

It was in the family home, then being maintained at New Westminster, British Columbia, that Sir Richard McBride was born December 15, 1870. He attended grammar and high schools in his native city until he reached the age of sixteen years, when he entered Dalhousie University at Halifax, Nova Scotia, being graduated from that institution with the degree of LL. B. in 1890, when but twenty years of age. Returning to British Columbia, he then read law under T. C. Atkinson, while subsequently his preceptor was the Hon. Angus J. McColl, the late chief justice of British Columbia. In July, 1892, Sir Richard was called to the bar and began practice as junior member of the firm of Corbould, McColl, Wilson & Campbell at New Westminster. This relationship continued until 1893, after which Sir Richard practiced alone until 1895. He then formed a partnership with W. J. Whiteside, which, however, was dissolved the next year when he became connected with H. F. Clinton, who has since passed away. After the death of Mr. Clinton, Sir Richard formed the firm of McBride & Kennedy. He was named a king's counsel in 1905. The ability which he displayed won him distinguished honors along professional lines and further indicated his fitness for political preferment. Questions of vital importance regarding municipal, provincial and national affairs have always had the deepest interest for him and of such he has been a close and discriminating student.

In 1896 Sir Richard entered the political arena, unsuccessfully contesting New Westminster in the Dominion general election. In 1898 he was returned as a member of the British Columbia legislature for Dewdney Riding, at the general election, as a supporter of the Turner government. On June 21, 1900, he was called to the executive department of the provincial government, entering the cabinet as minister of mines, but owing to a difference on a matter of policy, he resigned from the government the following year. Going again before the people, he was reelected by acclamation and in 1902 chosen leader of the opposition in the legislature, becoming premier of British Columbia on June 1, 1903, having since been returned to power at the general elections of 1907, 1909 and 1912 and holding this office at present. He sits as senior member for the city of Victoria and besides being premier still holds the portfolio of minister of mines. It was he who won for the conservative party such a glorious victory in this province. He introduced party lines in provincial politics when he became premier in 1903 and in that way became the head of the first liberal-conservative government of the province.

In September, 1896, Sir Richard married Miss Margaret McGillivray and to them have been born six daughters.

One of the foremost statesmen of the Canadian west, Sir Richard was in attendance at the coronation of Their Majesties, King George and Queen Mary. In 1912 merited distinction came to him when, as one of the birthday honors, he was created a Knight of the Cross of St. Michael and St. George. He was invested with the insignia of this distinguished order by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, the governor-general, at Victoria, in October, 1912. Another distinguished honor was conferred upon Sir Richard McBride on March 22, 1913, when the degree of LL. D. was conferred upon him by the University of California.

WILLIAM MASSEY SILCOCK.

William Massey Silcock is secretary and treasurer of the Bungalow Finance & Building Company, Ltd., in which connection he has taken active part in the substantial improvement and adornment of Vancouver. He was born in Warrington, Lancashire, England, February 23, 1877, a son of William and Annie Royal (Nightingale) Silcock, representatives of old Lancashire families, originally from West Houghton, near Wigan, England.