrence of the disease in this animal was directly related to the feeding of o-aminobenzotoluidine followed by feeding with methylene blue. The paper is illustrated with 15 figures.—S. B-J.


The agent of fowl leukemia (Furth strain 1) was studied in relation to its properties in the ultracentrifuge, and with regard to host susceptibility. Sedimentation of potent material from diluted heparinized plasma of leukemic animals at 30,000 r.p.m. for ½ to 1 hour was incomplete. At 6,000 r.p.m. no sedimentation was demonstrable. Aggregation of particles in the sediment was indicated, first by the observation that the centrifugate was always less active than the crude extract or plasma (contrary to Claude’s experience with the agent of chicken sarcoma), and second by the fact that the sedimented agent was not filtrable through candles that readily allowed the passage of particles in the original leukemic plasma. Animals less than 10 weeks of age were found more susceptible than older birds to leukemic whole blood, plasma, crude marrow extracts, and to ultracentrifugates of the last. With whole blood the breed of the fowl also was found to determine susceptibility. When unfiltered leukemic plasma was inoculated into the amniotic sac at the 7th day, some of the animals developed leukemia after hatching, but inoculations into the albumin were never successful before this. Centrifugation of the last. With whole blood the breed of the fowl also was found to determine susceptibility. When unfiltered leukemic plasma was inoculated into the amniotic sac at the 7th day, some of the animals developed leukemia after hatching, but inoculations into the albumin were never successful before the 10th day (the time when the bone marrow develops). This suggested either that the hemopoietic elements of the yolk sac can be the site of introduction of the leukemia, or that the virus can survive in certain parts of the embryo for at least 3 days. In animals after hatching the bone marrow always gave the first histological evidence of leukemia change.—A. A. L.

GENERAL REVIEWS


A general review of the differences between cancer cells and normal cells. Chief of these are a loss or lack of polarity, a wide range in variation of nuclear and cytoplasmic structures, a decrease in structural differentiation and dependent specific functional activity, a decrease in dependence on oxygen supply, a decrease in organismal control over cell division and an increase in autonomy of cell division, an increase in transplantability and an increase in invasiveness and ability to outlive cells of invaded tissue.—H. G. W.


The author discusses fundamental problems of malignant neoplastic growth and outlines some of the approaches of cancer research.—L. L. W.

COMPARATIVE ONCOLOGY


A spontaneously occurring carcinoma of the prostate without metastasis is reported in a very old rhesus monkey.—L. L. W.


This is a description of an embryonal adenocarcinoma of the kidney of a rabbit. There were no metastases.—S. B-J.


This is a description of a transplantable, nonfilterable lymphosarcoma which arose spontaneously in a Leghorn chicken.—S. B-J.


The published accounts of spontaneous and induced tumors in guinea pigs are reviewed. The authors report their observations on 1 spontaneous tumor in guinea pigs and on 2 liposarcomas and 2 fibrosarcomas induced in guinea pigs by subcutaneous injection of 3,4-benzpyrene in glycerine. The guinea pig appears to be resistant to the development of spontaneous tumors, to transplantation of spontaneous and induced tumors, and to the production of induced tumors other than of the gall bladder. Carcinogenic hydrocarbons are less potent in guinea pigs than in mice.—S. B-J.

CLINICAL AND PATHOLOGICAL REPORTS

ETIOLOGY


General considerations, with particular reference to food deficiencies.—H. G. W.

DIAGNOSIS—GENERAL


Of 30 patients injected with Evans blue, 20 showed selective concentration of the dye in and about the neoplastic foci, with no correlation between the histologic type and ability to localize the dye, which is deposited in the fibroblasts and macrophages and not in the tumor cells themselves. Benign neoplasms did not localize the dye.—H. G. W.


Fractionated urine solutions from patients with far advanced cancer were found to cause loss of weight, supur, vaginal bleeding, and resorption of the embryos when injected intravenously into pregnant rats and mice. Similar but less pronounced results were produced by the urine of a healthy subject. The method of preparation of the urine fraction is given.—L. L. W.


General review.—H. G. W.


