

Special report

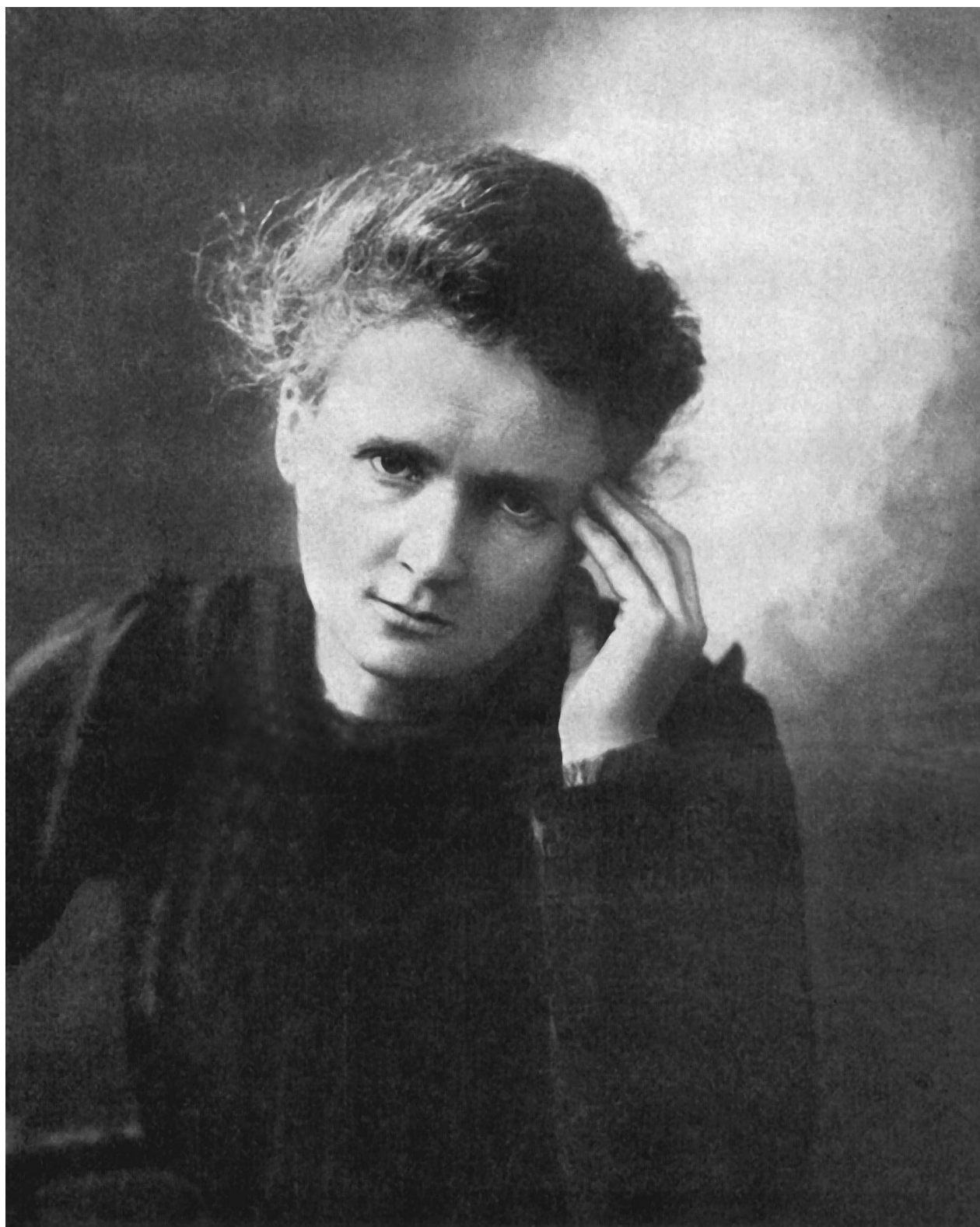
Seventieth anniversary of the opening of the Radium Institute in Warsaw

The real milestone in the development of modern oncology in Poland was the establishment of the Radium Institute in Warsaw. The initiative came from Maria Skłodowska-Curie during her visit to Warsaw in 1921. Funds for building and for the equipment were raised by the National Donation Committee in Poland and among Polish communities worldwide, primarily in the United States, Canada and South Africa. The ceremony of laying the cornerstone in 1925 was attended by Maria Skłodowska-Curie. She insisted, that the Institute incorporates both clinical and research departments, as close cooperation between them is indispensable for modern treatment of cancer. The 120 bed Institute comprised four buildings and was completed in 1932. It had initially five X-ray machines and 1 gram of radium donated by Maria Skłodowska-Curie, who attended the Opening Ceremony. This was her last visit to Poland from her home in Paris as she sadly died in 1934 from aplastic anaemia brought on by her magnificent contribution to medical science by the discovery of radium, her chemical experiments with this new substance and her work in World War I with the X-ray ambulance service at the battles in Belgium.

