

## Norman P. Scala

### ( - 20 Jan 1953)

---

*The Evening Star, January 24, 1953, p. A10*

#### **Norman P. Scala, Musician, Physician and Teacher, Dies**

Dr. Norman F. Scala, former concert pianist, oboist and teacher who became a chemist and an internationally known ophthalmologist, died unexpectedly Tuesday at his home here. He would have been 59 Wednesday.

A native of Washington, Dr. Scala was the son of the first leader of the Marine Corps Band, Francis M. Scala, under whose baton John Philip Sousa played before he became famous.

Following in his father's footsteps, Dr. Scala first studied music. He became a concert pianist while a student at the Washington College of Music. In 1910, he was a music teacher at Hall Noyes' School here and in the city's public schools.

#### *Played in Marine Band*

By 1916, Dr. Scala was a chemist with the National Canning Association. Returning to music in 1917-19, he was oboist and first piano soloist for the Marine Band.

Meanwhile, he received his bachelor of arts degree from George Washington University, followed in 1920 by a medical degree from the same university.

He served during those early years in medicine as an intern at Gallinger Hospital, as a resident physician at Children's Hospital and as surgeon for the United States Public Health Service. In 1923 and 1924, he qualified as an alienist. In the latter year, he also received his bachelor of laws degree from Georgetown University Law School.

Throughout the 1920s, Dr. Scala supplemented his education with studies at the University of Vienna, where he was an intern in the eye clinic, 1929-30.

Dr. Scala was in practice at various times in the fields of neuro-psychiatry and eye, ear, nose and throat.

#### *On Hospital Staffs*

He served also on the courtesy staffs of many Washington hospitals, including Providence Emergency and Doctor's Hospitals.

Among his numerous professional groups were the Association for research in Ophthalmology, the District of Columbia Medical Society, the American Medical Association Pan American Medical Society, St. Bernard Club of America and the A.M.A. of Vienna, of which he was a life member.

Dr. Scala also contributed numerous articles to medical journals and had written several musical compositions.

He is survived by three brothers, Chester A. Scala, Suitland, Md.; William B. Scala, Capitol Heights, Md., and Francis Scala, of Washington, and two sisters, Mrs. Gertrude Keyser, 808 F street N.E., and Miss Estelle M. Scala, of the South Carolina avenue address.

Requiem mass was said Thursday in St. Aloysius Church, 19 Eye street N.W. Burial was in Congressional Cemetery.