REFERENCE SERVICE SLIP

Archival Research Room Record Request
National Archives at St. Louis

NOV 29 2024 PM01:50
Date: 11/25/2024

REQUESTER INFORMATION

Name (Please Print – Last, First, Middle)	Researcher ID Card Number
Flynn, Kylie	
E-Mail Address:	**Phone Number:**
knfgbb@umsl.edu	217-440-1332

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
Taft, Edwin, W.		1899 ME

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: 1984 WA

State of Residence (upon entry into service):

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

Researcher Signature: Kylie

CIVILIAN SERVICE

(Agency & Location)		
Lighthouse Service (ME)		
From: 1924	To: 1926	
(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: 2-303179891981

CMRS Search Request Number(s): Civilian

Attendant Signature:

Remarks: Archival Search 12/4

'24 DEC 10 AM11:37:29

SCREENING NOTES

☐ Reviewed and Nothing Removed SMH ☐ 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:

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE/LIFESAVING SERVICE—RECORDS CHECKED

CMRS CASE #: _____.

Employee Name: TAFT, EDWIN W. **DOB:** 6/29/899.

SOUNDEX:

[redacted]

Records checked:

Agency: Commerce 6028	Area: Bay 10, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative
Agency: Commerce 6029	Area: Bay 10, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative
Agency: Old Commerce	Area: Bay 10, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative

AND

Agency: Treasury 2189	Area: Bay 13, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative
Agency: Treasury 2188	Area: Bay 13, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative
Agency: Old Treasury	Area: Bay 13, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative

If Negative:

Agency: Treasury SRCs series 1	Area: Bay 13, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative
Agency: Treasury SRCs series 2	Area: Bay 13, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative
Agency: Treasury SRCs series 3	Area: Bay 13, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative
Agency: Coast Guard SRCs	Area: Bay 13, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative

If Negative:

CMRS: _____	Area: _____	positive	negative
ARCIS: _____	Area: _____	positive	negative

Notes: _____

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
PORTLAND, ME.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

JCW:CP

LIGHTHOUSES
1926 APR 14 AM 8 48

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 1ST DISTRICT
PORTLAND, ME.

April 12, 1926

Hydro
Radio
Engr. Dept.
Mar. Eng.
Personnel
Financial
Law and Prop.
Adm. Asst.
Chief Clerk
Comm.

Edwin W. Taft, 2nd Asst. Keeper, Seguin LH., Maine.
(Through the Keeper)

1. The Commissioner of Lighthouse has forwarded here your letter of April 1, 1926, addressed to him on the subject of a radio set.

2. This office considers your action in this matter to be a violation of Article 55 of "Instructions to Employees, 1915," which requires that communications of official nature be forwarded through your immediate official superior.

3. You are hereby cautioned against a repetition of this offence, which will be considered cause for disciplinary action.

4. Your station will be considered when a sufficient number of radio sets have been donated.

Sherman

SHERMAN
Superintendent

COPY TO Bureau of Lighthouses.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
PORTLAND, ME.

CES:CP

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 1ST DISTRICT
PORTLAND, ME.

July 28, 1926

SUBJECT: E. W. Taft, 2nd Asst. Keeper, Seguin LH., Me.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The principal keeper of this station has just been transferred and if improvement under new keeper is not shown at next inspection, recommendation will be made for transfer and demotion.

Sherman

SHERMAN
Superintendent

Form 106.

EFFICIENCY RATINGS

CES:CP LIGHTHOUSES 1926 JUL 29 AM 9 00

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Portland, Maine, July 27, 1926. , 19.....

EFFICIENCY RATINGS of employees holding appointment certificates under direction of the Superintendent of the First Lighthouse District for the period ending { ~~December 31,~~ / June 30, } 19 26, whose efficiency is BELOW $\frac{8}{10}$ for quantity of work, good for quality of work, or good for interest manifested in work.

NAME OF EMPLOYEE (Surname last)	WHERE EMPLOYED (Abbreviate, if necessary)	EFFICIENCY			
		QUANTITY	QUALITY	INTEREST MANIFESTED IN WORK	IS EMPLOYEE FULLY EARNING SALARY?
Howe, E. A.	Great Duck Island LH., Me.	6/10	Poor	Poor	No
Gott, M. D.	do	6/10	do	do	do
Stanley, L. S.	do	6/10	do	do	do
Foss, J. A.	Libby Islands LH., Me.	---	---	Poor	Yes
Woodruff, T. W.	Rockland Breakwater LH., Me	7/10	Poor	Poor	No
Taft, E. W.	Seguin Lighthouse, Maine	7/10	do	do	do
Sprague, H. W.	do	7/10	do	do	do
Ginn, A. E.	Mt. Desert Lighthouse, Me.	6/10	do	do	do
Beal, V. O.	do	6/10	do	do	do
Tracy, C. E.	do	6/10	do	do	do

July 28, 1926.

Respectfully forwarded:

Sherman

SHERMAN
Superintendent

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
PORTLAND, ME.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

JCW:CP

LIGHTHOUSES
1926 OCT 13 AM 8 48

Hydro
Radio
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Eng.
Personnel
Financial
Law and Pat.
Adm Asst.
Opr. Cons.
Constr.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 1ST DISTRICT
PORTLAND, ME.

October 11, 1926

SUBJECT: Letter of Caution
Mr. Edwin W. Taft.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

1. Reference being made to letter of caution addressed to Mr. Edward W. Taft, 2nd Asst. Keeper, Seguin Lighthouse, Maine, on April 12, 1926:

2. Charges have in the meantime been preferred against Mr. Taft for unfaithful performance of duty on September 27th, and upon result of findings, further report with recommendation will be forwarded to the Bureau.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent:

LUTHER
1st Asst Supt

EK

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, D. C.,
October 15, 1926.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information. Further report in the matter will be submitted as soon as received from the Superintendent.

J. S. CONWAY

Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
PORTLAND, ME.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

1926 OCT 16 AM 9 06

CES:CP
Enclosures

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 1ST DISTRICT
PORTLAND, ME.
October 13, 1926

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

1. Herewith are charges preferred by this office against Mr. Edwin W. Taft, 2nd Asst. Keeper, Seguin Lighthouse, Maine, and his answer thereto.

2. The occurrences on which these charges are based have been carefully investigated and are believed to be true statements of the two keepers under which Mr. Taft has served. Copies of their letters of complaint are enclosed. This employee received a letter of caution April 18, 1926, for forwarding a communication direct to the Commissioner of Lighthouses (See Bureau endorsement, April 7, 1926, File No. 3163) in violation of the sixth paragraph of Article 55 of "Instructions to Employees, 1915".

3. In view of his admitted guilt, and of the investigations made in this case, it is respectfully recommended that Mr. Edwin W. Taft, 2nd Asst. Keeper, Seguin Lighthouse, Maine, be dismissed from the Service, effective at close of November 10, 1926.

4. He has taken no leave in excess of his accrued allowance and the action above recommended willbe not in violation of Section 2, Civil Service Rule 1, relative to political or religious opinions or affiliations.

Entered Service on 9/2/24 & not commended.

Sherman
SHERMAN
Superintendent

Hydrog.
Radio
Engr. Dept.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Financial
Law and Prop.
Adm. Asst.

J Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, D. C. October 16, 1926.
Incls.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce recommended for approval as recommended in paragraph 3. The Superintendent's efficiency report for the six months ending June 30, 1926 shows assistant keeper Edwin W. Taft below the standard. The records indicate that he originally entered the Service on September 2, 1924, and that he had never been commended for any special service.

J. S. CONWAY

Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
PORTLAND, ME.

CES:CP

REGISTERED MAIL

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHTHOUSES

1926 OCT 16 AM 9 06

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 1ST DISTRICT
PORTLAND, ME.

COPY

September 27, 1926

Mr. Edwin W. Taft, 2nd Asst. Keeper, Seguin LH., Me.
(Through the Keeper)

1. The following charge is preferred against you:

CHARGE I: Unfaithful performance of duty.

SPECIFICATION

That on two occasions you have been found asleep while on watch, the first being at 1.30 a. m., March 12, 1926, when you failed to call the principal keeper at midnight, and upon his waking at 1.30 a. m., and going to your quarters you were found asleep on the couch.

On the second occasion, Sept. 17, 1926, while on watch, you failed to call the principal keeper at 6.00 a. m. to relieve you, and upon his waking one hour after sunrise, he found your light not extinguished and you asleep in bed.

2. In accordance with Article 45 of said "Instructions to Employees, 1915", you will be allowed three days in which to submit such statement as you may desire to make in answer to the above charges. Be governed in all respects by the provisions of this Article in submitting your answer.

SHERMAN
Superintendent

Copy
CP

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Lighthouse Service

LIGHTHOUSES
1926 OCT 16 AM
First District 06

Seguin Lt.

Sept. 30th, 1926.

COPY

Superintendent of Lighthouses,

Portland, Maine.

Sir:

I deny any knowledge of the first occasion mentioned in the charge against me. I was not asleep at 1.30 a. m., March 12th, 1926. I never knew that such a report had ever been made against me until I received your letter yesterday, that report must have been made by Mr. Fickett who was Keeper here at that time.

