

ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO LAND SURVEYORS

LORD EDWARD FITZGERALD

O.L.S., B.Sc. (McGill)

The above subject was one of the several (deceased) members of our Association who, each in his turn, was familiarly known to the membership at large as "Fitz." His was a genial friendly nature; at school and university a good student and keen mathematician.



He was born in Rochester, New York, on June 20th, 1885, the son of James William and Margaret (nee Kearns) Fitzgerald. His father and paternal grandfather were engaged in the building trade, and in Lord's very juvenile years moved to and settled in Peterborough, Ontario. There, at Murray Street School and the Collegiate Institute, "Fitz" took his early education and entered McGill University on an engineering course; he graduated in 1913 with the degree of B.Sc.

He then articulated to Col. F. F. Clarke and served with Col. Clarke, with Karl Huffman (both men being O.L.S., D.L.S. and B.Sc.) and received his O.L.S. commission on May 11th, 1915. He never did engage in private practice but entered the service of the Canadian Northern Railway in the department of Land Surveys, Central Region. This region embraced all the Land Surveys in Ontario and Quebec—Clarke and Huffman being also in that department.

Later, the Canadian Northern Railway was absorbed by the Canadian National Railways, and "Fitz" continued in this department till his death, becoming its chief in 1923.

In religion he was a Roman Catholic and a member of the Knights of Columbus; he never married.

Mr. Fitzgerald loved the outdoor life and the Northern Ontario bush country. During his early days of service with the Railway Company, he was often in the bush for months at a time. The above picture was taken at Mowat on the C. N. Ry. in Parry Sound District of Canada. "Fitz" has been in the bush for months but now headed for the city; bush clothes thrown away and civies donned (about 1915).

LIEUT.-COL. DOUGLAS STEWART ELLIS

D.S.O., O.L.S., M.A., B.Sc., M.C.E.

M.E.I.C., Prof. Engr. (Ontario)

The passing, due to a sudden heart attack on March 20th, 1955, closed a life of 45 years of outstanding military, professional, and academic service that our

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Association and Canada at large can remember with pride. The day before his death he had been in full vigor and at work at his desk.

Col. Ellis ("Doug" to us) was born at Cobourg, Ontario, on March 16th, 1885, the son of William and Mary Louise Ellis. With his parents, and at the age of 9 years, he moved to Kingston, Ontario, where his father became Principal of Kingston Collegiate Institute. Kingston was to be his home for life's balance, save for the years spent in active military service and one year at Cornell University. For 45 years he was on the staff of Queen's University as Lecturer, Professor, and latterly, Dean of the Science Faculty.

He entered Queens in 1903 and graduated in 1907 with the degree of B.A. in honour Mathematics, in 1908 the additional degree of M.A., and in 1910 with the degree of B.Sc. in Civil Engineering. Upon his return from overseas after World War I, his leave of absence from the University Staff was extended to permit his taking a year of post-graduate work at Cornell University. This resulted in an additional degree of Master of Civil Engineering.

Col. Ellis was commissioned as an Ontario Land Surveyor on February 12th, 1913, and upon the incorporation of the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario, he became a charter member. An additional degree later conferred for outstanding professional service was the degree of Member of Engineering Institute of Canada.

He was particularly interested in hydraulics and, for a number of years, served in a consulting capacity to The Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission. For the Dominion Government he acted as chairman of the Board of Consultants to study the crossing of the Straits of Canso in Nova Scotia. The deliberations and decisions of that Board led to the very recent completion of that huge undertaking, and the Causeway is now in service.

His service to Queens' was devoted and continuous, save for the war:

1910-1914—Lecturer in Mathematics.

1920-1941—Professor of Civil Engineering.

1941-1943—Head of Civil Engineering Department.

1943 to death—Dean of Faculty of Applied Science.

His military service was something else, and as equally extensive:

1909-1914—Was an original member of the 5th Field Company of Engineers, established at Queens' for undergraduates—he rose to rank of Captain.

1914-1919—Upon the outbreak of World War I the 5th Field Company became a part of the 6th (Active) Company of Canadian Engineers with Ellis as second in command to Lieut.-Col. Malcolm (as an O.L.S.—see his biography in 1948 report); went overseas and arrived in France in 1915. In 1917 he was raised to command of his Company—twice mentioned in despatches and awarded the D.S.O.

For a year after the cessation of hostilities he remained in England as Brigade-Major attached to Headquarters, and was chief instructor in the Canadian School of Military Engineering. During the Second World War he was a member of the Wartime Bureau of Technical Personnel.