**The Hoxsey Story**
review by Andrew L. Rubman, ND

**When Healing Becomes a Crime**
The Amazing Story of the Hoxsey Cancer Clinics and the Return of Alternative Therapies
by Ken Ausubel
Inner Traditions, under the imprint Healing Arts Press

Kenny Ausubel has succeeded in producing a work so compelling that it disturbs as it produces optimism. The recipient of Bill Moyers's “Best Censored Stories” award for his documentary film on Hoxsey, Ausubel has created a definitive text on medical malfeasance and chicanery; documenting the facts surrounding the most important controversy in the cancer industry to date. What has been missing in previous reviews and “advance praise” of this singularly important work is the failure to acknowledge the sickening, indefensible, and cowardly behavior of organized medicine; successful at installing itself as the ultimate arbiters of medical right and wrong; but failing in honoring their pledge to “do no harm.”

The author examines the forces and monofocal blindness that existed in Harry Hoxsey's time continuing into the present, while finally experiencing their involution and demise. As recently as this winter, a British cancer patient, pronounced incurable, credited the quality and quantity of his days to his use of the Hoxsey regime before passing on. The information contained within this work needs to be widely disseminated and broadly appreciated so that all people can finally rise with one voice and demand their rights. Ausubel asserts that 21st century medicine will operate truly for the good of the people; and that good will be drawn from what works best to keep citizens healthy, not others wealthy.

A “can’t put it down” read, and a compendium of factual information with source citations, all assertions are backed up with well-referenced documentation, providing logical focal groupings. The first, a historically accurate recounting of the rise and fall of Harry Hoxsey, uses the chronology of events in his efforts to ‘spread the word.’ Providing a framework for a wider scope of information including legal and illegal efforts to suppress this activity, information is presented from the perspective of a critical journalist, capturing both the excitement and often the revulsion of discovery. The second, deals with the conflict in approach to cancer care, separating conventional suppression from underwriting the natural process that Hoxsey identified and promoted.

Ausubel concludes his effort with the third and final part entitled “Healing the Politics of Medicine” – perhaps the most disturbing section. Much of the same abusive behavior and disregard for the onus of the acquired mantle of public trust persisted even as the dismal failure of the “war on cancer” emerged. The covert war on the truly traditional medicine persisted as well, as much to co-opt, as to trivialize. Incumbent upon us, both providers and consumers, is to make sure that future providers are trained in both the science and philosophy of “nature cure” to provide objective, patient-centered care.

As the author stated in a recent interview, “When I made the documentary film 12 years ago, it was still possible for the suppression of these techniques and this philosophy to continue. I firmly believe that so much is now in the public eye that these notions will become incorporated into mainstream medicine in the United States.” His book serves to bring closure from past subjective reality while illuminating the path ahead.

If you have one book to read this year, read this one. As disease manifests from external challenge and internal imbalance, let us inform our populace and provide sincere alternatives as Harry Hoxsey committed his life's work to doing, so that all may benefit from his legacy.