

Clément DUVAL

It is with deep regret that the Editorial Board of the Journal of Thermal Analysis announces the death of one of its members: Professor Clément DUVAL suddenly died on February 24, 1976, in Paris, in his 74th year.

Clément DUVAL had been a member of the Editorial Advisory Board since the Journal of Thermal Analysis was created in 1969. He was one of the most well-known French pioneers in thermogravimetry after 1946, when he began to apply TG systematically to the investigation of the thermal stability of analytical precipitates and analytical standards. More than 100 papers from among his 420 publications deal with the development of thermoanalytical methods.

His scientific work began in 1922 when he entered Georges Urbain Laboratory where he prepared his Ph. D. thesis (1927). He wrote 49 books, among them a treatise on thermogravimetry "Inorganic Thermogravimetric Analysis" (2 editions), a treatise on inorganic microanalysis (4 volumes), a Dictionary of Chemistry (2 editions, 50,000 words). The third edition (80,000 words) of the Dictionary of Chemistry was being printed when he died and his wife, Mrs Dr Raymonde DUVAL is continuing his work.

His last contribution to thermal analysis was the chapter "Thermal Methods in Analytical Chemistry" which was published in February 1976 in the series "Wilson and Wilson's Comprehensive Analytical Chemistry".

Clément DUVAL possessed a vocation in both research and education. When he retired in 1972, he was research director and director of the "Enseignement Préparatoire aux Techniques de la Recherche" in the C.N.R.S. (the National Center of the Scientific Research in France). In 1962 he founded a thermal analysis school in his Laboratory, the "Laboratoire de Recherches microanalytiques", rue Pierre Curie, in Paris. Every year since 1962, 10 to 20 participants have received a week's special course in TG and DTA, in his laboratory. When Professor DUVAL retired, the original thermal analysis school continued to develop under C.N.R.S. auspices.

Clément DUVAL was "Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur" (1953), "Commandeur des Palmes Académiques" (1958), Doctor Honoris Causa (Rio de Janeiro, 1934), Laureate of the French Academy of Sciences (1927, 1959), and of the "Société Chimique de France" (1932), an honorary member of the Austrian

Society of Microchemistry (1950) and of the Midlands Society of Analytical Chemistry (1952), and a member of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (Analytical Chemistry Division, 1946–1971). Clément DUVAL was the French delegate on the International Confederation of Thermal Analysis (ICTA) council for the period 1965–1971.

In 1973, the “médaille de vermeil” was awarded to him by the City of Paris.

Clément DUVAL was a scientific personality. His whole life was devoted to science. Besides scientific research his only passion was his love for music.

M. HARMELIN