

Oscar Urban Robinson (1880-1949)

Oscar Urban Robinson of Vancouver, B. C was a remarkable educator and engrosser. The remarkable thing about Mr. Robinson was the fact that he was confined to a wheel chair for 43 years of his life and during that time he not only earned his living in commercial school educational work, but established a chain of business schools and became one of Canada's leading pen artists and engrossers.

At the age of 27 he was stricken with arthritis which held him a prisoner in a wheel chair for the rest of his life. He was born in Willsonville, Ontario 69 years ago. He organized his first school in Waterford, Ont., which he conducted from his bed. He later founded and directed commercial colleges in Tillsonburg, Dunville, Simcoe, Brantford, Welland and Norwich, Ontario. He began teaching in 1898 when he was 18 years of age.

In 1944 he retired from the business college work and took up engrossing. He was kept busy' doing engrossing and some private tutoring in commercial subjects. He also conducted a commercial teachers' placement bureau. He was a devoted churchman and for 23 years was superintendent of Sunday school.