

ETERNAL QUEST

THE LIVES OF

PAUL F. AND MAY ROBERTS CLARK

OF

WILLOW GLEN

By

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In 1927 Willow Glen would become a city, incorporating from San Jose. The main issue that triggered this movement would be the efforts of the Southern Pacific railroad and City of San Jose who wanted to reroute their mainline tracks through the community. There was one individual who was responsible more than anyone else credited for the halting of their efforts.

Paul Fenimore Clark united the community to fight for its future. For his efforts he was elected the first Mayor of the City of willow Glen, and held that position until his death in 1932. The Clarks were an important and colorful chapter in the history of the Santa Clara Valley. This essay will touch on the background, life, and community service of Willow Glens foremost citizens, Paul F. and May Roberts Clark.

I. PAUL FENIMORE CLARK

Paul Fenimore Clark was born in Green Bay, Wisconsin July 14, 1861. He was the son of a farmer that early in Paul's life headed west to the prairies of Nebraska. His mother had died early in Paul's life. Paul entered the University of Nebraska at Lincoln in 1882, enrolled in the Latin School. This would be where he would meet his future wife May Lucille Roberts. He received his Bachelor of Letters from the University in 1887. While working on his Master of Arts degree he was already practicing law at a local office. Paul was always active in campus activities, being a member of the Alpha Epsilon chapter and the Euker Club. In 1898 he graduated with a Masters of Arts degree and promptly opened up his own law practice with his college chum Charles Sumner Allen. The firm would become extremely successful over the next fourteen years, concentrating in corporate law. In 1886 Paul and May would be married and together share a life filled with achievement, travel, and charitable work that would have local, regional, and world wide impact.

In 1905 Paul was elected to the Nebraska State Legislature. He served two terms as Speaker of the House. He was a member of the republican party, and a follower of Theodore Roosevelt's progressive philosophies. In 1912 Paul ran for Congress, this Presidential election is noteworthy because of the split of the Republican Party. Roosevelt was edged out for the party's nomination at the GOP National Convention in Chicago by the incumbent President William Howard Taft. On the Democratic ticket was Woodrow Wilson.

After Taft won the nomination Roosevelt created the Progressive Party. This dissension in the Republican ranks would split the vote and pave the way for a Democratic President, and would contribute to Clarks loss in his bid for congress. Paul would serve the remaining term as speaker,

and in 1913 Paul and May relocated to San Jose, California.

II. MAY ROBERTS CLARK

May Clark was born in Rushford, New York on September 13, 1866. Her father, Rev. James J. Roberts (9-5-1820 to 3-14-1873) was an Episcopal Methodist Minister and died March 14, 1873 in Lincoln, Nebraska. May was only 7 years old when he died, and was just a baby when they moved from New York to Nebraska. Her mother Minerva Bullock Roberts (12-5-1834 to 3-2-1920) also born in Rushford, New York was known as a dedicated Christian worker for the Methodist Church. She traveled to nearly every state as a missionary even in her advanced years.. She was the founder of the Home Missionary Society, and a member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. She married Rev. Roberts in 1853. Minerva came to San Jose in 1918 and lived with the Clarks until her death on March 2, 1920 .

May entered the University of Nebraska in 1883 in the Latin School and was in that department until 1886. Then she began to study fine arts and art history. Between 1886 and 1889 she was listed as a special student, having interests in the study of Anthropology and Archaeology. During the early years May was living with her mother at 1246 O street in Lincoln, while Paul, not interested in living on his fathers farm, lived on campus. May was extremely interested in the studies of the Native Americans, in the 1890's she conducted field work in the totem fields of Alaska.

Between 1910 and 1912 a law associate of Paul's had relocated to San Jose from Lincoln and was sending back glowing reports of the wonderful California climate. Soon after the 1912 election the Clarks would begin their journey west.

III. CALIFORNIA, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

In 1913 Paul and May began living in the Palm Haven area of The Willows at 49 Coe Avenue in a modest craftsman bungalow. They were renting there until they found some land to build their own home. Within weeks of their arrival May joined the San Jose Women's Club. Here she would

get to know many of the important ladies of the area and would make many friends. One friend in particular was Mrs. Frank Delos Wolfe, wife of the areas foremost architect. Perhaps this is how the Clarks would meet Wolfe and ultimately commission him to design and build there new modern home.

