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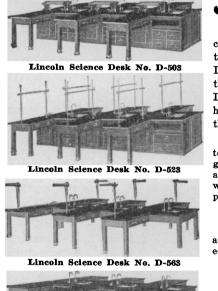
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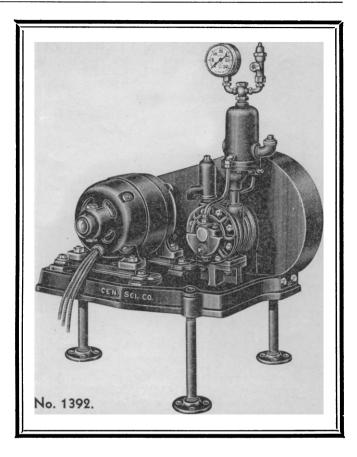
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CANCER RESEARCH AND THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD¹

By Dr. ELLICE McDONALD

CANCER RESEARCH LABORATORIES, GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

CANCER is the most important problem of our time, for two reasons: first, because it kills people more than any other single disease (heart disease, which is higher in the mortality records, is a combination of heart and kidney and other diseases); second, because it has increased so greatly in incidence in recent times —62 per cent. more deaths in Pennsylvania in twentyfive years, 40.5 per cent. in Australia in ten years, 58.2 per cent. increase in 50 American cities with more than thirty million total population in twentyfive years, and in somewhat lesser degree in all civilized communities. In Great Britain in 1928, more than 12 per cent. of all deaths were from cancer, and a great insurance company has estimated the yearly loss from

¹ Address before the American Pharmaceutical Association, Philadelphia, April 14, 1931.

cancer in the United States to be about eight hundred million dollars.

Obviously the disease is a subject to warrant careful consideration and organized effort, for it touches the life of a great number of people. What has been done about it? A devoted group of medical men in a number of countries have studied the disease in man and in animals for many years, with the result that the treatment of cancer has improved in two directions—improved surgical treatment and treatment by radiation, x-rays and radium.

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On the Measurement of Grading: C. A. MANEY.

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