



IDA BESSIE (BIRDIE) LILLY, the oldest child.

Born 1873 in Galt, Ontario,
Died 1956 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Ida Bessie Lilly is the serious little girl with long hair in the front row. The reason no-one is smiling is that it took a long time to take a photograph and everyone had to sit very still for many seconds. If you look closely you will find a fuzzy spot where a little boy moved a foot.

No-one knows who the other children are. Their size and apparent ages do not match the dates of birth of Birdie's siblings. If these were her brothers and sisters she would have been 19 years of age when this photo was taken. Also her two sisters died before they reached the ages of these children. Maybe these children are her cousins. (See chart which includes Birdie's many cousins.)

My guess is that the photo was taken in 1883 so her brother William would be 6, cousins William Rutherford would be 10, and Robert Stepler would be 6, brother Robert would be 2, sister Margaret would be 4, cousins Minnie Conklin would be 9, and Lilly Stepler would be 8 - but it is all speculation.