The Radium Institute soon became the leading center of clinical work, basic research, and teaching in the field of cancer in Poland. During the World War II all scientific activities ceased, but the clinical work continued. In 1944 the building was burned down by the Nazis and the patients and some members of the hospital staff were murdered. The Institute was rebuilt after the war and resumed its activities in 1947. A bronze statue to Maria still stands in the grounds of the Wawelska Street buildings, dating pre-World War II, and a bullet hole can clearly be seen from when the Nazis used the statue for target practice.

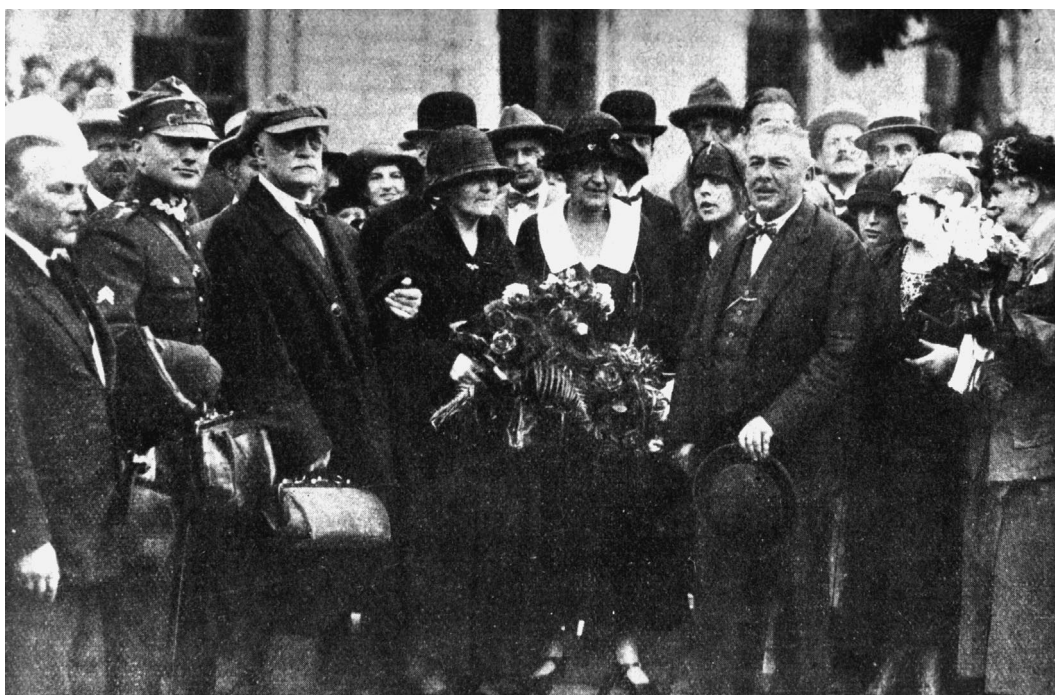
The buildings of the first Radium Institute remain as a part of the new Maria Skłodowska-Curie Memorial Cancer Center and Institute of Oncology, which was completed at a new location in 1995: at Ursynów some 12 km from the centre of Warsaw. This is one of the largest and most modern oncological institutions in Europe. The clinical section is located in a separate 10-floor building with over 700 beds, 10 operating theaters, an intensive care unit, several diagnostic departments and an outpatient clinic. Each floor forms a separate department with surgical, radiotherapy and chemotherapy wards. Each department provides the full range of combined treatment in a particular field (for example: breast, head and neck, alimentary tract). This system offers unique clinical and research opportunities. Other buildings contain basic science and research departments, a library, conference rooms and several other teaching facilities. The Center serves as a modern comprehensive oncological institute, conducting basic research, clinical trials, postgraduate and highly specialized training, and providing the most up-to-date diagnostic and therapeutic facilities.

