MICROBIAL METABOLISM AND ITS BEARING ON THE CANCER PROBLEM

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Soon after receiving the invitation to speak here to you on a biochemical subject I had the good fortune to come across Dr. Ellice McDonald's most illuminating paper published in SCIENCE last summer.

His condemnation of the trial and error method in cancer research and his convincing plea for a study of cancer on the basis of cell metabolism made it seem to me possible to speak to you on some results obtained in the metabolism of unicellular micro-organisms. The more so because investigations of the last decade tend to establish to a quite unexpected degree the unity in metabolism of all living organisms, either microbes or higher plants or animals.

It needs hardly to be emphasized that micro-orga-