

George Douglas LAWRENCE

The son of the prominent doctor, O V Lawrence, George Douglas Lawrence was born in 1880. Educated at Caulfield Grammar and Ormond College, Melbourne University, he was admitted to practice in May 1904.

Lawrence practiced as a solicitor, first in Chancery Lane and then in Collins Street as a principal in the firm of Akehurst and Lawrence. He married and had five children in the lead up to the war. He was also active in the militia, becoming a captain in the Australian Field Artillery. He enlisted in May 1916 and embarked as a captain of the 31st Battery of the 8th Field Artillery Brigade aboard the *Medic*, on 20 May 1916.

Upon arrival in England, in June 1916, he was seconded for further training and was not sent to France until March 1917, where he was attached to the 3rd Divisional Artillery Column. Just a month later, in April, his Brigadier-General recommended that he return to Australia, being deemed unsuitable for ongoing military service. Lawrence was back in Australia by July 1917.

Lawrence returned to Akehurst and Lawrence and practiced throughout the 1920s. He appears to have practiced on his own from 1930, at 405 Collins street. From the 1930's onwards, he had interests in transport, this culminated in 1944, when he became a director of Murray Valley Coaches Ltd., and Chairman of the Board from 1948 until 1954.

George Lawrence died in 1960, the day before his 80th birthday.