Shortly after they arrived in San Jose they purchased a half acre parcel of land in the willows on Minnesota Avenue near Lincoln. The parcel was part of a 10 acre tract that was once a fruit orchard. By the end of 1913 the Clarks new home was designed and built by the firm of Wolfe and Wolfe at what is now 1147 Minnesota Avenue, still at its original site. The California home of Paul and May is an important part of this essay and will be discussed at length later in the paper.

Immediately the Clarks would become involved in civic affairs. they would dedicate much of the rest of their lives to helping their neighbors and the city as a whole. In 1915 May would serve on a committee that was directed by Herbert Hoover, to work with the Chamber of Commerce and the American red Cross to send food and clothing overseas to Belgian war refugees in France during World War I. The committee would meet weekly at the Pratt home which was the address also of the Home of Benevolence in San Jose, another place May would generously contribute to. In May of 1916 May was elected President of the San Jose Women's Club, where for the past year she served as the chairperson of the Arts, Travel and Music Committee. She was well known for organizing enjoyable programs for her fellow club members. May obviously looked forward to the meetings with the club and was eager to serve the club as its new president (ill. 1).

May was a wonderful speaker and her grace and refinement was noted. Her acceptance speech to her new position is a charming example of her demeanor. At the seasons final gathering the outgoing president, Mrs. Fred Schumacher passed the keys to the new president, May Roberts Clark. After she assumed the duties she addressed the club with the following words:

" For the honor you have conferred upon me by choosing me as your chief executive, I thank you most sincerely. It has been a recognition which has given me one of the greatest pleasures of my life, and my life has had more red- letter days ,I think, than fall to the lot of most people, but none of them have been redder or larger than this inaugural today. Believe me, I appreciate the honor of your choice and I realize , as well , that you have given me not only an enviable position but a chance for service which I hope may prove of mutual benefit."

"One of the strongest appeals of this club movement, it seems to me, is found in the inherent

democracy of organized women. we have come to a time and place in civilization where all radical differences are reduced to a minimum. To one who knows the esprit de corps of the women's clubs it is no longer strange that people of alien races, and of widely sundered religious ideas, and of social, financial, and educational differences can meet on the common ground of personal worth."

"Not once in the three years it has been my privilege to be among you have I heard a single woman recommended because of her wealth, her fashion, or her social prestige."

" But I have heard many of you speak of the others with truly masculine justice, and in praise. The misanthrope- some mans probably- who used to keep the old lie floating that 'no woman ever really liked another woman' ought to attend this club and get converted."

"There may be temperamental differences and these uneven edges may, sometimes, rasp each other. Even in that most perfect social group - the ideal family - there is never absolute accord. The urge of individualism in this age of freedom makes some assertiveness, some opposition imperative, but even this personal bias or antagonism of ideas serves as a means of mental growth. By chance , we may find a fly in the precious ointment. Which element shall we emphasize. What shall we cast away- the fly or the ointment ?"

" This ensuing year we are sure to come in contact with some thorns, but one can ignore them if above their hidden spines shines the great, gorgeous, glorious Paul Niron roses of kindly character. And another thought can give us grace of deeds, our tenure of this club life- even at its best and the longest- is as brief as a summers day."

" If the present administration is not to your liking, remember that on this day, tomorrow-year, you can put me and mine in the "down and out" class which in this club, because of its superior rank, I shall consider it a promotion, and you will have for one brief day an organization nearer to your hearts desire."

" Believe me, for your sake and for mine, for the prosperity and good-fellowship of this club, and for the furthering of the dream of true democracy among American women, I devoutly hope that the coming year may "blossom as the rose".

The club did indeed blossom as the membership grew to over two hundred women, and an auxiliary was formed for the daughters of the club members. The purpose of the Women's club was to promote acquaintance, good fellowship and the cooperation among the women of the city

and neighboring areas. They also sought to provide a civic center where important questions could be discussed and acted on to promote the interest and welfare of the community. The clubs motto fittingly was "all for one and one for all".

In November of 1919 the San Jose chapter of the Housewives League was formed, with May being its first president. The purpose of the club was to investigate cases of profiteering and to ascertain why grocers need to charge so much when the producers receives so little. They would look into all matters of the high cost of living. The league would publish recipes for sugarless and inexpensive foods. By July of 1920 the San Jose chapter had grown to almost two hundred members strong.

