

## OBITUARY

### BRIGADIER Donald Verner Taylor, C.B.E., F.D.S.Eng., F.D.S., H.D.D.Edin., Barrister-at-Law

Dentistry, the armed forces, sport, the law, international affairs and commerce were all spheres in which Donald Taylor, who died on December 5, 1979, left his very distinctive mark. Few members of the dental profession in recent times can have given such useful service to it in such varied ways.

Born in 1909 in Derby, Donald Taylor was educated there and at Manchester University where he qualified in dentistry in 1930. After a short appointment at Birmingham Dental Hospital he entered the school dental service in 1932, but left this in 1936 to take a commission in The Army Dental Corps. The rapid expansion of the Corps in the 1939-45 War brought him early promotion and he found himself in charge of the dental services in Malta when the long blockade and siege, for which the island was subsequently awarded the *George Cross*, took place.

His experience during this period directed his talents towards oral surgery and on his return to England he elected to enlarge this experience by serving under Sir Hugh Cairns at Oxford while at the same time pursuing studies for the Edinburgh higher dental diploma. Success in this was followed by working for the newly-introduced fellowship in dental surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons of England and he was one of the first small group of fellows to be admitted by examination in 1948. In that year he was appointed consultant in dental surgery and several overseas postings ensued.

In 1958 Colonel Taylor was appointed consulting dental surgeon to the army and, being based in London, he saw the opportunity to fulfil his long-held ambition of reading law. He was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1961. In 1959 he was promoted brigadier, was appointed Queen's Honorary Dental Surgeon in 1961—a post he held until retiring from the army in 1967—and he was awarded the C.B.E. in the Birthday Honours List of 1963.

The story so far is that of a career that would have satisfied most people but Donald Taylor was not one to rest on his laurels. Since 1963 he had been serving as a representative of the Ministry of Defence on several specialist British Standards Institution committees dealing with dental materials and so had gained an insight into the manufacturing and distribution aspects of dental supplies. He was therefore well equipped for the post of professional consultant with A.D. International which he accepted in 1967. His 10 years' service in that capacity was undoubtedly a major factor in the development of a greater understanding between the profession and the dental trade.

His involvement with standards extended into the international field and he

took the chair at a meeting of the European Standards Committee on Dental Products in Utrecht in 1978. He had a particular interest in terminology and was chairman of the B.S.I. committee which prepared the 'Glossary of Terms relating to Dentistry' in 1970. His legal training contributed another facet to his work for he wrote a series of articles on 'The Law and the Dentist' for the *BRITISH DENTAL JOURNAL* in 1963 and he lectured on dental jurisprudence at several dental schools.

Donald Taylor was a foundation fellow of the British Association of Oral Surgeons, an associate member of the British Association of Plastic Surgeons and a supporting member of the F.D.I., of which he was for six years chairman of the Armed Forces Dental Services Commission. His membership of the B.D.A. dated from 1931 and after his retirement from the army he gave valuable service as chairman of the Association's Armed Forces Committee and in maintaining a harmonious and fruitful liaison with the British Medical Association. He was elected a Life Member of the B.D.A. in 1978.

As someone who seemed to achieve pre-eminence in everything he did, it is not surprising that in his chosen sport of lawn tennis Donald Taylor should have played for his university, his county of Derbyshire and for the army. His colleagues and friends will remember him for his directness, his loyalty, his firmness when required and for his rich sense of humour, evinced by a twinkle in his eye and a soft, deep-throated chuckle. We mourn the loss from our profession of one of its leading members of the post-war years and very many will join in extending deepest sympathy to Sheila, his widow, and to his son, Michael, now serving with NATO in America.

J. N. P.

### Ivo Vinski, L.D.S.

His unbounded curiosity about all aspects of the arts and history, but particularly the history of medicine and dentistry, will long be remembered of Ivo Vinski who died suddenly on October 25, in Paris while attending an annual session of the F.D.I. Many throughout the world will not forget this scrupulous practitioner, excellent companion fond of discussion and as ready to learn as to inform, and true friend.

Born on October 9, 1906, in Karlovac, Croatia, he went to Paris to the Sorbonne for his professional studies, qualifying in medicine in 1931 and, after a year of special additional study in that field, in dentistry in 1932. He returned to Yugoslavia to practise there until 1948, after the establishment of the communist regime, when he spent a year in Trieste seeking admission to one or other of the countries then willing to accept refugees who were members of professions.

With the promise of admission to one of the commonwealth countries, if he obtained a qualification registrable there-

in, he came to Britain and was admitted as a dental student at the Dental School, Newcastle upon Tyne. However, on completion with distinction of the L.D.S. course in 1951, he was offered and accepted at once an opportunity to stay in the United Kingdom.

He established his practice in the West End of London and became a keen member of the B.D.A., the Odontological Section of the R.S.M., and other professional bodies. Always willing to learn and anxious to keep up to date, he was a familiar figure at scientific meetings and postgraduate courses. In his practice, he was a skilful operator, and of that kindly and caring disposition in a professional man which attracts patients and keeps them as 'regulars' for many, many years.

Ivo Vinski's interest in dental history led him to join the Lindsay Club not long after its establishment; he was a welcome participant in its meetings, he addressed it on occasion, and he served as the Club's Chairman for two years from 1976 to 1978. As a member of the Club's committee, he worked hard in the production of the Association's centenary history 'The Advance of the Dental Profession' and contributed to it a chapter on 'The Association Abroad.' At the time of his death he was chairman of the working group on dental history of the International Dental Federation, a position he had occupied for some years and latterly, by serving as its secretary as well, he kept the working group alive almost unaided. In recognition of his work, he was elected an honorary member of the American Academy of the History of Dentistry.

Ivo Vinski did not have an easy life but manifold difficulties that would have blunted the aims and limited the achievements of many men were overcome by deep spiritual reserves. His wife, Betty, and his two sons share the cordial sympathy of his colleagues and friends.

J. A. D.

### Anthony Alan Bailey, L.D.S.

Anthony Alan Bailey died suddenly at his home at Tolleshunt D'Arcy, Essex, on December 10, 1979. Educated at Merchant Taylor's School, Tony, as he was known to all his friends, was a great sportsman, having been awarded his colours as scrum-half for Guy's, played a good game of golf, and spent much of his spare time sailing.

After qualifying he served in the Royal Navy, before settling in Surrey where he built up a thriving practice over a number of years in New Malden, and also practised in London before moving to Essex.

Perhaps he was best known for his work as Secretary of the Kingston Section of the B.D.A. Of this he made a great success, and became much loved for his enthusiasm and his warm personality. He leaves a wife, Carol-Anne, and two children by a previous marriage, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

G. L. M. W.