

ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO LAND SURVEYORS



OLIVER ROLAND BLANDY was born at Smethwick, England in 1890. He was the sixth son of seven sons of Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Blandy.

At the age of nine he entered the Blue Coat School and remained there until he was sixteen. He then came to Hamilton to live with his parents, who in the meantime had moved to Canada. He was at once apprenticed to Mr. J. W. Tyrrell and worked with him for many years, eventually becoming a partner.

When war was declared in 1914, he enlisted in the Corps of Guides. In February 1916 he was transferred as a Lieutenant, to the 120th City of Hamilton Battalion under Colonel Fearman.

He served in England and France with the 120th Battalion, 2nd Reserve Battalion, 116th Battalion, 2nd Central Ontario Regiment Depot and the 8th Reserve Battalion D. D. No. 2.

He was twice wounded. In 1917 he was very badly gassed and was reported unable to live. However, after some months he recovered and in order to return to the front he asked that his rank be reduced from Captain to Lieutenant. In 1918 at Cambrai he was wounded in the hand and arm which was almost lost. He was returned to England and after some months sent back to Victoria B. C., In the meantime his parents had moved to Albrni, B. C., and Mr. Blandy was allowed to return to his home to recuperate. He spent a year in the Esquimalt Military Hospital. He won the Military Cross for bravery at Cambrai. In 1919 he was declared medically unfit for service.

In 1920 he returned to Hamilton and set up business for himself

REPORT OF THE BIOGRAPHICAL COMMITTEE

with Mr. Grant Gates as his partner. He was married in 1924 to Miss Mabel Miller of Victoria B. C., They were married at St. John's Anglican Church, Ancaster, by Rev. Chilcott.

In 1930 he was appointed Surveyor for the City of Hamilton, a position he held until 1947 when he was appointed Town Planning Commissioner for Hamilton. These positions were combined and Mr. Blandy carried on this work until August 1948 when he had a very severe heart attack, and was told by his doctor that he would have to retire.

Mr. and Mrs. Blandy moved to Victoria B.C., after his retirement. In 1960 Mr. Blandy was invited by the Municipal Chapter of the Credit Union to attend their 25th Annual Meeting in Hamilton. This Credit Union he had helped to organize and had been its President for twelve years.

While in Hamilton at the Royal Connaught Hotel the night before he was to return home, he had a fatal heart attack. His body was returned to Victoria and buried in a little churchyard at St. Luke's Church, Cedar Hill where he loved to worship. Until his retirement, Oliver very faithfully attended the Annual Meetings of the Ontario Land Surveyors Association where he held the respect of all. He was a keen debater and always added a bit of humour to discussions.

He is survived by his wife and one brother, Geoffrey.