

ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO LAND SURVEYORS

company was wholly taken over by the huge Dominion Bridge Company of Montreal, with Mr. Deacon continuing as a director for many years.

He took a very great interest in Winnipeg's welfare, served on the City's Board of Trade for years, on the City Council for years, and was the City's Mayor in 1913-1914. That Winnipeg has so good and so plentiful a supply of water today was his vision of conveying water from Shoal Lake.

He always was a lover of the outdoor life and so continued in his later years. Much of his later spare time was spent in travel in northern Europe and in South America.

Mr. Deacon's wife predeceased him by some years, but there were left to mourn his passing, a daughter, Mrs. Gordon Jamieson of Toronto; sons, Ronald of Toronto, and Dr. Alfred of Winnipeg. A son Lieutenant Lester, was killed on active duty in France in 1917, during World War I.

On Sunday May 29th, 1955 at the ripe old age of 90, our subject passed away and, after a service at the United Church of Canada which was widely attended, he was laid to rest in St. John's Cathedral Cemetery in Winnipeg.

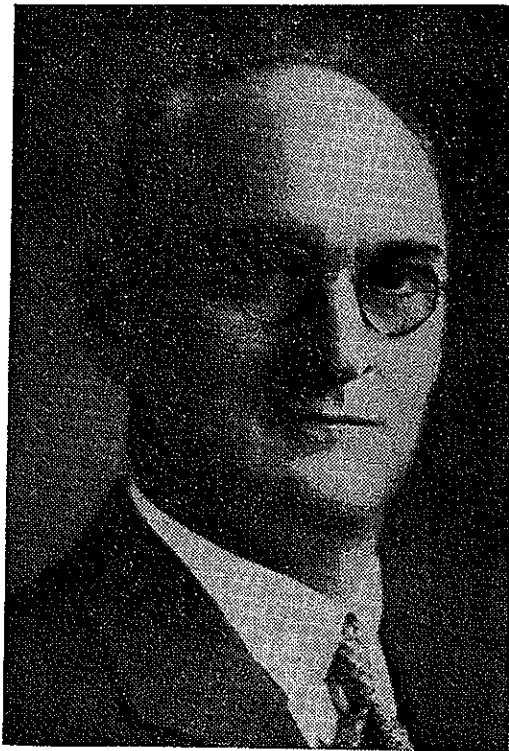
WILBERT SILAS GIBSON, O.L.S.

On January 23rd, 1955, death removed one more of that long line of Gibsons who were active in the surveying profession in Ontario. To our Association it was the loss of one more of "our" Gibsons.

The grandfather of our subject was a surveyor in Scotland before coming to Canada in 1825, locating on a farm near Toronto (now Willowdale) and engaging in land surveying. He, David Gibson, became Toronto's first City Surveyor and also was a member of the first Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada.

Here on the farm was born the first of the list of O.L.S. Gibsons in the person of Peter Silas who became one of the prominent surveyors of his day. His biography may be found in the O.L.S. report for 1917. Next came the second Canadian born Gibson surveyor — our subject — he was born on that farm on April 21st, 1875, served his apprenticeship with his father and obtained his O.L.S. commission on February 21st, 1898. Before moving from the farm Wilbert's son Silas Elden was born.

In 1908, the family moved to north Toronto (Willowdale at that time) where Mr. Gibson had built a home and office. Continuously under the name of "Wilbert S. Gibson and Sons" the practice has been carried on at that location. Another son also now an



O.L.S. was born there, Charles Wilbert Gibson.

BIOGRAPHIES

Mr. Gibson was a member of the Masonic fraternity and a life member of York Lodge A. F. and A. M. He was also a life member of the York Pioneer and Historical Society.

In 1905, Mr. Gibson married Mary Isobella Grainger (Mamie) of Newtonbrook, who is left to mourn the loss along with the two sons carrying on the practice. Additionally are two daughters; Mrs. Ada Isobella Graham of Toronto, and Mrs. Mary Louise Schall of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Quietly he rests in Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Toronto, just a few "chains" southward from the home he built in 1908.

LIEUT. ORVILLE ROLFSON

O.L.S., D.L.S., B.A.Sc. (Toronto), M.A.Sc. (Toronto)

Mr. Rolfson was born in the village of Blytheswood, Ontario on February 26th, 1885, the son of James and Sarah Rolfson.

His early public and high school educations were obtained in Windsor, and he proved to be an outstanding student.

In 1907 he graduated from Toronto University with the degree of B.A.Sc., and served his D.L.S. apprenticeship with A. C. Stacey, D.L.S., and in 1908 received his commission to practice as a Dominion Land Surveyor.

From that time onward to the close of 1913, he was engaged on Dominion Government work in western Canada; 1909 was spent on retracement work in southern Saskatchewan; 1910, in township subdivisions; 1911, the running of the 22nd base line in the Peace River area and 1912-1913, in running the 12th and 13th base lines westward from the Principal Meridian.

In early 1914, he returned to Ontario and, for a time, was assistant to the city engineer of Walkerville, re-entered Toronto University and graduated in 1915, with the further degree of M.A.Sc. He returned to Windsor, and having received his commission as an Ontario Land Surveyor on February 11th, 1915, engaged in private practice until enlistment in the 241st Battalion in 1916, and

with the rank of Lieutenant went overseas in October, 1917. In England he transferred to the Canadian Engineers and, with the 1st and 3rd Tunneling Companies, served in France from early 1918, to early 1919, when he was returned to England and later to Canada for discharge in August 1919.

Subsequent to his discharge from army life, he was for some years on the staff of Frank Barber and Associates, a very prominent Toronto consulting and engin-

