BIographies

ROYAL HARP MONTGOMERY

In the Ontario city of Brantford on May 20th, 1882, this subject was born and in the public and high schools there received the grounding that fitted him for higher education and much advancement in very many phases of survey work that stretched clear across Canada.

At the age of 18 he entered Toronto University in an engineering course and graduated therefrom in 1903. Further prosecution in his past graduate studies resulted in the degree of B.A.Sc. (Toronto) in civil engineering in 1905. He was commissioned as an Ontario Land Surveyor on May 6th, 1905, whereupon he proceeded to further surveying commissions as Dominion Land Surveyor in 1905, as later Saskatchewan Land Surveyor, still later in 1919 as Alberta Land Surveyor, and finally as Dominion Topographical Surveyor in 1920.

His work as an O.L.S. was not so extensive as was the case under his other degrees. After graduation from Toronto University he did considerable work for the Dominion Government’s Topographical Surveys Branch of the Department of Interior, and about 1910 he located in private practice in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan from whence he performed many township surveys in addition to his considerable private practice. As a side line he was a wheat farmer on quite a large scale.

In 1922 he joined the Geodetic Survey of Canada and remained with it to the date of his death on October 7th, 1947. This death was a tragic accident between his automobile and a C.P.R. train near Whitewood, Sask., while he was returning from re-establishing some bench marks he had set some 20 years previously.

In 1923 he was appointed chief of the Levelling Division of the Geodetic Survey and in that capacity was responsible for all field operations of that division and its reports of altitudes in Canada at large. His death occurred while occupying this position—two years before his superannuation.

As a mathematician his ability was outstanding and thus for some years he was on the Board of Examiners of the S.L. Surveyors and also of the D.L. Surveyors. A report of his death may be found in the October, 1947, issue of The Canadian Surveyor.

Of a kindly and distinctly humorous disposition he had many friends, was high in Masonic Circles, a lover of flowers and a keen bridge player.

Left to mourn his most untimely passing were his wife, Gertrude—who soon followed him, sons R. Campbell of Ottawa and Dr. Donald C. of New York, and daughter, Mrs. Vincent Smith, of Victoria, B.C. Additionally also were two brothers, Dr. Andrew H. of New York City and W. H. of Wapella, Sask.

MURDOCH J. MCLENNAN, O.L.S., B.Sc. (McGill), D.L.S.

From the highlands of Scotland there were many who in the late 1870’s migrated to Canada and settled in an area of Ontario that was named after and reminiscent of their old homestead—Glengarry County. Amongst these came the forebears and as were the grandfathers and the father of the above subject so was he and his brothers—all massive men.

Murdock was born in Williamstown in 1867 and there received his public
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and high school education. Then followed a civil engineering course at McGill University with a graduation in 1891 with the degree of B.Sc.

Upon graduation he returned to Williamstown and established a practice devoted to municipal engineering in general and drainage in particular. The practice grew and not only covered all the townships in Glengarry County, but many in the adjoining counties. On November 13th, 1893 he received his commission to practice as an Ontario Land Surveyor—shortly after to be followed by the degree of D.L.S., L.S. Added now to the engineering was land surveying and McLennan laid out many subdivisions in the Cornwall-Alexandria-Lancaster areas (where now is the proposed canalization and power development of the St. Lawrence River) and as before stated, he was a man of great physique and hard work a fetish.

His entire life, aside from the McGill University period, was lived at Williamstown where as a bachelor of advanced years he died in the old ancestral home in 1934.

He was in religion a staunch and active Presbyterian, in politics equally staunch and active as a Conservative. Aside from these he had been an outstanding athlete in his younger days and in later life a keen inter-county debater which was a favorite practice of the day. Additionally he was an outstanding authority on the history of Glengarry County.

He was exceedingly well known and respected and his passing—the last of the family—was deeply mourned. Often he was pressed to accept a political nomination for election but these he consistently refused. He preferred to serve his county from the sidelines—like the old family doctor.

RICHARD FFORDE DYNES, O.L.S., D.L.S.

Born in Moorefield, Ontario, Mr. Dynes received his early education there and at nearby Listowel. Passing through high school with high marks, he was ready for and entered Toronto University in the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering in the year 1909.

Succeeding the university course he wrote his O.L.S. final and was granted a commission to practice as an Ontario Land Surveyor on May 27th 1913. Subsequently he secured his D.L.S. commission and under those two commissions was to devote a large part of his professional life to the surveying of mining claims.

Many surveys were by Dynes made in the Yukon where, as an efficient D.L.S., he was well known. About the year 1926 he with his wife Margaret (nee Roach) took up residence in the then small village of Sioux Lookout which at that date was little more than a divisional point on the Canadian National Railway.

Just at that time, however, some very important gold discoveries were made at Red Lake a few miles north of Sioux Lookout and a very