



Cancer Research

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COVER LEGEND

Roswell Park Memorial Institute (RPMI), the world's oldest institution dealing primarily with cancer research, is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. Founded in Buffalo, New York, it is now one of the world's most comprehensive cancer centers, devoted to treatment, research, and education. It is directed by the New York State Health Department within the confines of the University of Buffalo Medical School.

When a grant of \$7,500 was first requested in 1897 for the establishment of a "cancer laboratory," the plans were vetoed by the state governor, although the legislature had sanctioned it. With the persuasive efforts of two determined men—Dr. Roswell Park, for whom the institution was eventually named, and Edward H. Butler, Sr., an influential newspaper publisher—a bill was finally passed in 1898 for maintenance of the laboratory.

Since that time, RPMI has grown into a multimillion-dollar operation. Included among its facilities are a 316-bed hospital and many well-equipped cancer research laboratories. There are 2,200 employees in all at RPMI.

Throughout the years, the directorship has played a vital role in determining the growth of the center. Featured on this month's cover are its six past directors (*left to right* from the *top*): Roswell Park (1852-1914), Harvey R. Gaylord (1872-1924), Burton T. Simpson (1873-1946), Louis C. Kress (1896-1952), George E. Moore (*b.* 1920), and James T. Grace (1923-1970). Gerald P. Murphy (*center, b.* 1934) is current director.

Dr. Roswell Park, Professor of Surgery at the University of Buffalo, was co-founder of the institution in 1898. Notwithstanding his rigorous duties as first director, he continued to lecture and write extensively, maintained a large private practice, and was an active participant in community cultural affairs.

In 1904, Dr. Harvey Gaylord became the second director. His primary interest was in finding an organism for the cause and cure

of cancer and in developing immunological techniques. During his administration, the first hospital building was constructed, as was an experimental farm, still in use in Springville, New York.

Throughout the 20-year term of Dr. Burton T. Simpson, third director, more and more emphasis was placed on clinical activities. His administration (1923-1943) saw the construction of a new 78-bed hospital, with facilities for an enlarged radiation therapy department.

Dr. Louis C. Kress had been associated with RPMI for 26 years when he was named fourth director in 1945. An intensive educational program, to include laymen as well as students and practitioners, was implemented during his term.

Dr. George E. Moore at 32 years of age was made fifth director of the Institute in 1952. His tenure was marked by tremendous expansion in staff and facilities. Contributions of his administration included the establishment of a pediatric department and a non-profit corporation to receive gifts and grants.

Dr. James T. Grace, Jr., who became the sixth director in 1967, continued to pursue clinical studies in gastrointestinal surgery. He was also concerned with the role of viruses in tumor formation. His endeavors were cut short by an auto accident in 1970; he was critically injured and died about 18 months later.

The current director, Dr. Gerald P. Murphy, received his appointment in 1970, after serving as Acting Director since the time of Dr. Grace's accident. He received his M.D. at the University of Washington in Seattle and was Research Associate and Chief of the Department of Surgical Physiology at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Washington, D.C. Dr. Murphy was also named one of 18 members of the National Cancer Advisory Board in 1972.

Also pictured on this month's cover is the Gratwick Building (*upper right*), which housed the original three rooms of Roswell Park; the new 3.5 million-dollar Research Studies Center (*lower right*); and the 75th anniversary commemorative stamp (*lower left*).