

= Thomas H. Tongue =

Thomas H. Tongue (June 23 , 1844 ? January 11 , 1903) was an American politician and attorney in the state of Oregon . Born in England , his family immigrated to Washington County , Oregon , in 1859 . In Oregon , he would serve in the State Senate from 1889 to 1893 and was the seventh mayor of Hillsboro . A Republican , he was chairman of the state party , and national convention delegate in 1892 . Tongue served as Congressman from 1897 to 1903 representing Oregon 's 1st congressional district .

= = Early life = =

Thomas H. Tongue was born in Lincolnshire , England , on June 23 , 1844 . He attended the public schools of England before immigrating to the United States with his parents . The family settled in Washington County , Oregon , in the Tualatin Valley on November 23 , 1859 . His parents Rebecca and Anthony Tongue had a house west of North Plains .

In Oregon , Tongue attended the Tualatin Academy preparatory school in nearby Forest Grove . He then enrolled at Pacific University , a college affiliated with Tualatin Academy , and graduated from the school in June 1868 . After graduating he moved to Hillsboro , the county seat of Washington County , where he studied law . On December 25 , 1869 , he married Emily Margaret Eagleton , daughter of George Eagleton .

= = Career = =

Tongue was admitted to the Oregon State Bar in 1870 and began private legal practice in Hillsboro . While practicing law he was also a farmer and raised livestock while a member of the Knights of Pythias and Odd Fellows . Also a member of the Masonic Order , he served as a grand master in that organization . Tongue started his political career as mayor of Hillsboro , serving two terms . He was elected in 1882 as the seventh person to hold that office , serving from December 13 , 1882 , to December 10 , 1883 . He would serve a second term three years later from December 13 , 1886 to December 9 , 1887 .

In 1884 , he purchased the former fairgrounds where the Washington County Fair had been held for approximately 15 years . The 50 acres (200 @, @ 000 m2) were south of First Avenue and Baseline in present @-@ day downtown Hillsboro , with Tongue using the land for his hobby farm . In 1888 , Tongue was elected to a four @-@ year term in the Oregon State Senate . Serving in both the 1889 and 1891 sessions , the Republican represented District 27 and Washington County . While in the State Senate he was selected as the chairperson of the judiciary committee . He replaced William D. Hare as both mayor and state senator .

A Republican Party official , Tongue served on the party 's state central committee from 1886 to 1896 . In 1890 , he was elected to the post of chairman for the Republican state convention and followed that position as president of the state party from 1892 to 1894 . In 1892 , Oregon received a second congressional district , and Tongue served as the Republican party 's chairman for the district until 1896 . Also in 1892 , Tongue served as a delegate to the Republican National Convention held in Minneapolis , Minnesota , and served as the vice president of the Oregon delegation to the convention in 1894 .

= = Congress = =

Thomas Tongue was elected in 1896 as a Republican to the 55th Congress from Oregon 's 1st congressional district . Replacing Binger Hermann , Tongue won by a total of 63 votes over his opponents . He was re @-@ elected three times and served in the 56th and 57th United States Congresses . Tongue also won re @-@ election in 1902 to the 58th Congress , but died before that session began . In the 1898 campaign he defeated three opponents led by Fusion Party candidate Robert M. Veatch , winning by 2 @, @ 037 votes over Veatch . Tongue won by 3 @, @ 100 votes in

1900 and by 7 @, @ 318 votes in the 1902 campaign .

On March 4 , 1897 , he began serving in the United States House of Representatives and remained until his death in Washington , D.C. , on January 11 , 1903 , before the start of what would have been a fourth term . In Congress , Tongue was chairman of the Committee on Irrigation of Arid Lands during both the 56th and 57th Congresses . He served alongside William R. Ellis and Malcolm Adelbert Moody as Oregon 's House delegates . While in Congress , Tongue advocated for the creation of a national park for Crater Lake in Southern Oregon . He introduced bills to create the park in 1898 , 1899 , and finally in 1901 when the bill was passed by Congress . In May 1902 , Crater Lake National Park became the United States ' fifth national park when President Theodore Roosevelt signed the bill into law . After Tongue 's death , Binger Hermann , who Tongue succeeded in Congress , was elected to complete Tongue 's term . Thomas Brackett Reed , Speaker of the House during Tongue 's first two terms , considered Tongue " one of the seven ablest men in the House . "

= = Family = =

Tongue and his wife , the former Margarite Eagleton , had eight children : Edmund Burke Tongue , Edwin Tongue , Mary G. Lombard , Thomas H. Tongue , Jr . , Elizabeth Fey , Florence Munger , Bertha Rebecca Tongue , and Edith . Edith married Alfred E. Reames , who would serve in the United States Senate . Thomas Tongue , Jr. and Edmund both became lawyers , with the older Edmund forming a legal partnership with his father in 1897 . Congressman Tongue was buried in Hillsboro , Oregon , at the family 's private plot next to the Masonic Cemetery (now Pioneer Cemetery) . Tongue was the grandfather of Thomas H. Tongue III (1912 ? 1994) , who served as an associate justice on the Oregon Supreme Court .