'26 APR 17 AM 8:39:00

REFERENCE SERVICE SLIP
Archival Research Room Record Request
National Archives at St. Louis

Date: 04/17/2026

REQUESTER INFORMATION

Name (Please Print – Last, First, Middle)	Researcher ID Card Number
Burns, Andrew	4563213
E-Mail Address:	**Phone Number:**
afbfg4@umsl.edu	636-415-7353

INFORMATION NEEDED TO LOCATE RECORDS (Furnish as much as possible)

Name used in Service (Please Print – Last, First, Middle)	Service Number/SSN	Date & Place of Birth
Bethel, William, H.		

MILITARY SERVICE

Branch of Service:

- ☐ Air Force
- ☐ Army Air Corps
- ☐ Army Air Force
- ☐ Army
- ☐ Marine Corps
- ☐ Navy
- ☐ Coast Guard
- ☐ Unknown

Type of Rank:

- ☐ Enlisted
- ☐ Officer
- ☐ Unknown

Service Period (Check all that apply):

- ☐ 1939 & Prior
- ☐ 1940 - 1950
- ☐ 1950 & After

Date & Place of Death:

State of Residence (upon entry into service):

Other Identifying Information (Parent's Names, CSC Number, etc.)

Researcher Signature: Andrew Burns

CIVILIAN SERVICE

(Agency & Location)		
Lighthouse Service (FL)		
From: 1918	To: 1921	
(Agency & Location)		
From:	To:	
(Agency & Location)		
From:	To:	

Other Identifying Information (Maiden Name, Job Title, etc.)

This Space Intentionally Left Blank

STAFF USE ONLY

Appointment Time and Date:

Additional Researchers: ☐ Yes ☐ No

CMRS Service Request Number: C-6007304631

Attendant Signature:

CMRS Search Request Number(s):

Remarks: B 340

'26 MAY 18 AM10:05:16

SCREENING NOTES

☒ Reviewed and Nothing Removed

☐ Items Removed and User Informed

Hold Requested: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Total Requests:

Screened Items:

☐ Additional charge outs and signatures on reverse side

Time Out:

Final Return:

William H. Bethel

LEGAL RESIDENCE
Florida

STATUS

DESIGNATION	SALARY	BUREAU OR OFFICE	DATE OF EFFECT OF ACTION AUTHORIZED
Temp (pendent) Keeper Rebecca Shoal L.S. Fla.	720.	L. H.	Dec. 13, 1918
" (Prob) " " " "	"	"	Mar. 16, 1919
" Sup. " " " "	$780	"	Nov. 6, 1919
RESIGNED CLOSE OF Jay 5, 1921.			

11—1248

Form 73

NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

5

LIGHT
DEC 18 1918
HOUSES

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, 7th DISTRICT,

Key West, Fla., (City.) December 11, (Date.) 1918.

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Action recommended, Temporary appointment not to exceed 30 days from date of establishing a register.

Name, **William H. Bethel.** Legal residence, **Florida.**

CHIEF CLERK

Position, **Keeper.** Salary, **$720. A.**

Location, **Rebecca Shoal Lightstation, Fla.** Appropriation, **Salaries of Keepers of Lighthouses.**

1918 DEC 19 AM 9 41

Effective **December 17, 1918.** {~~the actual date of entrance on duty~~, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

Former position, Former salary,

Location,

APPOINTMENTS

Rank on eligible list, Rating, Percentage, , Other eligibles considered:

1918 DEC 19 AM 10 04

Previous incumbent, William X. Carey. Services terminated, **November 30, 1918.**

Reason, **Promoted.**

Members of family in Government Service, None.

Remarks: This nomination is necessary pending the establishment of a register. There are no eligibles, for lights where no quarters are provided, on the list.

Selection regular, subject to the action of the
ER U. S. Civil Service Commission, DEC 16 1918 , 191

Geo E Adams
Secretary, Civil Service District.

Wm H Bennett
Superintendent of Lighthouses.
asb.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON DEC 18 1918

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

1918 DEC 18 PM 3 59

Conway
Acting Commissioner

12-19-18

---

[1] Strike out the clause which does not apply.

11—2314

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

APPOINTMENT DIVISION

WASHINGTON

December 17, 1918.

