

COMMITTEE ON BIOGRAPHY

The period between 1917 and 1922 was spent in the service of the British American Nickel Corporation—a then very active nickel prospect and potential mine that fell by the wayside succeeding World War I. Nickel was considered strictly a war-time munition, therefore held no place in the peace time picture, and consequently demand fell to zero. However, by continued intensive research by the International Nickel Corporation, the metal became proven to be of non-military prime importance, and so in 1929 “Dick” associated himself with the young—and struggling—Falconbridge Nickel Company. In the service of that company he served until his death, with promotion after promotion till he became chief engineer several years before his death.

Mr. Gill was deeply interested in his chosen Sudbury, and gave much of his time to its welfare; he was a member of the Rotary Club, a past District Grand Master of the Masonic Lodge, a member of Idylwylde Golf and Country Club, and also a member of the Sudbury Airport Commission. He was an active member of the Anglican Church.

The funeral, very widely attended by citizens from all walks of life, took place on May 31st, and the body laid to rest in the Anglican Cemetery with full Masonic graveside rites.

Left to mourn his passing were his wife, Marion Pearl (nee Burroughs), daughter Josephine at home, son Dr. Peter Gill of Buffalo, and son Dr. Burroughs Gill above referred to.

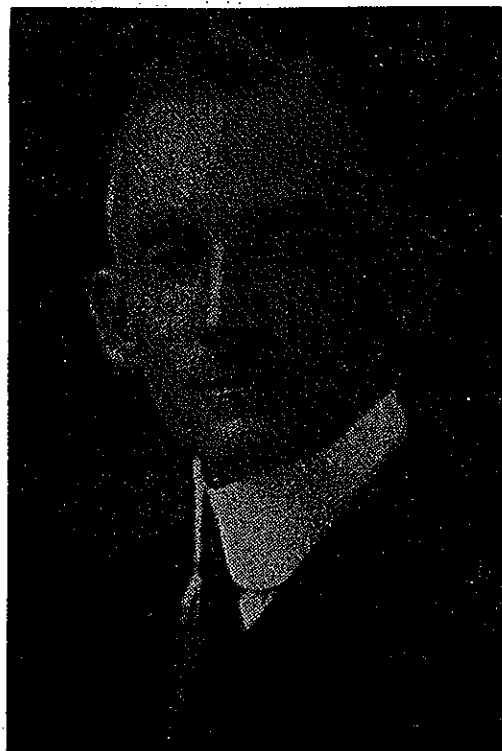
Note: “Dick’s” aunt, Miss Clare Elizabeth Gill, also a resident of Sudbury, and for many years his housekeeper, died the same day as Dick.

LEIGHTON ADELBERT VAN SKIVER O.L.S., D.L.S.

See “*Lost Trails*” 1954, Annual Report.

The following by Robert B. McKay,
O.L.S.:

Herewith is a photograph of Leighton A. Van Skiver, O.L.S., D.L.S., who was one of my assistants on O.L.S. surveys in the railway belt for part season August to December 13th, 1913, as described in 1913-14 Annual Report of Topog. Surveys Branch Department of Interior.



ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO LAND SURVEYORS

LORD EDWARD FITZGERALD
O.L.S., B.Sc. (McGill)

The above subject was one of the several (deceased) members of our Association who, each in his turn, was familiarly known to the membership at large as "Fitz." His was a genial friendly nature; at school and university a good student and keen mathematician.



He was born in Rochester, New York, on June 20th, 1885, the son of James William and Margaret (nee Kearns) Fitzgerald. His father and paternal grandfather were engaged in the building trade, and in Lord's very juvenile years moved to and settled in Peterborough, Ontario. There, at Murray Street School and the Collegiate Institute, "Fitz" took his early education and entered McGill University on an engineering course; he graduated in 1913 with the degree of B.Sc.

He then articulated to Col. F. F. Clarke and served with Col. Clarke, with Karl Huffman (both men being O.L.S., D.L.S. and B.Sc.) and received his O.L.S. commission on May 11th, 1915. He never did engage in private practice but entered the service of the Canadian Northern Railway in the department of Land Surveys, Central Region. This region embraced all the Land Surveys in Ontario and Quebec—Clarke and Huffman being also in that department.

Later, the Canadian Northern Railway was absorbed by the Canadian National Railways, and "Fitz" continued in this department till his death, becoming its chief in 1923.

In religion he was a Roman Catholic and a member of the Knights of Columbus; he never married.

Mr. Fitzgerald loved the outdoor life and the Northern Ontario bush country. During his early days of service with the Railway Company, he was often in the bush for months at a time. The above picture was taken at Mowat on the C. N. Ry. in Parry Sound District of Canada. "Fitz" has been in the bush for months but now headed for the city; bush clothes thrown away and civies donned (about 1915).

LIEUT.-COL. DOUGLAS STEWART ELLIS
D.S.O., O.L.S., M.A., B.Sc., M.C.E.
M.E.I.C., Prof. Engr. (Ontario)

The passing, due to a sudden heart attack on March 20th, 1955, closed a life of 45 years of outstanding military, professional, and academic service that our