

In Memoriam

DR. JAMES FLEECE RINEHART, 1901–1955

A distinguished career was abruptly terminated at San Mateo, California, on November 30, 1955 at the early age of 54 with

school (Fremont) in that city, graduating from the latter in 1919. With the exception of one year (1920–1921) which was spent at Centre



Dr. J. F. Rinehart.

the sudden passing of Dr. James Fleece Rinehart, Professor of Pathology at the University of California School of Medicine in San Francisco.

Dr. Rinehart was born in Oakland, California, in 1901, attended grammar and high

College, Kentucky, he pursued his premedical (1919–1922) and medical education (1922–1926) at the University of California at Berkeley and at its School of Medicine in San Francisco. After serving a rotating internship (1926–1927) at Alameda County Hospital in Oakland, Dr.

Rinehart returned to the University of California School of Medicine in 1927 as assistant in Pathology. Save for the year 1930-1931 when he was Littauer Research Fellow in the Thorndike Laboratory of Harvard University at Boston, he was associated with the University of California until his death. During this short tenure at Harvard Medical School, his contact with Dr. George R. Minot made a marked impression upon him and had considerable influence upon his later thinking and upon his research in the field of nutrition.

Dr. Rinehart early displayed his ability as a pathologist and as an investigator in experimental pathology and nutrition. He advanced rapidly to instructor (1929-1930) and to assistant professor, then to associate professor (1936-1942). Following the death in 1941 of the late Professor of Pathology, Dr. Charles Connor, he was appointed to the position of Chairman of the Department and received the promotion to Professor in 1942, a position which he occupied the remainder of his life. His eminence as a pathologist is attested to by the numerous appointments and positions which he held inside and outside the University. These include: Pathologist, University of California Hospital; Visiting Pathologist, Laguna Honda Home; Member of State Board of Health; Consulting Pathologist for Langley Porter Clinic, Mt. Zion Hospital, Veterans' Administration Hospital and for the Maimonides Health Center for the Chronic Sick. In addition, he served on many academic committees and played an important role in the development of the campus and in the attainment of the new Herbert Moffitt Hospital and Medical Sciences Building. He was a member of numerous medical and scientific societies, served as vice-president (1949) and president (1950) of the American Society for Experimental Pathology, and on the Council of the A.A.A.S. (1954-1955).

The late Professor Rinehart had tremendous drive, a wide and varied interest in science and medicine, and a love for his work. In addition to his role in training of a vast number of medical students and specialists in pathology, he was the author or co-author of some 90 publications dealing with such subjects as: the

relationship of vitamin C deficiency to the development of rheumatic fever, the metabolism of vitamin C in rheumatic fever and rheumatoid arthritis, the effect of the bioflavonoids on rheumatic fever, the pathology and biochemistry of experimental vitamin C and B-vitamin deficiencies in the monkey, electron-microscopy of normal and abnormal tissues, and many other aspects of pathology and medicine. He probably will be best remembered for his work* on the pathogenesis of rheumatic fever and of arteriosclerosis.

Dr. Rinehart was filled with kindness and compassion for those who were less fortunate than he. Those who knew him or had been associated with him will always remember his many acts of kindness and his unselfish devotion to the interests of the University of California School of Medicine. He was a champion of the underdog, of the medical student, and of his subordinate personnel. It is believed that he made his demise as he would have liked: he died "with his boots on."

—LOUIS D. GREENBERG

* The Heart Valves and Muscle in Experimental Scurvy with Superimposed Infection. Rinehart, J. F. and Mettier, S. R. *Am. J. Path.* 10: 61, 1934.

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