Paul spent most of his life here helping organize benevolent organizations and activities. In 1917 and 1918 he served as commander of the local Scottish Rite Bodies, and was influential in the building of the San Jose Home of the Benevolence, and the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children in San Francisco. Paul was an honorary 33 degree mason, its highest honor, and was a key figure in the building of the new Scottish Rite Temple at Third and St. James in 1925. In 1923 Paul was the Chairman of the Santa Clara Chapter of the Anti- Saloon League. As mayor of Willow Glen he would fight to keep saloons out of his city. May would host meetings of the Willow Glen Christian Women's Temperance Union at her home. Her mother Minerva, a longtime member would lecture on the subject of saloons. In 1924 Paul became the President of the Santa Clara County Community Chest, a benevolence organization which was the first of its kind on the Pacific coast. Founded in 1922 in Indianapolis, it was the prototype of what is now Goodwill Industries. At their offices at Santa Clara and Market they would collect used clothing and distribute it to various charities, churches, and work with the Good Cheer Club of San Jose.

In 1914 Paul old college friend and former law partner Charles S. Allen would follow the Clarks to San Jose. In addition to his law career Allen was also a member of the Lincoln Board of Education for six years, and for fourteen years a regent of the University of Nebraska. Wolfe would design a modern home for Mr. and Mrs. Allen likewise, their home still stands still stands on Plaza Dr. in Palm Haven. In California "Charlie" would be a member of the San Jose Board of Education for 24 years, 23 of them as president of the board. For 10 years prior to 1940 he was chief editorial writer for the Mercury Herald, and for many years contributed a daily signed editorial, usually focusing on international relations, and labor- management relations. In 1916

Paul , Charlie, and another attorney Grant Bennett , who is best known for being one of Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders charging up San Juan Hill, organized an invitation only, gentlemen only, literary club called the QUEST CLUB (ill. 2). The club would meet twice a month at a different member's home . The meetings would begin by the host member reciting a research paper they prepared , the members would discuss it at length following the reading. The evening would end after a friendly evening of card playing, cigars, and refreshments. The club continued to meet until it disbanded in 1984.

IV. CASA MANANA, THEIR CALIFORNIA HOME

The Clarks would move into their custom designed home on Minnesota Avenue in the Fall of 1913. The architect Frank Delos Wolfe designed it to May's specifications. The style of architecture is important because of its unusually modern style for this era in California. Wolfe called the style "American Style", a reference to the Prairie Style of architecture created by Frank Lloyd Wright in the Mid West. This new style is considered to be the first architecture truly American in origin. This type of architecture is quite different and looks radical especially next to the neighboring Victorian houses. The very Victorian Maynard mansion is next door to the Clark house. The Prairie School of architecture is rooted in the back to nature movement and is organic in design, harmonizing with both the user and its site. Simplicity was its emphasis and the designers favored a flat or low pitched roof to emphasize the horizontal and its concept of shelter. Unlike Victorians rooms flow freely into each other, not a maze of boxes inside one big box. Ornate trim was not used instead simple horizontal wood banding, gardens, urns, and intricate art glass windows would echo the outdoor foliage.

The home was featured in the architectural trade magazine *Western Architect* in October of 1914 (ill. 3). It shows a simple landscaped lawn and comfortable furniture on the front porch. The floor plan was also provided. Architect Wolfe was popular and busy, he also sold his plans by catalog perhaps he was hoping capitalize on the popularity of this new style of architecture in other parts of the country. A version of the house was recently discovered in Minnesota, being built by plans purchased by catalog. Wolfe marketed this type of architecture to be earthquake proof. Brick

masonry was replaced with wire lath attached to wood framing. The wire lath was then covered with plaster or what is commonly known as "stucco". It was believed that the wood , metal lath, and stucco would perform better in shear pressure, the type of pressure a building is exposed to in an earthquake. Shear is when an object is exposed to compressive and tensile forces at the same time, like bending a stick, the top is being compressed and the bottom is being stretched, in between is shear pressure. The buildings are generally kept low to the ground, brick multiple story structures perform poorly in earthquakes. Next, the buildings are typically lightweight, another feature that performs better in shear pressure.