Mr. William H. Bethel,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office,

Keeper

in the Lighthouse Service

at a salary of Seven Hundred and Twenty dollars per annum,

effective on the date on which you enter upon duty in the above-mentioned position.

CARDED

Your appointment will continue for a period not to exceed thirty days from date of receipt of a certification of eligibles for probational appointment in the above-mentioned position.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully

APPOINTMENT DIVISION ENTERED DEC 21 1918 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

(Signed) Clifford Harting.

Chief of Appointment Division.

D
G

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: William X. Carey.

Legal Residence: Florida.

11—3002

Form 111

JAN 8 1919

5

OATH OF OFFICE

Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

ATTACHMENTS
1919 JAN 7 PM 4 09
JAN 7 1919 11 AM

HOUSES JAN 7 1919

I, William H. Bethel.

do solemnly [1] swear (See below) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter: So HELP ME GOD.

CHIEF CLERK

1919 JAN 7 PM 2 00

William H. Bethel
(Appointee signs here)

[2] Sworn to (See below) and subscribed before me, this [3] 30th day of December, A. D. 191 8.

(Affix official seal here)

[4] (Name) P. F. Cosgrove, Jr.

(Official title) Master U. S. S.

My commission expires

Official Title	Rate of Pay	Name of Station, Vessel, or Place of Employment.
Present Keeper.	$720. A.	Rebecca Shoal Lightstation, Fla.
Former [5]		

(The above should be filled in by the district officer before sending to appointee)

Office of Lighthouse Inspector, 7th District

Key West, Fla., (Address), December 31, 1918. (Date)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on December 13, 1918. (Date)

CARDED

Wm. W. Emerick
Superintendent of Lighthouses, 7th D.
(Signature, followed by title)

[1] Insert here "swear" or "affirm," as the case may be.
[2] Insert here "sworn to" or "affirmed," as the case may be.
[3] The oath may be taken any time after the date of appointment and prior to the payment of compensation, but no compensation shall be paid until the oath is executed in proper form.
[4] This oath should be taken before a justice of the peace, notary public, judge, clerk of a court, a chief clerk in the office of a lighthouse inspector or other employee in the Lighthouse Service designated by a chief clerk, or any other officer having authority to administer oaths, but never before a collector of customs or postmaster, as neither officer has power to administer oaths in such cases. In case the officer administering the oath has no seal, his official character should be duly certified to by the clerk of the proper court or the proper county clerk, except in the case of chief clerks in the offices of lighthouse inspectors and other employees in the Lighthouse Service designated by them, who are not required to have a seal.
[5] Give this information in all cases where new oath is required.
Failure to fill out this oath properly will result in its return for correction.

11—944

Form 73

MAR 12 1919 8 30 AM

NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

OFFICE OF ~~LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR~~, 7th DISTRICT.

5

LIGHT HOUSES MAR 12 1919

Key West, Fla., (City.) March 6, (Date.) 1919.

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Action recommended, Probationary appointment.

Name, William H. Bethel. Legal residence, Florida.

Position, Keeper. Salary, $720 A.

Location, Rebecca Shoal Lightstation. Fla Appropriation, Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Effective March 16, 1919. {~~the actual date of entrance on duty, or~~ as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

Former position, Keeper. Former salary, $720. A.

Location, Rebecca Shoal Lightstation.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION BUREAU OF NAVIGATION ACTION TAKEN MAR 13 1919 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Rank on eligible list, 3 Rating, Keeper Percentage, 73, Other eligibles considered: No other eligible to consider.

Previous incumbent, Wm. X. Carey. Services terminated, Nov. 30, 1919.

Reason, Promoted to Keeper at $780, -- Dec. 1st, 1918.

Members of family in Government Service,

Remarks: This nominee holds appointment not to exceed 30 days after the establishment of a register. Register established February 17, 1919.

Selection regular, subject to the action of the U. S. Civil Service Commission. MAR 10 1919, 191

Geo E Cleaves

Secretary, Civil Service District.

W. W. Bennett

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

MAR 12 1919

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

3-13-19

1919 MAR 12 PM 4 32

Conway

Acting Commissioner

[1] Strike out the clause which does not apply.

11—2314

CERTIFICATE OF PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

March 13, 1919.