Edward Towpik
Małgorzata Sobieszczak-Marciniak
Richard F. Mould



*Moje najgorętszym życzeniem jest powstanie
Instytutu Radowego w Warszawie.
Maria Skłodowska Curie*

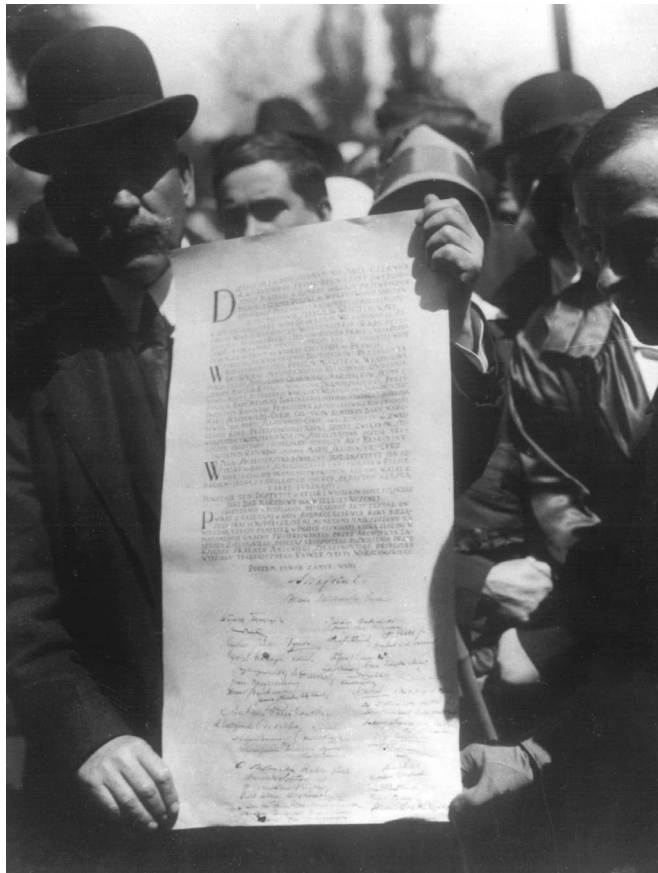
"May earnest desire is to establish
the Radium Institute in Warsaw"
Maria Skłodowska-Curie



Maria Skłodowska-Curie arriving in Warsaw in 1925
for the ceremony of laying the cornerstone of the Radium Institute



Maria Skłodowska-Curie at the ceremony of laying the cornerstone of the Radium Institute in Warsaw (June 6th 1925).
First on the right is Stanisław Wojciechowski, President of the Republic of Poland.
Staying behind Maria is her sister Bronisława Dłuska – 'spiritus movens' of the project in Poland



The handwritten description of events leading to the foundation of the Radium Institute



The above document placed in a metal box ready for sealing in a wall of the Radium Institute

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*Mojam najgłębszą przyjemnością jest poświęcić
Instytutu Radowemu w Warszawie.
Mama Skłodowska Curie*



JWP. Helena Kalayova na ceg. im. s.p. D^{ca} Karimiera Huskiego

OFIAROWAŁA *zł. 100.-* NA WZNIESIENIE W WARSZAWIE

INSTYTUTU RADOWEGO IM. MARJI SKŁODOWSKIEJ-CURIE

JAKO

DARU NARODOWEGO OD POLSKIEGO SPOŁECZEŃSTWA

DLA WIELKIEJ UCZONEJ

ZAKUPUJĄC W TEN SPOSÓB *1* CEGIEŁ *kg* NA BUDOWĘ TEJ INSTYTUCJI.

NAZWISKO BĘDZIE UWIECZNIONE W OBREBIE GMACHU.

