

COMMITTEE ON BIOGRAPHY

JAMES HENRY BURD, O.L.S., A.L.S., B.A.Sc., (Toronto)

Born in King township, York County, Ontario, on September 7th, 1871. Our deceased member moved with his family in his very early years to Parry Sound Ontario. There in the public and high schools he received his earlier education and then attended the School of Practical Science (now Toronto University) taking a civil engineering course and graduated in 1904 with the degree of B.A.Sc. He was admitted to practice as an Ontario Land Surveyor on October 2nd, 1905. He had worked in 1904 and 1905 summer periods with the town engineer of Smith's Falls, Ontario. Upon receiving his O.L.S. Commission he joined the staff of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway at North Bay as the O.H.S. for the right of way surveys for the railway line then being built northwards from North Bay.

His later history has only been obtainable in brief and in that form is:

1906—Private practice in the Cobalt area and at Sudbury Ontario. 1907-1911—Private practice at Sudbury, during which time he did work for the Ontario Government which included: 1908—Base on Meridian lines in Algoma district; 1909—Portion of Mississagi Forest Reserve outlines; 1910—Survey of islands in Georgian Bay; 1911—Mining claim surveys at Sudbury and joined the McKenzie and Mann organization then building the Canadian Northern Railway; 1911-1936—In the employ of the Canadian Northern Railway which became a unit of the Canadian National Railways. He was retired therefrom on September 30th 1936, at the age of 65 and having served the C.N.R. continuously for 25 years. In connection with his C.N.R. right-of-way work he had been admitted to practice as an Alberta Land Surveyor and spent many years in Edmonton.

In December 1908 he married Ida Irwin of Sudbury, but her whereabouts, if alive, is not known. The same applies to a son, Francis Henry Burd, born June 28th, 1913. Nor is there knowledge of any other children or family connections.

Mr. Burd died September 9th, 1951. (The Committee is indebted to records branch of the C.N.R. for much of this information.)

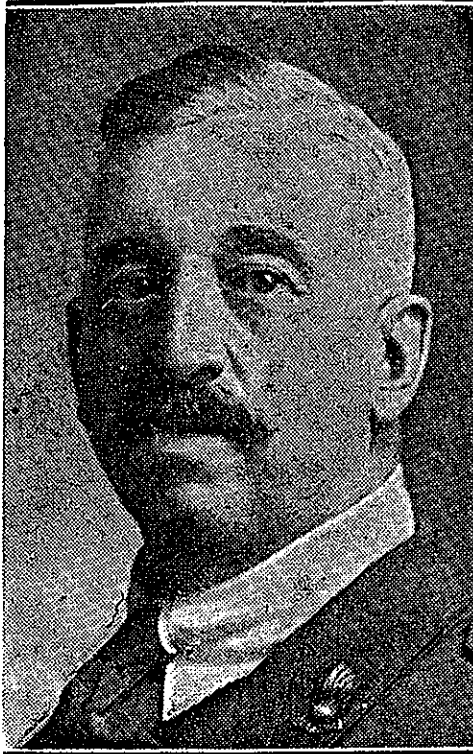
Lt. Col. ANDREW WELLINGTON GRAY
O.L.S., B.Sc., P.Eng. (Ont.)

In the passing of Lt.-Col. Andrew Gray, V.D., B.Sc., O.L.S., P.Eng., at his Brockville home on the 18th February 1953, this Association lost one of its most prominent and colorful members. Our older members will not soon forget the forceful and eloquent manner in which he advanced his favorite ideas at our annual meetings. Neither will they forget his willingness and ability to entertain with song or story at the annual stag dinner.

Andrew Wellington Gray was the son of Andrew Gray and his wife, the former Elizabeth Waters. He was born at Morton, Leeds County, on April 9th, 1873, and received his early education at Bush School, Crosby, and at Athens High School and Brockville Collegiate Institute. Like so many professional men of his day, he began his career as a school teacher, receiving his first appointment at the early age of 16. He taught at Elgin Morton, Seeley's Bay and Bedford. Later he attended Queen's University, graduating with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, in 1912. For a short time after graduation he was with the then infant organization, the Ontario Department of Highways. In 1913 he

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joined the Highways Branch of the Department of the Interior and was engaged on the construction of the Banff-Windermere Highway.



This work was interrupted by the Great War. Prior to the War Colonel Gray had been a member of the 47th Frontenac Regiment, holding the rank of Captain and the appointment of Adjutant in 1912. He assisted in the recruiting of the 39th Battalion, C.E.F. and later spent nearly four years overseas with the infantry, and later with the engineers. He was invalided to Canada in 1918 and remained in Brockville as an instructor of engineers until the end of the war. After the war he was active in the Great War Veterans' Association and the Canadian Legion being first President of the Brockville Post of the Legion.

