

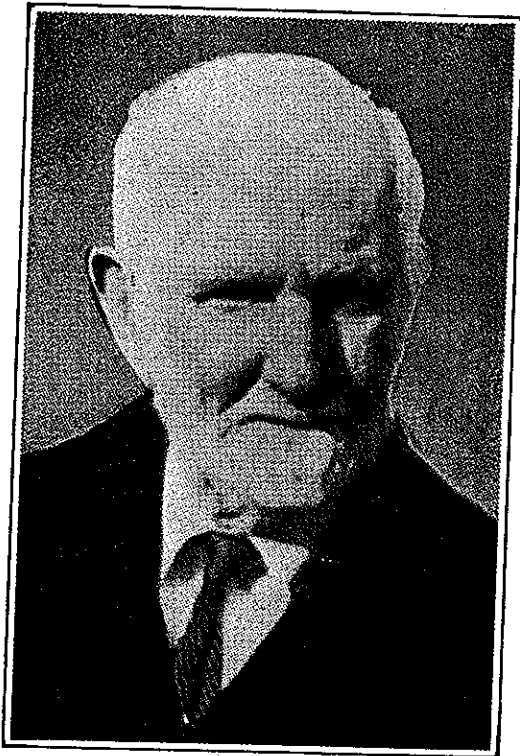
COMMITTEE ON BIOGRAPHY

CHARLES EDWARD FITTON, O.L.S., D.L.S.

By A. V. Chase, O.L.S.

Charles Edward Fitton was born in Toronto on the 20th April, 1858.

His grandfather, the late William Henry Fitton, M.D., F.R.C.S., lived in London, Eng. About the year 1857 his father, Henry Wollaston Fitton, Dr. Fitton's second son, came to Canada with his wife, Amelia A. S. Fitton, and lived in Toronto for several years. Three sons were born to them, the eldest, the subject of this sketch, Horace William and Cecil Humphrey. In 1865 they moved to Orillia, where he was educated in private schools and later he attended Trinity College School at Weston.



After completing his school education he was articulated to the late Canon F. W. Armstrong, latterly of Trenton, Ont., but at that time a Provincial Land Surveyor practising in Orillia and vicinity. On the completion of his articles he qualified as a Provincial Land Surveyor on the 10th April, 1879. For some

time following he was in charge of Mr. Armstrong's practice during that gentleman's absence in England.

In 1880 he opened an office in Midland and carried on private practice there and in the vicinity.

In 1881 he was in charge of a party for the late J. W. Fitzgerald, Sr., P.L.S., subdividing the north part of the township of Patterson.

In 1884 he was assistant to the late F. G. Foster, D.L.S., on Dominion Land Surveys.

From 1890 to 1900 he was agent for the Canada Company and during this time moved his office to Orillia which remained his headquarters until he retired from private practice. While carrying on private practice in Orillia he was

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from time to time engineer for various municipalities under the Ditches and Water Courses Act and the Municipal Drainage Act and carried out many important works as such.

From the late fall of 1913 to 1916 he was engaged on the survey of the Right of Way of the Trent Canal from Lake Couchiching to the Georgian Bay. From 1919 to 1928 he was Inspector of Surveys for the Ontario Government in the Districts of Algoma, Temiskaming, Thunder Bay and Patricia. In addition to the above he performed many surveys for the Ontario Government, a list of which follows.

May 31, 1905, Township Carnegie and Reid, District of Algoma.

June 19, 1911, inspection of surveys in Northern Ontario, along Mattagami River and north-west of Sudbury.

June 10, 1912, inspection of surveys Northern Ontario, Districts of Sudbury and Algoma.

July 25, 1912, inspection of surveys Northern Ontario, between Oba and Hearst.

March 20, 1914, re-survey of the Township of Matchedash.

April 25, 1919, inspection in Northern Ontario.

March 2, 1922, Rondeau Provincial Park inspection.

November 17, 1922, subdivided part of Rama Island.

April 27, 1923, inspection of surveys.

April 30, 1923, subdivided part of Rama Island.

March 12, 1924, Rondeau Park, survey lots.

June 16, 1924, islands in Gloucester Pool and Severn River.