The home on Minnesota and Iris was built on a lovely half acre lot. At that time Minnesota Avenue was lined with Pepper trees. Their backyard was known all over the neighborhood for its beauty. May loved her gardens an grew many fruits, vegetables, and had nut trees. Behind the 8 foot wide fireplace in the living room was the veranda overlooking a courtyard. The veranda was accessible by French doors flanking the fireplace. Behind the courtyard May had a Rose and Wisteria trellis and arbor where she had a small writing table and chairs.

In October of 1919 the house was featured in Sunset Magazine (ill 4). May wrote the article for the Home in the West feature. The article was titled Planning a Home for Privacy, where she described room by room why she designed it the way she did. There were photos of the front exterior facade, living room, veranda, courtyard and her trellis. She named the house "Casa Manana" or house of tomorrow, reflecting its modern design. She furnished the house very simply, which was correct for the type of house, no Victorian clutter. The house has a built in bookcase in the large living room and a built in sideboard in the cozy dining room, all with dainty art glass windows and doors that match windows in the living room. The dining room was equipped with a double size pocket door with mullion hammered glass panes to offer privacy but not sacrifice light.

The living room is a incredible space, with a 12 foot ceiling, and a gallery band on three walls to display works of art in an unbroken surface.

V. AUTHORS

May loved to write, in 1922 she was listed as a member of the National League of American Pen Women as an Indian stories writer. She was also a member of the San Jose Poetry Club from 1922 until her death in 1937. Around 1925 May finished her first novel, *Taka : The Man Who Would Be White* (ill.5). It is a story of a half breed Pawnee Indian child in Nebraska who is forced to deal with where he fits in the world, as an American soldier, or with his Native American family. May wrote a second novel " *The Key to the Copeland Crime*"(ill.6) a murder mystery set in San Jose, although she calls the city Guadalupe.

In 1925 Paul and May embarked on a year long world tour. They would visit many exotic places that were not easily accessible. While the Clarks were considered the " society " class among their friends, they also had an adventurous curiosity that would place them in fascinating, and dangerous places. May writes of she and Paul, her "trailmate of a lifetime" would travel through virgin forests, polar ice, and burning tropic sea. On stately ship, or barge or hollow tree. Camel back, palanquin, or sedan chair. No journey was too hard if Paul was there. May would write poetry at length about their travels. On January 21, 1926 Paul gave a talk on their visit to Egypt to the New England Society called "Impressions of the Holy Land".

The San Jose Poetry Club was one organization that provided an avenue to help amateur writers improve their writing abilities and to communicate the affection most felt for the valley. The club would meet fittingly at the Edwin Markham home in downtown San Jose. May was a distinguished member of the club. Her works of poetry were published in the Anthology *CALIFORNIA POETS* published in 1932. Her works also appear in the annual volume the club would publish *A YEARS HARVEST*. She wrote about most aspects of her interesting life and about the people she would meet. One poem is about a dinner party in which she was sitting in between the Governor of California and Sir Ernest Shackelton, the legendary Polar Explorer, and how the guests were reacting to May's and Shackeltons long conversation about their mutual love of the wilderness. Her poems about her home (ill. 7}, and yard are rare looks into the place she loved most of all. Her home was as unique as she. While it was not a massive overpowering display of wealth, it was more of a statement of independence, and perhaps a touch of rebellion. I feel May liked being a little different, not conforming and proud of being a woman who achieved much that most women of the era never even dreamt of doing. She writes of how she and her best girlfriend in college used to go camping and hiking as often as possible. With all this strength,

wisdom, and ambition, she never aspired to be famous. That kind of pressure would have taken the spirit and creative energy out of May's favorite pastimes. She was quite content to write a poem that does not rhyme, or paint the sky green if the mood struck. Some of the people she would admire were strong very active characters. She respected the Autocrat David Staar Jordan, president of Stanford University, and Father John D. Walshe J.D. the minister and poet.