On the second occasion Sept. 17th., 1926, I was too sick to properly stand my watch. Thirty minutes before the light should have been put out I laid down where I could still watch the light. I thought I would feel better in a few minutes by doing so, I fell asleep right away. I did wrohg, I should have called Mr. Small at 4.45 a.m. then everything would have been all right. I don't feel that I have been unfaithfuly to the service as I did not intentially go to sleep on that watch, What I have written in this letter is the truth. I have nothing more to say. Respectfully,

(SGD) E. W. TAFT, 2nd Asst.

(SGD) ELSON SMALL, Keeper

COPY
CP

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Lighthouse Service

First District

Seguin Light Station

March 12, 1926.

COPY

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
Portland, Maine.

Sir:

I have to report the 2nd Asst Keeper the first thing after returning to my station, I arrived at (5) o'clock pm on Thursday the 11, and was supposed to go on watch at (12) o'clock Midnight but instead I was not called. I awoke at (1.30) o'clock and went to Mr. Tafts Quarters and found him asleep on the Coumch. Now I dont consider that I should put up with him any more as he is not Trust Worthy to leave on watch. It is not known how long he was asleep before I called him.

(SGD) N. B. FICKETT,

Keeper

COPY
CP

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Lighthouse Service

COPY

First District

Seguin Lt. Sta.,

September 17, 1926

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES,

Portland, Maine.

Sir:

I am obliged to make a report against Mr. Taft, Second Assistant Keeper at this station, for failure to extinguish light.

Mr. Taft was on watch from midnight until six a.m. We have been standing six hour watches for the duration of the absence of first assistant, who is on leave of absence. I was to have been called at six am. but as I was not called I arose at six fifteen, noticed that the light was still going, and after investigating found Mr. Taft in bed asleep. The light had been going one hour after sunrise.

I have noticed that Mr. Taft was careless about standing his watch and have called his attention to this several times.

Respectfully,

(SGD) ELSON SMALL

Keeper

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
PORTLAND, ME.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHTHOUSES
1926 NOV 19 AM 8 55

JCW:CP

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 1ST DISTRICT
PORTLAND, ME.

November 17, 1926

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

1. It has just been noted that in Department letter of dismissal dated October 18, 1926, addressed to Mr. Edwin W. Taft, Keeper (Second Assistant) Seguin Lighthouse, Maine, his salary is stated at $1200 per annum, whereas his salary, as fixed by Form A-21, Appointment Division, Department of Commerce, dated June 25, 1925, was $1260 per annum.

2. If it is desired, the above letter of dismissal will be recovered and returned for correction, although Mr. Taft's present address is unknown.

Sherman

SHERMAN
Superintendent

O.K.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

J Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, D. C. November 22, 1926.
Returned to Superintendent of Lighthouses, Portland, Maine, with advice that the Department has changed its records accordingly. It does not appear necessary to obtain the original from Mr. Taft for amendment, but your office will make the change on the retained file copy.

J. B. CONWAY
Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Radio
Financial
Law and Prop.
Adm. Asst.
Info. Cons.

Does not appear necessary to obtain Taft's return original for correction.
B.J. 11/20

O.K. 26 Nov 30

Feb. 9th 1939

LIGHTHOUSES
FEB 13 8 35 AM '39

SUPT. OF LIGHTHOUSES
1ST DISTRICT
FEB 20 1939
SOUTH PORTLAND, MAINE

Commissioner of Lighthouses.
Washington. D.C.

Dear Sir:

3/1 wrote to Taft Comm'r 1st 2/16 acked.

I sincerely hope that you will give me your consideration in regard to an incident that took place (twelve) years ago on Seguin Island light station in the first district.

Taft

I enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1915 serving nearly five years which included the war, and received an honorable discharge with rating as boatswains mate. I followed this with a three year enlistment in the U.S. Coast Guard, from which I received an honorable discharge.

I entered the Lighthouse service in the fall of 1924 serving two years as second assistant keeper on Seguin Island light. The last part of October 1926 I fell asleep while on the early morning watch which had followed 24 hours of sickness during which time I had no rest or sleep.

This happened after it had come daylight and within a few minutes of the

SUPT. OF LIGHTHOUSES
1ST DISTRICT
FEB 20 1939
SOUTH PORTLAND, MAINE

10
12

time to put the light out which took
several minutes overtime. The weather was
clear.

I was dismissed from the service by
the commissioner following a report made
by the keeper of this light, however the
circumstances about this case were never
brought up in the report. This was the
first and only black mark against me
during the nine years that I served the
govetmnt. I am writing this letter
stating the true facts concerning my
dismissal & to request reinstatement
in the first lighthouse district.

Respfly,

Edwin W. Taft
15 Washington St.
Rockland.
Maine.

E-K Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, D. C., Feb.16,1939.

Referred to Superintendent of Lighthouses, South Portland, Maine, for report and return.

For the Commissioner:

W.P.Harman
Administrative Assistant

February 16, 1939.

Mr. Edwin W. Taft,
15 Washington St.,
Rockland, Maine.

Dear Sir:

In reference to your letter of February 9, requesting reinstatement in the position of keeper in the district of the Superintendent of Lighthouses, South Portland, Maine:

This matter is being given consideration and you will be further advised at an early date.

For the Commissioner:

Respectfully,

W. P. Harman
Administrative Assistant

E-K

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
239 HIGH STREET
SOUTH PORTLAND, MAINE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

GFL:SWA

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 1ST DISTRICT
SOUTH PORTLAND, MAINE

LIGHTHOUSES
FEB 23 8 50 PM '39

February 20, 1939

Commissioner of Lighthouses

With reference to Bureau endorsement of February 16 on letter of February 9 from Mr. Edwin W. Taft, 15 Washington Street, Rockland, Maine, the Bureau is advised that Mr. Taft was appointed additional keeper at $840.00 per annum effective September 2, 1924, and was transferred to the position of second assistant keeper, Seguin Light Station, Maine, effective December 1, 1924. On July 20, 1925, his leave was suspended for a period of ninety days for taking leave of absence without having received prior authority therefor. On April 12, 1926, a letter of caution was addressed to him for addressing communications of an official nature to the Commissioner of Lighthouses in violation of Article 55, Instructions to Employees, 1915. On September 27, 1926, charges were preferred against Mr. Taft for unfaithful performance of duty involving two reported instances of sleeping on watch, as a result of which he was dismissed from the Service effective at the close of November 10, 1926.

In reply to the charges Mr. Taft denied any knowledge of the first occasion in which he was charged with having been asleep on watch, which was alleged to have occurred at 1:30 A. M., March 12, 1926. This charge was based upon a report submitted by the then principal keeper of the station, and even if the keeper's report could be doubted, it appears from the later report submitted by an entirely different principal keeper involving sleeping on watch on September 17, 1926, that the instance therein reported was not the first one occurring under that keeper in which Mr. Taft had failed to stand his watch in the manner required by Instructions to Employees. In his report of September 17, 1926, the then principal keeper stated, "I have noticed that Mr. Taft was careless about standing his watch and have called his attention to this several times."

There appears in Mr. Taft's file a lead pencil memorandum executed by Captain Sherman when he was Superintendent which indicates that Mr. Taft's father phoned this office on October 29, 1926, requesting information with regard to his son's dismissal, and that the father informed Captain Sherman at that time that he had spent a vacation at Seguin Light Station during which his son had also fallen asleep while on watch. From the papers in his record it would appear that although Mr. Taft might himself feel justified in contending that the occasion of his sleeping on watch because of which he was dismissed was an isolated case, the records would appear to indicate differently.

This office is not disposed to recommend Mr. Taft's reinstatement at this time.

INGALLS, Superintendent

March 1, 1939.

Mr. Edwin W. Taft,
15 Washington St.,
Rockland, Maine.

Dear Sir:

In further reference to your letter of February 9, requesting reinstatement in the district of the Superintendent of Lighthouses, South Portland, Maine:

Owing to the circumstances surrounding your dismissal from this Service which were given careful consideration at the time, this office is not disposed to favorably consider your reinstatement at this time.

For the Commissioner:

Respectfully,

W. P. Harman
Administrative Assistant

E-K

Bureau of Lighthouses, Wash. Copy to ..... Supt.

CLYDE H. SMITH
SECOND DISTRICT MAINE

WASHINGTON ADDRESS:
231 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

HOME ADDRESS:
SKOWHEGAN, MAINE

LIGHTHOUSES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

COMMITTEES:
LABOR
PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS
WAR CLAIMS

ROLAND T. PATTEN
SECRETARY

3/20 wrote Smith
Copy to DL

March 14, 1939.

Commissioner of Light Houses,
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:

One Edward W. Taft served the government nine years with a perfect record -- Regular navy 1915 to 1920 with honorable discharge -- U, S. Coast Guard, 3 years with honorable discharge -- Lighthouse Service, second assistant keeper on Seguin Island Light Station -- until following 24 hours of sickness, he fell asleep on last named job, 4 to 8 a.m. watch, which caused the light to burn several minutes longer than it should have.

This was his only error during entire time of service. Would it not be fair to give such a faithful servant another chance? It is not much more than any of us would expect. If all of the employees of the government has as good a record, we are to be congratulated.

Would appreciate it very much if you would give this man further consideration. He has a family of seven children.

Would it be helpful to introduce an order in Congress supporting such a proposition?

Very respectfully yours,

Clyde H. Smith

Clyde H. Smith
M.C.

Comptr

In view of Supts recent rather full report of Feby 20, is it considered further reference to dist is necy?