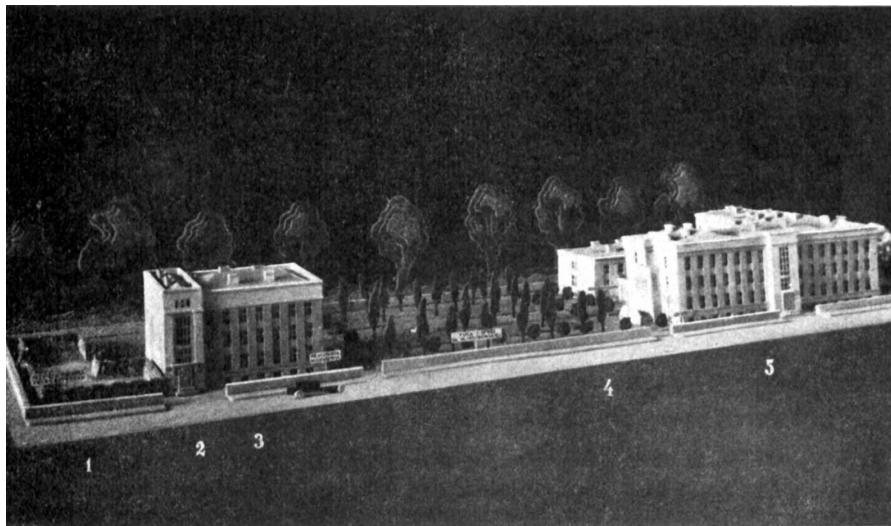


Siemkowska

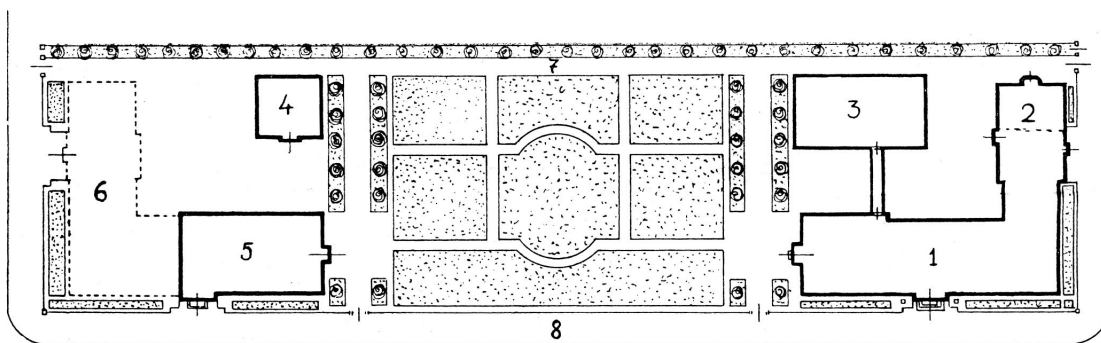
RSZAWA-WAWELSKA 3

Drukarnia 1. Druku, Warszawa

MODEL INSTYTUTU RADOWEGO IM. MARJI SKŁODOWSKIEJ CURIE W WARSZAWIE
WYKONANY NA POWSZECHNĄ WYSTAWĘ KRAJOWĄ W POZNANIU



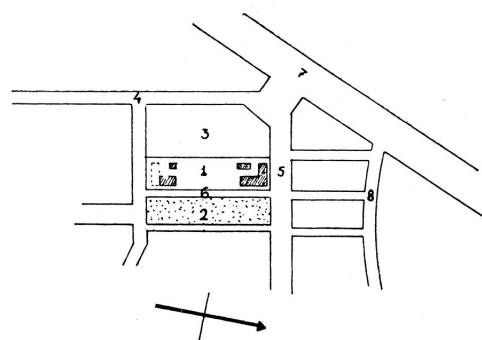
1. REZERWA NA PRZYSZŁĄ DOBUDOWĘ DLA UNIwersYTETU WARSZAWSKIEGO, 2. PAWILON PRACOWNI NAUKOWYCH, 3. PO ZA NIM—NIEWIDOCZNY NA ZDJĘCIU—PAWILON RADU, 4. PAWILON DLA RÖNTGENOTERAPII (DAR BANKU POLSKIEGO), 5. LECZNICA, SZPITAL I PRZYCHODNIA.



