



ROBERT S. DINSMORE, M.D.

Staff Member, The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, 1923-
Chief of Surgery, 1949-1956
Senior Consultant, Department of General Surgery, 1957-

Born August 10, 1892
Died September 24, 1957

ROBERT SCOTT DINSMORE

ROBERT DINSMORE died from a cerebral thrombosis in the Cleveland Clinic Hospital on September 24, 1957. The inspiration of his leadership and the warmth of his friendship will long be remembered by his associates.

In the memorial service held at the Clinic on October 5th, Doctor Dinsmore's place in American surgery was clearly described by one of his closest friends, Dr. John M. Emmett:

"Dr. Dinsmore's honesty and sincerity of purpose will live always in the memory of American surgeons of his day. He was able to make friends among all groups of people without difficulty, and he held these friends—an attribute which few people possess. One of his life's objectives was to promote the development of his younger associates. He was at his very best when he portrayed the individual attainments of one of them, and his pride in the progress of these young surgeons was apparent to all of his friends.

"Dr. Dinsmore had a splendid knowledge of the modern developments of medicine and surgery. He could scan a surgical treatise and get a clearer knowledge of the writer's objectives than anyone I have ever known. His wide personal acquaintance with American surgeons inspired him to follow with real zeal the literature which this group created. He will be remembered in our profession as a great teacher of the art of surgery, a responsibility which he fulfilled most effectively.

"Dr. Dinsmore always maintained a sufficient balance of interest in surgical science to keep him in the forefront of his profession. There has been no surgical clinician in recent years who has ascended to the heights of professional recognition to a greater degree than did Bob Dinsmore. There was no way to prevail upon him to support individuals or issues which he thought were questionable in their value. He never allowed himself to go along with a popular tide in surgery unless he felt that the issues under consideration were right. Dr. Dinsmore's counsel was sought by many and diversified groups of doctors. His answers were modulated by a wide experience and a scientific acumen which always culminated in a sense of fairness.

"Dr. Dinsmore has been described as a 'Doctor's Doctor.' I wonder if any more worthwhile tribute could be paid to a surgeon than to have his services sought by his colleagues."