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PAUL CHEVALLIER
(1884-1960)

Early in his medical career, Paul Chevallier was introduced to the study of hematology by the well known histologist J. Jolly and the great clinician P. E. Weil.

His first experiments, a study of iron assimilation in the spleen, were important for the development of Aschoff’s work on the reticuloendothelial system. While physician to the Paris hospitals, Chevallier divided his activity between hematology and dermatology. The latter led to three observations which he applied to hematology: the acute peripheral leukocytosis following arsenobenzol injection, the description of chronic inflammatory purpura, so much different than the thrombocytopenic purpura known at that time; and finally, while studying Quincke’s edema and certain forms of leukoderma he proposed the idea of “metanemia”, a non-anemic disease sometimes responding to iron therapy. This has been subsequently proven by serum iron determination. In recent years appointed Honorary Professor at the Faculty of Medicine of Paris, he wanted to do more than simply teach and to prepare his textbook Les Maladies du Sang. Despite poor health he traveled extensively, particularly to the Orient. While in Iran, he died in the midst of preparations for a series of lectures.

Keen researcher, great teacher and physician, Paul Chevallier brought the prestige of French medicine to new heights. He was the distinguished heir to the pioneers Hayem, Vaquez and Weil.

His numerous pupils in France and elsewhere will forever remember in their hearts this great teacher and friend.—G. Bilski-Pasquier, Paris, France.
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