

COMMITTEE ON BIOGRAPHY

spent the latter years of his life with Miss Alice Farncomb who kindly supplied the foregoing information. Throughout his life he had been a devout Anglican.

HAROLD HOLMES GIBSON, O.L.S.

At the age of 75 still in apparent good health and active in his practice Mr. Gibson died suddenly at his home on Annette Street in Toronto on May 1st, 1946.



He was one of a number of Gibsons who have served the profession and our association with distinction since his grandfather David Gibson was commissioned in 1825 and established a practice

Our subject received his commission as an Ontario Land Surveyor on September 8th, 1891. For many years after his graduation from the School of Practical Science, Toronto University, in civil engineering he was actively engaged in engineering work in the United States chiefly in Kentucky and Louisiana.

In 1916 he returned to Canada and established the practice that he actively served until his death. In religion he was a Protestant, an elder and a Bible Class teacher in High Park United

Church: in politics a staunch Liberal.

Mourning his death were left his widow, the former Ida Bee, two daughters, Miriam of Toronto and Mrs. A. W. Gilboy (Lorna) of Rochester, N.Y. One son survived, Ansel Bee Gibson, O.L.S., and active in practice in Toronto.

Internment was in Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Toronto on May 4th, 1946.

GEORGE ALBERT McCUBBIN, O.L.S.

Suddenly at his home in Chatham, Ontario on November 25th, 1951, at the age of 82, our beloved Honorary President passed to his reward. In his passing our Association, with the Engineering profession

ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO LAND SURVEYORS

at large and all those non-professionals with whom he came in contact will miss one of natures courtly gentlemen.

Born in the Township of Burford he, at the age of 2, moved with his parents to Leamington. There he received his public school education, at nearby St. Thomas his high school training, and at Model School his fitting for teaching. Then for some 6 years he taught school at South Essex, Perth, and St. Thomas. Meanwhile by further study in



his leisure time grasping the fundamentals of surveying he decided for a more active career. Thereupon he served his apprenticeship with Archibald W. Campbell, O.L.S. of St. Thomas (see Campbell biography in 1928 report) and was admitted to practice as an Ontario Land Surveyor on November 9th, 1895 and thereupon entered into partnership with James A. Bell in St. Thomas, (see Bell biography in 1930 report). That partnership practice became a famous one in its day in that locality and while a great deal of its work was local in scope our subject surveyed 3 townships for the Ontario Government. These were: the Townships of Sanford near the Manitoba boundary surveyed in 1897, the year of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, the Township of Firstbrook near what

later became Hailleybury surveyed in 1901 and the Township of Michaud near Lake Abitibi in the area then known as Northern Ontario's great clay belt surveyed in 1903. Transportation in those days was arduous and largely by means of canoe and tump line.

In 1910 he definitely turned to drainage work in which he had had considerable experience and was rapidly becoming an authority and established his own practice at Chatham. In that class of work the ensuing 41 years were to engage all of his professional activities. Many of the larger drains he engineered made possible the cultivation of "flat lands" in Essex and Kent Counties and were of considerable magnitude. Mention might be made of the McGregor creek drain and the Ausable to Port Frank drainage canal, the latter having a cut depth of 12 feet and a bottom width of 50 feet. He had become an authority on the legal and economic phases of drainage as well as of design and

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therefore as a consultant his services were widely sought and his practice and reputation grew.

The non-professional side of his life too was a full one. Keen on photography it was a lifelong hobby and when color photography came in he became more than ever intrigued. Many country tramps sought out picture subjects that responded to the new art and later gave enjoyment to the members of the Macaulay Club.

He was a deep student of the classics and from early manhood a member of that Club, became a president, a critic and finally its Honorary President to the time of his death.

He was a regular attendant at the annual meetings of our Association, served on our Board of Examiners from 1921 to 1949, was our President in 1922, Honorary President from 1948 on and also President of our "Veterans". He was a personality to be desired, and in debate clear, concise and ever tolerant of the opposing point of view. A particular service he rendered our Association for many years was in connection of the Biographical Committees work in the preparation of photos of all members against the day when these might be required. A gratuitous service costly in time and money but freely given.

Mr. McCubbin was a member of the United Church of Canada and his large funeral was a testimonial to his standing in his home community. Left to mourn his loss were his widow, the former Charlotte Tobey and three daughters: Miss Alice of Owen Sound, Mrs. (Eleanor) J. B. Moore of Waterdown and Mrs. (Margaret) John Graham of Blenheim. His body was entered in Maple Leaf Cemetery in Chatham on November 28th, 1951.

WILLIAM ARTHUR McLEAN, O.L.S., A.M.E.I.C.

Mr. McLean received his commission to practice as an Ontario Land Surveyor on February 21st, 1898, and through the succeeding years of his professional career had more to do with highways than with land surveying, he was, until his death, a regular attendant at our annual meetings. In them and in the general welfare of our Association he took a great interest.

Born in Belmont, he received his early schooling there and then entered the School of Practical Science, Toronto University from whence he graduated in civil engineering. Now commenced a busy professional life; he became the first secretary when the Ontario Good Roads Association was formed in 1894, later became its president, later was honored with the presidency of the American Road Builders Association and honored too with the degree of A.M.E.I.C.

In 1896 he entered into the service of the Highways Department of the Ontario Government, a service that was to continue for some 27