Mr. William H. Bethel,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office and to a probationary period of not to exceed six months as provided by paragraph (c) of section 1 of civil-service rule VII, Keeper in the Lighthouse Service at a salary of Seven Hundred and Twenty dollars per annum, effective on the date on which you enter upon duty in the above-mentioned position.

By selection from certificate of eligibles (No.) issued by the Secretary of the Fifth Civil Service District.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

CARDED

(Signed) Clifford Thurber

M
G

Chief of Appointment Division.

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: Yourself.

Legal Residence: Florida.

(See reverse side.)

Seventh District.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION ENTERED MAR 13 1919 DEPT. OF COMMERCE

11—6080

C. S. REPORT DATA ENTERED

MAR 22 1919 8 38 AM

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes)

5

LIGHT MAR 22 1919 HOUSES

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

1919 MAR 22 PM 1 APPOINTMENTS CHIEF CLERK

I, William H. Bethel

do solemnly [1] Swear (See below) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So HELP ME GOD.

1919 MAR 22 AM 11 35

William H. Bethel

(Appointee signs here)

[2] Sworn (See below) and subscribed before me, this [3] 18th. day of March, A. D. 1919.

(Affix official seal here)

[4] (Name) A. Brosh

(Official title) Chief Post Office Insp't 7th Light.

My commission expires

Official Title	Rate of Pay	Name of Station, Vessel, or Place of Employment.
Present Keeper.	$720. A.	Rebecca Shoal Lightstation.
Former [5]		

(The above should be filled in by the district officer before sending to appointee)

Office of Lighthouse Inspector, 7th. District

Key West, Fla., (Address) March 18th, 1919. (Date)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on March 16, 1919. (Date)

CARDED

U. S. REPORT DATA RECEIVED

W. W. Bennett

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

(Signature, followed by title)

1919 MAR 22 AM 10 37

[1] Insert here "swear" or "affirm," as the case may be.

[2] Insert here "sworn to" or "affirmed," as the case may be.

[3] The oath may be taken any time after the date of appointment and prior to the payment of compensation, but no compensation shall be paid until the oath is executed in proper form.

[4] This oath should be taken before a justice of the peace, notary public, judge, clerk of a court, a chief clerk in the office of a lighthouse inspector or other employee in the Lighthouse Service designated by a chief clerk, or any other officer having authority to administer oaths, but never before a collector of customs or postmaster, as neither officer has power to administer oaths in such cases. In case the officer administering the oath has no seal, his official character should be duly certified to by the clerk of the proper court or the proper county clerk, except in the case of chief clerks in the offices of lighthouse inspectors and other employees in the Lighthouse Service designated by them, who are not required to have a seal.

[5] Give this information in all cases where new oath is required.

Failure to fill out this oath properly will result in its return for correction.

11—944

MAR 22 1919 8 38 AM

CHIEF CLERK 5

LIGHT MAR 22 19.. HOUSES

for appointment

[redacted]

PERSONAL QUESTION SHEET

1919 MAR 22 PM 12 55

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

APPOINTMENTS MAR 24 1919

March 5, 1913.

To the Chiefs of Bureaus of the Department of Commerce:

For the purpose of enabling the Department to maintain a complete record of its officers and employees, you are requested to have every person hereafter appointed or employed in your Bureau, immediately upon his entrance on duty, answer each of the questions in Part I of this form and sign the same. The information given in Part I should be reviewed and approved in accordance with instructions. The information in Part II should be supplied as indicated and the form forwarded to the Department.

William C. Redfield
Secretary.

PART I.

(Part I should be filled out by the appointee or employee; but, if he is unable to write legibly, another person may write the answers at his dictation. In either case the statement should be signed by the appointee or employee. If he is unable to write, he may sign by mark in the presence of one witness. If he is unable to answer any question, he should indicate that fact.)

1. What is your full name? (Do not use initials, but spell out each name and state whether Mr., Miss, or Mrs. Example: Mr. John Richard Doe. If name itself is merely a letter, it should be so stated.)

Mr. William Henry Bethel

2. How do you intend to write your name on the pay roll? (***This should agree with signature to your oath of office.***) William H Bethel

CARED.

3. What is your present legal (voting) residence? (Give city or town, State or Territory, county, and Congressional district.)