The melanophore pituitary reaction, using the so-called “albinosalamander,” whose hypophysis is cauterized, was applied to various cases of cancer, other tumors, pregnancy, diseases of internal secretion, and inflammation. The test was made by injecting 0.2 to 0.3 cc. of morning urine from a patient sub-
cutaneously into the over-wintered albino larva. A positive reaction is indicated by the supervening black coloration of the skin, caused by expansion of melanophores. The reaction was clearly positive in 41 cases of cancers of uterus, stomach, esophagus, rectum, and other sites, and in 3 cases of sarcoma. It was negative in Badow's disease, gangrene of the lung, abscess of the liver, etc. Urine from pregnant women gave positive reactions. The authors conclude that this is a simple and quick method for diagnosing cancer.——S. B.-J.


Tissue culture is recommended as an accessory diagnostic aid.——H. G. W.

RADIATION—DIAGNOSIS AND THERAPY


General review.——H. G. W.


Methods of treating redonul ulcers near the eye, with results in a series of 76 cases.——H. G. W.


Clinical study with demonstration that the radiosensitivity of cancer of the larynx cannot be determined on the basis of the microcnic structure alone, but is more reliably shown by the mobility of the lesion.——H. G. W.

FRIED, C. (Inst. de Radium, Sao Francisco de Assis, Sao Paulo, Brazil.) The effect of fractional roentgen irradiation on several groups of inoperable tumors. Am. J. Roentgenol., 44:401-408. 1940.

Clinical study.——H. G. W.


A study of 18 cases followed for periods up to 12 years. Patients subjected to heavy radiation in treatment of cancer of the lung may exhibit marked pulmonary fibrosis and evidence of obstruction to the pulmonary circulation.——H. G. W.


Experience with 17 cases.——H. G. W.


The technic of such preoperative therapy as is now being practiced at the Brooklyn Cancer Institute is outlined, and complications arising from such treatment and their antidotes are discussed.——H. G. W.


Clinical report.——H. G. W.


A statistical study indicating that supervoltage roentgen therapy is of some benefit in certain types of cancer.——H. G. W.


Giant follicular lymphadenopathy presents a characteristic histological picture and is rapidly amenable to roentgen therapy, but the polymorphous cell sarcoma derived from it is radio-resistant.——H. G. W.

SKIN


Clinical study.——H. G. W.

FUKUIKE, I., and T. SHINKAWA. (Saito Surgical Clinic, Nagoya Imperial Univ., Faculty of Med.) A case report of cancer of the right leg resulting from burns of the skin. Gann, 24:38-39. 1940.

The patient, a male 68 years old, suffered repeated burns of the leg during many years, caused by his habit of standing by a four-foot square fireplace in his room and by having a charcoal-burning heater placed at his feet when he was in bed, in the winder. The ulcerated lesions were carcinomatous when the patient was first seen. Metastasis had occurred in the inguinal lymph nodes. The tumor of the skin was removed with a Bowie electrical cautery. The case history is illustrated with 6 photographs.——S. B.-J.


Report of 10 cases in 1 family of 19 members.——H. G. W.


Turban tumors, that is, large tumors of the scalp, are of varied histologic structure. The first case in a negro is reported.——H. G. W.


The exposed skin of 100 skin cancer patients was on the average definitely redder and darker to the colorimeter than that of 100 controls, but the unexposed skin of the backs showed no such difference. The patients with skin cancer were more often exposed to the action of the external environment than were the controls. Subjects whose skins on unusual exposure tend to darken and reden, if they show skin cancer, more often exhibit the basal or mixed types, while those who do not so react more frequently show the squamous variety.——H. G. W.


Most benign cystic epitheliomas are histologically tricho-epitheliomas and the more mature forms can more properly be designated hamartoma than epithelioma. Some so-called cylindromas of the scalp are trichoepitheliomatosus.——H. G. W.