WPH 3/16

No. T 3/16

Pay V

In writing N.C. State matter more fully than in recent letter to Zapf Would there be any point in suggesting he qualify again in C.S. exams mentioning the new requirements and qualifications?

WPH 3/20

March 20, 1939.

Hon. Clyde H. Smith,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Smith:

In reference to your letter of March 14, in the interest of Mr. Edwin W. Taft who desires reinstatement to the position of lighthouse keeper:

The Bureau recently had a communication directly from Mr. Taft in this matter and under date of March 1, 1939, he was informed that owing to the circumstances surrounding his dismissal from the Service this office could not give favorable consideration to his reinstatement. The records show that Mr. Taft was appointed keeper in the district of the Superintendent of Lighthouses, South Portland, Maine, on September 2, 1924, and that he was dismissed in consequence of charges involving sleeping on watch, which he admitted in his reply to the charges. Aside from the charges which led to his dismissal he had during the period of his service been previously disciplined by having his leave suspended for absenting himself from his station without prior authority.

In the past year or two the Service has been in close cooperation with the Civil Service Commission for the purpose of recruiting a more highly qualified class of personnel for positions of this character, and to this end the Civil Service Commission adopted new examination requirements, to which new appointees will hereafter be subject, and in consideration of Mr. Taft's prior record it would not appear in the interest of the Service to give him the special consideration implied in the reinstatement procedure of the Civil Service and the best suggestion this office would have to offer would be for Mr. Taft to requalify in some future civil service examination and thus reestablish his eligibility on the same basis as new appointees to the Service. The procedure would be for him to file application with the Manager, First Civil Service District, Postoffice and Courthouse Building, Boston, Mass., to have his name added to the mailing list so that he may be notified when the next civil service examination is held.

Very truly yours,

RG-EK

10th

Commissioner of Lighthouses.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION

Edwin W. Taft.
(Name)

Me
(Legal Residence)

STATUS

11—8040

DESIGNATION	ACTION	SALARY	BUREAU—SERVICE—STATION	DATE OF EFFECT
Keeper	Prod	840	L H 1st Dist at Large	Sept 2. 1924
"	Prom	960	" "	Oct 10. 1924
"	Trans	"	" Seguin 2 3 Tex	Dec 1, 1924
"	Readjustment act Dec 6/24	1200	" "	Feb 1. 1925
"	Incr	1260	" "	July 1 1925
		Dismissed Close Nov 10 1926		

October 18, 1926.

Mr. Edwin W. Taft,
Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

INACTIVE

Sir:

Having been charged with unfaithful performance of duty in that on two occasions you were found asleep while on watch, and such charges having been substantiated in a degree sufficient to warrant such action, the Department, upon recommendation of the Commissioner of Lighthouses, has dismissed you from the position of Keeper (Second Assistant), $1200 per annum at Sequin Light-house, Maine, effective at the close of business on November 10, 1926.

1260

RECEIVED APPOINTMENT DIVISION OCT 25 1926 ON JOURNAL DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

By direction of the Secretary:

CARDED

Respectfully,

OCT 23 1926

(SIGNED) CLIFFORD HASTINGS

G:F.1o

Chief of Appointment Division.

(COPY)EK

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Lighthouse Service

Office of Supt.1st Dist.
Portland, Maine.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OCT 18 1926
APPOINTMENT DIVISION

October 11, 1926.

CHIEF CLERK
1926 OCT 16 AM 9 59

SUBJECT: Letter of caution Mr. Edwin W. Taft.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

1. Reference being made to letter of caution addressed to Mr. Edward W. Taft, 2nd Assistant Keeper, Seguin Lighthouse, Maine, on April 12, 1926.

2. Charges have in the meantime been preferred against Mr. Taft for unfaithful performance of duty on September 27th, and upon result of findings, further report with recommendation will be forwarded to the Bureau.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent.

(Signed) Luther
1st Asst. Supt.

- - - - - - -

EK

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, D. C.,
October 15, 1926.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information. Further report in the matter will be submitted as soon as received from the Superintendent.

Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses.

10-16-26

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
PORTLAND, ME.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

CHIEF CLERK
1926 OCT 18 AM 10 4

CES:CP
Enclosures

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OCT 18 1926
APPOINTMENT DIVISION

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 1ST DISTRICT
PORTLAND, ME.

October 13, 1926

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OCT 20 1926
APPOINTMENT DIVISION

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

1. Herewith are charges preferred by this office against Mr. Edwin W. Taft, 2nd Asst. Keeper, Seguin Lighthouse, Maine, and his answer thereto.

2. The occurrences on which these charges are based have been carefully investigated and are believed to be true statements of the two keepers under which Mr. Taft has served. Copies of their letters of complaint are enclosed. This employee received a letter of caution April 18, 1926, for forwarding a communication direct to the Commissioner of Lighthouses (See Bureau endorsement, April 7, 1926, File No. 3163) in violation of the sixth paragraph of Article 55 of "Instructions to Employees, 1915".

3. In view of his admitted guilt, and of the investigations made in this case, it is respectfully recommended that Mr. Edwin W. Taft, 2nd Asst. Keeper, Seguin Lighthouse, Maine, be dismissed from the Service, effective at close of November 10, 1926.

4. He has taken no leave in excess of his accrued allowance, and the action above recommended willbe not in violation of Section 2 of Civil Service Rule 1, relative to political or religious opinions or affiliations.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION
NECESSARY
ACTION TAKEN
OCT 23 1926

SHERMAN
Superintendent

- - - - - - -

J Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, D. C. October 16, 1926.
Incls.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce recommended for approval as recommended in paragraph 3. The Superintendent's efficiency report for the six months ending June 30, 1926 shows assistant keeper Edwin W. Taft below the standard. The records indicate that he originally entered the Service on September 2, 1924, and that he has never been commended for any special service.

Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses.

APPROVED:

ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

10-19-26

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
PORTLAND, ME.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

CES:CP

REGISTERED MAIL

COPY

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 1ST DISTRICT
PORTLAND, ME.

September 27, 1926

Mr. Edwin W. Taft, 2nd Asst. Keeper, Seguin LH., Me.
(Through the Keeper)

1. The following charge is preferred against you:

CHARGE I: Unfaithful performance of duty.

SPECIFICATION

That on two occasions you have been found asleep while on watch, the first being at 1.30 a. m., March 12, 1925, when you failed to call the principal keeper at midnight, and upon his waking at 1.30 a. m., and going to your quarters you were found asleep on the couch.

On the second occasion, Sept. 17, 1926, while on watch, you failed to call the principal keeper at 6.00 a. m. to relieve you, and upon his waking one hour after sunrise, he found your light not extinguished and you asleep in bed.

2. In accordance with Article 45 of said "Instructions to Employees, 1915", you will be allowed three days in which to submit such statement as you may desire to make in answer to the above charges. Be governed in all respects by the provisions of this Article in submitting your answer.

SHERMAN
Superintendent

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Supt.
1st Asst. Sup
Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
2nd Clerk
3rd Clerk
4th Clerk
Messenger

SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES,
FIRST DISTRICT,
OCT 2 1926
PORTLAND, MAINE.

FIRST DISTRICT

Delaware Lt.
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

Sept. 30TH, 1926.

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES,
Portland, Maine.

Sir:

I deny any knowledge of the first occasion mentioned in the charge against me, I was not asleep at 1.30 a.m. march 12TH, 1926. I never knew that such a report had ever been made against me until I recived your letter yesterday, that report must have been made by Mr. Fickett who was Keeper here at that time.

On the second occasion Sept 17TH, 1926 I was too sick to properly stand my watch. Thirty minuits before the light should have been put out I laid down where I could still watch the light. I thought I would feel better in a few minuits by doing so. I fell asleep right away. I did wrong, I should have called Mr. Small at 4.45 am then every thing would have been all right. I dont feel that I have been

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES,
FIRST DISTRICT,
OCT 2 1926
PORTLAND, MAINE.

FIRST DISTRICT

(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

, 192

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES,

Portland, Maine.

Sir:

unfaithful to the service as I did not intentionally go to sleep on that watch. What I have written in this letter is the truth. I have nothing more to say. Respectfully

Elson Small Keeper. E. W. Taft 2nd asst.

CP (COPY)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Lighthouse Service

First District

Seguin Light Station

March 12, 1926;

COPY

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
Portland, Maine.

Sir:

I have to report the 2nd asst Keeper the first thing after returning to my station, I arrived at (5) o,clock pm on Thursday the 11, and was supposed to go on watch at (12) o'clock Midnight but instead I was not called. I awoke at (130) o'clock and went to Mr Tafts Quarters and found him asleep on the Couch. Now I dont consider that I should put up with him any more as he is not Trust Worthy to leave on watch. It is not known how long he was asleep before I called him.

(SGD) N. B. FICKETT,

Keeper.

COPY
CP

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Lighthouse Service

First District

Seguin Lt. Sta.,

September 17, 1926

COPY

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES,

Portland, Maine.

Sir:

I am obliged to make a report against Mr. Taft, Second Assistant Keeper at this station, for failure to extinguish light.

Mr. Taft was on watch from midnight until six a.m. We have been standing six hour watches for the duration of the absence of first assistant, who is on leave of absence. I was to have been called at six am. but as I was not called I arose at six fifteen, noticed that the light was still going, and after investigating found Mr. Taft in bed asleep. The light had been going one hour after sunrise.

