Obituary

CHEVALIER L. JACKSON
1900-1961

With the death of Chevalier L. Jackson, which occurred suddenly on Friday evening, January 13th, a remarkable and diversified career came to an end. Having chosen to follow the profession and specialty of his illustrious father, he yet achieved an individual role in the development of the sciences of laryngology and bronchoesophagology. With his father, he shared an unselfish zeal for teaching and training others, whereupon the Jackson “school” has become a tradition throughout the world.

Born on August 19th, 1900, in Pittsburgh, he enrolled in the University of Pennsylvania shortly after moving with his family to Philadelphia in 1916, and when his father, having established departments at Jefferson Medical College and the Medical School and Graduate School of the University of Pennsylvania, was invited in 1929 to accept a newly created chair of Laryngology and Bronchoesophagology at Temple University, Chevalier L. collaborated in the inauguration of the “Bronchoscopic Clinic,” remaining after his father’s retirement in 1937 as chairman of the department.

In postgraduate courses at Temple University as well as in Europe and Latin America, he promoted methods of safe and efficient endoscopy. With Huber, he developed a practical system of segmental bronchial nomenclature which has been
universally accepted. He was an author or co-author of 7 textbooks, which have become standard reference works in the specialty, and several of which have been translated into foreign languages.

A dedicated teacher and a prolific medical author, he was also a sympathetic advisor, fair and generous in the treatment of his associates and colleagues. As a master technician in endoscopy, and particularly in problems involving the removal of foreign bodies, he relished the challenge of the difficult case, and his inventive ability resulted in the perfection of numerous instruments and techniques.

An enthusiastic and fervent believer in internationalism, both medical and non-medical, and an accomplished linguist, he devoted great effort to the promotion of international societies, one of which, the International Bronchoesophagological Society, he was instrumental in founding in 1951. His special interest in Latin America won him the friendship and admiration of numerous colleagues in Central and South America.

With a breadth of interest rare among physicians, his nonmedical pursuits were numerous. He was an indefatigable traveler and photographer and an active member of the World Affairs Council, the Alliance Française, and the International House, as well as a founder member of the World Medical Association. He was also a music lover, having been president of the Philadelphia Grand Opera Company from its founding in 1950 until the time of his death.

Among his prized achievements were memberships in 22 foreign medical societies and honorary faculty appointments in Chile, Uruguay, and Mexico. In 1956, he was made a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor of the French Republic.

Though in poor health for some time, he preferred to spend the remaining months without curtailing his activities, characteristically regarding his illness with impatience rather than despair. Colleagues and students, patients and friends will long remember him for a crowded lifetime of accomplishment and dedicated service.

Charles M. Norris, M.D.