On the basis of 1,149 cases of cancer of the skin it is concluded that there is no justification in the recommendation of the induction of skin cancer to protect against the development of cancer elsewhere. In fact, with this type of cancer, as with cancer of the other organs, there is a greater number of multiple cancers than would be expected on the basis of chance.——H. G. W.
Nervous System


The meningioma is a tumor arising from the arachnoid cell, either in the arachnoid villi or on the surface of the arachnoid. Neither the ectodermal theory of the French neuropathologists nor the fibroblastic theory of Mallory in regard to the origin of this tumor is sufficient to explain completely the variations in histologic structure encountered in a series of these neoplasms. The arachnoid cell is differentiated and is specialized as a covering cell. The differentiation persists in meningiomas with the result that the neoplastic cells require a supporting and nutritive stroma. The stroma of meningiomas consists of several elements, the most constant of which are collagenous connective tissue and blood vessels. The fibroblasts fibrils seen in meningiomas belong to the fibroblasts of the stroma and not to the neoplastic cells. Elastic tissue also forms part of the stroma of some meningiomas. Hyperostosis cranii is produced by involvement of the skull by the meningioma. It develops when the stroma of the meningioma is derived from the periosteum. The great number of histologic variants of the meningioma depends on relationships of the neoplastic cells, with their tendency to cover whatever they touch, to a complex stroma, which continues to form intercellular materials similar to those which the component parts form under normal circumstances.—H. G. W.


Report of a case in which the tumor mass replaced brain tissue focally, distorted the hemispheres and increased the vasculosity forward of the tumor, but did not destroy myelin peripheral to it.—H. G. W.


The cardinal features for the diagnosis of this tumor are described.—H. G. W.


Meningioma appears to be a tumor of composite make-up comprising 2 groups of cells: the meningocytes, derived from the arachnoid villi, and stroma cells coming from the mesenchymal elements of the pia-arachnoid. Usually the former predominate and it is probable that they represent the cell type of the meningioma. Probably these cells are derived from the neural crests, as shown by their dissimilarity to fibroblasts in morphologic aspects and staining characteristics. From the standpoint of their architecture they more closely resemble growths associated with neural than those associated with pure fibrous tissue. The presence of melanin in members of the same series is stressed and a relationship between pigmented meningal tumors and meningiomas is tentatively advanced.—H. G. W.


A general review, not suitable for abstracting.—H. G. W.


Review of literature with report of a meningioma, a lipoma, and cases of nodular hyperplasia.—H. G. W.


Identical twins, 42 years of age, had multiple lesions present in nearly the same distribution since the age of 8 years.—H. G. W.


A teratomatous cyst attached to the pia of the lower part of the cervical cord is described, being the 14th case reported.—H. G. W.


Report of 34 cases of secondary melanoma in the central nervous system, emphasizing the frequency of this complication which was present in 16% of the cases of melanoma.—H. G. W.


Report of the findings at necropy.—S. B.-J.


Two cases are reported.—H. G. W.


Report of 4 cases of congenital neuroblastoma, with review of the literature on congenital neoplasms. About 250 cases were found that were possibly congenital malignant tumors, but only 66 were established beyond possible doubt. Sarcomas constituted nearly one-half of these tumors, but there are nearly as many instances of neuroblastoma, and a vastly larger proportion of the cases of neuroblastoma are congenital. Not a single case of congenital carcinoma can be found convincingly established. Evidence is found that congenital maldevelopments of nerve tissues occur frequently, and these apparently may disappear, develop into malignant tumors, develop into benign tumors, or even become malignant and then change in whole or in part into nonmalignant tumors. In contrast to the marked heredity factor in retinoblastoma, the other types of tumors that tend to be congenital show no apparent hereditary influence. The significance of congenital malignant growth is discussed in the light of the fact that ordinarily a large part of the life cycle is required to produce any type of malignant tumor.—H. G. W.

Breast


Case report.—H. G. W.


Case report.—H. G. W.


Case report.—H. G. W.

Clinical study of outcome in 177 cases.—H. G. W.


General review.—H. G. W.


Study of 520 cases, more than half inoperable, showing that irradiation is the most effective single agent in dealing with advanced and recurrent breast cancer. The carcinoma was bilateral in 0.9% of the cases.—H. G. W.


A study based on the statistics of cancer deaths in England and Wales during 1930-1932. These lead to the conclusion that the distribution of primary neoplasms within the breast and genital organs, and the specific death rates from cancer of each part, are widely influenced by birth rates; the total mortality from cancer of the breast and genital organs, however, varies only to a small degree, as an increased incidence in one organ is compensated for by a decrease in incidence in other organs, and vice versa. The lower the social level and the less satisfactory the marital status the earlier the patient manifests cancer. The correlation between cancer and pregnancy in women is entirely different from that in mice.