I have noticed that Mr. Taft was careless about standing his watch and have called his attention to this several times.

Respectfully,

(SGD) ELSON SMALL

Keeper

Form A-21

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN SALARY
KEEPERS-LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

June 25, 1925.

M. Edwin W. Taft,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You are advised that your salary as keeper in the Lighthouse Service has been changed from 1200 per annum to $1260 per annum, effective July 1, 1925.

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,

EDW. J. GARDNER.

Acting Chief of Appointment Division.

11—6874

CARDED

APPOINTMENT DIVISION ENTERED JUL 1 1925 ON JOURNAL DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

H
1st

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

January 31, 1925.

Mr. Edwin W. Taft,

Commissioner of Lighthouses,

Sir: Through the

In connection with the readjustment of pay of positions in the Lighthouse Service the total compensation of the position occupied by you has been fixed as indicated below, effective February 1, 1925.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

EDW. J. GARDNER.

Acting Chief of Appointment Division.

FEB 4 - 1925

Position: Keeper ✓

Salary: $1200

Appropriations: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.
General Expenses, Lighthouse Service.

1st

JSJ

CARDED

APPOINTMENT DIVISION ENTERED FEB 4 1925 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

CHIEF CLERK
1925 FEB 7 PM 2 34
LIGHTHOUSES
1925 FEB 7 AM 8 56

JCW: CP

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

REPORT ON PROBATIONARY APPOINTEE.
(This report to be made at expiration of fifth month of service.)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
FEB 9 1925
APPOINTMENT DIVISION

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE, First District.
(Bureau)

Portland, Maine, February 5, 1925.
(Date)

The Secretary of Commerce,
(The Chief of Appointment Division):

The probationary period of the person named below expires at the close of business on March 2, 1925.

The conduct and capacity of this employee have been satisfactory* during the probationary period, and (he) (~~she~~) is considered qualified for absolute appointment.

Name Mr. Edwin Wheaton Taft

Position Keeper in Lighthouse Service

Salary $960 per annum

Appropriation Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses

Station 2nd Asst. Keeper, Seguin LH. Me.

Date of entrance on duty September 2, 1924.

Remarks:

C. E. Sherman

C. E. SHERMAN
(Signature of immediate superior.)
Superintendent of Lighthouses, 1st Dist.

FEB 7 - 1925

SUBMITTED:

Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses
(Head of Bureau or Office.)

(*If unsatisfactory, recommendation for discontinuance under the provisions of paragraph (c) of section 1 of civil service rule VII, should immediately be forwarded to the Department.)

Form 73a GFL

REPORT OF TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE

CHIEF CLERK

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

1924 DEC 6 PM 2 19

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES. First DISTRICT.

LIGHTHOUSES

1924 DEC 6 AM 8 59

Portland, Maine, November 12, 1924. 19

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

The following-named employee will be transferred as indicated, and will enter upon duty at his new station on or about November 20, 1924.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE DEC 8 1924

Name, Edwin W. Taft — Position, Keeper, Lighthouse Service

From Additional Keeper — To Second Asst., Seguin L. S., Me.

1st Dist

Previous incumbent, Harry W. Sprague

Services terminated, close Nov. 19, 1924 — Reason, Recommended for promotion to 1st Asst., even date.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent:

R. Luther

R. LUTHER
1st Asst. Superintendent.

GFL

Portland, Maine, December 3, 1924. , 19

The above-referred-to transfer became effective beginning with December 1, 1924.

CARDED

Sherman

SHERMAN
Superintendent.

11—4598

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

DEC 6 - 1924

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce for his information.

Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses.

FORM A-21

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN SALARY
KEEPERS—LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

September 18, 1924.

M
r. Edwin W. Taft,
Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You are advised that your salary as keeper in the Lighthouse Service has been changed from $ 840 per annum to $ 960 per annum, effective October 10, 1924.

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,

APPOINTMENT DIVISION ENTERED SEP 21 1924 ON JOURNAL DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

CANCELED

Acting Chief of Appointment Division.

IC
1st

Form 73

GFL

NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES, First DISTRICT,

LIGHTHOUSES 1924 SEP 17 AM 8 59

CHIEF CLERK 1924 SEP 18 AM 9 58

Portland, Maine, September 15, 1924
(City.) (Date.)

COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Action recommended, PROMOTION

Name, Edwin W. Taft — Legal residence, Maine

Position, Additional Keeper at Large — Salary, $960 per annum

Location, First District — Appropriation, Sals., Kprs., etc.

Effective Oct. 10, 1924, {'the actual date of entrance on duty, or ~~as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.~~

Former position, Same — Former salary, $840 per annum

Location, Same

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

Previous incumbent, Irving C. Bunker — Services terminated, close Oct. 9, 1924.

Reason, To be transferred to position Assistant Keeper, Crabtree Ledge L. S., Me.

Members of family in Government Service, -----

Date of birth, -----

Remarks:

Selection regular, subject to the action of the U. S. Civil Service Commission,

APPOINTMENT DIVISION NECESSARY ACTION TAKEN SEP 22 1924 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

, 19

For and in absence of Superintendent:

Woolley

(Direct.)

Secretary, *Civil Service District.*

WOOLLEY
Chief Clerk.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

SEP 17 1924

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

H. B. Bowerman

Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses.

¹ Strike out the clause which does not apply.

11—2314

GFL

STANDARD FORM NO. 6
(Approved by the President March 28, 1924)

SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES, FIRST DISTRICT, SEP 8 1924 PORTLAND, MAINE.
SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES, FIRST DISTRICT, SEP 2 1924 PORTLAND, MAINE.
1924 SEP 10 AM 8 57

PERSONAL HISTORY

(Statement to be prepared by appointee in his own handwriting)

Bureau, division, or office DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE--Lighthouse Service--1st District.

1. Name in full Edwin Wheaton Taft

2. Legal (voting) residence Maine Second (State and Congressional District) Knox (County) St. George (City or town)

3. Where born? Maine (State or foreign country) Woodfords (City or town) (Portland) When born? June 29 1892 (Date)

4. If foreign, state whether naturalized or alien

CHIEF CLERK
1924 SEP 10 PM 2 33

5. Indicate sex, marital condition, and race by check, thus: √

SEX		MARITAL CONDITION				RACE. (If other, state which)	
Male √	Female	Single	Married √	Divorced	Widowed	White √	Colored

6. A complete record of your past civil service for the United States Government:

BRANCH OF SERVICE AND PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT	POSITION	SALARY	DATE APPOINTED			DATE SEPARATED		
			Month	Day	Year	Month	Day	Year

7. Military and naval record. If any, check (√) to indicate branch and other information and give dates of enlistment and discharge:

None	Army	Navy √	Marine Corps	Coast Guard √	War Veteran √	Pensioner	Veterans' Bureau beneficiary

Enlisted nov 12, 1916 Discharged June 29 1922. Enlisted nov 8 1921 Discharged Feb 29 1924

Organization navy Organization U. S. Coast Guard

8. EDUCATION (Circle number of years)

Common school								High school				College				Degrees, if any
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	(8)	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	

9. State special qualifications Ten years seafaring life, able seaman.

CARDED

10. Name, relationship, and address of person to be notified in case of emergency:

Mrs Albena F. Taft (Name) wife (Relationship)

13, Elliot St. Thomaston maine (Post office address)

I certify that the foregoing answers are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Edwin W Taft
(Name as usually written and which will be used as official signature)

Aug 29 1924 (Date)

Present address Port Clyde maine

10—1659

Form 111

CHIEF CLERK 1924 SEP 6 AM 10

SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES, FIRST DISTRICT, SEP 2 1924 PORTLAND, MAINE.

OATH OF OFFICE

(Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHTHOUSES 1924 SEP 6 AM 8 56

I, EDWIN W. TAFT,

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.

Edwin W. Taft
(Appointee signs here)

[2] Sworn to (See below) and subscribed before me, this twenty ninth day of August, A. D. 1924

(Affix official seal here)

[4] (Name) Franklin Trussell

(Official title) Notary Public

My commission expires Sept. 26 1924

Official Title	Rate of Pay	Name of Station, Vessel, or Place of Employment.
Present Keeper	$840 p. a.	Additional Keeper, First Lighthouse District.
Former [5] New appointee.		

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

GFL

Office of Superintendent of Lighthouses, First District

Portland, Maine (Address), September 4, 1924. (Date)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on September 2, 1924. (Date)

CARDED

For and in absence of the Superintendent:

R. Luther
(Signature of person who swears)

R. LUTHER

First Assistant Superintendent.

[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 on or after the effective 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 superintendent of lighthouses 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 superintendent of lighthouses 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

NOT TO BE ACCEPTED AS AUTHORITY FOR INVESTIGATION OPERATIONS UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY OFFICIAL CREDENTIALS

CERTIFICATE OF PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON August 21, 1924.

Mr. Edwin W. Taft,

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 Eight Hundred and Forty 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, First Civil Service District.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

EDW. J. GARDNER,

Acting Chief of Appointment Division.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION ENTERED AUG 23 1924 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

AUG 23 1924

1st

Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Appropriation:

Leverett S. Stanley.

Vice:

Maine.

Legal Residence:

Form A-14

(See reverse side.)

11—5080

CARDED

Form 73

NOMINATION

CHIEF CLERK

1924 AUG 21 PM 12 32

LIGHTHOUSES

1924 AUG 20 PM 3 53

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES, First DISTRICT,

Portland, Maine, August 18, 1924 19
(City.) (Date.)

