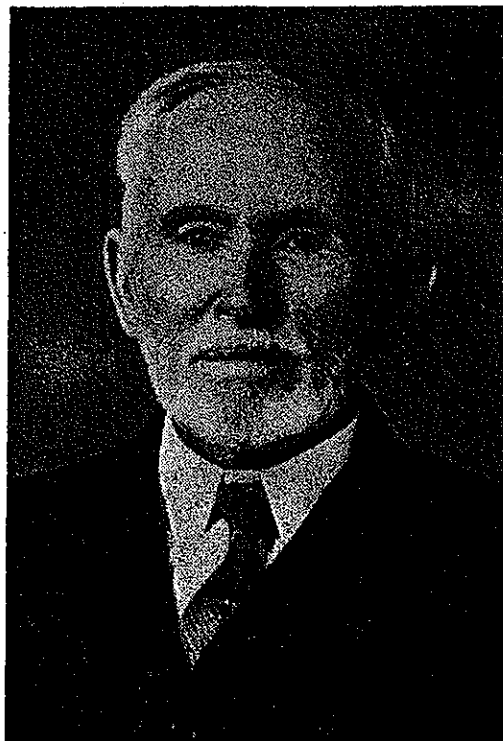


COMMITTEE ON BIOGRAPHY

He died on 21st May, 1942, in his 69th year, at the home of his sister in Ingersoll, and was buried with Masonic honours in Woodland Cemetery, Mitchell. His wife predeceased him by a few years, and no children survive.

WILLIAM GALBRAITH

William Galbraith was born in St. Marys, Ontario, a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Adam Galbraith of that town. As a young man he was for a time bookkeeper for a mercantile firm there, and then went to Haliburton, Ontario, as clerk to Alexander Niven, the pioneer Land Surveyor of that village. Mr. Niven was at that time engaged in surveying nine Townships in the County for settlement. Mr. Galbraith assisted him in this work, and also acted as Station Agent and Telegrapher at the Grand Trunk Railway station, as a part-time job, there being only one train a day on the Railway. Having decided to become a Land Surveyor, he articulated himself to Mr. Niven, and received his Commission as a Provincial Land Surveyor for Ontario on 4th April, 1883.



In 1885, Mr. Galbraith went to Bracebridge, then a village into which the old Northern and Pacific Junction Railway had just been built, and he established a practice there in his profession of Land Surveyor. Two years later (1887), he was married to Miss Theresa Penelope Stewart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Russell Stewart of Haliburton. They established their home in Bracebridge, where they resided until the time of his death.

Mr. Galbraith was an outstanding man in his profession, and his services were always in great demand in Muskoka and Parry Sound Districts and Haliburton County. He also surveyed a number of Townships in Temiskaming District,

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for the Ontario Government, when New Ontario was being opened up. The Dominion Government often engaged his services too, and for that Government he surveyed many of the 30,000 islands of Georgian Bay, and some Indian Reserves in the North. In fact, the Dominion Government wanted him to join its permanent staff, but he did not choose to give up his large private practice.

In 1930, advancing years and overwork, caused him to take a partner into his practice, and with Mr. E. L. Burgess, the firm of Galbraith and Burgess was formed. Next year (1931), Mr. Burgess bought out Mr. Galbraith's interest, and the practice was still continued under the name of the old firm, with Mr. Galbraith giving his advice and assistance when required.

Mr. Galbraith died at his home in Bracebridge on Friday, 28th January, 1944, after only a short illness, leaving a widow and many staunch friends to mourn his loss. Requiem high mass was sung on the following Monday morning in St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church of which he was a devout and leading member, and interment took place in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Bracebridge. The flag on the Town Hall flew at half-mast in honour of the departed, who had also occupied the position of Town Engineer.