

## OBITUARY

THOMAS ANDREW STEEL FORTUNE, *O.B.E.*, who was born on 7 August, 1885, died on 15 March, 1963.

Educated at Berwickshire High School and George Watson's College, Edinburgh, he received his practical training with Messrs Menzies and Cockburn, Edinburgh, with whom he stayed four years. He then joined Messrs P. W. and C. S. Meik & Sons where, as Assistant Engineer, he gained experience in many aspects of civil engineering, especially design and construction work on dams and railways. Specific mention should be made of his responsibility in connexion with the construction of the hydro-electric works at Kinlochleven.

In 1909 he was appointed to the Staff of Leith Dock Commission as Assistant Engineer. He became Senior Assistant in 1915 and was in charge of the Civil Engineering Section of the maintenance work at Leith Docks and in particular of the Imperial Dry Dock. In addition he took a major part in the design and construction of the two grain warehouses, the Edinburgh warehouse in 1928 and the Imperial in 1934, and later, along with Mr Easton, the construction of the Western Harbour and Breakwaters.

In 1935 he was appointed Deputy Superintendent and Chief Assistant Engineer to the Leith Dock Commission.

During World War II he was Air Raid Precautions Controller for the Port of Leith and was vice-chairman of the Industrial Air Raid Precautions Association of the Chambers of Commerce of Edinburgh and Leith. In 1945 he was appointed Clerk to the Commissioners and Superintendent and Engineer of the Harbour and Docks of Leith. In the following year the Commissioners decided that in future the designation of Clerk and Superintendent should be dispensed with and the new and more general designation of General Manager and Secretary be used.

Latterly he was in sole charge of the development of the Western Harbour and the negotiations with Messrs Ranks for the siting and building of the Caledonia Flour Mills.

In 1949 Mr Fortune was awarded the *O.B.E.* Later the same year he retired as General Manager, Secretary, and Chief Engineer to the Leith Docks after 40 years' service.

He was elected as an Associate Member in 1915 and was transferred to the class of Member in 1936. Mr Fortune was also a member of the Institute of Transport and Hon. Membership of the French Institute of Civil Engineers was conferred upon him shortly after the war.

He is survived by his only son.

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