Colonel Gray qualified as an Ontario Land Surveyor on July 1st, 1922, and was actively engaged in engineering and surveying for a number of years after the war, until his appointment as Registrar of Deeds for Leeds County. In this work he was associated with his son Talmadge. As A. W. Gray and Son they carried out an extensive practice in surveying and engineering in the vicinity of Brockville.

His political career began early in his life when he served for 12 years on the School Board of Bedford and Westport. He was for three years a member of the Municipal Council of Bedford and for two years a member of Frontenac County Council. In 1919 he was elected member of the Ontario Legislative Assembly for the riding of Leeds and served in that capacity for 7 years. During his term of office he introduced the Bill that resulted in the passing of the Professional Engineers Act.

One might be excused for thinking that Col. Gray's engineering, political and military activities would suffice to keep him fully employed. Of most men this would be true, but "Andy" seemed to thrive on work. And so beyond the activities mentioned it should be added, that he was a high ranking worker in the Orange Lodge, The Masonic fraternity and in the Anglican Church. In each of these organizations he was very active and very prominent.

Still aside were other activities those in connection with the Board of Education, the Chamber of Commerce, the Brockville Rotary Club and various Agricultural Fair Associations. He was keenly interested in baseball and hockey, and donated numerous cups for competition in the various leagues in the Brockville area.

Surviving his passing were his widow Amelia (nee Anderson of Bedford Ontario); 2 sons, Andrew Hilliard of Toronto, Talmadge of Brockville; one daughter (Florence), Mrs. H. P. Salter of Greenwich Conn., U.S.A. and one adopted son, James Douglas.

So after a long busy and useful life and a confining illness for the last two

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years, suffering from arthritic and heart ailments he passed along and was interred in Oakland cemetery at Brockville on February 21st, honored by a funeral attendance unusually large and representative.

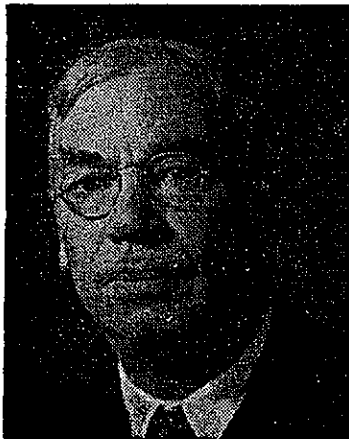
It may be difficult for one who did not know him to understand how one man could be so active and prominent in so many lines of endeavour. For those however who did know him and felt the force of his personality it is easy to understand. For all of us there is a feeling of regret at the loss of another of our diminishing number of natural born leaders.

MAJOR JOHN LEIPER LANG

O.L.S., D.L.S., B.A.Sc., M.E.I.C., P.Eng. (Ontario)

While in Toronto, attending a meeting of Council of The Professional Engineers of Ontario, Major Lang took suddenly ill and died in Toronto Western Hospital three days later on April 28th, 1952. His body was interred at Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, where he had made his home since 1908.

He was born in Hyde, England, in 1884; at the childhood age of 4 years came, with his parents, to Toronto where he lived till 1907. After graduating from Parkdale Collegiate Institute he entered on an honor mathematics course in Toronto University in 1902 and in 1903, switched to civil engineering course at the School of Practical Science (Toronto Univ.) In 1907 he graduated with the degree of B.A.Sc. He served his O.L.S. apprenticeship with Messrs Demorest, Stull, and Low of Sudbury and was commissioned as an O.L.S. on May 2nd, 1908, and thereupon established a practice in Sault Ste. Marie. A college chum—Kenneth George Ross now joined him as an O.L.S. apprentice and was commissioned as an Ontario Land Surveyor, May 15th, 1909. Thereupon was formed the partnership of Lang & Ross, Engineers and Surveyors, a partnership only dissolved by Major Lang's demise.



Major Lang later became a D.L.S. and upon its formation, a charter member of the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario (Civil Engineering Branch). He was elected a councillor in the Branch in 1944 and continually served as such till his death with the additional honors of Vice-President of the Association in 1944 and President in 1945.

The Lang and Ross partnership practice developed very extensively both in Surveying and in Engineering, the latter particularly applied to Hydro electric dams, power plants, and power transmission lines, design and construction. For the Ontario Government the partnership surveyed many township outlines as well as base meridian lines in Sudbury and Algoma Districts.

During the 1st World War he saw extensive service in France as a Major in the 242nd Battalion C.E.F., and upon return from active service, became Hon. Lt. Col. of the Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury Regiment. During the Second World War he organized and managed a very successful blood clinic supplying blood plasma for wounded servicemen.

Aside from his profession duties, he was active in work of any nature that