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COVER LEGEND

The premier cancer center of France, Institut Gustave-Roussy, memorializes Gustave Roussy (1874-1948), Professor of Pathological Anatomy and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Paris. In 1921 Professor Roussy created the nucleus of the present facility, Le Fondation de l'Institut du Cancer, at Villejuif, a suburb of Paris. This organization was to operate “under a single authority capable of maintaining its cohesion and averting the causes of divisiveness between clinicians and laboratory workers (Institut Gustave-Roussy: 2 Mars 1964. Inauguration par Monsieur Raymond Marcellin, Ministre de la Santé Publique et de la Population, d'un Bâtiment de Laboratoires utilisé par le Department de Recherches et Investigations, p. 18, Paris: Rambault & Guiot, 1964).” A laboratory division and a clinical department were fully established at the Institute in 1930 and 1934 respectively.

Each section remained under separate administrations responsible to Professor Roussy until 1945, at which time the Institute was incorporated into a network of anti-cancer centers under the authority of the French Republic.

The same year Professor Roussy was succeeded by two appointees, Professor Francois Haguenin as Director of the hospital division and Professor Charles Oberling as Director of research laboratories. Successive decrees of the French government, in 1950 and 1963, affixed the permanent title, “Institut Gustave-Roussy,” to commemorate its founder, and inaugurated a progressive design for the center, which now operates under the Ministry of Public Health. The Institute is comprised of 12 divisions—clinical, experimental, and administrative—under a single directorate.

Right, a photograph of Professor Roussy, date unknown. The background presents an aerial view of the Gustave-Roussy Institute, showing the principal clinical and research buildings. We are indebted to Professor Pierre Denoix, Directeur de l'Institut Gustave-Roussy, for the illustrations.