The total cancer mortality as well as the site of the primary tumor is influenced by the marital status. During the age of reproduction married women show higher cancer rates than do spinsters in the 20 years following there are small differences in favor of married women; above the age of 64 both groups have about equal cancer mortality rates. There is a correlation between the reproductive activity and the changes in the cancer distribution within the genital organs, the breast, biliary system, and stomach, the incidence increasing in some organs and in other diminishing. These changes counterbalance each other. The simultaneous occurrence of cancer with pregnancy seems less frequent than would be expected.—H. G. W.


The urines of 4 women with cancer of the breast were assayed for androgens and estrogens, 3-day samples being used, with 1 exception, when a 2-day sample was used. The quantities of urinary androgens and estrogens excreted did not vary appreciably from those reported for normal females. The findings do not indicate that estrogens and androgens play no role in the etiology of mammary carcinoma; they demonstrate that the disease can be maintained or can progress in the presence of normal amounts of these hormones.—S. B-J.


Report of 418 cases treated at St. Luke's Hospital, with particular reference to prognosis.—H. G. W.


The development of breast cancer in 1,206 women, whose breasts had been operated upon for benign noninfectious lesions, was studied and compared with the incidence of breast cancer in females of the general population in the same age groups, and it is shown that chronic cystic mastitis and chronic mastitis predispose to the development of breast cancer, but no means exists to determine which of these lesions will develop cancer and which will not. Apparently adenoma is without significance as regards subsequent malignancy, but adenocystoma is a precancerous lesion. The risk is not sufficiently great to warrant bilateral mastectomy in cases of chronic mastitis and chronic cystic mastitis.—H. G. W.

FEMALE GENITAL TRACT


Clinical study.—H. G. W.


The authors report the case of a girl 11½ years old from whom a large tumor of the right ovary was removed at operation. The mass contained 3 types of tumor, a teratoma, a chorio-epithelioma, and a solid carcinoma of the ovary. The article is illustrated with 10 figures.—S. B-J.


Analysis of statistics reported for corpus cancer shows that the best results are obtained from preoperative irradiation followed by hysterectomy. In the attempt to lessen the amount of preexisting infection a preliminary course of x-rays should be used before the insertion of intra-uterine radiation.—H. G. W.


Analysis of 124 autopsied cases, showing that death is most often the result of sepsis.—H. G. W.


Report of 2 cases.—H. G. W.


Case reports.—H. G. W.


The 4th case in Anglo-American literature is reported.—H. G. W.


There were 47 tumors in approximately 4,500 deliveries, at least ¾ being fibromyomas.—H. G. W.

Cyclic nuclear changes and the formation of endogenous daughter cells within the cells of squamous cell carcinoma of the liver are described and illustrated in 13 figures. One of these (N. Fig. 12), is a schematic representation of the complex mother cell and diagrams of stages in the development of endogenous daughter cells. -- S. B.-J.


Clinical study. -- H. G. W.


Fibroids were removed at about the same time from identical negro twins. -- H. G. W.


Report of 3 cases and review of the literature. The glands in adenosis of the vagina probably originate from muellerian epithelium which takes part in the formation of the vaginal epithelium, and although they resemble cervical glands they do not arise in the cervix. Primary adenosarcoma of the vagina probably usually arises in adenosis. -- H. G. W.


Case report. -- H. G. W.

Male Genital Tract


Clinical report. -- H. G. W.


Statistical analysis of 677 cases with reference to results of treatment. -- H. G. W.


Report of 4 cases. -- H. G. W.


Case report. -- H. G. W.


Study of 148 cases. Roentgen examination of 108 cases gave evidence of bone metastases in 60%. The metastases are predominantly of the osteoplastic type, and in early cases they are especially localized in the pelvis. -- H. G. W.


A statistical study of 300 cases, emphasizing the importance of prostatic cancer. -- H. G. W.


Report of 16 cases of prostatic growths, including 3 cases of anaplastic carcinoma. -- H. G. W.


Case report. -- H. G. W.