Key West	Fla	Monroe	4th
City or town.	State or Territory.	County.	Congressional district.

4. What is your race? (Answer "white," "colored," or "Mongolian.")

5. Where were you born? Sherokee Saund, Bahama Islands

6. When were you born? June (Month.) 10 (Day.) 1857 (Year.)

1919 MAR 22 AM 11 44

7. Give name and address of person whom you would like to have notified in case of accident.

Mrs Viner Beikel (Name.) North Beach (Number and street.)

Key West (City or town.) Fla. (State or Territory.)

8. Are there any members of your family, besides yourself, in the civil service of the United States? (If so, give below their names, relationships, the Departments and Bureaus or Services in which they are employed, and the positions they occupy.)

Name.	Relationship.	Department.	Bureau or Service.	Position.
Sam'l Beikel	Nephew	Navy	Y & D.	General Helper

9. If you were appointed through a civil service examination, state, as near as you recollect, the name and date of the examination. If not so appointed, state how you entered the service. (Examples: "By reinstatement," or "by transfer from ——," stating Department, Bureau or Service, position, and salary, if known.)

Keeper - Feby 17/19

10. Have you any physical disabilities? (If so, describe briefly. If you have defective eyesight, state whether corrected by glasses.)

Hernia - corrected by truss

11. Have you ever held any other position in the civil service of the United States? (If so, give below the Department and Bureau or Service in which you served, the position held, the salary you received, and the dates of your appointment and separation from the service.) No.

Department.	Bureau or Service.	Position.	Salary.	Appointed.	Separated.

12. Do you hold any State or municipal office? (If so, state name of such office and compensation attached.)

No.

13. Were you in the military or naval service of the United States during the Civil or Spanish-American War? (If so, give the information called for by the blanks below.) No.

Company and regiment, or vessel.	Date enlisted.	Date discharged.	Cause of discharge.

14. If you served in the military or naval service of the United States at any time other than during the Civil or Spanish-American Wars, indicate such service in the spaces below.

Company and regiment, or vessel.	Date enlisted.	Date discharged.	Cause of discharge.

15. Are you the widow or orphan of an honorably discharged soldier or sailor? (If so, give the information called for by the blanks below.) No.

Name under which service was rendered

Company and regiment, or vessel.	Date enlisted.	Date discharged.	Cause of discharge.

16. What was your occupation prior to entering the United States civil service? (It is intended that the answer to this question shall state briefly the lines of work followed by you before receiving your present appointment, with the exception of your service indicated in answer to questions 11, 12, 13, and 14.)

Laborer.

17. What education have you received? (Indicate the grades of schools you have attended, and, in case you have attended schools of higher grade than high schools, give the institution, degrees received, and date in each case. Example: Public school; high school; business college; Cornell University, A. B., 1900; Columbia University, LL. B., 1903.)

Common Schools

18. What special qualifications have you—educational, professional, technical, mechanical, etc.? (Examples: Qualified as "Lawyer," or "Civil Engineer," or "Translator," or "Interpreter," or "Draftsman," or "Carpenter.")

Boatman, Painter & Carpenter

19. What, if any, civil service examinations have you passed? (Give names and dates as near as you recollect.)

Keeper - Feby 17/19

20. Were the answers to the foregoing questions written by you? (If not, state the name and address of the person who wrote them for you.)

No - L. H. Hummer, Lighthouse office, Key West, Fla.

21. State the date upon which the above blanks were filled. March 18, 1919

Witness:

In case signature is by mark.

(Signature) William Henry Bethel

P. O. Address: Key West
City or town.
814 Ashe St
Number and street.
Florida
State or Territory.

(Where the appointee is to be employed outside of the District of Columbia the information given in Part I should be reviewed and approved by the officer in immediate charge before forwarding to the Bureau. Where he is to be employed in the District of Columbia, Part I should be reviewed and approved by the officer who executes Part II.)

Reviewed, approved, and forwarded March 18, 19 19

(Signature) W. H. Bennett

(Official title) Superintendent of Lighthouses.

11—1434

PART II.

(Part II should be executed by the executive officers of the various Bureaus of the Department, or, at their direction, by some official who can give the information desired. If unable to answer any question, indicate that fact.)

