



## OBITUARY

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### PROFESSOR DE LAPERSONNE

Félix de Lapersonne was born at Toulouse in 1853. His medical studies were carried out Paris with such distinction that he received an appointment at Lille, where he became Professor of Ophthalmology in 1890. Eleven years later he was recalled to Paris to succeed the great Panas.

Almost all ophthalmological subjects received his attention, and his reports and papers are to be found in the *Bulletin de la Société Française d'Ophthalmologie* and in the French ophthalmological journals.

He became a member of the "Académie de Médecine" in 1914, and its President in 1931, in which year he was made a Commander of the Legion of Honour.

On the inauguration of the "Association Internationale de Prophylaxie de la Cécité" at the XIII Concilium Ophthalmologicum he became its first President. The Association has been organized with great skill and shares offices in Paris with the "International Association against Tuberculosis," at 66, Boulevard Saint-Michel. For his work in this direction he received the Leslie Dana Gold Medal in 1934. The combined meetings of the "Association" with the "International Organization against Trachoma" owed a great deal of their success to de Lapersonne's forethought and presidency.

The distinction of his appearance and the clarity of his speeches gave him an international reputation.

Although the present writer had enjoyed the friendship of the subject of this notice for thirty years he is unable to express more gracefully his estimate of de Lapersonne's personality than by quoting these extracts from French journals:—

"On ne pouvait pas voir de Lapersonne sans être séduit par l'élégance de ses manières qui reflétait si bien la distinction de son esprit; on ne pouvait pas l'entendre sans être captivé par le charme de sa parole, une parole douce et presque souriante." (*La Presse Médicale.*)

"Une curiosité éveillée, une intelligence qui débordait le cadre des occupations professionnelles et s'ouvrit à toutes les lumières." (*Journal de Practitiens.*)