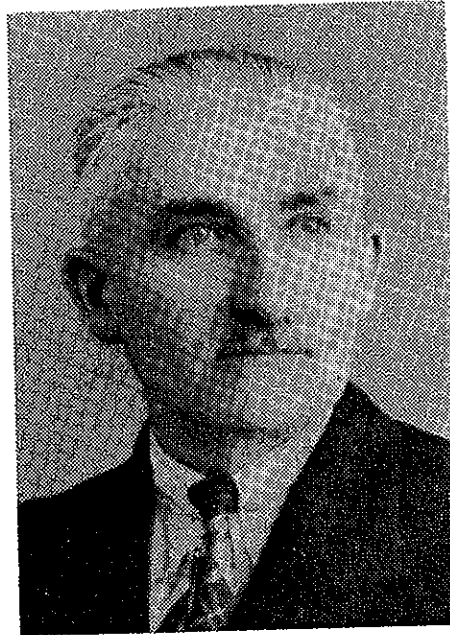


ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO LAND SURVEYORS



CHARLES ROBERT YATES, O.L.S.

(By his son, W. C. Yates, O.L.S.)

Born on McGee Street in the east end of the City of Toronto on June 25, 1893, CHARLES R. YATES was the youngest son of three in the family of William Henry Yates and Amy Brown. The family consisted of Gertrude, Edna, Myrtle, George, Frank and Charles.

William H. Yates was a cabinet-maker who worked as a fly-finisher for the piano manufacturers in Toronto. He often worked in two or three factories in the course of a week. His father, George Yates, carried the first mail delivered east of the Don River. On his grandmother's side of the family, his great-grandfather, John Marshall was Captain of a frigate in the Royal Navy. He was imprisoned in Havana, Cuba as a revolutionary, after running a blockade in Havana Harbour.

The family lived alternately in the city and on a fruit farm on St. Clair Avenue East near Victoria Park Avenue, returning at last to the City in 1908 and living on Badgerow Avenue.

Charlie attended Morse Street School and the Town Line School on Victoria Park Avenue for his primary education. Later he attended Central Technical School. He later furthered his education by private means.

As a young man, he spent many weekends camping out on the island or the beach, and holidays cruising or paddling on the various rivers and lakes between Toronto and the Trent River System.

He served his apprenticeship with Speight and van Nostrand starting before World War I. During the War, he enlisted and went overseas with the 83rd. Battalion, in 1915. He served in France with the Third Battalion, Toronto Regiment in the Battles of the Somme, being wounded

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by a piece of shrapnel in the leg. He was invalided back to England and on convalescence, answered a call to the Royal Air Force who were training aircrews enlisted from units who had seen action. His service in the R.A.F. lasted until the Armistice in 1918.

Returning home, he again took up his training as an O.L.S. with Speight and van Nostrand. In 1920, he married Mary Adeline Tanner and they settled on Cassels Avenue in Toronto.

Charlie was admitted to practice on May 12, 1921. He continued with Speight and van Nostrand until 1928, working in many sections of the present Metropolitan area. He was also engaged in surveys which opened up the Muskoka Lakes Resort Area.

In 1928, he began employment with the City of Toronto. He made surveys for projects in almost every section of the City, until about 1953, when he was retained in the office to co-ordinate and supervise the field work. He continued in this position until his retirement in 1958 at the completion of thirty years of service. During his time with the City, he was an active member of Bowling League and the Civic War Veterans, participating in many activities.

Much of his leisure time was spent with his family at their cottage at Lake Simcoe. Fishing, and shooting occupied many a weekend in summer and autumn.

After retirement, the cottage, for which he had planned extensive alterations, became his chief interest. It was here, in October 1961, that he suffered a light heart attack. Adjusting his pace, he began to make progress to a more active life.

It seemed that the worst was past, when suddenly he was stricken again on January 4, 1964 and passed away on the morning of January 5. He was laid to rest in St. John's Norway Cemetery.

He leaves his wife and three sons, William, of Scarborough also an O.L.S., Robert of Toronto, an insurance adjuster and Ralph of London, Ontario, an electrical engineer.

I can do no better than to borrow some of the words of the Rev. John Robson, Minister of Queen Street East Presbyterian Church, where Charlie was a member, who conducted the funeral service, "Here was a man who studied to be quiet". Charlie's life was characterized by quiet efficiency, strength, consideration of others and good humour at work and at home. A firm and loving father and a thoughtful colleague to whom the best tribute will be to emulate the best in his life.