

RICH WOMEN BEGIN A WAR ON CANCER

Mrs. Sage, Mrs. F. W. Vanderbilt, and Mrs. Speyer Helping to Plan National Campaign.

Steps were taken at a meeting of well-known physicians and laymen called yesterday afternoon by Dr. Clement Cleveland to organize a National Anti-Cancer Association and to begin a campaign of education on the prevention of cancer similar to that which has been carried on against tuberculosis.

Among the physicians who attended the meeting and who have been engaged in the movement for some time past are Dr. Henry E. Coe, President of the American Gynecological Society; Dr. Robert Abbe, one of the foremost cancer specialists; Dr. Joseph D. Bryant, Dr. Charles L. Gibson of St. Luke's Hospital and Dr. Joseph Brettauer of Mt. Sinai Hospital.

Among the women at the meeting were Mrs. Frederick W. Vanderbilt, Mrs. Robert G. Mead, Mrs. E. R. Hewitt, President of the Women's Municipal League; Mrs. James Speyer, Mrs. Robert C. Black, Mrs. George C. Clark, Mrs. H. Winthrop Gray, Mrs. V. Everit Macy, Mrs. Robert W. de Forest, Mrs. Russell Sage and Mrs. F. F. Thompson.

The leading purpose of the organization is to educate the public to recognize the early symptoms of the disease. The general plan discussed yesterday provided for magazine articles, leaflets to be distributed through Boards of Health, social workers and women's clubs, special instruction on the subject in nurses' training schools and lectures. The campaign of education is addressed chiefly to women, as they are afflicted by cancer twice as often as men. By reason of the general ignorance of the first symptoms, most of the sufferers are not treated at a time when a cure is possible.

The Committee on Organization appointed yesterday will ask the co-operation of the Physicians' Congress, which meets next month at Washington. The members of this committee are Dr. Le Roy Broun, James Speyer, V. Everit Macy, George C. Clark and Frederic L. Hoffman.

Addresses were made at the meeting by Frederic L. Hoffman, statistician of the Prudential Insurance Company, and Dr. Broun, who is chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means of Educating the Public and the Profession on the Necessity of Early Recognition of Cancer. Dr. Livingston Farrand of the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, told of the work which had been accomplished by that organization.