

D'Or, Louis Toussaint Paul
Born: June 4, 1904 - Liege
Died: July 30, 1989 – Liege

After secondary studies at the Athénée of Liege, he successfully graduates as a mining engineer at the University of Gent in 1928 (lecturing at that time is still in French). To obtain a solid foundation for his career he studies at the Solvay Institute for Sociology. The next four years he is employed at the laboratory of professor Victor Henry at the University of Zürich, followed by a stay at the University of Göttingen.

In 1932 he starts lecturing at the University of Liege to be made full professor of general and physical chemistry in 1936.

In the newly built laboratories of the university he creates the cryogenic laboratory that is unfortunately destroyed in 1944. With his assistants he manages however to save a part of the equipment.

After a study tour of a number of laboratories in the USA, he returns to Belgium and organizes a congress on the theme of the future of the Belgian industry. The meetings are held in cooperation with the association of the engineers-alumni of the University of Liege, a society celebrating its centenary. At the same time the cryogenic laboratory is started up again.

In 1955 he is appointed professor of chemical and physical techniques.

He establishes two research centres in Liege: the study centre for molecular spectroscopy and the centre for mass spectrometry; the last in association with the universities of Liege, Brussels and Leuven.

He organizes two important congresses: about mass spectrometry (1949) and about the appearance of ions in a rarefied gaseous phase (1963)

D'Or becomes professor emeritus in 1970.

From 1945 till 1948 he is CEO of the Société chimique de Belgique (Belgian Chemical Society) and as a member of the Société royale des Sciences de Liège (Royal Liege Society of Science) his name is honoured by the yearly D'Or Prize (do not translate it as the Golden Prize!)