RZUT SYTUACYJNY

SKALA 1:1200

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 — Lecznica, szpital, przychodnia | 6 — Rezerwa dla Uniwersytetu |
| 2 — Mieszkania pracowników | 7 — Ulica gospodarcza |
| 3 — Pawilon Röntgena | 8 — Ulica im. Marji Skłodowskiej |
| 4 — Pawilon Radu | |
| 5 — Pawilon pracowni naukowych | |



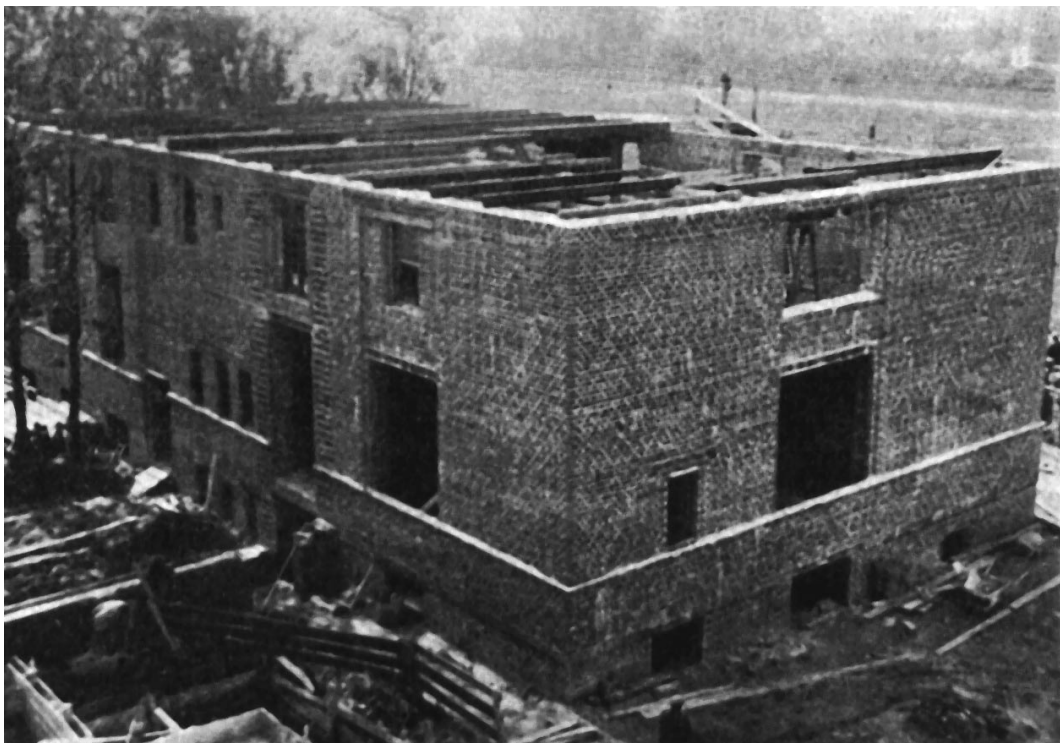
RZUT ORJENTACYJNY

SKALA 1:10000

- | |
|---|
| 1 — Plac Instytutu Radowego |
| 2 — Skwer im. Marji Skłodowskiej |
| 3 — Plac Uniwersytecki na Instytut Chemii |
| 4 — Przyszła nowa ulica |
| 5 — Ulica Wawelska |
| 6 — Ulica im. Marji Skłodowskiej |
| 7 — Aleja Grójecka |
| 8 — Ulica Mochnackiego |



The Radium Institute under construction – main clinical building (March 15th 1927)



The Radium Institute under construction – X-Ray therapy building (October 15th 1929)

CONTRAT

ENTRE:

Le RADIUM BELGE (Union Minière du Haut Katanga) ayant son siège à Bruxelles, 54, Rue Royale, et pour compte duquel agit aux présentes Monsieur G.L. Lechien, Directeur,

ET

Madame Curie, Rue Pierre Curie, 1 Paris, France.

IL EST CONVENU CE QUI SUIT :

1° Le preneur achète au RADIUM BELGE 833.23 milligrammes de Radium élément (huit cent trente trois milligrammes et vingt trois centièmes) sous forme de sulfate moyennant un prix de \$.Am. 60.- (soixante dollars américains) par milligramme de Radium élément.

Toutefois, en raison de la difficulté de mettre en appareil une quantité rigoureusement exacte de Radium, le RADIUM BELGE jouira d'une tolérance de 5% en plus ou en moins sur la quantité à livrer, étant entendu que le prix ne sera dû que pour la quantité livrée.

2° En même temps que le Radium, le RADIUM BELGE livrera :

a) les appareils contenant le Radium et les accessoires spécifiés dans l'annexe N° 2 & 3 jointe au présent contrat.

b) ~~certificats de~~ attestant la quantité de Radium élément contenue dans les sels de Radium livrés.

c) ~~certificats~~ délivrés gratuitement attestant la pureté des sels de Radium fournis.

