Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Senator Thompson, Ralph U. — Represented Louisa and Muscatine Counties, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 29 Oct 1878 Louisa County, Iowa near Grandview, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Gertrude M. Carter 9 June 1902 Dubuque, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Member of the Muscatine County and Iowa Bar Associations, trustee of the Muscatine municipal light and water board, he was admitted to the Bar in 1902

B. Civic responsibilities Knights of Pythias

C. Profession Real estate; attorney

4. Church membership Methodist

5. Sessions served 43rd General Assembly 1929-1930

6. Public Offices

A. Local Assistant city attorney of Muscatine 1907. Assistant county attorney for 2 terms; in 1942 elected Muscatine city attorney

B. State

C. National

7. Death 13 Sept 1946 Muscatine, Iowa; buried Greenwood Cemetery Muscatine, Iowa

8. Children No children

9. Names of parents William B. and Marcia (Barnett) Thompson

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

Thompson, Ralph U.

10. Education He attended rural schools in Louisa County, Iowa and graduated high school in Muscatine

11. Degrees He graduated from the College of Law at the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, 1903

12. Other applicable information Democrat

- At age 10, his parents moved to Muscatine, Iowa
- In June 1903 he opened a law office in partnership with his brother, Herbert U. Thompson, in Muscatine.

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

Thompson, Ralph U.

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
- Iowa Official Register 1929-1930, p. 231			
- ancestry.com (accessed 12/15/06) ✓			
- Obituary - The Muscatine Journal and News Tribune, Muscatine, Iowa Fri Sep 13 1946, p 1, col. 6			
- The Iowa Legislature (accessed 5 July 2009)			
- Biographies for Muscatine Co., Iowa 911 (accessed 22 July 2009)			
- rootsweb.com (accessed 3 Jan 2010)			

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

The Muscatine Journal and News-Tribune, Friday Sept. 13, 1946
p. 1, column 6

R. Thompson, Former State Senator, Dies

Ralph U. Thompson, 67, veteran Muscatine attorney and former state senator from Muscaitne (sic) and Louisa counties, died at 6:10 p.m. Thursday at Bellevue hospital. His home was at 517 Roscoe avenue.

Attorney Thompson was active with his brother, the late Atty. Herbert G. Thompson, in bringing the municipal light and water plants to Muscatine, and the brothers were active in democratic political circles. Herbert G. Thompson died Sept. 19, 1942.

On Light and Water Board.

Attorney Thompson served one term as state senator about 20 years ago and he was appointed as a trustee on the Muscatine municipal light and water board in April of 1930. In March of 1934, he resigned this trusteeship and Ralph E. Renling was appointed by then Mayor Herman B. Lord to succeed him

He was born near Grandview in Louisa county on Oct. 29, 1878, the son of William B. and Mae Barnett Thompson, but he came to Muscatine with his parents when he was four years old and had resided here since.

He was graduated from Muscatine high school and then attended the College of Law at the University of Iowa from which he was graduated in 1903. He immediately began the practice of law in Muscatine, becoming associated with his brother Herbert G. Thompson in the law firm of Thompson and Thompson which maintained offices at 210 Walnut street.

Married at Dubuque.

Mr. Thompson married Miss Gertrude Carter on June 9, 1902, at Dubuque, Ia. He was a member of the First Methodist church, of Wyoming lodge No. 76, Knights of Pythias, of the Muscatine County Bar association and of the Iowa State Bar association.

Surviving are his wife and one brother, Harry C Thompson, both of Muscatine. Preceding him in death were his parents, two sisters and three brothers.

The body is at the Fairbanks Home for Funerals where it will remain for services to be conducted at 2:30 p. m. Saturday Dr. R. M. Shipman, pastor of First Methodist church. Interment will be in Greenwood cemetery.

*Article includes photo.

