

## Robert Edward Lee

(16 Aug 1869 – 2 Jan 1930)

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*The Evening Star, February 24, 1926, p. 5*

### **Two Policemen Retired; One Given Higher Post Sergt. Lee and Pvt. Simms Transferred From Active List, Pvt. Gouldman Promoted**

The District Commissioners, in board meeting today, approved the retirement of Sergt. Robert E. Lee and Pvt. James W. Simms of the metropolitan police force, and promoted Pvt. Chester C. Gouldman to the position of sergeant. Gouldman is attached to the fourth precinct, while Lee is at the third precinct and Simms at the eleventh precinct. Lee was retired with annuity of \$100 a month, while Simms will receive \$87.50 a month.

*The Evening Star, August 6, 1926, p. 9*

### **Sergt. R.E. Lee Stricken On Visit Ex-Policeman, Who Figured in Case Against Fenning, Ill On West Coast**



Sergt. Robert E. Lee, retired member of the Metropolitan Police Force, on whose physical fitness to serve on the active list former Commissioner Frederic A. Fenning declared the impeachment proceedings against himself were originated, was stricken with nasal hemorrhages in California, Wednesday, according to information received by Mr. Lee from her brother-in-law in Oakland.

A telegram today, however, declared the patient to be out of danger and in about five days he could leave the hospital at Oakland and begin the return journey to Washington alone.

Mrs. Lee explained today that her husband suffers from high blood pressure and that overexertion probably brought on the attack. He had gone to the West Coast three weeks ago with Capt. C.E.E. Flather, also retired member of the police force, "partly on business and partly on pleasure," Mrs. Lee said.

Sergt. Lee's retirement from the force was recommended by the board of police surgeons, who found him to be physically unfit for further service and the decision was given approval by Mr. Fenning. Representative Blanton, Democrat, Texas, asked the then Commissioner to reopen the case, which Mr. Fenning declined to do and when the Texan followed up his first letter with a threat of impeachment, Mr. Fenning referred him to the Commissioner's previous reply. Subsequently, Mr. Fenning, through his counsel before the House judiciary committee proceedings, declared the Lee case was the origin of the attack on his office.

Mr. Blanton, in championing the cause of Sergt. Lee characterized him as a "physical giant" and declared examinations by other physicians here found him not to be suffering from the ailments the police board reported. On one occasion he had Sergt. Lee stand up in the gallery of the House while his physical ability was extolled amid applause from the floor.

,**Lee**. Suddenly on Thursday, January 2, 1930, Robert Edward Lee, beloved husband of Emma Lee (nee Slater), and eldest son of the late Samuel and Julia Lee, aged 58 years. Funeral from his late residence, 215 4th st. s.e., on Monday, January 6, at 2 p.m. Relatives and friends invited to attend. Interment at Congressional Cemetery.

Without warning he went, no sad good-by.  
No last farewell, there was no one nigh.  
For the reaper came, in the hush of night.  
And made dark our home, that was so bright.

We loved him so, we did not know  
That soon, so soon, he would have to go.  
We could not see, ere another morn.  
How crushed our hearts, how sad, how forlorn.

And our faith is stronger, our love more pure.  
Our loss, so deep, less hard to endure.  
For we know that Christ led him all the way  
Through that darkened valley to that perfect day.

*The Evening Star, January 3, 1930, p. A-9*

#### **Retired Sergeant Stricken At Home**

#### **Robert E. Lee Held Up As Example of Stalwart, Conscientious Policeman**

Robert E. Lee, sr., 58 years old, retired sergeant of the metropolitan police force, on which he served for more than 30 years, died suddenly last night in the kitchen of his home, 215 Fourth street southeast.

When brought up for retirement about three years ago, former Representative Blanton of Texas urged that he be continued on active duty, declaring him an example of a stalwart, conscientious policeman.

A brother, J.H. Lee, is now a sergeant at the third precinct police station.

Sergt. Lee is said to have been a distant relative of Gen. Robert E. Lee, and due to the admiration of his parents for the Confederate leader he was named after him.

Sergt. Lee was a member of Lebanon Lodge of Masons and of Washington Chapter, Royal Arch Masons. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Emma V. Lee; two daughters, Miss Annabelle Lee and Miss Jennie May Lee; a son, Robert E. Lee, jr.; his brother, Sergt. J.H. Lee, and three sisters, Mrs. Rose Britton, Mrs. Laura Lee Beck and Mrs. Nora Luve.

Funeral arrangements were to be completed late today.