July 29, 1924, additional townsite subdivided at Nakina.

November 1, 1924, lots in township of Bigwood.

April 15, 1925, north side of C.N.R. Townplot of Allawater.

April 22, 1925, inspection of Crown land surveys of this year.

May 13, 1925, Townplot of Redditt.

August 17, 1925, Townplot of Nakina.

October 6, 1925, Townplot of Nakina (further survey).

October 10, 1925, Grasswell's Point in Orlig Township.

October 10, 1925, shores and islands Oxtongue Lake.

January 12, 1926, Lots 10 and 11, Concession 6, Bigwood Township.

May 14, 1926, inspection of Crown surveys 1926.

May 12, 1927, inspection of Crown surveys and making other subdivisions.

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May 9, 1927, repost 10 and 11 concessions, Township of Lake.

March 28, 1928, Rondeau Provincial Park.

May 15, 1928, Summer resort lots, Gull Lake, Township Lutterworth.

May 21, 1928, Summer resort lots, Lutterworth, Cavendish, Harvey.

August 15, 1928, Summer resort lots, Skeleton Lake, Township of Cardwell.

April 30, 1929, subdivision of lots, Township 27.

May 4, 1929, subdivision Temagami Island.

June 11, 1929, tie points on islands in Temagami.

September 8, 1930, islands 9 and 25, Buck Lake, Township of Bedford.

In 1916 he moved his family to Toronto and thereafter engaged little in private practice confining his efforts mostly to Government surveys. During his last season in the employ of the Government he discovered that his powers of endurance were failing and he was thereafter forced to give up active professional work. Some few years later he moved with his family to Clarkson, Ont., where he passed on the 19th day of October, 1937, interment taking place at Orillia. He is survived by his widow, Nina Wilson Fitton, of Clarkson, Ont., one brother, Henry William Fitton of Brantford, Ont., and three daughters, Miss Isobel Fitton and Mrs. Kenneth McCausland of Lorne Park, Ont., and Mrs. George Crabbe of Clarkson.

The writer was associated with the late Mr. Fitton in a professional way over a long period of years, during which a partnership was formed to carry out the survey of the right-of-way of the Trent Canal. He was, in his work, particular to a fault and his demands on his assistants were exacting. But once his confidence was gained he gave of it generously. A surveyor of the old school, he was in his early days impatient of modern ideas on equipment and procedure in the field, and often suffered what appeared to be unnecessary hardships. Later he revised these ideas. He enjoyed a reputation for professional integrity that any surveyor might envy and held to his convictions against all influence and expediency.

As a man he was one of the stalwarts. Standing well over six feet his speed on foot when hitting the long trail was at once the envy and despair of his men, as was his skill with the axe. The tump line had no terrors for him and packers

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had but to follow his lead, if they could. Advancing years, of course, took toll of his physical prowess and compelled him to leave more and more of such efforts to his men. Though somewhat of a martinet his fairness of mind inspired loyalty in his assistants and men. This is pointedly demonstrated by the fact that during three years' work on Trent Canal Surveys the personnel of his field party remained practically unchanged. In camp in the long evenings he was a jovial and agreeable companion, his chief diversion being chess, many a game of which the writer enjoyed with him.

Coming from an old English family his traditions and impulses were those of an English gentleman, than which there is none finer.

**HORACE JOSEPH PECKOVER, B.A.Sc. (Toronto),
O.L.S., D.L.S., M.A.S.C.E.**

By his Brother, C. R. Peckover

Born at Kingston, Jamaica, March 20th, 1881. His father, Rev. Horace Peckover, was a Presbyterian minister whose people were private bankers in England. His mother was a Gardener of Scots descent, whose people were engaged in

the wooden vessel building and lumbering in Liverpool, Queens County, Nova Scotia.

Coming to Toronto with his parents in 1896, he later attended Stroudsburg College, Pa. in 1907. After two years he returned to Toronto, studying at Harbord Collegiate and entering Toronto University, from which he graduated with B.A.Sc. degree in 1909.

Received his O.L.S. license February 24th, 1910, having served his apprenticeship with S. B. Code of Smith's Falls.

After some years spent in practising, he took his D.L.S. For some time he was with the Canadian Na-

