

COMMITTEE ON BIOGRAPHY

IRA JOHN STEELE

By Stewart Young, S.L.S.

The subject of this sketch was born at Boxall near Aylmer in Elgin County, Ontario, on April 6th, 1881.

He graduated from the School of Practical Science, Toronto, in 1902, and passed his Preliminary Examination as Dominion Land Surveyor in May of that same year. He was assistant to Joseph Ross, D.L.S. on Surveys in British Columbia from May 15th, 1902, to April 11, 1903, and assistant to P. R. A. Belanger on Surveys in the District of Assiniboia from April 11th, 1903, to December 1st, 1903, and with the Topographical Surveys staff from February 18th, 1904, to October 3rd, 1904.

In October, 1904, he accepted a position on the National Transcontinental Railway work.

Mr. Steele received his Commission as a Dominion Land Surveyor on April 16th, 1908, and as an Ontario Land Surveyor on April 10th, 1910.

He was engaged on Contract Surveys in Western Canada during the 1908 to 1913, inclusive. Mr. Steele received his Commission as a Saskatchewan Land Surveyor on March 25th, 1913, and about that time took up land near Lloydminster, Sask. During the latter part of his life he engaged in Agricultural pursuits and was for several years Reeve of the Municipality in which he lived.

He was a prominent member of the Canadian Seed Growers Association, a Director of the Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers Ltd. and President of the Saskatchewan Field Husbandry Association. In religion he was a Presbyterian. He died on January 5th, 1929, and was buried at Langbanck, Saskatchewan.