

occurrence of neoplastic manifestations among workers employed in the French oil industry, in spite of the fact, that this industry has expanded greatly since 1890.

A case of occupational hyperkeratosis and melanosis in a lathe worker caused by contact with crude mineral oil was recorded by Sézary, Pasteur, Vallery-Radot, and Benoist in 1927. Two years later Pautrier and Diss found a similar condition in a worker employed in an automobile factory. The second case of oil cancer in France was observed by Lambret in 1932, who noted the occurrence of a scrotal cancer in a greaser employed in a weaving mill. A somewhat doubtful case of oil cancer of the hand was reported by Gougerot and Meyer in 1935. The development of the malignant growth was related to the injury of the hand soiled with lubricating oil by a bronze splinter. A similar combination of a cancerous growth following an accidental trauma to the back of the hand soiled with lubricating oil in a motor driver was reported by Moran. Carozzi stated in 1934 that an enquiry conducted among 14 spinning plants located in northern France near Lille-Roubaix had shown that oil cancer was almost non-existent there.

The first cases of paraffin cancer in Great Britain were described by Bell in 1876, who observed two cases of scrotal carcinoma in workers of Scottish paraffin plants. Three years later Cameron published an additional case. In 1883 Longmuir mentioned the occurrence of cutaneous malignancy among paraffin workers in England. Almost 25 years passed before Kirk added two new cases of paraffin cancers to this list. They affected men employed in paraffin refineries in which Scottish shale oil was fractionated. Kirk noted that the high incidence of epithelioma among workers employed in the shale oil industry in Scotland, particularly in paraffin plants, was a well-known fact among the local physicians.

During the decade following this report the general interest in these important, occupational cancers seems to have reached a vanishing point, because, when Ross published his treatise on industrial cancers in 1918, he merely noted the occurrence of warts on the arms of paraffin workers, and stated that these proliferative manifestations were found in 50 per cent of the press men. That paraffin cancer among Scottish, shale oil workers had not become extinguished during these years is indicated by a statement of Southam and Wilson, concerning the incidence of scrotal cancer in tar and paraffin workers (22 cases), observed at the Manchester Royal Infirmary during the years 1902 to 1922. Leitch mentioned in 1922 the occurrence of carcinomas and the absence of sarcomas among workers of paraffin refineries. Legge stated that 8 cases of paraffin epithelioma had been certified to the Factory Department during the years 1920 to 1922.

In the first comprehensive report on this occupational disease published by Scott in 1922, it is recorded that there were 19 cases of paraffin cancer during 1900 to 1921, which were observed among a total of 200 workers, em-