

Charles T. Burns

(4 Nov 1872 – 9 Jun 1924)

Burns. Monday, June 9, 1924 at 9:50 p.m. at Garfield Hospital, Charles T., beloved husband of Belle V. Burns. Funeral services at the chapel of John R. Wright Co., 1337 10th st. n.w., Wednesday, June 11, at 3 p.m.

The Evening Star, June 10, 1924, p. 7

Charles P. Burns Dies; Long in U.S. Service

Was Chief of Printing at Weather Bureau-Prominent in Masonic Circles

Charles P. Burns, fifty-one years old, chief of the printing division of the United States weather bureau, died at the Garfield Hospital last night following a protracted illness.

Mr. Burns was a native of Lancaster, S.C. He was born November 4, 1872. In September, 1893, he accepted a position with the government printing office, where he worked until April 1903. In May of that year he entered the United States weather bureau as a compositor. Later he was promoted to an assistant foreman of the printing division, and in 1919 was made chief of the division, which position he held at the time of his death.

He had been prominent in Masonic circles, being a member of Mount Pleasant Lodge, No. 13, F.A.A.M., Washington Commandery, No. 1, Knights Templar; Almas Temple of the Mystic Shrine and Jackson Lodge, No. 53, A.F.M., of Lancaster, S.C. He also was a member of Columbia Typographical Union, No. 101.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Belle V. Burns, and one son, Willard Burns. Funeral arrangements have not been made.

The Evening Star, June 11, 1924, p. 7

Rites For C.T. Burns

Funeral Services Under Auspices of Masonic Fraternity

Funeral services for Charles T. Burns, chief of the printing division of the U.S. weather bureau, who died at Garfield Hospital Monday night, were conducted by Washington Commandery, No. 1, Knights Templar, at John R. Wright's undertaking establishment, 1337 10th street this afternoon. Services at the grave, Congressional cemetery, were conducted by Dawson Lodge, No. 16, F.A.A.M.

In addition to other Masonic affiliations, Mr. Burns was a member of Mount Pleasant Chapter, R.A.M.

The Washington Post, June 11, 1924, p. 9

Burns Funeral Today

Knights Templar to Conduct Services for Veteran Mason

Funeral services for Charles P. Burns, who died at Garfield hospital Monday night following a protracted illness, will be conducted at 3 p.m., today in the parlors of the undertaking establishment of the undertaking establishment of John R. Wright Co., 1337 Tenth street northwest.

Mr. Burns was born in Lancaster, S.C., in 1872, and lived there until coming here in September, 1893, to work in the government printing office. He later was transferred to the printing division of the weather bureau, where he served in various grades until made chief of the division in 1919, which position he held at the time of his death.

He was a member of Columbia Typographical union No. 101; Mount Pleasant lodge, No. 33, F.A.A.M.; Washington commandery, No. 1, K.T.; Almas temple, Mystic Shrine, and Jackson lodge, No. 53, Lancaster, S.C. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Belle V. Burns, and a son, William.

Knights Templar services will be conducted by Washington commandery, and interment will be in Congressional cemetery.

The Evening Star, May 16, 1913, p. 2

Weather Bureau Employe Reduced

Charles T. Burns, an Assistant Foreman, Is Given Cut in His Salary Guilty of Misconduct in Performing Duties

Case Is Outgrowth of Charges Resulting in Dismissal of Prof. Moore

Charles T. Burns, an assistant foreman in the weather bureau, suspended at the time of the dismissal of Chief Willis L. Moore, today was reduced in rank and salary by Secretary Houston, who declared Burns "guilty of misconduct in the performance of his duties."

Moore was dismissed for "serious irregularities" and misuse of his office, of which it was alleged he had been guilty in his campaign for appointment as Secretary of Agriculture in President Wilson's cabinet. The case was referred to the Department of Justice for investigation. Burns was charged with complicity.

Only One Charge Sustained

Prof. Oliver L. Fassig, against whom charges were preferred by Moore, was acquitted of all except one - that of making a false statement regarding an item of expense amounting to \$6.65. No action was taken in his case. Fassig contended Moore made the charges because he refused to support his candidacy for the Secretary of Agriculture.

Secretary Houston's investigation of the case disclosed, an official statement says, that December 27, 1912, Burns recommended that an inspection of weather bureau printing plants in various cities was necessary in the interest of economy and efficiency, "whereas the trip was planned by Moore for the primary purpose of promoting his candidacy for appointment as Secretary of Agriculture, and not for the promotion of economical or efficient administration of the bureau."

Burns Feared Dismissal

Mr. Burns' official excuse for doing this was that he feared dismissal if he did not comply with the orders of his chief. Secretary Houston said that this was not a valid excuse, and Burns was reduced from a salary of \$1,800 to one of \$1,250.

There are a number of parallel cases in which Prof. Moore is alleged to have used his position to forward his campaign for a cabinet place. These have been placed in the hands of the Department of Justice and will be acted on individually, as was done in the Burns case.