

In Memoriam

Thorvald M. Thomson

February 15, 1881 – April 21, 1949

Hennepin County Bar Association
District Court
Fourth Judicial District
Minneapolis, Minnesota

1950

Thorvald M. Thomson

(1881 –1949)

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Thorvald M. Thomson resided at Navarre, Lake Minnetonka, and maintained offices at 954 Builders Exchange Building, Minneapolis, Minnesota till the time of his death. He was born February 15th, 1881 at Vjele, Denmark, and came to this country with his parents when a year old.

The Thomson family resided at Hutchinson, Minnesota, where he attended the public schools. At the age of 17 he enlisted as a volunteer in the 45th Regiment of the U. S. Army, transferring from there to the 15th Regiment, Infantry Division of the U. S. Army and served with that Division during the Spanish–American and Philippine Insurrection from 1898 until his honorable discharge in 1901 with the rank of Sergeant.

Upon his return to civilian life he attended, and later taught at the Globe Business College in St. Paul, and also served as an instructor of a commercial course at Anagar College, Hutchinson, Minnesota. In 1906 he became Secretary of the Hennepin Bridge Company of Minneapolis and was associated with this concern until 1916 when he engaged in the operation of his own bridge contracting concern.

In 1906 he married Hilda Bertramsen of Albert Lea, Minnesota, and resided in Minneapolis up until 1922, when the family moved to Navarre, Lake Minnetonka, the family home until he passed away. The family consisted of three daughters and a nephew who made his home with Mr. Thomson since an infant.

He was active in veterans affairs, being associated with several **Spanish–American War Veterans** organizations, holding the post of Judge Advocate, and had been Adjunct of Patterson Post #7, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post Commander of James Ballantine Post #246, Veterans of Foreign Wars and one of its founders. He was for one term the National Com-

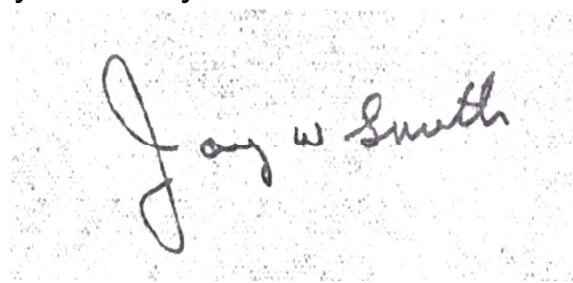
mander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart and for two terms State Commander of the State Department of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a member of the Disabled American Veterans.

He served for 16 years as Clerk of the School Board of Mound, Minnesota, Consolidated School District #85, during which time the district was greatly enlarged and additional facilities secured to benefit the educational program for that vicinity. He was also the attorney for the Township of Crone, from 1930 up to the time of his death.

Mr. Thomson was a man who delighted in public service to his friends, his community and the nation. He would insistently lay aside his remunerative professional work to help any person in need of employment. No Veteran who ever applied to him for professional help or financial aid was ever refused.

Besides this, he was a man of varied talents. He wrote five systems of shorthand, most of them expertly. He had a great memory for people. There was hardly a village or town in Minnesota where he did not know someone – usually a public official. He would, without hesitation, tell the distance from Minneapolis to any village or city in the State and to many in North and South Dakota.

He is sadly missed by his family, his friends and associates.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jay W. Smith". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured background.

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