

Matilda Smoot Fox

(23 Jun 1859 – 29 May 1916)

The Evening Star, May 30, 1916

Mrs. Matilda S. Fox Dies at her Home in this City

Mrs. Matilda S. Fox, 57 years old, wife of Duane E. Fox, died suddenly yesterday morning at her home 1611 21st street northwest. Funeral services are to be held at 2:30 o'clock Thursday afternoon at the family residence, Rev. Dr. Samuel H. Greene officiating. Interment is to be at Congressional Cemetery.

Mrs. Fox was interested in the work of the Y.W.C.A., and the evening before her death was planning for some representation by the association in the approaching preparedness parade.

Born in Washington

Mrs. Fox was born in this city June 23, 1859, the youngest child of Dr. Samuel Clement Smoot and Emma Smallwood Smoot. She lived here through the days of the civil war and recalled many incidents of its closing stages. Her father was of the Maryland family of Smoots and practiced medicine here. He was a member of the medical society of the District of Columbia, one of the presidents of the board of health and for some time secretary of the board of trustees of Columbian College. He served until forced to retire by ill health as volunteer surgeon in the United States Navy.

Her mother, was born in Newton, Mass., and was active in hospital and relief work in Washington during the war. After Dr. Smoot's death, shortly after the civil war, she married Rev. Andrew TenBrook, professor and librarian of the University of Michigan, and moved to Ann Arbor, Mich. There her daughter met Mr. Fox, her husband, and with him came to live in Washington in 1882.

Long in Ill Health

Mrs. Fox was educated in the schools of Ann Arbor and at Rutgers Female College in New York City. For ten years past she has not been strong, but despite ill health she found time to devote to public service.

She is survived by her husband, two daughters, Mrs. Charles H. Shaffer of this city and Mrs. George L. Towne of Des Moines, Iowa; two sons, Frank B. Fox and Newton K. Fox of this city, and a brother Kenneth R. Smoot of Beaumont, Cal.