

## Felix Octavius Willoughby Smith ( - 11 Jan 1920)

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**Willoughby Smith.** January 11, 1920 at Battle Creek, Mich., Felix Octavius Willoughby Smith. Funeral services Friday, January 23, 3 p.m. at Chapel, Congressional cemetery. Interment Congressional cemetery. Friends invited.

*The New York Times, January 13, 1920*

### U.S. Consul Felix W. Smith

Felix Willoughby Smith, United States Consul at Tiflis, died Sunday of Bright's disease at a sanitarium in Battle Creek, Mich., aged 48 years. After his work as our representative in the Caucasus during the war Mr. Smith's health was impaired and he came to New York for a rest. His home was in London. He had large trading interests in the Near East.

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<sup>57</sup> **Felix Willoughby Smith**, born in 1872 of American parents in Russia, left his New York law offices to enter the diplomatic corps in 1909. He was appointed Consul at Batum in April, 1914. The consulate was transferred to Tiflis in 1916 because of the military operations on the Turkish-Caucasus front and then temporarily closed in May, 1918, as the result of the Ottoman invasion of Transcaucasia. **Smith** made his way to the United States via Moscow, Stockholm, and London, and then in January, 1919, sailed back to Tiflis to resume his consular duties. He relinquished his post in May, 1919, to Consul John Quinby Wood pending the arrival of his assigned replacement. The extraordinary diplomat died in Battle Creek, Michigan, on January 11, 1920, six months after his return home. For papers relating to his diplomatic service, see US Archives, RG 59, *United States Consular Officers by Post, 1789-1939*, Consular Posts, Batum and Tiflis; and *Personal Records of Commissioned Diplomatic and Foreign Service Officers, F. W. Smith*, Book 120, 123/Sm 52.