

Paul Mark

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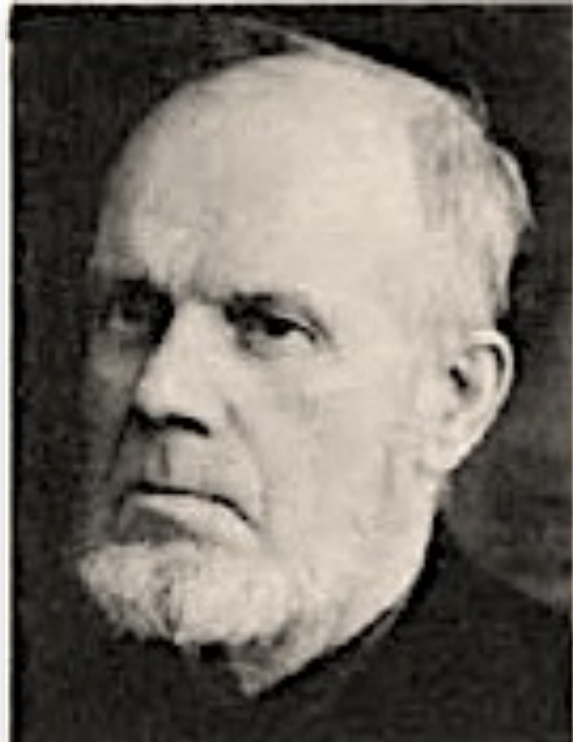
Paul Mark was born in Utah on September 17, 1872, in Brigham City, Utah.

In the 1880 census, Paul is recorded as having lived with his parents, Nicholas and Ann Mark, in Terrace in Box Elder County. Interestingly, Terrace is a ghost town today, located in the Great Salt Lake Desert in west-central Box Elder County.

Paul married Theresa Maria Rasche on November 15, 1899, and had four children: Pauline Veronica, Theodore Mark, Nathaniel Cullen and Nicholas. The family belonged to the Catholic faith.

There is no documentation that Paul attended Utah School for the Deaf. He would have been recruited by Principal Henry C. White in the "call for students" in 1884 and 1886, but never attended. By 1900 (likely earlier), he had moved to Ogden and was part of the local Deaf community (Doug Stringham, personal communication, November 9, 2011).

On June 10, 1909, Mark ran for president of the Utah Association of the Deaf and lost to Elizabeth DeLong. It was not until 1915 that he became the president of the Utah Association of the Deaf and served for three years until 1918. He was also the president of



Paul Mark, president of the
Utah Association of the Deaf

the local chapter of the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf. He had a family; owned his home, and spent his spare time driving his Peerless motorcar (White, *The Silent Worker*, April 1920).

In 1920, Paul was the most popular leader of the Utah Deaf community. He was a very modest man. He lived in Ogden for many years, and held the esteem of all who knew him (White, *The Silent Worker*, April 1920). He owned a shoe shop called “Dunn and Bradstreet” on 25th Street. Paul had a most lucrative business and was a stockholder in several of the leading industries in Ogden (White, *The Silent Worker*, April 1920; White, *The Silent Worker*, October



Paul Mark's shop at 25th Street, Ogden
Photo courtesy of the *Silent Worker*, October 1920

1920). Sometimes more than 150 pairs of shoes were repaired in a single day. One day his business had become so busy that he had been compelled to work long after his regular closing hours. Cyril Jones (the deaf father of two Deaf sons, Von and Rollin

Jones) of Logan became his assistant and eventually secured his employment with that “Prince of Good Fellows,” Paul Mark (White, *The Silent Worker*, June 1920).

If the members of the Utah Deaf community wanted to know the latest news among the deaf, they would invariably call on Mark. He held the meetings in his shoe shop and invited Deaf members to the meeting from many miles around (White, *The Silent Worker*, April 1920).

In 1920, Paul invited Harry C. Anderson, president of the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf, a ride in his “prairie shooner” (the Peerless) through the trail from Ogden Canyon to Heritage Hotel where President Anderson and his wife were registered during their stay in Ogden, Utah (White, *The Silent Worker*, November 1920).

Paul passed away on December 28, 1945 in Ogden, Utah and is buried at the Aultorest Memorial Park in Ogden with his wife alongside with his parents.



**Paul Mark, his wife and daughter, Pauline
Photo courtesy of the Silent Worker, October 1920**

Note

Doug Stringham, e-mail message to Jodi B. Kinner, November 9, 2011.

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