

HIGHLAND'S SECOND BISHOP, WAYNE CHIPMAN BOOTH
By Charlie Greenland

On July 11, 1920, Wayne C. Booth was sustained as Bishop of the Highland ward with counselors Orville C. Day and William Mower and they were ordained and set apart by Apostle Rudger Clawson. The following year Brother Mower moved and William S Greenwood was sustained in his stead.

Wayne Chipman Booth was born in Alpine, Utah April 16, 1892 to Robert Ebenezer and Lovenia Jane Chipman Booth. When he was two years old his family moved to the farm in Highland which his father had purchased in 1889.

He attended elementary schools in Alpine and American Fork and went to Brigham Young University for his first year of high school but graduated from American Fork High School with the first four-year class in 1913. In November, 1914 he left for Portland Oregon to serve a church mission. He served under the presidency of Elder Melvin J Ballard until December 1916.

In August, 1917, with World War I raging in Europe, he enlisted in the 145th Field Artillery, trained at Fort Douglas and was then sent to Camp Kearney, California. While there he applied for Officers Training School, passed the required tests and was sent to Fort Knox, Kentucky for training. While he was there, the 145th unit was sent to France without him. Upon graduation from the Fort Knox school he was sent to Camp Custer, Michigan to train recruits. The contingent was awaiting overseas orders when the Armistice was signed November 11, 1918. He was discharged as a Second Lieutenant on January 30, 1919.

He had always loved farming and livestock so after his discharge he returned to Highland to work on the farm with his father. In June, 1919 he married Lillian Clayson in the Salt Lake Temple. Lillian was born November 30, 1894 at Lake Shore, Utah, to Eli J and Elizabeth Ann Hawkins Clayson. As the birth of their first child approached, Lillian convinced her husband that he should attend BYU and acquire his bachelor's degree. On January 29, 1922 he was released as Bishop and moved his family to Provo where Lillian taught school and Wayne studied agriculture and graduated in June 1924 with second highest honors in a class of 72. He then taught at Provo High School and also served as counselor to Bishop Henry Aldous Dixon in the Third Ward. The following year he accepted a teaching position in American Fork.

They purchased a home and land in the northwest section of the city where he planned to raise purebred livestock for demonstration in high schools and to satisfy his craving for that type of work. He was unable to follow his dream, however, as he contracted Addison's disease, which was incurable, and died April 27, 1927, shortly after his 35th birthday.

Wayne Booth was blessed with a keen mind, sympathetic understanding and a great ability to get along with his associates. His hobby was music and he learned to play the violin and loved to sing.