3° La valeur de la fourniture à effectuer par le RADIUM BELGE est établie suivant décompte ci-dessous :

a) valeur du radium à raison de \$.Am. 60.- le milligramme élément, soit pour 833.23 milligrammes	\$.Am. 49.993,80 ✓
b) valeur de l'appareillage suivant spécification fournie à l'annexe N° 2 & 3 au présent contrat, soit	3.216,25
c) prix réels des certificats officiels de mesure, soit environ	néant
d) les frais d'expédition, d'assurance, évalués forfaitairement à 0,5% de la valeur du Radium, soit	249,95 ✓

La valeur de la fourniture calculée sur ces bases est estimée approximativement à \$ 53.460.- ✓

Les calculs ci-dessus varieront au prorata de la quantité exacte de Radium reconnue par l'Institut des Mesures, ou si un autre conditionnement que celui qui est prévu au présent contrat était choisi, ou si le preneur apportait un changement au nombre de certificats renseigné à l'article 2 du présent contrat.

4° Le RADIUM BELGE fera l'avance des frais d'expédition et d'assurance; ces frais seront portés en compte au preneur pour le calcul de la valeur de la fourniture, ainsi qu'il est dit à l'article 3 du présent contrat.

Les taxes locales ou autres, s'il en était perçu, seraient à la charge du preneur ainsi que les droits d'entrée éventuels en Pologne.

5° Pour la sûreté de l'exécution du présent contrat, le preneur, dès la signature du contrat, payera au RADIUM BELGE, à valoir sur le montant total de la facture transférera au Radium-Belge le chèque de \$.Am. 51.600;- (cinquante et un mille six cents dollars américains) qu'il possède sur la ~~le solde de la facture sera payable à~~ banque Morgan. ~~-----~~ contre remise de la fourniture.

6° Le présent contrat est régi quant à sa substance, ses effets et sa preuve par la loi Belge.

Fait à Bruxelles, en deux originaux.

Le 20^{ème} 1930.

~~-----~~ RADIUM BELGE

M. Curie
Le 12 avril 1930



3 ANNEXES



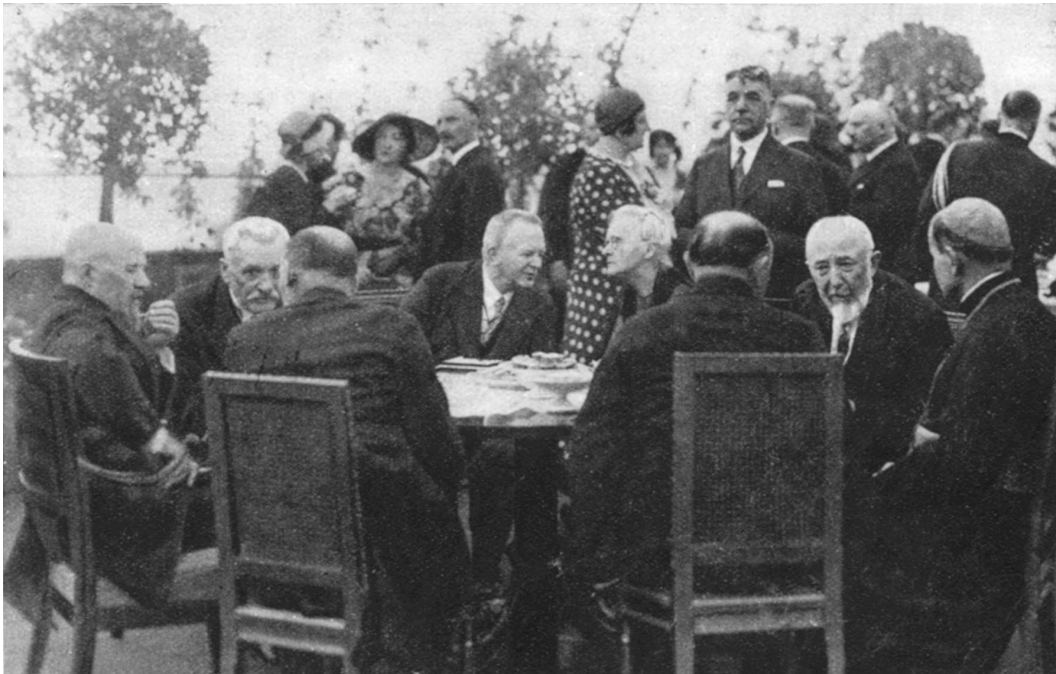
Opening ceremony. To the Maria's left is Claudius Regaud, Director of the Radium Institute in Paris, and Franciszek Łukaszyk, Director of the Radium Institute in Warsaw