1. State the Bureau or Service, place, and district in which the person who answered the foregoing questions is employed:

Lighthouse Service. (Bureau or Service.) Rebecca Shoal L.S., Fla. (Place (city, town, station, or vessel.)) Seventh. (District.)

2. To what position has he been appointed? Second Assistant Keeper.

3. State the date of appointment. March 13, 1919.

4. State the date the appointment was effective. (If appointment was made to take effect on date of oath, so state.)

March 16, 1919.

5. State the date of the oath. March 18, 1919.

6. State the date the employee entered on duty. March 16, 1919.

7. What is his salary? $720. A.

8. From what appropriation is he paid? Salaries of Keepers of Lighthouses.

9. Is the position excepted, competitive, or unclassified under the civil service rules? Competitive.

10. If classified, state the date of classification. May 6, 96.

11. In what manner did the employee enter the service? (Examples: "From stenography and typewriting examination;" or "without examination;" or "by reinstatement;" or "by transfer from ——," stating Department, Bureau or Service, position, and salary, if known.)

From Assistant Keeper Examination.

12. Is the employee required to give bond? No.

13. When the legal residence given in answer to question 3, Part I, differs from that given in the certificate of appointment, the discrepancy should be explained.

14. If foreign born, state when and where naturalization papers were taken out. Key West, Fla., on May 7, 1887

Reviewed, approved, and forwarded to the Department.

(Signature) W. W. Brownell

(Official title) Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Date: March 18, 1919., 19

11—1434

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN SALARY
KEEPERS -- LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

November 10, 1919.

Mr. William H. Bethel,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You are advised that your salary as keeper in the Lighthouse Service has been changed from $720. per annum to $780. per annum, effective November 6, 1919.

No new appointment will be issued to you as a result of this change, and an oath of office is not required.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) CLIFFORD HASTINGS

Chief of Appointment Division.

MC
7th

CARDED

FOR BASIS OF THIS ACTION SEE
LETTER DATED 11/4/19
IN FILE 6/16

APPOINTMENT DIVISION ENTERED NOV 10 1919 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

C. S. REPORT DATA ENTERED

Form 93
LHP-VAA.

NOTICE OF RESIGNATION OR DEATH

CHIEF CLERK 5

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

1921 JAN 6 AM 9 12

LIGHT HOUSES JAN 3 1921

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES, Seventh DISTRICT,

Key West, Fla., December 29, 1920.

COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

APPOINTMENTS

Herewith is transmitted the resignation of the following-named employee:

1921 JAN 6 AM 10 41

Name, William H. Bethel Position, Keeper

Legal residence, Florida Station, Rebecca Shoal Lightstation Fla

Salary, $780. per annum

The acceptance of this resignation is recommended effective at the close of January 5, 1921.

This employee has taken leave in excess of the accrued rate.

Remarks: This employee will have taken five days excess leave, for which deductions will be made.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION
NECESSARY ACTION TAKEN
JAN -7 1921
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

W. W. Kinsell

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

1/6/21.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON JAN 3 - 1921

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

11—4023

1921 JAN 5 PM 1 02

Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
KEY WEST, FLA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

SUPT. OF LIGHTHOUSES DEC 29 1920 JAN 3 1921 KEY WEST, FLA.

SEVENTH DISTRICT

Key West, Fla.
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

December 29, 1920., 19

Superintendent of Lighthouses,

Key West, Fla.

Sir:-

I hereby tender my resignation as Keeper of Rebecca Shoal Lightstation effective January 5, 1921.

This resignation is necessary due to my age and my inability to go to and come from the light.

W. G. Bethel

Second Assistant Keeper

Rebecca Shoal Lightstation.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

January 6, 1921.

r. William H. Bethel,

M

Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir; Through the

The Department is in receipt of your resignation from the position designated below, and has accepted the same, upon recommendation of the Bureau, to take effect at the close of business on January 5, 1921.

Bureau Lighthouse Service

Station Rebecca Shoal Light Station, Fla.

Position Keeper

Salary $780 per annum

By direction of the Secretary:

CARDED

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) CLIFFORD HASTINGS

Chief of Appointment Division.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION ENTERED JAN 7 1921 ON JOURNAL DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

S
C
7th district

U. S. REPORT DATA ENTERED