

In Memoriam Professeur Marcel Véron



PROFESSOR Marcel Véron died on 24 August 1984. Born on 28 November 1900 in Paris, he graduated from the 'Ecole Centrale des Arts et Manufactures de Paris' in 1922, and was soon involved in thermics teaching.

Nominated Professor at the Ecole Centrale in 1930, then Professor at the 'Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers' in 1935, he gave the best of himself for 43 years in both these establishments to train engineers who have contributed to the redeployment of French industrial activity since the Second World War.

A 'laudatio' [*Int. J. Heat Mass Transfer* 17, 801 (1974)] marked 50 years devoted to thermics development. This article gave the essentials of Professor Véron's career and of the research fields he worked on. All this will not be repeated here, but references of the main publications will be found at the end of this tribute.

Marcel Véron was the last representative of a small group of French professors who were of more or less the

same generation and who had the responsibility of maintaining heat and mass transfer science at the highest level. We associate them all together: Pierre Vernotte (1898–1970), Edmond A. Brun (1898–1979) and Marcel Véron. The first two were, in different circumstances, students of Charles Fabry (1867–1945). It was in the Physics Laboratory of the Air Ministry led by Pierre Vernotte that Professor E. A. Brun conducted his research on temperature measurement in rapid gas streams in 1930. Marcel Véron inherited another scientific school of thought founded at the Ecole Centrale in Paris by Eugène Péclet, who created the 'Industrial Physics' chair in 1829. Between Péclet and Véron there were only four professors (Thomas, Ser, Grouvelle and Roszak), and we even find a survival of Péclet in the nomenclature Marcel Véron used.

It can be said without exaggeration that with the death of Marcel Véron a kind of professor embodied by those cited in these lines is disappearing. Time passes by

irreversibly and in spite of world social and political upheaval, the international scientific community will long remember its best members.

We think Marcel Véron deserves a place in our memory since he was active member in the cause of furthering our understanding of heat and mass transfer.

Apart from about 15 papers presented to the Paris Science Academy (between 1933 and 1969), numerous articles were published in the *Bulletin de la Société des ingénieurs civils de France*, and in the periodicals *Chaleur et Industrie* and *Revue Générale de Thermique*. We can point out other publications here which indicate the numerous fields of research to which Professor Véron brought a fruitful contribution.

(1) Books (all in French):

- Nouvelles études sur la chaleur*, Dunod (1929).
- Tendances actuelles des techniques de la chaleur*, Dunod (1938).
- Traité de chauffage—Chimie de la combustion*, Dunod (1941).

(2) Proceedings of eight congresses of the *Institut Français des Combustibles et de l'Energie* (in French):

- Dépoussiérage des fumées et gaz industriels* (1954).
- Utilisation thermique rationnelle de la vapeur d'eau* (1955).
- Combustion des combustibles solides et pulvérisés*, 2 vol. (1957).
- Gaz et matériaux humides* (1959).
- Transmission de la chaleur*, 2 vol. (1961).
- La combustion et la conversion de l'énergie* (1964).
- Etats de la matière sous les effets des très hautes et des très basses températures, très hautes et très basses pressions* (1967).
- Les fluides caloporteurs organiques* (1968).

(3) Twenty-three technical notes on engineering heat processes, printed by the *Société Française Babcock-Atlantique* (1929–1958), are very interesting guides to combustion, heat exchangers and boilers.

J. GOSSE