

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF LYMPHOLOGY**In Memoriam****Dr. Simon Rodbard (1911-1975)**

On May 1, 1975, Lymphology lost one of its great champions with the death of Dr. Simon Rodbard—distinguished physician, scientist and humanist. Dr. Rodbard received his baccalaureate and Ph.D. degree (Physiology) from the University of Chicago and later an M.D. degree from the University of Illinois School of Medicine. He was subsequently associated with Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago, the University of Buffalo and since 1963 with the University of Southern California and the City of Hope (Duarte, California), where he was Director of Cardiology until his death. His interests spanned hypertension, arteriosclerosis, hydrodynamics, heart sounds, aviation medicine, fluid and electrolyte metabolism, body temperature regulation, medical history, pharmacology of cardiovascular drugs and cardiac arrhythmias. He was active in many learned societies. While he primarily pursued the physiology and anatomy of the heart and arterial circulation, he recognized that the microcirculation and the adjacent tissues was "where the action is". But it was not until late in his career that he was eventually lured into the lymphatic system. He formulated the concept of the capillaron, an integral microcirculatory unit in a discrete tissue module, and probed this idea through intricate and painstaking anatomical dissections, perfusions, and castings of the regional lymphatics of the heart, uterus and liver. For this original work, he was awarded the first International Prize of the International Society of Lymphology which was presented to him at the Second International Society of Lymphology meeting in Brussels, Belgium in 1970. From that moment on, he became an avid worker for the Society of Lymphology serving on the Executive Committee and then on the Editorial Staff of the Journal and devoting considerable time to the organization and proceedings of the Fourth International Congress of Lymphology in Tucson in 1973. He was particularly interested in attracting young investigators into the lymphology and at the same time enhancing the prestige of the Society by bringing distinguished scientists from related disciplines into the fold. Personally, he was known for his fresh inquiring mind and his iconoclastic views which good-naturedly respected the iconoclastic views of others. His interest in medical folklore and his own philosophical bent were most clearly highlighted in his final (240th) publication which appeared shortly after his death. In "*The Heart as a Hostile Witness*" (Perspectives in Biology and Medicine 18: 375, 1975), he traced since ancient times popular conceptions of the independence of heart action sometimes to the detriment and embarrassment of its possessor. His many friends and colleagues led by Dr. Rachmiel Levine, Medical Director of the City of Hope, have formed the Simon Rodbard Living Memorial Fund through which contributions can be made to honor this distinguished lymphologist and to continue his pioneering tradition in research.

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Forthcoming Conventions

The VI. International Congress of Lymphology will be held in PRAHA/CSSR in summer 1977. This decision has been made at the General Assembly meeting of the International Society of Lymphology in RIO DE JANEIRO.

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This issue contains a prospectus of the Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart