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

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Senator Ralph Thompson

View All Years

General Assembly: 43 (01/14/1929 - 01/11/1931)

Select

State Senator
Republican

Standing Committee Assignments

Legislation Sponsored

- Bills
- Amendments

Other Information

District: 20

Biography:

THOMPSON, RALPH U. Senator from the twentieth senatorial district, composed of Muscatine and Louisa counties, was born October 29, 1878, on a farm in Louisa county, Iowa. At the age of ten years, his parents moved to Muscatine, Muscatine county, Iowa. He attended rural school in Louisa county and grade and high school in Muscatine. Was graduated from the college of law at the University of Iowa in 1903. In June of that year he opened a law office, in partnership with his brother, Herbert G. Thompson, in Muscatine, where he is still engaged in practice of law. Was married to Gertrude M. Carter on June 9, 1902. In 1907 acted as assistant city attorney of the city of Muscatine, and as assistant county attorney for two successive terms. In 1917 was elected city attorney of Muscatine, re-elected a second term. Received the nomination on the democratic ticket as a candidate for congress in the second congressional district in 1924. At a special election, held March 18, 1927, he was nominated by petition on the progressive independent ticket and elected state senator to fill the unexpired term of the late Samuel E. Wilson of Louisa county.

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You searched for: **ralph u thompson** of **muscatine iowa** We have highlighted matching words that appear in the page below.

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Biographies For Muscatine County Iowa 1911

Source: ***History of Muscatine County Iowa***, Volume II, Biographical, 1911, page 105

RALPH U. AND HERBERT G. **THOMPSON**. **Ralph U**. and Herbert G. **Thompson**, brothers, constitute the well known law firm of **Thompson** & **Thompson**, of **Muscatine**, and in the professional circles of the city they have won notable distinction, their ability being indicated by the fact that they are retained as counsel for the defense or prosecution in most of the important cases tried in the courts of this district.

They are sons of William B. and Maria (Barnett) **Thompson**, the former a native of Louisa county, **Iowa**, and the latter of Steeple Chase, England. The paternal grandfather, William **Thompson**, was a native of Ohio but was of Scotch descent. His father also bore the name of William and, coming to **Iowa**, spent his last days in Louisa county, where he died when

http://iagenweb.com/muscatine/biographies/thompson.htm Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa. 7/22/2009

more than eighty years of age. William **Thompson**, the grandfather, was a railroad contractor in early life but became one of the pioneer residents of **Iowa**, settling in this city when it was part of the territory of Wisconsin. He went to Louisa county with his father in 1834 and took up twenty-seven hundred acres of government land, after which he devoted his time and energies to farming and cattle-raising. He died in Louisa county in 1902, at the venerable age of eighty-two years, while his wife, who bore the maiden name of Jane Shellabarger, was about eighty-one years of age at the time of her death.

They reared a large family including William B. **Thompson**, who was reared upon the homestead farm in Louisa county and devoted his energies to the work of tilling the soil and caring for the crops until the outbreak of the Civil war, when he enlisted in Company A, Seventh **Iowa** Infantry, with which he served as a private for two years. He was wounded at the battle of Resaca and was discharged on account of his injuries. For a time he was in a hospital at Lexington, Kentucky, afterward in an Indiana hospital and subsequently in a hospital at Keokuk, his wounds necessitating hospital treatment for a year and a half. He took part in a number of hotly contested engagements of the war and when he had recovered his health resumed his education as a student in Western College at Toledo, **Iowa**, from which he was graduated in due course of time. He afterward pursued a post-graduate course in the State University at **Iowa** City and later engaged in teaching school for ten years. He next turned his attention to the insurance business, holding the general agency of various companies. In the early period of his life he gave his political support to the republican party but afterward became a democrat.