RECEIVED AUG 19 1924

COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Action recommended, PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

Name, EDWIN W TAFT — Legal residence, Maine

Position, Additional Keeper — Salary, $840.00 per annum

Location, General Duty, First District — Appropriation, Sal Kprs, etc

Effective September 1, 1924 — (the actual date of entrance on duty, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.)

Former position, New Appointee — Former salary, --

Location, ---

Rank on eligible list, 1st Asst Kpr Rating, --- Percentage, 93.2, Other eligibles considered:
Albert S Scoville, (a) Third consideration and dropped from register this date.
Morris A Alley, (d) Mark L Reed, (c) Alley stated that he would accept the next position offered is retained on register

Previous incumbent, Leverett S Stanley — Services terminated, August 31, 1924

Reason, Promotion

Members of family in Government Service, None

Date of birth, June 29, 1899

Remarks: There are no quarters furnished for the family of the incumbent of this position.

Selection regular, ~~subject to the action of the U. S. Civil Service Commission~~, AUG 19 1924, 19

For and in the absence of the Supt.

8/21/24

B L Salmon
Secretary, First *Civil Service District.*

P. Luther
First Assistant Superintendent

no preference

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

AUG 21 1924

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses.

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

11—2314

IN REPLYING ADDRESS
COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES
AND REFER TO DATE OF THIS LETTER
AND FILE NO.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

LIGHTHOUSES
1ST DISTRICT
MAR 24 1939
SOUTH PORTLAND, MAINE

March 20, 1939.

Hon. Clyde H. Smith,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Smith:

In reference to your letter of March 14, in the interest of Mr. Edwin W. Taft who desires reinstatement to the position of lighthouse keeper:

The Bureau recently had a communication directly from Mr. Taft in this matter and under date of March 1, 1939, he was informed that owing to the circumstances surrounding his dismissal from the Service this office could not give favorable consideration to his reinstatement. The records show that Mr. Taft was appointed keeper in the district of the Superintendent of Lighthouses, South Portland, Maine, on September 2, 1924, and that he was dismissed in consequence of charges involving sleeping on watch, which he admitted in his reply to the charges. Aside from the charges which led to his dismissal he had during the period of his service been previously disciplined by having his leave suspended for absenting himself from his station without prior authority.

In the past year or two the Service has been in close cooperation with the Civil Service Commission for the purpose of recruiting a more highly qualified class of personnel for positions of this character, and to this end the Civil Service Commission adopted new examination requirements, to which new appointees will hereafter be subject, and in consideration of Mr. Taft's prior record it would not appear in the interest of the Service to give him the special consideration implied in the reinstatement procedure of the Civil Service and the best suggestion this office would have to offer would be for Mr. Taft to requalify in some future civil service examination and thus reestablish his eligibility on the same basis as new appointees to the Service. The procedure would be for him to file application with the Manager, First Civil Service District, Postoffice and Courthouse Building, Boston, Mass., to have his name added to the mailing list so that he may be notified when the next civil service examination is held.

Very truly yours,

RC-EK

Bureau of Lighthouses, Wash., Copy to ..... Commissioner of Lighthouses.

IN REPLYING ADDRESS
COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES
AND REFER TO DATE OF THIS LETTER
AND FILE NO.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

SUPT. OF LIGHTHOUSES
1ST DISTRICT
MAR - 3 1939
SOUTH PORTLAND, MAINE

March 1, 1939.

Mr. Edwin W. Taft,
15 Washington St.,
Rockland, Maine.

Dear Sir:

In further reference to your letter of February 9, requesting reinstatement in the district of the Superintendent of Lighthouses, South Portland, Maine:

Owing to the circumstances surrounding your dismissal from this Service which were given careful consideration at the time, this office is not disposed to favorably consider your reinstatement at this time.

For the Commissioner:

Respectfully,

W. P. Harman
Administrative Assistant

Z-K

Bureau of Lighthouses, Wash., Copy to ..... Supt

GFL:SWA

February 20, 1939

Commissioner of Lighthouses

With reference to Bureau endorsement of February 16 on letter of February 9 from Mr. Edwin W. Taft, 15 Washington Street, Rockland, Maine, the Bureau is advised that Mr. Taft was appointed additional keeper at $840.00 per annum effective September 2, 1924, and was transferred to the position of second assistant keeper, Seguin Light Station, Maine, effective December 1, 1924. On July 20, 1925, his leave was suspended for a period of ninety days for taking leave of absence without having received prior authority therefor. On April 12, 1926, a letter of caution was addressed to him for addressing communications of an official nature to the Commissioner of Lighthouses in violation of Article 55, Instructions to Employees, 1915. On September 27, 1926, charges were preferred against Mr. Taft for unfaithful performance of duty involving two reported instances of sleeping on watch, as a result of which he was dismissed from the Service effective at the close of November 10, 1926.

In reply to the charges Mr. Taft denied any knowledge of the first occasion in which he was charged with having been asleep on watch, which was alleged to have occurred at 1:30 A. M., March 12, 1926. This charge was based upon a report submitted by the then principal keeper of the station, and even if the keeper's report could be doubted, it appears from the later report submitted by an entirely different principal keeper involving sleeping on watch on September 17, 1926, that the instance therein reported was not the first one occurring under that keeper in which Mr. Taft had failed to stand his watch in the manner required by Instructions to Employees. In his report of September 17, 1926, the then principal keeper stated, "I have noticed that Mr. Taft was careless about standing his watch and have called his attention to this several times."

There appears in Mr. Taft's file a lead pencil memorandum executed by Captain Sherman when he was Superintendent which indicates that Mr. Taft's father phoned this office on October 29, 1926, requesting information with regard to his son's dismissal, and that the father informed Captain Sherman at that time that he had spent a vacation at Seguin Light Station during which his son had also fallen asleep while on watch. From the papers in his record it would appear that although Mr. Taft might himself feel justified in contending that the occasion of his sleeping on watch because of which he was dismissed was an isolated case, the records would appear to indicate differently.

This office is not disposed to recommend Mr. Taft's reinstatement at this time.

INGALLS, Superintendent

3

(COPY--SWA)

Feb. 9th, 1939

Commissioner of Lighthouses
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I sincerely hope that you will give me your consideration in regard to an incident that took place (twelve) years ago on Seguin Island light station in the first district.

I enlisted in the U. S. Navy in 1915 serving nearly five years which included the war, and received an honorable discharge with rating as boatswains mate. I followed this with a three year enlistment in the U. S. Coast Guard, from which I received an honorable discharge.

I entered the Lighthouse Service in the fall of 1924 serving two years as second assistant keeper on Seguin Island light. The last part of October 1926 I fell asleep while on the early morning watch which had followed 24 hours of sickness during which time I had no rest or sleep.

This happened after it had come daylight and within a few minutes of the time to put the light out which burned several minutes overtime. The weather was clear.

I was dismissed from the Service by the Commissioner following a report made by the keeper of this light, however the circumstances about this case were never brought up in the report. This was the first and only black mark against me during the nine years that I served the government. I am writing this letter stating the true facts concerning my dismissal and to request reinstatement in the first lighthouse district.

Respectfully,

(SGD) EDWIN W. TAFT
15 Washington St.
Rockland
Maine

E-K Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, D. C., Feb. 16, 1939.

Referred to Superintendent of Lighthouses, South Portland, Maine, for report and return.

For the Commissioner:

(SGD) W. P. HARMAN
W. P. Harman
Administrative Assistant

Jan 7. 1939.

Capt. Sugalls:

Dear Sir:

When I was dismissed from the light service in November 1926 it was on account of a report made by Mr. Elson Small who was then keeper on Seguin Island.

The charge against me was sleeping on watch which was true. I fell asleep after daylight and the light burned later than it should have.

I was given no second chance & no hearing, this was the only black mark against me while in the Lighthouse service.

Prior to the Lighthouse service I had 5 years naval service, which included the war from which I received an honorable discharge, later I entered the U.S. Coast Guard & served nearly three years from which service I also received an honorable discharge. At the time of my dismissal from the light service my father, Frank Taft, with whom you are acquainted was on leave visiting me, he went at once to Portland and had a talk with Capt. Sherman who was then Superintendent. I did not go myself

because at the time
I felt very discouraged
& that it would be of
no use, however, Capt.
Sherman told my father
that he would reinstate
me at the end of one
year, it was much
later than that before
I did write in & ask
for reinstatement. Capt.
Sherman was sick at
the time & Mr. Sampson
was acting Supt. in his
place. He returned my
request & said it would be
impossible for me to reenter
the Light service on account
of past experience.

I only learned
lately that you were
now Supt., I believe
Capt. Ingalls that a

man who has served in the Govt. service including the war & who is also on the square is deserving of some consideration. I have been unemployed for some time and have three girls that I want to send to high school next fall, there is nothing I would like better than to be reinstated back in the light service so I can give them an education. I hope, Capt. Sugarle that as Supt. of this district that you will do what you can for me. Respectfully,

Edwin W. Taft.
10 Washington St.
Rockland.
Maine.





Capt. Ingalls.
Supt. of Lighthouse Service.
72 Highland St.
So. Portland (Peaks Island)
Maine.

(Personal)

[redacted]

CJD

1926 OCT [redacted] AM 10 36

SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES,
FIRST DISTRICT,
OCT 27 1926
PORTLAND, MAINE.

