

# *King's Colourful History*

## *Born to rule!*

Did you know that Ontario's 10th premier was born in 1871 in King Township?



He was a quiet dynamo who made a difference as Minister of Public Works and Highways by encouraging expansion of roads that would serve not only the provincial farmlands but also the booming northern mining and forestry industries.

George Stewart Henry began his career as farmer, businessman and politician after absorbing a stellar education at Upper Canada College and earning two degrees at the U of T, going on to local politics serving York County for seven years before election in 1913 to the legislature in the Conservative government of Premier Ferguson.

In his first decade as MPP he held two ministerial positions and conceived an idea of a Metro-style government far ahead of his time. In 1930 he became premier, also holding the portfolios of education and treasury. Succeeded in 1934 by the Hepburn Liberals, Henry continued to sit in the legislature until retiring in 1943.

He died in 1958. His family's farm in North York is now known as a residential area, "the Henry Farm" and a nearby public secondary school bears the name George S. Henry Academy.

*By Virginia Atkins with information by Bert Duclos  
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