

Edmond Marie Lambert **VAN AUBEL**

Born: August 5, 1864 (Liège)

Died: July 10, 1940 (Ghent)

Biography

Van Aubel finishes his secondary studies at the Royal Atheneum in Liège followed by obtaining in 1888 his degree of Dr.Sc. in Physics and Mathematics at the University of Liège.

He performs research at the laboratory of Walthère-Victor Spring and continues his training at the Polytechnical Institute of Aachen..

He is appointed temporarily at the Royal Military Academy in Brussels as tutor of the course of general and applied physics. In 1889 he obtains a bourse due to the quality of his publication “Contributions à la Mesure des Champs magnétiques”, bourse which he unfortunately leaves unused. On 21 November 1890 he withdraws from the Military Academy and takes up his new appointment at the University of Ghent to teach part of the course of experimental physics. Later on he is appointed professor of the newly founded department of physical chemistry. In 1929 Van Aubel performs research at the Cryogen Laboratory of Leiden.

In 1934, when the University of Ghent becomes Flemish (as a result of a lengthy linguistic struggle to abolish French lectures) Van Aubel retires and professor Jules Emile Verschaffelt becomes his successor, a chair he shares with A. Rutgers.

In 1912 Van Aubel becomes corresponding member of the “Académie Royale des Sciences, des Lettres et des Beaux-arts de Belgique”. He is knighted in 1907 but a few years later he chooses to resign this honor.

Publications

His publications cover three related subjects: the electrical conductivity of metals and alloys, the variation of magnetic and thermic properties under the influence of external factors.

The second group concerns magnetism. His physico-chemical publications cover the third group and are strongly influenced by Walthère-Victor Spring, the pioneer of the physico-chemical research in Belgium.

He writes a special study on the conductivity of bismuth, does research on the Hall-effect (1902) and studies the influence of a magnetic field on the human body.

Together with Walthère-Victor Spring he does research of the action of acid on alloys of zinc and lead, discussing the chemical reaction.