A case of teratoma testis with bulky pulmonary metastases is described in a 27 year old man. Microscopic examination of the metastases revealed large amounts of striated muscle. The pathological description in the text is supplemented by photomicrographs. -- L. W. S.
intrathoracic Tumors — Lungs — Pleura


Clinical study.—H. G. W.


Clinical report.—H. G. W.


Report of 3 cases, namely: malignant adenoma from bronchial mucous glands; malignant adenoma from alveolar ducts; carcinomatoid alveogena multicentrica from the alveolar cell lining.—H. G. W.


The bronchographic examination showing the location and extension of the neoplastic process may serve as a guide in determining whether pneumectomy or lobectomy is indicated.—H. G. W.


Review of literature and study of 5 cases shows that there is no specific tumor in the apex of the lung which will give characteristic signs and symptoms to the exclusion of other types of cancer.—H. G. W.


Case report.—H. G. W.


Case report of a patient surviving x-ray therapy for carcinoma of the lung for 16 years.—H. G. W.


General review, with the conclusion that it is impossible to assign to any extrinsic factor an absolute role in carcinogenesis in any individual case.—H. G. W.


General review, with the conclusion that it is impossible to assign to any extrinsic factor an absolute role in carcinogenesis in any individual case.—H. G. W.


Report of an intrathoracic lipoma weighing 16 pounds, with review of the literature.—H. G. W.
Abstracts


A roentgenological study of 206 proved cases, in which a definite diagnosis was made or suggested in about 60%.—H. G. W.


Case report of the 11th tumor of this sort arising unassociated with the adrenal. The tumor was situated at the apex of the left pleural cavity, suggesting a superior pulmonary sulcus syndrome, and was associated with marked cardiac disease.—H. G. W.


Report of the 2nd case, and the 1st with metastasis.—H. G. W.


Clinical study.—H. G. W.


Hypertrophic pulmonary osteoarthropathy may be the initial symptom in intra-thoracic tumors, especially if the blood vessels are involved.—H. G. W.

Gastrointestinal Tract


Clinical study.—H. G. W.


Case report.—H. G. W.


A comparison of the Brodors and Dukes method of classification on 432 resected specimens of carcinoma of the rectum, with the conclusion that a combination of the 2 yields a more accurate prognosis than either alone.—H. G. W.


A study of 8 cases together with a review of the literature indicate that the diversity of histologic structure is dependent on degree of differentiation rather than point of origin or original cell type.—H. G. W.


Refractometric examination of the stomach contents is recommended.—H. G. W.


In all chronic indurated ulcerated lesions there will be a probable occurrence of malignant neoplasm in from 15 to 30%.—H. G. W.


Specimens of 5 adenocarcinomas of the colon taken during the morning and night showed the same glandular pattern, degree of differentiation, and mitosis coefficient.—H. G. W.


Little progress has been made in detecting the exciting causes of gastric cancer. Statistics showing that the incidence of gastric cancer is related to dietary habits tend to indicate that the disease is dependent upon external causes and is therefore preventable. But the exact nature of the external factors is not known. The doctrine of chronic irritation as a cause of gastric cancer has become unsatisfactory since the recognition of carcinogens. Carcinogenic chemicals may be involved but it may be found that the earliest stages of gastric cancer are incompatible with the idea that any one set of agents or any one method of origin will apply to this common form of cancer. Constitutional factors and heredity may be predisposing factors. Six bases for the development of gastric cancer are discussed. These are: congenital abnormalities of the stomach; polymy adenomas; pernicious anemia with atrophic gastritis; peptic ulcer; bacillary infection; malignant change of the chief cells lining the fundus of the glands. The consensus of opinion appears to be that chronic indurated peptic ulcer seldom becomes transformed into cancer. Difficulties of determining whether a case presents ulcer or cancer or both are discussed.—S. H. J.


Case report.—H. G. W.


Case report.—H. G. W.


Clinical report of 8 cases.—H. G. W.


Two cases. 1. Carcinoma of the colon and breast. 2. Carcinoma of the cecum and ovary.—H. G. W.


The noninvasive stage of cancer of the stomach is described and illustrated on the basis of 4 cases in which nonpolypoid lesions were associated with peptic ulceration. Histologic evidence is presented that secondary peptic ulceration of cancerous tissue in the stomach is not uncommon, and the validity of histologic criteria has been confirmed by roentgenologic evidence of diminution in the size of the ulcer crater under medical treatment in 4 cases. The significance of these findings in relation to the genesis of the malignant ulcer is discussed.—H. G. W.


