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The surveying and engineering firm of Phillips, Stewart & Lee, is composed of Edward H. Phillips, Will M. Stewart and Roger M. Lee.

Mr. Phillips graduated from Toronto University in applied Science in 1900, and has since been engaged in work of various kinds along Engineering lines including drainage work in Eastern Ontario, Photo-Topographical work in the Rocky and Selkirk Mountains, and Dominion Land Survey work in Alberta. In 1904 he was appointed Inspector of Surveys for the Dominion Government for Saskatchewan, and in 1907 became District Engineer and Surveyor for the Saskatchewan Government with Headquarters at Saskatoon, with a territory of about 25,000 square miles, which position he held until May, 1913.

Mr. Stewart graduated from the Toronto University in Applied Science in 1905, and in 1907 completed his Post-Graduate Course, obtaining the degree of Bachelor of Applied Science. He has had long experience in the Survey of Dominion Lands in Ontario, Manitoba and Northern Saskatchewan.

Mr. Lee is an Ontario Land Surveyor and for four years was engaged in Survey and Engineering work in Ontario and Dominion Survey work in Northern Manitoba, under the direction of Mr. J. W. Tyrrell, the well known Surveyor and Explorer.

In addition to the above, all the members of the firm are Dominion and Saskatchewan Land Surveyors, the present firm being established in 1910. During the last few years, this firm have been intimately connected with the tremendous expansion that has been taking place in the West. A considerable portion of the City of Saskatoon and surrounding subdivisions having been surveyed by them, as well as many small town-sites throughout the Province.

Their work includes the investigation of water-power schemes, industrial propositions and drainage. At the present time they are Engineers for three large drainage schemes under the Drainage Act of the Province of Saskatchewan. This Act was passed recently by the Legislature of the Province of Saskatchewan and provides for the investigation and construction of drainage works for the improvement of Agricultural Lands. The Act provides for the formation of a Drainage District upon the petition of the Resident Owners, of at least half the area of the lands which would be affected by the construction of a drain within the area described in the petition.

Upon receipt of such a petition by the Minister of Public Works, he appoints an Engineer to make a report, prepare plans and estimates of the proposed work, together with a schedule of assessments according to the amount of benefit which it is estimated, will be derived by the different lands affected. If the scheme is found to be practicable, tenders are called for by the Minister of Public Works and the work let by contract.

The amount of the cost of such work is paid by the Department of Public Works, in the first instance, and debentures are issued, which are a lien on the lands affected and which may run from 20 to 35 years. This arrangement makes it possible for a district to construct a drain and reclaim and improve the lands situated therein and secure the benefits of such work at once, and spread the payment over a term of years, in such a way that the annual payment is comparatively small in proportion to the benefits received.

There are large areas of land in the Northern and Eastern parts of the Province which when drained would make the choicest of farm lands.

In addition to drainage work, the firm undertakes all classes of Municipal work, plans and specifications and estimates for Municipal Councils. As a Municipality becomes settled up and prosperous, it has been found desirable to expend more work on Public Improvements, than can be provided by Statute Labor, and many Municipalities are constructing extensive improvements by contract. There is perhaps no class of construction where more benefit can be directly derived than from money spent on improving the highways of a Community if it is properly applied and there is no way in which money can be more easily wasted than by applying it injudiciously to Roads.