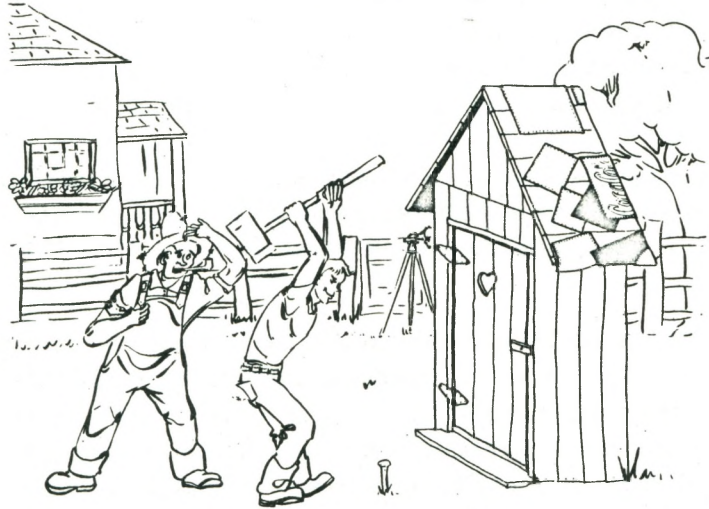


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**SPECIAL ARTICLE**

EDUCATION OF THE ONTARIO LAND SURVEYOR

*by Frank Wilson*

Why not a school for Ontario Land Surveyors? I have three problems concerning this subject which on calculation, resolve into the one and self-same answer. The problems are: Firstly, What individual is most acutely aware of the Ontario Land Surveyor's educational status, its limitations and its potentials? Secondly: What individual is most desirous of improving this educational status, developing the potentials and limiting the limitations? And Thirdly: What individual is most capable of expanding these potentials and erasing these limitations? After lengthy calculation, the use of several mathematical laws, and perhaps faulty reasoning, my solution inevitably results in a simple linear function: "The Ontario Land Surveyor."

If this solution is correct, it appears that our educational program has been searching for a secondary tool (Universities), rather than making full use of the prime one in hand, namely, the education, experience and drives of the Ontario Land Surveyor himself. It is not my conviction that the secondary tool is not a necessity, but only that an effort should be made to use the prime one to its fullest extent.

How does one collect, organize and utilize the educational assets of a body of Ontario Land Surveyors? Collection and organization are beyond the scope of this short paper. One has only to be familiar with the talents of some of our older members, their innate insight into organization, to realize that this is no real problem.

Utilization! Permit me to develop my thoughts on this. One of the most practical gifts of an Ontario Land Surveyor, who has obtained his commission through articles is his realization that, - Firstly: in life one does not get some-

thing for nothing. Secondly: Education is worth money and Thirdly: Production, his prime prerequisite, varies directly as his education and experience.

In the development of this utilization question, let us exemplify it by a hypothetical case. It was found necessary to re-establish the limits of a township and its interior corners. It was also found, from estimates obtained from private companies, that the price of said work would be \$20,000. The money was raised.

Now let us see if this job could be done collectively by a group of surveyors for the same price, on the principle that the surveyors were to receive valuable knowledge and experience as partial payment for services rendered.

One more assumption, and the job is under way. The assumption is that this plan has merit and that the Surveyor-General (or his appointee) could be induced to organize the job.

A precis of the specific undertaking is sent to various surveyors, who have proven their proficiency in the various fields of surveying and asks if they would be interested in teaching and organizing the various functions of this program (e.g. business administration, legal aspects, the uses of new equipment such as the Tellurometer, etc.) If at this point the program was proven to be not feasible, nothing would be lost and the Land Surveyors' Association would at least have a criterion for evaluating just how interested the Ontario Land Surveyor is in the educational status of his organization as a whole. The time for the program would be chosen in the winter months when the surveyor, in general, is not too busy (and perhaps federal aid under winter works program could be obtained).

If, however, the program was well received, a precis could be sent to all registered surveyors asking if they would like to participate. They would receive a nominal wage (as circumstances warrant) and spend one week in each department of said work. There would be a course held each night after work, explaining the various functions of the operation.

New methods, techniques and equipment may be utilized to their fullest extent and should be limited only by the contract price of the job itself. (What a wonderful opportunity for manufacturers to prove the real value of their various equipment to prospective buyers.) At the completion of said contract, each participant must write a thesis pertaining to the program, its benefits, its weakness and the direct benefit that has accrued to him personally.

The writer is aware of his own limitations pertaining to any insight whatsoever, into an operation such as this. He is hesitant about disclosing these contents due to the morbid fear of ridicule which this idea may receive. If the idea is ridiculous, then I hope the discussion of it may incite a little humour and it will at least have served its purpose.

## REGIONAL GROUP NEWS

### EASTERN GROUP HEARS HENRY CARTWRIGHT

On March 23rd at Smiths Falls the Eastern Group had Mr. Henry Cartwright, well-known lawyer of Kingston, as its guest speaker at their dinner meeting.

Mr. Cartwright prefaced his talk by explaining that a lawyer's opinion is only an opinion until confirmed by court action and then continued with a ready and witty supply of answers to surveyors' questions. His answers included both opinions and court rulings, some of which shot holes through the preconceived ideas of the surveyors. "More or less" and "Low-water mark" came in for particularly spirited discussion.

The meeting was also attended by Vice-President Bill Brisco who extended the greetings of Council and gave a preliminary pep-talk on the forthcoming 1964 meeting in Ottawa.