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Claudius Regaud (1870—1940), professor of histology at the University of Lyon, was a distinguished exponent of radiobiology and curietherapy and the founder of the Radium Institute (Institut du Radium) of the University of Paris in 1906. He developed original staining techniques and wrote a thesis on the lymphatics of the testes (Les vaisseaux lymphatiques du testicule. Compt. Rend. Soc. Biol., 61: 163—165, 1906). With Nogier he studied radiobiological effects on irradiated skin and described moist radioepidermitis (Les effets produits sur la peau par les hautes doses de rayons X. Arch. d’Élect. Med., 20: 321—334, 1912). In 1912, he was chosen to organize the biomedical services of the Radium Institute in a twin building to the one in which Madame Curie pursued her physicochemical research. Mobilized by World War I, he recruited his future collaborators (Lacassagne, Coutard, Ferroux, Monod, and Roux-Berger). With Deberne he developed an early system of radium dosimetry (Sur l’émanation du radium et son utilisation thérapeutique. Congress of the Association Française pour l’Avancement des Sciences, Nimes, August 1912); in 1919, he joined the staff of the Radium Institute. With a single piece of radiological equipment and interchangeable tubes, he studied experimental radiophysics and radiodiagnosis and practiced radiotherapy. In 1922, he described the mucous membrane reaction which he named radioepithelitis (Sur les délais d’apparation et d’évolution des réactions de la peau, et des muqueuses de la bouche et du pharynx, provoquées par les rayons X. Compt. Rend. Soc. Biol., 86: 1140—1141, 1922). He originated the radiographic study of the larynx (Note préliminaire sur la radiographie du larynx normal et larynx cancereux. J.Radiol. d’Électrol., 8: 461—465, 1924). Refusing to accept the theoretical limitations of Regaud’s fractionation, Coutard dared to extend the daily irradiation of patients to periods of several weeks. His unprecedented results in the treatment of cancer of the larynx attracted world-wide attention (Considérations sur le cancer de la bande et de la cavité ventriculaire du larynx. Ann. des Mal. de l’Oreille, 46: 467—521, 1927). This method was dubbed the protracted-fractional treatment. His contributions are now indistinguishably incorporated into the everyday practice of radiotherapy (Principles of X-ray Therapy of Malignant Diseases. Lancet, 2: 1—12, 1934). Coutard was primarily responsible for placing radiotherapy on a clinical footing.

We are indebted to Dr. J. A. del Regato for both the portraits and the legend. Regaud is shown on the left; Coutard, on the right.