

ROE1967TQ

191(S)

~~191(S)~~

191(S)

The Times

12.4.67.

CANCER RESEARCH

From Dr. Francis Roe

Sir,—There are so many surgeons, radio-therapists and morbid anatomists with expert knowledge in molecular biology, virology, and fundamental biochemistry that it would be impossible to accommodate them all on the Scientific Advisory Board of a single research organization.

Yours faithfully,

FRANCIS J. C. ROE.

Chester Beatty Research Institute,
Fulham Road, S.W.3, April 11.

Cancer research

From Mr. A. Dickson Wright

Sir,—The letter of Mr. Raymond Harris (April 11) regarding cancer research recommends an idealistic impossibility, viz., a central altruistic fund to help all causes from cancer to coal tips that slide. Such a central fund would not elicit the public response that the individual causes produce and would fail lamentably.

In special regard to cancer we have funds to help the suffering and the dying—viz., the National Society of Cancer Relief and the Marie Curie Fund. We have a fund, the British Empire Cancer Campaign, which gives grants to research projects by individuals or institutions but does not help any longer with the treatment of cancer, that being left to the National Health Service. Finally, there is the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, which has conducted its own untrammelled research in its own laboratories for 65 years. All the funds have different specific activities, and it is better that it should remain so rather than to unite their very different activities in one fund. As regards the saving in expenses this is not borne out in practice, as in America where this unity prevails the expenses are about 30 per cent, whereas in the Imperial Cancer Research Fund it is less than 5 per cent. *Res ipse loquitur.*

Yours faithfully,

A. DICKSON WRIGHT, Honorary
Treasurer, Imperial Cancer Research
Fund.

Lister House, 12 Wimpole Street, W.1,
April 18.