William B. **Thompson** wedded Maria Barnett, a daughter of Alfred Barnett, a native of England, who engaged in the manufacture of lime in that country. After crossing the Atlantic to America he settled at Silver Creek, New York. where he operated some large lime kilns for a number of years. About 1845 he came to **Iowa**, settling in **Iowa** City, where he followed contracting and building until the last few years of his life, which he spent in Louisa county, passing away when more than eighty years of age. He, too, was a soldier of the Civil war, belonging to the famous Gray Beard Regiment of this state. Unto him and his wife were born several children, including Alfred T., Simeon, Sarah, Maria, Hattie and Mary. It was Maria Barnett of this family who became the wife of William B. **Thompson**, and by their marriage were born five children: Harry C., a resident of Chicago; **Ralph U**. and Herbert G., of this review; and William and Elizabeth, both of whom died in early childhood. The eldest son is prominent in musical circles, being a composer and arranger of music. He has played with the Innis, Kryll, Thauvius and Brooks bands, which have world-wide reputations and has also been connected with St. Paul's Symphony and the International Grand Opera Company orchestras.

Mrs. **Thompson** was married twice, her first husband being Thomas Johnson, who was killed while serving as a soldier of the Civil war in 1861. There were two children of that union, Frank A., and Carrie, the latter the wife of Nicholas J. Lenz, of **Muscatine**.

Ralph U. **Thompson**, senior member of the well known law firm of **Thompson &Thompson**, was born in Louisa county, **Iowa**, October 29, 1878, and when ten years of age came with his parents to **Muscatine**. Here he attended the public schools and afterward continued his education in Leverich Normal School and in the University of **Iowa**, wherein he prepared for a professional career, being graduated from the law department with the class of 1903. The same year he was admitted to the bar.

Herbert G. **Thompson**, junior partner of the firm, was born in Louisa county, December 31,

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

1880, and has lived in **Muscatine** county since eight years of age. He. too, attended the public schools and the Leverich Normal and pursued the collegiate and law courses in the State University, being graduated from the law department in June, 1903. At that time he was admitted to practice in the state and federal courts. At the same time the two brothers joined their father in opening a law, loan and real-estate office under the firm name of W. B. **Thompson** & Sons. Following their father's death, they discintinued the real-estate and loan departments and have since devoted themselves sucessfully to the practice of law, in which they have secured an extensive clientage.

On the 9th of June, 1902, **Ralph U. Thompson** was married to Miss Gertrude M. Carter, a daughter of Robert and Agnes Carter. He is a member of the Methodist church while his wife is a Catholic in religious faith. He belongs to the Improved Order of Red Men and to the Sons of Veterans.

On the 15th of July, 1902, Herbert G. **Thompson** wedded Miss Ida B. Pepler, a daughter of Edward Pepler, and they have two children, Willis Bruce and Marie Meredith. Mr. **Thompson** is a Methodist, while his wife belongs to the Episcopal church. She was born in Johnson county, **Iowa**, where her parents, who were natives of England, settled at an early day. Both her father and her mother, however, are deceased. The former was a soldier of the Civil war and was prominent in the public life of Johnson county, where he served as justice of the peace for many years. Unto him and his wife were born seven children, Thomas, Edward, Lydia, Carrie, Lucy, Ida and Jane.

Herbert G. **Thompson**, like his brother, is prominent in fraternal circles and is now serving as deputy great sachem of the Improved Order of Red Men of **Iowa**. He also holds membership with the Knights of Pythias, the Elks and the Sons of Veterans. His political allegiance is given to the democratic party, and he has served as city attorney of **Muscatine** during the years 1909 and 1910. He is now filling the office of county attorney. The two brothers live together on their father's old homestead, where they have resided for twenty-two years. They are sucessful lawyers, are dilligent students of their profession, and in their careful and thorough preparation of their cases is found one of the strong elements of their success.