The club was home to some very interesting people. Fellow Willow Glenite Dana Thomas published a book of poetry BLOSSOM BOUND (ill. 8), about his wife Otha, daughters Faith, and Hope, and son Dana Jr. and his fascinating life. Like May, Thomas would put the beauty of Willow Glen in verse. His poem A WILLOW GLEN GARDEN (ill. 9) he describes his garden in eloquent detail, and the loved ones that are sweeter than the flowers that grow. Times were difficult indeed during that era, I am sure, but the words these poets would write would almost always describe the beauty and appreciation of their simple lives, not concentrate on the bad times. In fact, Thomas reflects with great fondness of the early days in Alaska where the temperatures would dip to 30 below zero, and living in less than ideal conditions. Those are the times that build character and love for one another. Just as May had written as long as your loved one is there along side you nothing is too difficult to endure. Thomas had written two other books, THE LAST FRONTIER, the diary of his life in Alaska, and SUDANIA, a book about the League of Nations.

VI. THE CITY OF WILLOW GLEN

In 1926 The city of San Jose and Southern Pacific Railroad were threatening to reroute its mainline tracks through a corner of Willow Glen on Willow Street and the old 1906 right of way. The majority of the community was opposed to this action but as a resident of San Jose there was little the residents could do. The idea of incorporating the community had been discussed before but never got the overwhelming support of the citizens. As early as 1917 the incorporation movement had been tested. On November 13, 1917, Juan Canelo posted several notices on telephone poles throughout Willow Glen notifying the 1276 residents of an election on November 30, 1917 to incorporate as the town of Willow Glen. The original presenters of the petition were Paul F. Clark, Dale Holland, who in 1936 would lead a movement for annexation back to San

Jose, and J.R. Henwood. It is not known whether the petition was ever voted on that year.

As awarding the franchise to the Southern Pacific was nearing, the railroad even began prematurely building tracks encroaching on the Willow Glen. In 1927 the incorporation movement was in full force. The leader of the movement was none other than Paul F. Clark. He feared that the noise, would reduce property values, split the community, and create safety issues. On September 8, 1927 an election was held on whether Willow Glen should incorporate as a municipality, and who should run the new city. The vote was unanimously in favor of incorporating by a 2 to 1 margin. The following individuals were elected to the City Government:

Paul F. Clark

Joe Hageman

L.C. Rossi

A.R. Webster

R.A. Whiffen

Dana Thomas was elected city clerk, and C.J. Clark was elected treasurer. On September 15, 1927 the first meeting of the city council of the City of Willow Glen was held at the home of Councilman Hageman at Willow and Cherry streets. After they all took the oath of office the first order of business was to elect a president of the board or Mayor. The ballot was taken and Paul F. Clark was unanimously elected Mayor (ill. 10).

The San Jose newspapers were not kind to the aspirations of the young city. Editorial writers wrote often that the city has no business taking on such a challenge, but the new city government would have the last laugh.

The fact is, the city would soon get the attention of the newspeople by having an extremely well run city. In the Mercury Herald Nov. 27, 1928 writer G.H. Mc Murray in his The County Viewpoint column " founded in defiance of her big sister and big railroad, Willow Glen is proving her mettle governing herself" portrays a group of enterprising San Joseans who move to a swampy land they affectionately called The Willows, and proceeded to raise great cherry and prune orchards until nowhere could be found the a trace of their early swamps. He writes they continued to be good San Joseans until their mother city tried to give them a railroad they did not want . He makes a subtle comparison of the father of our country and the leader of the incorporation movement, stating that the decorum of these revolutions can be proven by reference to their leaders. " No one

can accuse George Washington of being a radical and they made him our first president and father of our country. And the only time Paul Clark ever "kicked over the traces" politically was when he was one of the leaders of the movement that made him first, and so far continuous, mayor of Willow Glen"..... "And the good sense they demonstrated in the way they conducted their "revolution" shows they will be equally far sighted in the returning aid in the betterment of a city in which most of them work." The city government would be praised for their prudence and ingenuity. The joke was that once one hears of the city's plans and accomplishments a good San Josean might fear of being annexed to Willow Glen. The competence of the city government should come as no surprise though. Clark's credentials in law and politics are well established. The city clerk, who would soon be appointed judge also had a remarkable background in government.