October 18, 1926.

Mr. Edwin W. Taft,
Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

Having been charged with unfaithful performance of duty in that on two occasions you were found asleep while on watch, and such charges having been substantiated in a degree sufficient to warrant such action, the Department, upon recommendation of the Commissioner of Lighthouses, has dismissed you from the position of Keeper (Second Assistant), $1200 per annum at Sequin Lighthouse, Maine, effective at the close of business on November 10, 1926.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

OCT 25 1926

(SIGNED) CLIFFORD HASTINGS

C:F 10

Chief of Appointment Division.

CES:CP
Enclosures

October 13, 1926

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

1. Herewith are charges preferred by this office against Mr. Edwin W. Taft, 2nd Asst. Keeper, Seguin Lighthouse, Maine, and his answer thereto.

2. The occurrences on which these charges are based have been carefully investigated and are believed to be true statements of the two keepers under which Mr. Taft has served. Copies of their letters of complaint are enclosed. This employee received a letter of caution April 18, 1926, for forwarding a communication direct to the Commissioner of Lighthouses (See Bureau endorsement, April 7, 1926, File No. 3163) in violation of the sixth paragraph of Article 55 of "Instructions to Employees, 1915".

3. In view of his admitted guilt, and of the investigations made in this case, it is respectfully recommended that Mr. Edwin W. Taft, 2nd Asst. Keeper, Seguin Lighthouse, Maine, be dismissed from the Service, effective at close of November 10, 1926.

4. He has taken no leave in excess of his accrued allowance and the action above recommended willbe not in violation of Section 2, Civil Service Rule 1, relative to political or religious opinions or affiliations.

SHERMAN
Superintendent

CES:CP

REGISTERED MAIL

September 27, 1926

Mr. Edwin W. Taft, 2nd Asst. Keeper, Seguin LH., Me.
(Through the Keeper)

1. The following charge is preferred against you:

CHARGE I: Unfaithful performance of duty.

SPECIFICATION

That on two occasions you have been found asleep while on watch, the first being at 1.30 a. m., March 12, 1926, when you failed to call the principal keeper at midnight, and upon his waking at 1.30 a. m., and going to your quarters you were found asleep on the couch.

On the second occasion, Sept. 17, 1926, whileon watch, you failed to call the principal keeper at 6.00 a. m. to relieve you, and upon his waking one hour after sunrise, he found your light not extinguished and you asleep in bed.

2. In accordance with Article 45 of said "Instructions to Employees, 1915", you will be allowed three days in which to submit such statement as you may desire to make in answer to the above charges. Be governed in all respects by the provisions of this Article in submitting your answer.

S.
SHERMAN
Superintendent
JM

COPY TO KEEPER; SEGUIN FOR FILES OF HIS STATION.

JCW:CP

October 11, 1926

SUBJECT: Letter of Caution
Mr. Edwin W. Taft.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

1. Reference being made to letter of caution addressed to Mr. Edward W. Taft, 2nd Asst. Keeper, Seguin Lighthouse, Maine, on April 12, 1926:

2. Charges have in the meantime been preferred against Mr. Taft for unfaithful performance of duty on September 27th, and upon result of findings, further report with recommendation will be forwarded to the Bureau.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent:

LUTHER
1st Asst Supt

Copy
CP

DE[illegible]TMENT OF COMMERCE
Lighthouse Service

First District

Single or double tank?

NOTE.—Order parts needed by number, if known; and if not known, then order by name.

Mr. Sallie Patten called me at home by phone from Cohasset Mass. Oct 29th/26 requesting information in regards to his sons discharge from the service saying he was in receipt of Telegram from Son informing him of what had taken place. The Patten informed me that he spent his vacation on Seguin and while he was there he went asleep while on watch

S

intentially go to sleep on that watch, What I have written in this letter is the truth. I have nothing more to say. Respectfully,

(SGD) E. W. TAFT, 2nd Asst.

(SGD) ELSON SMALL, Keeper

Copy
CP

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Lighthouse Service

First District

Seguin Lt.

Sept. 30th, 1926.

Superintendent of Lighthouses,

Portland, Maine.

Sir:

I deny any knowledge of the first occasion mentioned in the charge against me. I was not asleep at 1.30 a. m., March 12th, 1926. I never knew that such a report had ever been made against me until I received your letter yesterday, that report must have been made by Mr. Fickett who was Keeper here at that time.

On the second occasion Sept. 17th., 1926, I was too sick to properly stand my watch. Thirty minutes before the light should have been put out I laid down where I could still watch the light. I thought I would feel better in a few minutes by doing so, I fell asleep right away. I did wrong, I should have called Mr. Small at 4.45 a.m. then everything would have been all right. I don't feel that I have been unfaithfuly to the service as I did not intentially go to sleep on that watch, What I have written in this letter is the truth. I have nothing more to say. Respectfully,

(SGD) E. W. TAFT, 2nd Asst.

(SGD) ELSON SMALL, Keeper

Supt.
1st Asst. Sup.
Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
2nd Clerk
3rd Clerk
4th Clerk
Messenger

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES,
FIRST DISTRICT,
SEP 22 1926
PORTLAND, MAINE.

FIRST DISTRICT

Seguin Lt. Sta.,
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

September 17, 1926.

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES,
Portland, Maine.

Sir: I am obliged to make a report against Mr. Taft, Second assistant keeper at this station, for failure to extinguish light.

Mr. Taft was on watch from midnight until six a..m. We have been standing six hour watches for the duration of the absence of first assistant , who is on leave of absence. I was to have been called at six am. but as I was not called I arose at six fifteen, noticed that the light was still going, and after investigating found Mr. Taft in bed asleep. The light had been going one hour after sunrise.

I have noticed that Mr. Taft was careless about standing his watch and have called his attention to this several times.

Respectfully,

Elson Small

Keeper.

P.S. Since I have been here I have found Mr. Taft an efficient man in all but this one point and feel if this matter could be corrected he would be a competent man.

E. L. S.

Rec'd Reg. Mail
IV

Supt.
1st Asst. Supt.
Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
2nd Clerk
3rd Clerk
4th Clerk
Messenger

Seguin Light,
March 12, 1926

SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES,
FIRST DISTRICT,
MAR 16 1926
PORTLAND, MAINE.

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
1st Dist't Portland.
Maine.

Dear Sir:-

I wish to inform you that I have recently been insulted by Mr. Fickett to this extent.

Before going ashore one morning he came to the house to ask me if there was anything I wanted ashore and before leaving the house held a bill out to me and said he would give it to me for an unlawful intercourse.

My husband knows nothing whatever of this matter as I knew it would only cause trouble between us.

Feb. 28th at 8-o-clock when my husband called Mr. Fickett, they both told him that they could tell him things about my character that would make him tremble in his shoes.

Fearing this will make further trouble between us I am writing about

this matter to you.

Sincerely yours.

Mrs. Edwin W. Taft
Popham Beach,
Maine.

Keeper Fickett states that this statement is untrue
G.E.S.

JCW:CP

April 12, 1926

Edwin W. Taft, 2nd Asst. Keeper, Seguin LH., Maine.
(Through the Keeper)

1. The Commissioner of Lighthouse has forwarded here your letter of April 1, 1926, addressed to him on the subject of a radio set.

2. This office considers your action in this matter to be a violation of Article 55 of "Instructions to Employees, 1915," which requires that communications of official nature be forwarded through your immediate official superior.

3. You are hereby cautioned against a repetition of this offence, which will be considered cause for disciplinary action.

4. Your station will be considered when a sufficient number of radio sets have been donated.

SHERMAN
Superintendent

COPY TO Bureau of Lighthouses.
Copy to Keeper, Seguin Lighthouse for files of station.

Supt
1st Asst. Supt
Acct. Supt.
Chief Clerk
Clerk
Clerk
Clerk
Messenger

Segui Light Sta.
Popham Beach
Maine
April 1, 1926.

LIGHTHOUSES
1926 APR 5 AM 9 35

SUPT. OF LIGHTHOUSES
APR 8 1926
BALTIMORE, MD.

Hydro
Engr.
Mar. E.
Personnel
Financial
Law and P.
Acct.
Insp.
Public

SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES,
FIRST DISTRICT,
APR 12 1926
PORTLAND, MAINE.

Comm. of Lighthouses 3163
Washington.
D.C.

To 1st Dist

Dear Sir:

I saw in the paper that you are at the head of the distribution of radios to light keepers. This is a very lonely place and I would appreciate very much in having one. I think it is very thoughtful and kind of the people who are donating them to this service.

Yours respectfully.

Edwin W. Taft
2nd ass't Keeper.

Recom advise writer his station will be considered when sufficient number of sets have been donated
JLP

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
APR 7 1926.

To Superintendent of Lighthouses, Portland, Maine

Furnish writer directly such information as practicable.

J. S. CONWAY
Acting Commissioner.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHT[redacted]E SERVICE

Supt.
1st Asst. Supt.
Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
2nd Clerk
3rd Clerk
4th Clerk
Messenger

SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES,
FIRST DISTRICT,
MAR 15 1926
PORTLAND, MAINE.

FIRST DISTRICT

Seguin Light Station
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

March 12, 1926;

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES,
Portland, Maine.