Back to the **Muscatine** County Biographical Index Page

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Greenwood Cemetery, 1814 Lucas St., Muscatine, IA

Last Name	THOMPSON
First Name	RALPH
Middle Name	U
Age	67
Sex	M
Veteran	
Date of Birth	
* Date of Death	9/12/1946
City	MUSCATINE
County	MUSCATINE
State	IA
Undertaker	
Date of In	9/14/1946
Addition	PAGE
Block Number	6
Lot Number	3
Grave Number	
Lot Owner	ROBERT CARTER

Notes:

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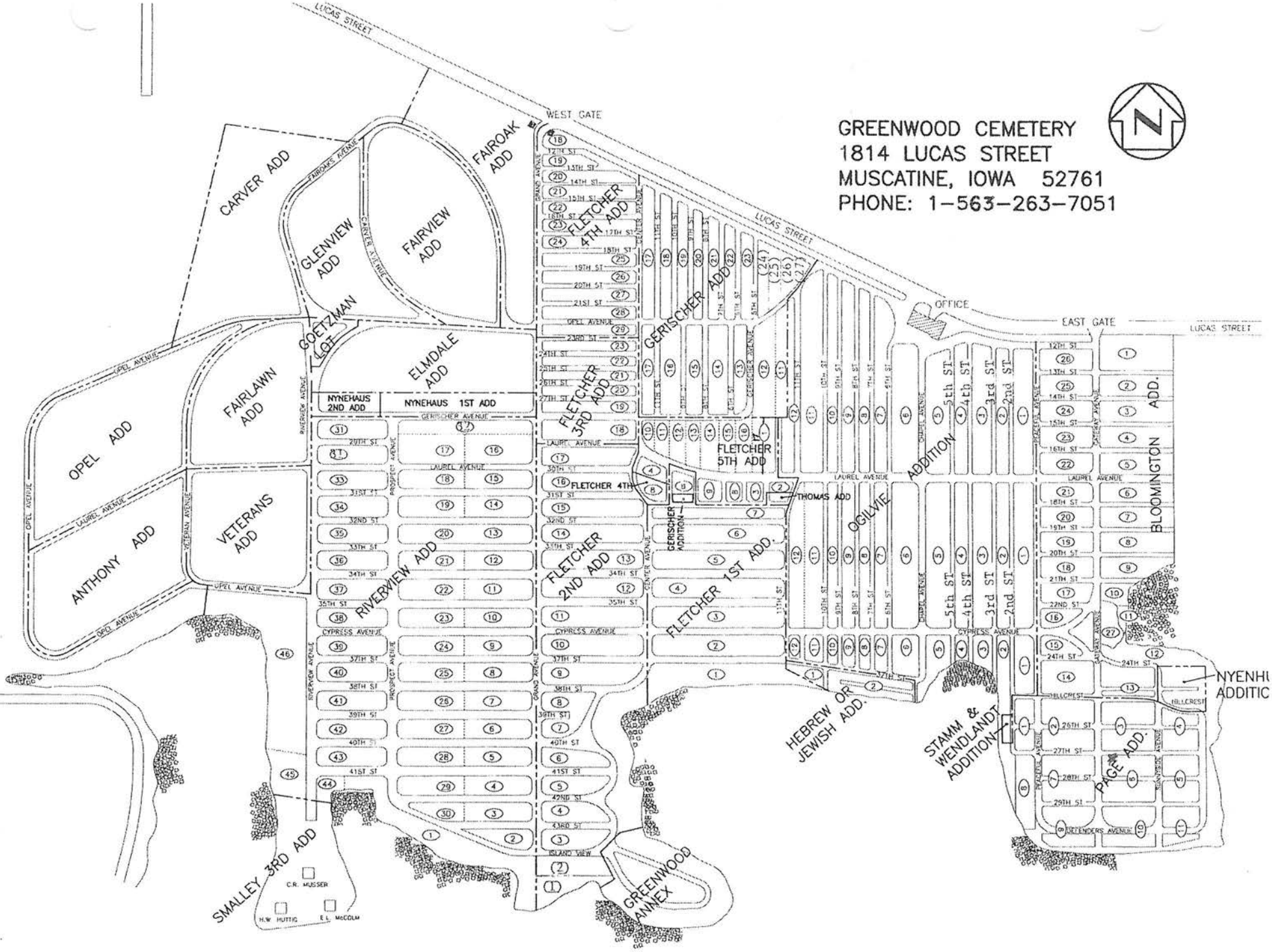

