Cecil Champion Chase

Cecil Champion Chase was born 27 October 1896 in Farmington to Horace B. Chase (1856-1929) and Elizabeth Jelly (1861-1913), parents of nine children. Elizabeth was born in New Market, Scott County, Minnesota and came to Eureka in Dakota County with her parents in 1863. Horace’s family was from New Hampshire. Horace and Elizabeth married in 1880 in Eureka.

Cecil Chase enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in St. Paul on 9 October 1917 and reported for active duty at Parris Island, South Carolina a week later. He served on the USS New Mexico from 30 March 1918 to 8 January 1919. He qualified as a sharpshooter, but did not serve in Europe. He was discharged at Philadelphia on 21 August 1919.

Two of Cecil’s brothers, James J. and Willis, also served during the First World War.

After the War, Cecil married Hazel R. Wylie (1897-1945) in Minneapolis in 1923. By 1930 they were living in Detroit Lakes, Becker County, Minnesota, where Cecil was a public school principal. They had two children, Cecil Lee and Carmen. By 1935 the family had moved to Pine Grove in Klamath County, Oregon, where Cecil was a high school superintendent. Cecil’s wife Hazel died in 1945 in Medford, Oregon. He remarried Mrs. Mildred Robinson Schultz (1903-1975), a teacher, in 1946 in Linn County, Oregon.

Cecil died 9 December 1979 at Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon at age 83.