Case report.—H. G. W.


The antianemic principle was not present in the liver in 1 case of carcinoma of the pylorus, but present in the livers of 3 patients with carcinoma not involving the pylorus.—H. G. W.


Clinical study, with emphasis on routine x-ray and gastroscopic examinations.—H. G. W.


Among 101 patients having spontaneous histamine-proved anacidity were 23 with malignant gastric tumor, all but 3 of whom had gastritis. This is in accord with the concept that atrophic gastritis plus anacidity may precede the formation of gastric carcinoma and that in many cases severe atrophic gastritis may be responsible for the anacidity. In the 3 cases without gastritis there was so much ulceration as to suggest that toxic material from the growth inhibited the secretion (Brunschwig).

—H. G. W.


Clinical study, recommending a combination of Dulles and Broders' methods.—H. G. W.


A study of 23 cases.—H. G. W.


Experience has shown that the report of the roentgenologist that a gastric ulcer is malignant is practically always correct, but the report of a benign ulcer does not always exclude malignancy. Accumulating evidence indicates that the percentage of gastric ulcers that are malignant as well as the number of cancers that start as gastric ulcers is nearer 20 than 10%.—H. G. W.


In approximately 45,000 appendices removed surgically were found 136 benign cystic tumors and 10 cases of cystic adenocarcinomas which had apparently arisen in the wall of a benign mucouscele. The benign mucocles are the result of a stricture, usually inflammatory.—H. G. W.

Bone and Bone Marrow


Report of 2 cases of this rare tumor, which is not to be confused with the neurofibromas.—H. G. W.


A case reported of 5 year cure by irradiation alone.—H. G. W.


Recommends delay of amputation with the use of radiation, or excision, or both, before amputation.—H. G. W.


This is a brief summary of the clinical history and the findings at necropsy in the case of a boy, 6 years old, who died 6 months after the beginning of the growth of a tumor of the right mandible. The tumor was diagnosed as Ewing's reticuloendotheliosis. Metastases were widespread. The differential diagnosis is discussed.—S. B. J.


A stricter conception of what constitutes a true giant cell tumor of bone than has been current is proposed. It is a neoplasm of a definite kind, arising apparently from the undifferentiated supporting connective tissue of the marrow and clearly delimitable on the basis of its cytological details. It is composed of a more or less vascularized network of spindle shaped cells or void stromal cells and multinucleated giant cells in certain particular proportions and arrangements, and shows but little collagenous differentiation of its stoma and almost no evidence of ossification. On the basis of difference in aggressiveness the giant cell tumors are subclassified into 3 grades.—H. G. W.


Report of a case, which is unusual in membranous bone.—H. G. W.


A discussion of 48 cases.—H. G. W.


Dermoid tumors in many instances apparently arise secondary to trauma, and probably are related to a disturbance in the organization of the ensuing hematoma. They are probably benign.—H. G. W.

KEKWICK, R. A. (Lister Inst., London, England.) Biochem. J., 29:1175. 1935.) Bence-Jones proteinuria was not observed in any of the 5 cases.—E. B.


Case report.—H. G. W.
MUSCLE AND TENDON


A study of 13 cases and of 59 from the literature, leading to the conclusion that it is a connecting link between systemic hyperplasia of lymph nodes and lymphosarcomatosis. It has a relatively benign early course but is eventually fatal.—H. G. W.

EUKEMIA—LYMPHOSARCOMA—HODGKIN'S DISEASE


Report of 20 cases treated by irradiation with clinical cure for 3 years in 6.—H. G. W.


Four cases are described and illustrated in which distinct and essentially identical roentgenograms were found to indicate malignant, or potentially malignant, synoviomas or synovial sarcomas.—H. G. W.

LEUKEMIA—LYMPHOSARCOMA—HODGKIN'S DISEASE


Three cases of different phases of neoplastic reticulo-endotheliosis are presented with emphasis on their close genetic interrelationship.—H. G. W.


Report of 2 lymphangiomas and 1 hemangioma.—H. G. W.


Case report.—H. G. W.


