

ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO LAND SURVEYORS



ALFRED ALLAN OUTRAM, O.L.S., P. Eng.
1895-1974

by W. F. Weaver

On October 25, 1974, the Association lost an able and respected surveyor in the passing of Allan Outram.

The younger surveyors will remember Mr. Outram as the Chairman of the Biography Committee during the years 1968-1972. The older members will remember Allan as an efficient and outstanding property valuator during his service with the Government of Ontario as Chief of the Property Branch of the formerly known Department of Public Works.

Mr. Outram was born at Port Hope, Ontario, the son of George Alfred and Annie Laura Outram on September 13, 1895. Educated at the Port Hope Public and High Schools, Allan served with the Canadian Field Artillery in World War I from 1915-1919 in Belgium, France, and Northern Russia. Many photographs taken by Mr. Outram when he was connected with the Northern Russian Expeditionary Force in the year 1919 are recorded in the Archives in Ottawa, and have been referred to on numerous occasions as a source of material for writers.

Following his discharge from the Armed Services, Mr. Outram was engaged in engineering work on the Queenston-Chippawa Power Canal. He later became Assistant Resident Engineer of the formerly known Department of Highways at Port Hope and Cornwall and in 1927 became a

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registered member of the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario. In 1927 he married Mary Muriel Daley, and in 1930 became apprenticed as a student surveyor. Allan received his commission as an Ontario Land Surveyor on September 1, 1933, and continued his surveying career with the Department of Highways until 1937 when he was appointed as Assistant Chief Property Valuator of that Department. Mr. Outram was later transferred to the Department of Public Works of Ontario as Chief of its Property Branch responsible for all government real estate transactions in the Province of Ontario, a position which he held until his retirement in 1958.

During his service with the Government, Mr. Outram developed a formulae to determine the valuation of water lots in the navigable waters of the Province. Over the years, the "Outram Formulae" as it became known, has stood the test against all efforts of individuals, corporations, and municipalities to dispute the appraised value of a water lot based upon the principles of the formulae.

In community work Allan served on the council of the formerly known Town of Leaside in the years 1943-1948, and in 1951 he was Chairman of the Don Valley Conservation Authority which later merged with the Metropolitan Toronto Regional Conservation Authority.

In his retirement years, Mr. Outram kept active until 1966 as a real estate Consultant and as a part-time assistant in Mammalogy at the Royal Ontario Museum. His main hobbies were natural history and classical Greek Drama. Twice President of the Toronto Field Naturalists Club and a life member of the International Association of Road Congresses, with headquarters in Paris, France, Mr. Outram was also a member of the Port Hope Golf & Country Club, the Durham Club of Toronto and The Brodie Club of Toronto (Royal Ontario Museum). Mr. Outram was a member of the United Church of Canada and a member for many years of Leaside United Church. He is survived by two sons, Richard Daley, and John Allan, and three grandchildren.

REPORT OF THE CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF SURVEYING

Mr. Jack Haddon, President

It is impossible to deal with the whole range of the action of the C.I.S., it is far too wide ranging in such a short space of time. I'll pick on those things I think will be of interest to you. They would not necessarily be the order of priority that the C.I.S. would give them, and because we are in Sudbury and the mining capital, maybe I can deal with just one item of mining interest.

The Committee which deals with engineering and mining surveying at the C.I.S. has become acutely aware across the past few years that Canada is falling behind in its use of the rapidly evolving technology in under-