

It takes more than a good resume to get a government contract.

Edward A. Fitzhenry (-)

From: “Washington, West of the Cascades.”ⁱ

Many years devoted to civil engineering have well qualified Edward A. Fitz-Henry to efficiently discharge the duties of the office which he now holds, namely- that of United States surveyor general for the state of Washington. He was born in Bloomington, Illinois, and is a son of Hiram and Elizabeth FitzHenry. He attended the public and high schools of his native city, graduating from the high school in 1886. Subsequently he was for a year a student in the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington and then attended the State University at Urbana. Upon leaving college he secured a position with the engineering department of the Lake Erie & Western Railroad, but after remaining in that connection for two years came to Olympia, Washington, and entered the employ of the Union Pacific Railroad as surveyor. Six months later he removed to Port Angeles, Washington, where he engaged in civil engineering. In 1892 he was elected county surveyor and upon the expiration of his term in 1896 was appointed deputy county surveyor, serving until 1900. From 1904 until 1908 he was county clerk and from 1908 until 1912 was county engineer. When not holding office he was connected with the engineering departments of various railroads and also did some survey work for the government. He did irrigation work in various parts of the state and in engineering circles he gained recognition as one of the leading members of the profession. It is generally conceded that President Wilson acted wisely in appointing him United States surveyor general for the state of Washington, which position he has held since July 1, 1913.

Mr. FitzHenry was married in Port Angeles in October, 1898, to Miss Jessie Crooks and they have a daughter, Phyllis, who is now a high school student. The democratic party has a staunch supporter in Mr. FitzHenry but nothing affecting the general welfare is a matter of indifference to him. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Pythias and in religious faith is a Presbyterian. He is also a member of the Chamber of Commerce. While doing survey work for the government, he reported an unnamed mountain peak in the Olympian mountain range, laying some twenty miles south and west of Port Angeles. This mountain has an elevation of seven thousand one hundred and fifty feet and was presumed by the Press Club Explorers to be Mount Olympus so was not given a name by this exploration party. The government honored Mr. FitzHenry by naming this mountain Mount FitzHenry. It is needless to say that his duties as surveyor

general are promptly, faithfully and efficiently discharged or that he is held in high esteem throughout the state and especially by the engineering profession.

His paternal ancestors came to America from England and Scotland at an early date. The first George settled in Virginia and his descendant Enoch participated in the War of the Revolution and later settled in Pennsylvania and reared a large family. Enoch's son, Edward, Mr. FitzHenry's grandfather, settled in Ohio and later moved his family to McLean county, Illinois. Mr. FitzHenry is a member of the Isaac I. Stevens Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, being eligible from each paternal family line.

ⁱ Hunt, Herbert. **“Washington, West of the Cascades”**; historical and descriptive; the pioneers; by Herbert Hunt and Floyd C. Kaylor: Chicago, Seattle, The S. J. Clarke Pub. Co., 1917.