Sir:

I have to report the 2nd asst Keeper the first thing after returning To my Station, I arrived at (5) o,clock pm on Thursday the 11, and Was supposed to go on Watch at (12) o,Clock Midnight but instead I was not called, I awoke at (130) O,Clock and went to Mr Tafts Quarters and found him asleep on the Couch. Now I dont consider That I should put up with him any more as he is not Trust Worthy To leave on watch, It is not known how long he was asleep before I called him.

N. B. Tibbetts.

Keeper.

Supt. D
1st Asst. Supt.
Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
2nd Clerk
3rd Clerk
4th Clerk
Messenger

Ans. by Phone

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES,
FIRST DISTRICT,
MAR 2 1926
PORTLAND, MAINE.
FIRST DISTRICT

Seguin Light Station
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

March 1, 1926;

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES,
Portland, Maine.

Sir:

I have to inform you, but am sorry to have to do it,

Second asst Taft has a Revolver and is threatening to shoot People

on here with it , As I dont know just how to handle a case like that

I am asking your permission to have Superintendent Sampson to call

At this Station , As there is other matters that I want to be settled

up that was told to him by Mr Taft while on last Inspection.

N. B. Tickett.
Keeper.

TO... E. W. Taft ..... SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES, FIRST DISTRICT, OCT 8 1925 PORTLAND, MAINE.

Submit at once answers to the questions listed below. Write plainly and in ink, and sign your name at place indicated.

1. Name (As it appears on the payroll)

Taft (Surname) Edwin (First name) Wheaton (Middle name)

2. Place of Birth (State or Country) Woodford's Maine

3. Date of Birth 29th (Day) June (Month) 1899 (Year)

4. Legal Voting Residence (Congressional District) Bath

(State) Maine

5. Full number of years you attended the following schools:

Common school Nine years

High school .....years

College .....years

.....School.....years

List degrees received, if any:

.....

6. Military and Naval Service, if any. (Check with an X after appropriate item).

None	Army	Navy X	Marine Corps
Coast Guard X	Retired		Pensioned

Veterans Bureau Beneficiary

7. Statement of Government Service (Both Civil and Military)

Name of each Department or Bureau of the Government Service, other than the Lighthouse Service, in which you have been employed and give its location.

	Appointed or Enlisted			Separated or Discharged		
	Month	Day	Year	Month	Day	Year
U. S. Navy	Nov.	12TH	1915	June	29TH	1920
U. S. Coast Guard	Nov.	8TH	1921	May	31st	1924

8. Leave without pay while in the Government Service (Do not state any period of less than six months).

No leave at any time exceeding thirty days

No. 23147

HONORABLE DISCHARGE

United States Coast Guard

Edwin W Taft

having served with credit and fidelity in the United States Coast Guard from the 8th day of November 1921 to date hereof is
HONORABLY DISCHARGED
in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations for the government of the Coast Guard

Portsmouth, NH
November 7, 1922.

/s/ I A Littlefield
District Superintendent USCG
First District - Acting.

Station No. 7 Surfman 11/8/21

Discharged from
Station No . 7 Surfman 11/7/22

Reenlisted November 8, 1922. /s/ E M Mills, Boatswain (L)

Total service U S Coast Guard to date 1 year 0 months 0 days.

Office of Superintendent of Lighthouses, 1st District, Portland, Me
November 6, 1925.

I Certify that the above is a correct copy of the service of Mr. Edwin W Taft, now keeper, Seguin LH, Me while in the Coast Guard Service, insofar as it pertains to perfecting his service record.

C E Sherman
Superintendent of Lighthouses

ORDINARY DISCHARGE

Edwin W Taft

is discharged from the United States Coast Guard on the date hereof, in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations for the Government of the Coast Guard by reason of His own request

Portsmouth, NH
/s/ John S Cole
March 31, 1924.

DESCRIPTIVE LIST

Station No. 7	Surfman	11/8/22
Discharged from Burnt Island Station	Surfman	3/31/24

(s) E H Mills,
Boatswain (L) U S C G

Total service in USCoast Guard 2 years 4 months 23 days.

Office of Superintendent of Lighthouses, First District, Portland, Me
November 6, 1925

I certify that the above is a correct copy of the discharge of Mr . Edwin W Taft, Keeper, Seguin LH, Me insofar as it pertains to perfecting of his service record.

C E Sherman

Superintendent of Lighthouses

No. 165002

HONORABLE DISCHARGE FROM THE UNITED STATES NAVY

This is to certify that Edwin W Taft, 1034155 BM 2nd class as a "Testimonial of Fidelity and Obedience" is Honorably discharged from the USS Utah and from the Naval Service of the United States this 29th day of June 1920, at Portland, Me

/s/ Henry H Hugh Capt USN
Commanding USS Utah

Name Edwin W Taft Rate, AS
Enlisted Nov 12, 1915, at Portland, Me - minority
Total Naval Service 4 7/12 years

/s/ L R Leahey Comdr, USN
and Executive Officer.

Office of Superintendent of Lighthouses, 1st District, Portland, Me
November 6, 1925.

I certify that the above is a correct copy of the discharge of Edwin W Taft, keeper, Seguin LH, Me insofar as it pertains to perfecting his service record.

C E Sherman

Superintendent of Lighthouses

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES,
FIRST DISTRICT,
OCT 8 1925
PORTLAND, MAINE.

Portland, Me., Oct. 2, 1925

The vital statistics records in this office show that Edwin Wheaton Taft, son of Frank E. Taft and Jessie M. (Stiles) Taft, was born in Portland, Maine, June 29, 1899.

City Clerk.

Supt. ✓
1st Asst. Supt.
Asst. Supt. W
Chief Clerk
2nd Clerk
3rd Clerk
4th Clerk
Messenger

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES,
FIRST DISTRICT,
AUG 25 1925
PORTLAND, MAINE.

FIRST DISTRICT

Seguin,
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

Aug, 24th., 1925.

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES,
Portland, Maine.

Sir:

I am writing an explanation in regard to the leave which I took the 6th, day of July, It was very urgent that I should go as I did, my wife received a telephone call sunday night that her mother was dying and to come at once, we left the following morning and her mother died the next night, funeral services were held saturday and as soon as they were over I returned at once to this station, I tried two different times to notify the keeper by telephone but could not make connections.

I thought I should explane this matter so that you would not think that I stayed away from my station without purpose.

Respectfully,

2nd, Asst. Edwin W. Taft
Keeper. N. B. Tuckett.

Form A-21

SUPT. OF LIGHTHOUSES,
FIRST DISTRICT,
JUL 13 1925
PORTLAND, MAINE.

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN SALARY
KEEPERS—LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

June 25, 1925.

Mr. Edwin W. Taft,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You are advised that your salary as keeper in the Lighthouse Service has been changed from $1200 per annum to $ 1260 per annum, effective July 1, 1925.

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,

W. J. GARDNER,
Acting Chief of Appointment Division.

11—6074

H
1st

JCW:CP

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

REPORT ON PROBATIONARY APPOINTEE.
(This report to be made at expiration of fifth month of service.)

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE, First District,
(Bureau)

Portland, Maine, February 5, 1925.
(Date)

The Secretary of Commerce,
(The Chief of Appointment Division):

The probationary period of the person named below expires at the close of business on March 2, 1925.

The conduct and capacity of this employee have been satisfactory* during the probationary period, and (he) (~~she~~) is considered qualified for absolute appointment.

Name Mr. Edwin Wheaton Taft

Position Keeper in Lighthouse Service

Salary $960 per annum

Appropriation Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses

Station 2nd Asst. Keeper, Seguin LH. Me.

Date of entrance on duty September 2, 1924.

Remarks:

C. E. SHERMAN
(Signature of immediate superior.)
Superintendent of Lighthouses, 1st Dist.

SUBMITTED:

(Head of Bureau or Office.)

(*If unsatisfactory, recommendation for discontinuance under the provisions of paragraph (c) of section 1 of civil service rule VII, should immediately be forwarded to the Department.)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

January 31, 1925.

LIGHTHOUSES
1925 FEB 4 PM 3 07

SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES
FIRST DISTRICT
FEB 6 1925
PORTLAND, MAINE.

Mr. Edwin W. Taft,

Commissioner of Lighthouses,

Sir: Through the

In connection with the readjustment of pay of positions in the Lighthouse Service the total compensation of the position occupied by you has been fixed as indicated below, effective February 1, 1925.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

EDW. J. GARDNER.
Acting Chief of Appointment Division.

Position: Keeper

Salary: $1200

Appropriations: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.
General Expenses, Lighthouse Service.

1st

JSJ

Form 73a GFL

REPORT OF TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES. First DISTRICT.

Portland, Maine, November 12, 1924., 19

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

The following-named employee will be transferred as indicated, and will enter upon duty at his new station on or about November 20, 1924.

Name, Edwin W. Taft

Position, Keeper, Lighthouse Service

From Additional Keeper

To Second Asst., Seguin L. S., Me.

Previous incumbent, Harry W. Sprague

Services terminated, close Nov. 19, 1924

Reason, Recommended for promotion to 1st Asst., even date.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent:

R. LUTHER
1st Asst. Superintendent.

GFL

Portland, Maine, December 3, 1924. , 19

The above-referred-to transfer became effective beginning with December 1, 1924.

S.
SHERMAN
Superintendent.

11—4598

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce for his information.

Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses.

