

Thomas Henry Quillen

Thomas Henry Quillen was born 10 September 1854 in San Francisco, San Francisco, California.¹ He was the oldest of five children of Miles Quillen and Mary A. Cumisky. The family lived in San Francisco for two decades² before moving to Pioche, Lincoln, Nevada, about 1875, where Thomas was a clerk.³ His father was the Lincoln County treasurer but defaulted over borrowing over \$6,000 to gamble, intending to return the original amount from his winnings.⁴ He was unable to do so and was an outcast. The family moved to Washington, Utah Territory, where he died in 1880.⁵

On the 1880 census, Thomas and his mother and brothers were living in Silver Reef, Washington, Utah Territory, where he was a bookkeeper.⁶ His brother John was involved in the 1882 shooting at Capital Saloon, where Herbert Steele killed William Rafferty, a bar tender.⁷ In 1883, his mother listed their residence and household furniture for sale in the Silver Reef Miner.⁸ By 1884, Thomas, his mother, and brothers had moved to Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah Territory.

On the 1900 census, Thomas was a clerk, living with his mother and brother at 628 S Main Street in Salt Lake City (US City Directories, 1822-1995). He moved to Bingham Canyon, Salt Lake, Utah, that year and worked as a salesman.⁹ His mother died in 1905; her obituaries made much of the care that her sons gave her in her widowhood.¹⁰ Thomas was nominated for Salt Lake County commissioner for the short term in 1906.¹¹ He served as mayor of Bingham from 1907-1910.¹² He was also director of the Bingham Central Mining Company¹³ and president of the Richfield Consolidated Mining Company in the West Mountain mining district in Salt Lake County.¹⁴

On the 1910 census, he was a clothing store proprietor, living in a hotel in Bingham Canyon.¹⁵ He served as president of the town board of Bingham in 1913.¹⁶ By 1916, he was living in Salt Lake City at the Stratford Hotel with his brother; they were both involved in mining. He continued rooming at the hotel with his brother until at least 1926.¹⁷ He retired in 1929.¹⁸ He died 8 January 1929 in Salt Lake City and was buried in Mount Calvary Cemetery.¹⁹

¹ Utah Death Certificates, 1904-1995.

² United States Census, 1860, 1870.

³ Nevada State Census, 1875.

⁴ *Reno Gazette-Journal*, 23 January 1877, p. 1; *Weekly Nevada State Journal*, 27 January 1877, p. 4; 9 June 1877, p. 3.

⁵ US Federal Census Mortality Schedules Index, 1850-1880.

⁶ United States Census, 1880.

⁷ *Silver Reef Miner*, 4 February 1882.

⁸ *Silver Reef Miner*, 27 January 1883, p. 2.

⁹ United States Census, 1900.

¹⁰ *Salt Lake Herald*, 31 January 1905, p. 3; *Intermountain Catholic*, 4 February 1905, p. 8.

¹¹ *Salt Lake Tribune*, 11 October 1906, pp. 1-2.

¹² *Salt Lake Herald-Republican*, 19 September 1909, p. 42; 13 March 1910, p. 32; 31 July 1910, p. 29; *Salt Lake Tribune*, 29 December 1907, p. 29; 3 January 1909, p. 17; *Salt Lake Herald*, 13 September 1908, p. 18; *Intermountain Catholic*, 12 September 1908, p. 10; 24 October 1908, p. 9; 16 October 1909, p. 8.

¹³ *Salt Lake Tribune*, 28 August 1909, p. 11; *Salt Lake Mining Review*, Vol 11, 1909, p. 30.

¹⁴ *Salt Lake Herald*, 28 July 1909, p. 8; *Mining and Scientific Press*, Vol 99, 1910, p. 213; *The Mines Directory*, 1910, p. 562.

¹⁵ United States Census, 1910.

¹⁶ *Salt Lake Tribune*, 27 June 1913, p. 9.

¹⁷ US City Directories, 1822-1995.

¹⁸ Utah Death Certificates, 1904-1995.

¹⁹ Utah Death Certificates, 1904-1995; Utah Deaths and Burials, 1888-1946; Utah Salt Lake County Death Records, 1849-1949; *Salt Lake Tribune*, 11 January 1929.

Pansy Club Girls Take Former Mayor Captive Solicit Contributions to Publicity Campaign

MEMBERS of the Pansy club securing a subscription to the Commercial club publicity bureau campaign fund from T. H. Quillen, former mayor of Bingham. At the left is Miss Gertrude Beck and at the right Miss Inez Clive.



(Image from the *Salt Lake Tribune*, 1 April 1914, p. 16)