

George F. Thompson

(- 6 Jan 1906)

The Evening Star, January 7, 1906, p. 5

Local Scientist Dead

George F. Thompson of Bureau of Animal Industry

George F. Thompson of 319 B street southeast, who was editor of the bureau of animal industry, Department of Agriculture, died suddenly yesterday about 3:30 o'clock, after a comparatively short illness. He was forty-five years of age. His wife and four children survive him.

Mr. Thompson was called to Chicago just a few days before Christmas, and while en route there was taken ill of the grippe. He was able to be up and about while in Chicago and started for home the day after Christmas, arriving here January 3. Since then he has been confined to his bed, though no fears were entertained of his death. There was a decided change for the worse last night, however, and pneumonia developed.

It was recognized that death was rapidly approaching, although the best medical attention was furnished. Mr. Thompson died, as stated, at 3:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon surrounded by the members of his family.

Prominent in Bureau

Mr. Thompson had been prominently identified with the work of the bureau of animal industry of the Department of Agriculture from the time he became a clerk in the department in February 1894. He made a special study of sheep and goats, especially of the Angora goat. Last summer he went to Europe by direction of the Agricultural Department to make investigations of the milch goat. Upon his return he wrote a series of papers on the subject, which added greatly to Mr. Thompson's scientific reputation.

Before coming to the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Thompson was a teacher in the Kansas State College and received the degree of M.S.

Mr. Thompson was prominent in local church and Sunday school work, having for a number of years been assistant secretary of the Columbia Baptist Association. He was a member also of Manhattan Lodge, A.O.U.W.

The trip to Malta last summer, is said to have been of great benefit to Mr. Thompson's physical health. His recent illness was unexpected, and, as stated, of short duration.

Arrangements for the funeral services had not been completed last night.

The Evening Star, January 8, 1906, p. 7

Funeral Tomorrow

Last Rites Over the Remains of George F. Thompson

The funeral of George F. Thompson, late editor of the bureau of animal industry, Department of Agriculture, whose death was announced in the Sunday Star, will take place tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Metropolitan Baptist Church, 6th and A streets northeast. The pallbearers selected to serve are Messrs. Roberts, Carroll, Latelle, Bryant, Allier and Lyon.

It is probable that Rev. J. Compton Ball, pastor of Metropolitan Church, will officiate. A delegation of employees of the Agricultural Department has arranged to attend the obsequies. Suitable resolutions have been drawn up by Mr. Thompson's former associates, expressive of their regret at his untimely death, and arrangements have been made to place on his bier several handsome floral pieces from the bureau of animal industry and other branches of the department.

The Evening Star, January 9, 1906, p. 7

Friends Pay Tribute

Funeral Services Over Remains of George F. Thompson

Funeral services over the remains of George F. Thompson, late editor of the bureau of animal industry of the Department of Agriculture, took place at 2 o'clock this afternoon from the Metropolitan Baptist Church, corner of 6th and A streets northwest. The services were conducted by the Rev. John Compton Ball, the pastor of the church, assisted by Rev. E. Hez Swem of the Virginia Avenue Baptist Church, Rev. Dr. Samuel H. Greene, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, and Rev. J.J. Muir, pastor of the Temple Baptist Church. The choir of the Metropolitan Church sang "Lead Kindly Light" and "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," which were the two favorite hymns of the deceased. The pallbearers were Mr. C.C. Carroll, Mr. Laub LePelle, Mr. F.W. Bryant, Mr. Henry A. Lyon, Mr. John G. Allee and Mr. John Roberts. The interment was in the Congressional cemetery.

The work of the deceased as the assistant secretary of the Columbia Baptist Association received much commendation from the ministers and laymen alike throughout the city. Taking up the work when the late Mr. Samuel Yeatman was unable to attend to the duties of the position, Mr. Thompson labored zealously in behalf of the Baptist Churches of the city.

Resolutions of Respect

The employees of the Department of Agriculture held a meeting in the office of the secretary of the department yesterday at 11 o'clock and adopted resolutions testifying to the high regard in which Mr. Thompson was held by his associates in the department. The resolutions recited that the department had lost one of its most efficient and faithful employees, who by his many personal qualities and Christian character had endeared himself to all of his associates during his eleven years of service, first as proofreader and editorial clerk in the office of the experiment stations, editorial clerk in the division of publications, superintendent of document room, division of publications, and lastly as editor of the bureau of animal industry. The resolution also stated that his fellow workers in the Department of Agriculture extended to the family of Mr. Thompson their sympathy in the hour of affliction, and that as a further evidence of the personal affection and esteem in which the deceased was held it was ordered that a copy of the resolutions be engrossed and presented to the family.

The resolutions bore the signature of Mr. A.D. Melvin, chief of bureau of animal industry; Mr. Joseph A. Arnold, assistant chief of the division of publications, and Mr. C.L. Mariatt, who is in charge of the experimental field work of the bureau of entomology.