FORM A-21

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN SALARY
KEEPERS—LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES,
FIRST DISTRICT,
SEP 25 1924
PORTLAND, MAINE.

1924 SEP 23 P 3 18 LIGHTHOUSES

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

September 18, 1924.

Mr. Edwin W. Taft,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You are advised that your salary as keeper in the Lighthouse Service has been changed from $ 840 per annum to $ 960 per annum, effective October 10, 1924.

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,

[illegible] GARDNER,

Acting Chief of Appointment Division.

IC
1st

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
PORTLAND, ME.

Supt.
1st Asst. Supt
Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
2nd Clerk
3rd Clerk
4th Clerk
Messenger

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES,
FIRST DISTRICT,
SEP 17 1924
PORTLAND, MAINE.

FIRST DISTRICT

Goose Rocks Lt.
(Station, Depot, or Vessel.)

Sept 14th, 1924

Lighthouse Supt.

Sir.

I was requested to recommend Mr Edwin W. Taft after ten days stay at Goose Rocks. I recommend Mr Taft to be a good man for the lighthouse service. he is quick to learn the working of the light. and Mr Taft is all right for the position of Asst keeper.

Ada Smith keeper.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES,
FIRST DISTRICT,
SEP 15 1924
PORTLAND, MAINE.

JCW:GFL
Inclosure.

Sept. 16, 1924

Keeper, Rockland Breakwater L. S.,Me.

travel

Referring to inclosed/order issued to Additional Keeper Edwin W. Taft, you will see that he is properly instructed in the care and operation of the fog signal and illuminating apparatus and that in addition he assists in the routine duties of your station.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent:

LUTHER
1st Asst. Supt.

COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
PORTLAND, ME.

Supt.
1st Asst. Supt.
Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
2nd Clerk
3rd Clerk
4th Clerk
Messenger

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES,
FIRST DISTRICT,
SEP 15 1924
PORTLAND, MAINE.

FIRST DISTRICT

Goose Rocks Light Sta.
(Station, Depot, or Vessel.)

Sept. 11th, 1924.

Lighthouse Supt.

Sir.

As Mr. Morrison is about to report back at this station for duty, I would like to know if I could be sent to Rockland breakwater in order that I may learn what I can about a vapor light and the operation of the machinery that is there. That is if I am not to be sent elsewhere right away.

Respectfully

Edwin W Taft,
additional Keeper.

Ada Smith Keeper.

Form 73

GFL

NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES, First DISTRICT.

Portland, Maine (City.) September 15 (Date.), 19 24

COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Action recommended, PROMOTION

Name, Edwin W. Taft — Legal residence, Maine

Position, Additional Keeper — Salary, $960 per annum

Location, First District — Appropriation, Sals., Kprs., etc.

Effective Oct. 10, 1924, {'the actual date of entrance on duty, or ~~as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.~~ x

Former position, Same — Former salary, $840 per annum

Location, Same

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

Previous incumbent, Irving C. Bunker — Services terminated, close Oct. 9, 1924.

Reason, To be transferred to position Assistant Keeper, Crabtree Ledge L. S., Me.

Members of family in Government Service, -----

Date of birth, -----

Remarks:

Selection regular, subject to the action of the U. S. Civil Service Commission, , 19

For and in absence of Superintendent:

(Direct.)

Secretary, *Civil Service District.*

WOOLLEY
Chief Clerk.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

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

11—2314

GFL

STANDARD FORM No. 6
(Approved by the President March 28, 1924)

PERSONAL HISTORY

(Statement to be prepared by appointee in his own handwriting)

Bureau, division, or office DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE--Lighthouse Service--1st District.

1. Name in full Edwin Wheaton Taft

2. Legal (voting) residence Maine (State and Congressional District) Knox (County) St. George (City or town)

3. Where born? Maine Second (State or foreign country) Woodfords (City or town) (Portland) When born? June 9, 1899 (Date)

4. If foreign, state whether naturalized or alien

5. Indicate sex, marital condition, and race by check, thus: √

SEX		MARITAL CONDITION				RACE. (If other, state which)		
Male √	Female	Single	Married √	Divorced	Widowed	White √	Colored	

6. A complete record of your past civil service for the United States Government:

BRANCH OF SERVICE AND PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT	POSITION	SALARY	DATE APPOINTED			DATE SEPARATED		
			Month	Day	Year	Month	Day	Year

7. Military and naval record. If any, check (√) to indicate branch and other information and give dates of enlistment and discharge:

None	Army	Navy √	Marine Corps	Coast Guard √	War Veteran √	Pensioner	Veterans' Bureau beneficiary

Enlisted Nov. 12, 1915 Discharged June 29, 1920 — Enlisted Nov 8, 1921 Discharged Feb. 29, 1924

Organization Navy — Organization U. S. Coast Guard.

8. EDUCATION (Circle number of years)

Common school	High school	College	Degrees, if any
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 (8)	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	

9. State special qualifications Ten years seafaring life, Able seaman.

10. Name, relationship, and address of person to be notified in case of emergency:

Mrs. Albena F. Taft (Name) — Wife (Relationship)

13 Elliot St., Thomaston, Maine. (Post office address)

I certify that the foregoing answers are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(Sgd.) EDWIN W. TAFT
(Name as usually written and which will be used as official signature)

Aug. 29, 1924. (Date) Present address (Port Clyde, Maine.

10—1659

COPY FOR OFFICE FILES: ORIG. RECD. & RETD. TO EMPLOYEE 9/4/24.

Form 206 COPY SENT FOR FILES GOOSE ROCKS L. S.? FIRST ASSIGNMENT. File No. 8

RECORD OF PHYSICAL EXAMINATION OF LIGHT KEEPER OR ASSISTANT LIGHT KEEPER

IN CONNECTION WITH MEDICAL RELIEF BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Office of Superintendent of Lighthouses, First District,

Place, Portland, Maine, August

Date, August 28, 19 24.

To the Medical Officer in Charge,
U. S. Public Health Service,
Dr. F. B. Adams, AA Surgeon,
Relief Sta., No. 318, 400 Main St.
ROCKLAND, Maine.

Sir:

Please examine Edwin W. Taft, Additional Keeper,

nativity, American; age, 25; height, 5 feet, 7½ inches;

weight, 155 pounds; color of hair, -----; color of eyes, -----

distinguishing marks, -----

as to eyesight, hearing, and physical condition.

When the examination has been completed the findings should be recorded on this blank and the blank returned to the applicant.

Respectfully, For and in absence of the Superintendent:

1st Asst *Superintendent of Lighthouses.*

(Signature of applicant:) (Sgd.) EDWIN W. TAFT

(To be signed in the presence of the officer issuing this blank or witnessed by a designated employee of the Lighthouse Service.) Witnessed by (Sgd.) ASA SMITH, Keeper, Goose Rks. L. S., Me.

U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Place, Rockland, Maine.

Date, September 3, 19 24.

To Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Sir: This certifies that I have this day examined the eyesight, hearing, and physical condition of Edwin W. Taft, and find him physically {disqualified / qualified*} in accordance with rules approved by the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Commerce, respecting the treatment by the Public Health Service of light keepers and assistant light keepers of the Lighthouse Service pursuant to the Act of Congress approved August 28, 1916.

~~He is disqualified for the reasons shown on page 3.~~

(Sgd.) F. B. ADAMS

A. A. *Surgeon, U. S. Public Health Service.*

---

* If qualified, strike out the word "disqualified" and the paragraph following.

11—5999

REPORT OF PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

PLACE, Rockland, Maine,

DATE, September 3, 1924.

Name of applicant, Edwin W. Taft

Eyes: Color, Brown; exophthalmus, No

chronic inflammation, No; other abnormality, None

Eyelids: Ptosis, No; condition of conjunctiva on eversion, Normal

other conditions, Normal

Eyesight:

Vision of right eye, without glasses, Normal; with glasses,

Vision of left eye, without glasses, Normal; with glasses,

Is applicant partially or wholly color-blind? No

If color-blind, state which color he confuses

Were candidate's eyes tested with lantern, woolen skeins, or both? Woolen skeins.

Ears:

Abnormalities, None; shape, Normal

Position, Normal; condition of drums Normal

Evidence of mastoid disease, None

Hearing: (When testing hearing, the eyes and the opposite ear must be closed.)

Distance conversational speech can be heard: Right ear, 40 feet; left ear, 40 feet.

Distance whispered speech can be heard: Right ear, 15 feet; left ear, 15 feet.

Lungs: Negative

Heart: Negative

Defects noted which, in the opinion of the medical examiner, will not materially interfere with the discharge of the duties of light keeper or assistant light keeper:

11—6999

NOT TO BE ACCEPTED AS AUTHORITY FOR INVESTIGATION OPERATIONS UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY OFFICIAL CREDENTIALS

LIGHTHOUSES 1924 AUG 26 AM 10 07

CERTIFICATE OF PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

August 21, 1924.

SUPT. of LIGHTHOUSES, FIRST DISTRICT, AUG 28 1924 PORTLAND, MAINE.

r. Edwin W. Taft,
M

the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Through

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 (additional) in the Lighthouse Service at a salary of Eight Hundred and Forty 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, First Civil Service District.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

EDW. J. GARDNER.

C
1st Acting

Chief of Appointment Division.

Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Appropriation:

Leverett S. Stanley.

Vice:

Maine.

Legal Residence:

Form A-14 EOD 9/2/24 (See reverse side.)

11—5080