

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

## **Lawson Ambrose Nicholson (1866-1947)**

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LAWSON A. NICHOLSON.

Opportunity for advancement is never denied the business man. In political and military circles only certain prizes can be won, and few there are who can gain these, but in the field of industrial, commercial or professional activity opportunity is almost limitless. There is always room at the top, and it is toward that place that Lawson A. Nicholson has been steadily advancing until he now occupies a very creditable and enviable position in the ranks of the civil engineers of the northwest. He is the senior member of the firm of Nicholson & Bullard, of Tacoma, and is widely known for his ability.

Born in Stockton, California, in 1866, Mr. Nicholson is a son of the Rev. Albert S. and Mary (Warner) Nicholson, the former an Episcopalian clergyman who was born in Pennsylvania and in 1862 crossed the plains to California. He accepted an important charge in Stockton, where he remained until 1868, when he removed to Vancouver, Washington, building there a church and parish which will long remain a monument to his faithful work. In later life he removed to Tacoma, where he died in 1893, but his

memory is still enshrined in the hearts of many who knew him. His widow, who was born in Michigan, is still living near Tacoma.

Lawson A. Nicholson obtained a broad and thorough education under private tutors, and it was in this way and by private study that he fitted himself for the work. A native of the Pacific coast and a factor in the upbuilding of a new commonwealth, his youth was spent where there were no advantages of technical training such as abound today, but he took up the study and mastered the great scientific principles to which he added knowledge gained through practical experience. He began the practice of his profession in Tacoma, where he has since remained with the exception of two years spent in Everett. In that time he has done much important work. He was engineer for the state harbor line commission and surveyed the harbors of Sidney, Marysville and Snohomish; was city engineer of Everett for one term, and had charge of some important work for Rucker Brothers of that city. He does a general engineering business, necessarily covering a wide range, although his time of late years has been more exclusively devoted to street railroad construction.

In 1892 Mr. Nicholson was united in marriage to Mrs. Elizabeth Martin James, and they have two children, Harold and Charles, while there is also a stepson, Morton, who is a member of Mr. Nicholson's household. Mr. Nicholson is a member of the Pacific Northwest Society of Engineers. His offices are located at Nos. 506-507 Fidelity building. His long residence in the state adds a comprehensive knowledge of the country to his other acquirements, and he enjoys the confidence and patronage of a large clientele. His advancement has been worthily won and his success is richly merited.