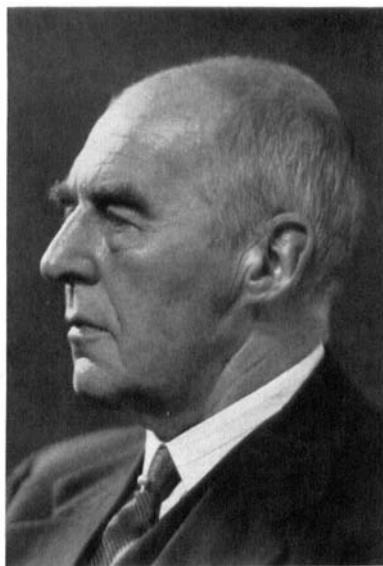




IN MEMORIAM

EIVIND PLATOU

1883 – 1958

Chief surgeon at Sophies Minde, Oslo, Docent Dr Med. *Eivind Stoud Platou* died on the 14th of September, 1958, 75½ years of age. In him Norwegian medicine and Norwegian orthopedics have lost a pioneer and an important figure in research.

Chief surgeon Platou was unusually well equipped for his extensive medical activities. After general hospital service and training he was appointed assistant at Sophies Minde in 1930. It was here that he was able to carry out his great pioneer work in Norwegian orthopedics, first as assistant surgeon and then from 1934 as head surgeon until he retired at the age limit in 1953. He could then look back on many a fruitful year's work and he had countless friends and grateful patients throughout the whole country, not least among the many disabled whom he has aided.

As a teacher of medical students and young doctors Chief surgeon Platou had his own way of making his material come alive and his

instruction was characterised by deep knowledge, immense practical experience and innate pedagogical gifts. His scientific publications were important and his outstanding work on congenital hip luxation was generally recognised. He was one of the first who systematically performed rotation osteotomy with increased anteversion in dysplastic hips.

Chief surgeon Platou was also much in demand in the work of the professional organisations. He has been chairman of the Norwegian Orthopedical Association, the Norwegian Surgical Association and the Surgical Association of Oslo. In 1938 he was president of the Inter-Scandinavian Congress in Oslo of the Nordic Association for Cripples, and his work for cripples and the problems of cripples always lay very close to his heart.

Platou was himself no mean athlete and even in his last winter he went on long taxing ski trips. But he found his main relaxation from the daily round in hunting and fishing and there are surely not many hunting or fishing experts who personally know as many salmon and trout rivers and as much hunting terrain as did Chief surgeon Platou.

But for us who became his close friends, what counted most were his human qualities. He had a remarkable ability to create a gay and happy atmosphere both in his daily work and when he had gathered us together in his comfortable home. It was his unique human qualities which made him so beloved, not only by his patients but also by the whole hospital staff and his colleagues. He also carried on an extensive private practice and his day was in addition fully occupied by many duties within his profession when he was torn away from us after some days on his sick bed following an operation.

His many friends will miss him greatly and in common with his family we share in the loss of a good friend and a fine man.

*Ivar Alvik.*