The Institut Jules Bordet, Centre Anticancereux de l'Université Libre de Bruxelles, is a foremost cancer research and treatment center of Belgium. It commemorates eponymously the eminent Belgian bacteriologist Jules Bordet (1870-1961), founder and director, until 1940, of the Institut Pasteur of Brussels. Professor Bordet, who also occupied (since 1907) the Chair of Bacteriology in the Faculty of Medicine at the Free University (Brussels), is noted for his fundamental discoveries in immunology, blood coagulation phenomena, and bacteriophage research. His contributions rank with those of other pioneers in these fields, namely, Metchnikoff, Ehrlich, Twort, and d'Herelle (see J. Beumer, Jules Bordet 1870-1961. J. Gen. Microbiol., 29: 1-13, 1962).

Various honors were accorded to this gifted scientist, including the Nobel Prize in 1919 for his studies on immunity. The centennial anniversary of his birth was celebrated last year in Belgium. The Bordet Institute was founded in 1925, the result of an agreement between the Faculty of Medicine in Brussels and the Brussels Commission of Public Assistance to inaugurate a cancer facility. Its scope has included therapeutic, research, and teaching activities. In collaboration with the Belgian National Anti-Cancer League, the Institute, since its inception, has treated over 30,000 cancer patients with the most advanced tools of radiotherapy and has maintained close follow-up surveillance on these cases. Moreover, its laboratories conduct basic research on a wide range of problems, such as electron microscopy of normal and neoplastic cells, cancer biochemistry, the cytogenetics of leukemia, and experimental chemotherapy, among others. This center has also played a prominent part in organizing international cooperation in the field of cancer research [see Les grands centres de cancerologie: l'Institut Jules Bordet de Bruxelles (Belgique). UICC Bulletin, 5: 8, 1967].

The Institute has no Director but is supervised by the College of the Chiefs of Service. They designate an executive officer in conjunction with the University.

Shown on the cover are photographs of Jules Bordet, date unknown, and the present Institut Jules Bordet. We are indebted to Professor Henri J. Tagnon, Chef de Service de Médecine Interne, Institut Jules Bordet, Centre des Tumeurs de l'Université Libre de Bruxelles, for his assistance and for providing the photographs.