Maria Skłodowska-Curie with President of Polish Republic Ignacy Mościcki (to her right) at the opening ceremony of the Radium Institute on the 29th May, 1932



Maria Skłodowska-Curie planting a memorial tree
after the opening ceremony of the Radium Institute on May 29th 1932



Maria Skłodowska-Curie and Claudius Regaud with President Ignacy Mościcki,
and Prime Minister Prystor after the opening ceremony



The elevator inside the clinical building.
This is surrounded by plaques commemorating those who gave most substantial donations



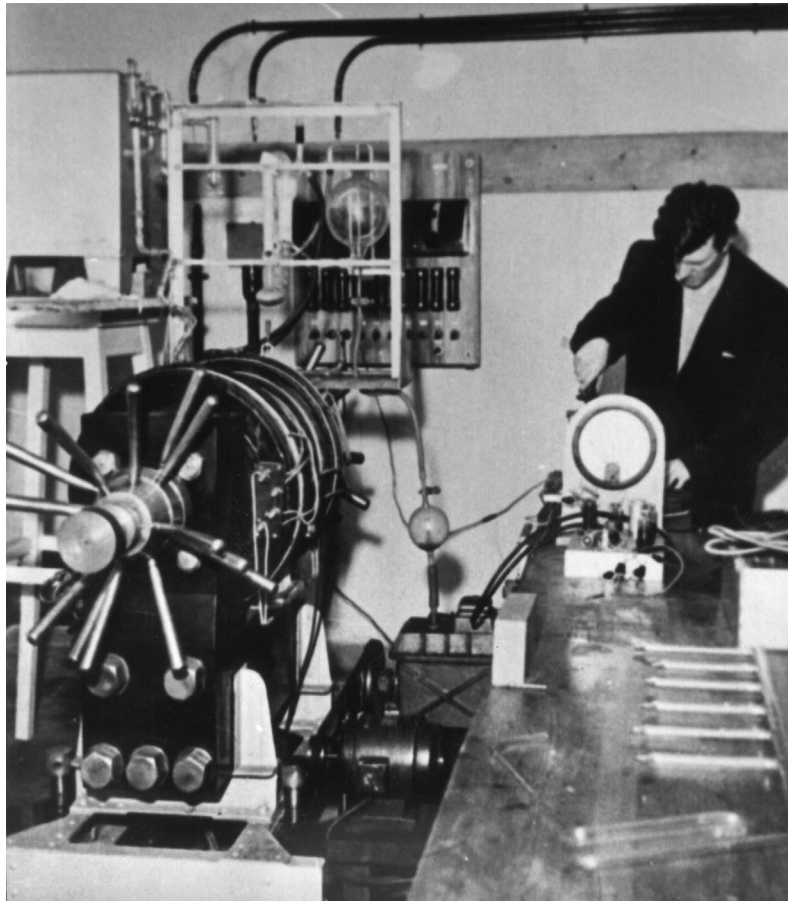
The clinical building seen from the research laboratories.
The large window on the ground floor far right belonged to the apartment of Bronisława Dłuska, Maria's sister, who supervised the construction, and later the activities of the Institute.
Maria stayed here when she came to open the Institute in May 1932



Michalina Mościcka, wife of the President of Poland, dedicates the monument of Maria Skłodowska-Curie which has remained in front of the Radium Institute since 1935, through the World War II till today



Irene and Frederic Joliot-Curie visiting the Physics Department of the Radium Institute in Warsaw in 1936.
They are seen with Prof. Cezary Pawłowski, the Head of the Department



Electromagnet donated to the Physics Department of the Radium Institute
by Irene and Frederic Joliot-Curie (1952)



Clinical building of the first Radium Institute, rebuilt after World War II



The second Institute, known today as the Maria Skłodowska-Curie Memorial Cancer and Institute of Oncology