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- *ID:* I19584
- *Name:* Ralph U THOMPSON
- *Surname:* Thompson
- *Given Name:* Ralph U
- *Sex:* M
- *Birth:* 29 Oct 1878 in , Louisa, IA
- *_UID:* 7B958473C0CEDC43BE76327D91942408E85E
- *Change Date:* 11 Apr 2002 at 18:37:54

Ancestry Hints for **Ralph U THOMPSON**

5 possible matches found on Ancestry.com

ancestry.com

No money for school? Use Obama's stimulus bill

Hair loss, aging and supplements

Father: William B THOMPSON Pvt or CivWar b: 1846 in , Louisa, IA
Mother: Maria BARNETT

Marriage 1 Gertrude M CARTER

- *Married:* 9 Jun 1902 in , , IA

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You searched for **Ralph U. Thompson** in **Iowa**

1900 United States Federal Census

Name:	**Ralph U Thompson**
Home in 1900:	**Muscatine, Muscatine, Iowa**
Age:	**21**
Birth Date:	**Oct 1878**
Birthplace:	**Iowa**
Race:	**White**
Ethnicity:	**American**
Gender:	**Male**
Relationship to Head of House:	**Son**
Father's Name:	**William B**
Father's Birthplace:	**Iowa**
Mother's Name:	**Mariah**
Mother's Birthplace:	**England**
Marital Status:	**Single**
Residence :	**Muscatine City, Muscatine, Iowa**
Occupation:	View on Image
Neighbors:	View others on page

Household Members:

Name	Age
William B Thompson	54
Mariah Thompson	56
Ralph U Thompson	21
Herbert G Thompson	19

Source Citation: Year: *1900*; Census Place: *Muscatine, Muscatine, Iowa*; Roll *T623_450*; Page: *14A*; Enumeration District: *107*.

Source Information:
Ancestry.com. *1900 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2004. Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census. *Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. T623, 1854 rolls.

Description:
This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1900 United States Federal Census, the Twelfth Census of the United States. Census takers recorded many details including each person's name, address, relationship to the head of household, color or race, sex, month and year of birth, age at last birthday, marital status, number of years married, the total number of children born of the mother, the number of those children living, birthplace, birthplace of father and mother, if the individual was foreign born, the year of immigration and the number of years in the United States, the citizenship status of foreign-born individuals over age twenty-one, occupation, and more. Additionally, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual images of the 1900 Federal Census. Learn more...

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You searched for **Ralph U. Thompson** in **Iowa**

1930 United States Federal Census

Name:	**Ralph U Thompson**
Home in 1930:	**Muscatine, Muscatine, Iowa** View Map
Age:	**51**
Estimated birth year:	**abt 1879**
Birthplace:	**Iowa**
Relation to Head of House:	**Head**
Spouse's name:	**Gertrude M**
Race:	**White**
Occupation:	
Education:	
Military service:	View image
Rent/home value:	
Age at first marriage:	
Parents' birthplace:	
Neighbors:	View others on page

Household Members:	Name	Age
	Ralph U Thompson	**51**
	Gertrude M Thompson	**47**

Source Citation: Year: *1930*; Census Place: *Muscatine, Muscatine, Iowa*; Roll *670*; Page: *13A*; Enumeration District: *11*; Image: *845.0*.

Source Information:
Ancestry.com. *1930 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2002. Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census. *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1930. T626, 2,667 rolls.

Description:
Containing records for approximately 123 million Americans, the 1930 United States Federal Census is the largest census released to date and is the most recent census available for public access. The census gives us a glimpse into the lives of Americans in 1930, and contains information about a household's family members and occupants including: birthplaces, occupations, immigration, citizenship, and military service. The names of those listed in the census are linked to actual images of the 1930 Census. Learn more...

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