

FRENCHMEN HONOR WRIGHT.

He Is Guest of Honor of the Aero Club and Gets Two Medals.

PARIS, Nov. 5.—Frenchmen united this evening in honoring Wilbur Wright, the American aeroplanist, whose remarkable achievements during the past few months in this country have placed him in the forefront of the distinguished men who have been solving the problem of the navigation of the air. Mr. Wright was the guest of honor at the dinner of the Aero Club of France, at which M. Jean Barthou, the Minister of Public Works, presided, and the occasion was made more memorable by the presentation to him of the Aero Club's gold medal and the special medal of the Academy of Sports.

Among the two hundred guests were practically all the experts and scientists interested in aviation, MM. Delagrangé, Bleriot, and Santos-Dumont, M. Archdeacon, the Republican Nationalist Deputy; Harry Deutsch de la Meurthe, noted as a patron of all sports; Count Henri de la Vaulx, M. Esnault Pelterie, Marquis de Dion, President of the Auto Club; Due de Cazes, and Gen. Dalstein, the Military Governor of Paris. Henry Farman sent a telegram regretting his inability to be present.

Mr. Wright received an ovation, and after the presentation of the medals was warmly eulogized by M. Barthou, who in a hearty speech of congratulation said that the French Government desired officially to associate itself with the homage done Wilbur and Orville Wright for their marvelous achievements. They had won, he said, through perseverance, pluck, and intelligence, and their names should be inscribed upon the annals of time.

Mr. Wright's reply aroused intense enthusiasm. Very modestly and in simple words he accepted the honor, not as a personal tribute to himself and brother, but to the realization of the dream of flying which had fascinated the minds of men for ages.

"Ten years ago," he said, "the world ridiculed the idea. As late as 1901 I told my brother that men would not fly for fifty years, yet two years later we flew."

Mr. Wright spoke feelingly of his splendid reception in France, saying that if he had been a native Frenchman he could not have been shown more consideration. He concluded with a tribute to the wonderful genius of France, and declared that the future of aviation would hold glory enough for all.

Marquis De Dion, Count Henri De La Vaulx, Baron D'Estournelles De Constant, and several of the other guests paid glowing tributes to the Americans, and predicted wonderful things in the future.

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