A study of 136 cases with biopsy.—H. G. W.


Clinical study of 167 cases of carcinoma and 5 cases of lymphosarcoma of the thyroid.—H. G. W.

ADRENAL


Case report.—H. G. W.


Case report.—H. G. W.

PANCREAS


THYROID


Clinical study of 167 cases of carcinoma and 5 cases of lymphosarcoma of the thyroid.—H. G. W.

STATISTICS


This is a review of Public Health Bulletins Nos. 248 and 252, issued in 1939 and 1940, respectively, as "the first in a series of studies of cancer mortality in the United States made from unpublished data made available by the United States Bureau of the Census." The annual records of deaths from cancer afford a large body of data which are of value with respect to a study, particularly of the trend and geographic distribution of cancer. Bulletin No. 248, by Associate Statistician Mary Glover, is entitled "Trend of recorded cancer mortality in the death registration States from 1900 to 1935." Bulletin No. 252, by the same author, is entitled "Recorded cancer mortality in geographic sections of the death registration States from 1920 to 1935."—S. B-J.


The paper analyzes 70 cases of cancer among the male members of the sick benefit plan of an oil refinery during the 6 years, 1933-38. The exposure comprises approximately 60,000 years of life for male employees. There were 46 deaths. The exposure yielded a death rate of 0.57 per 1,000 and a frequency of 1.2 per 1,000. Almost 70 per cent of the deaths were related to the digestive system. The 2 sites, stomach and other abdominal organs accounted for more than half of the cases. Each specific site showed increases with age with respect to both frequency and mortality. For all ages the ratio of cases to deaths was less than 1.2 in 3 sites, esophagus, stomach, and other abdominal organs. Cancer of the lung showed the longest average case duration as well as the longest average duration of nonfatal cases.—Author's summary.

This is the third of a series of papers giving the findings of a sampling survey of cancer incidence and prevalence in the United States. It presents the detailed analysis of statistics of 6,103 cases either under medical care, or dying of cancer during one calendar year, 1937 for some cities, and 1938, for others, in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. The reports indicated a case rate of 319 per 100,000. The 3 most important primary sites among males were digestive tract, genito-urinary system, and skin; for females, genito-urinary system, breast and digestive tract. Malignant neoplasms of these sites constituted 70% of the cases among males and 79% of those among females. Great differences were found to exist between the relative fatality of malignant growths occurring in various sites. The brain, digestive tract, and respiratory system were the sites with the lowest ratio of cases to deaths.—S. B-J.


This list was drawn up by a special committee to meet the need for a uniform tabular list for morbidity statistics that was closely linked to the last revision of the International List of Causes of Death. Section II gives the list of diagnosis categories for neoplasms.—S. B-J.

CANCER CONTROL AND PUBLIC HEALTH


The report of patients treated is illustrated with pictures of new apparatus for x-ray and radium therapy.—S. B-J.


The organization and conduct of the New Britain General Hospital and Tumor Clinic are described.—H. G. W.


After describing federal organizations and policies in general, the research program of the National Cancer Institute is given. The work consists of the following main projects:

1. Lung cancer, histogenesis, genetic, and chemical predisposing factors
2. Skin cancer, predisposing and protective factors
3. Gastric cancer, induced by carcinogenesis
4. Genetic studies, particularly those relating to the factor in milk controlling the incidence of breast cancer in mice
5. Synthesis and testing of chemicals related to natural steroids
6. Mode of action of cancer-producing chemicals
7. Therapeutic studies—biological action of high energy radiations
8. Epidemiological studies
9. Clinical research, in collaboration with the tumor clinic of the Marine Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland.—L. L. W.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES AND RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS


Announcement is made of the first issue of the Journal of the National Cancer Institute and of the purposes and plan of the journal. A review of certain known facts and problems of cancer research is presented briefly.—S. B-J.


Announcement of a new unit for research into some of the many problems of aging.—S. B-J.


Summary of meetings of the Council and business sessions of the Association, together with the scientific program, of the 33rd annual meeting held at Pittsburgh, Penn., March 19-20, 1940.—S. B-J.


Titles and abstracts of 57 pages presented at this meeting held at the Tokyo Imperial University on April 3, 1940.—S. B-J.