Judge Dana Thomas is remembered as a intelligent man who was always looking for a cause, it just so happened he and his family moved to 1305 Settle Avenue in 1915 just as things would start to heat up. Dana Thomas was born in Warsaw, Indiana in 1868. He became the editor of the Indiana Prohibition Journal at age 16. In 1898, he joined the Alaska Gold Rush, taking the most difficult route through the Chilkoot Pass. There he helped to recover 63 bodies of persons buried under a landslide. In 1906 he married Otha Castlio in San Francisco and returned to Alaska north of the Arctic circle where they served as Friends missionaries for the Quaker Church. Otha taught school under the U.S. Bureau of Education, and Dana served as United States Commissioner with jurisdiction of over 500 square miles. They would eventually leave Alaska for Los Angeles where he started a Christian secondary school. Soon he was off on another mission where he participated in a revolution in South America. In 1915 they moved to Willow Glen where he enjoyed many different occupations, such as orchardist, writer, poet, and reporter for the Mercury Herald. Otha became the leader of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, and a life member of the Parent - Teachers Association at the state and national level. She founded the San Jose State College Patrons Association, and inspector at several General Elections.

During the first few years of Paul Clark's term as mayor Willow Glen enjoyed incredible growth, and improvements. The city charged no city tax, and the residents paid less taxes than the neighboring counties. The city grew by 40 percent in its first full year as a municipality and it was drawing some of the finest element of residents. The city was approving improvements such as sidewalks and street paving and widening before many of San Jose's finest neighborhoods. The

government was efficient and forward thinking, the traffic fines collected would go directly to the street fund. They were particular about what went up in the community when areas were being developed. While all seemed to be going smoothly the young city did have its problems. The city was in need of a new sewer system. This would eventually be the main issue toward annexation. The residents would have to foot the bill whether Willow Glen was a city or not, but many of the older citizens were hard to convince. Secondly, Willow Glen was in need of its own fire department. The City Government proposed a .25 cent tax to finance it, although there was opposition, they would get their own police and fire department. The fire department was acclaimed for its quick and efficient response. It was an all volunteer organization with the exception of its chief, Eddie Pracna, who started on the force in 1930. In a recent telephone conversation Mr. Pracna recalled that he and Paul Smith would take turns working as Fire Chief and Police Chief. Two days on, two days on the other. They were also friendly with a few neighboring Fire Departments and could call for help from Burbank and others. Pracna said there was a real community spirit in those days, everyone helping each other. He still lives in the same house on Blewitt since 1930 that two brothers on the Fire Department help build. In 1929 a spirited group of citizens organized a movement for annexation with San Jose. Dale Holland was the leader of the group, and began circulating petitions. There were over 100 names on the petition, and others were said to have more petitions with as many signatures.

The city government feared that annexation at this time would reverse the efforts they secured by halting the railroad. Paul Clark did not want the community destroyed because of a few smaller issues. Prior to the election the city council of Willow Glen passed a circular to the residents of its city on the disadvantages of consolidation. The circular stated that annexation to San Jose at this time means:

1. The Railroad WILL run through Willow Glen somewhere west of the Western Pacific.
2. Our city taxes, which are now .79 cents for city purposes will then be at the San Jose rate of \$ 1.83 for city purposes.
3. We will lose control of our schools.
4. We will lose our efficient Fire Department.
5. After annexation we can have new sewers IF WE PAY FOR THEM. Without annexation, we can have sewers IF WE PAY FOR THEM.

In no event can we have sewers WITHOUT PAYING FOR THEM OURSELVES.

As expected, the vote to consolidate failed to realize the needed two-thirds majority to win. So it was business as usual in Willow Glen.

VII. TIME MARCHES ON

In 1931 and 1932 The health of Paul Clark began to deteriorate. He began taking time off of his duties as mayor . After a month long illness Paul died at his home , Casa Manana on June 2, 1932. The City of Willow Glen lost its " foremost citizen and dearest truest friend" (ill. 11). May Clark had lost her " trail mate of a lifetime" (ill.12). The following five years were terribly difficult for May. Her two novels were never published in her lifetime, she did have a book of poetry published in 1933, ETERNAL QUEST (ill. 13). The book was dedicated to Paul, and the first poem is in memory of him. The grief she felt in his absence is heartfelt in her verse. Living without Paul would be like no life at all.

May wrote beautifully on their travels and their favorite places. Her mother Minerva loved their beach cottage in Carmel by the Sea, nicknamed the Sea Urchin. May eventually declined in health has the death of Paul was praying on her mind. On July 3, 1937 May ended her life in her beloved home and the pain was then lifted.

In her Last Will and Testament May allotted a portion of her \$20,000 estate to her few family members, she made a request that her two novels, TAKA, and THE KEY TO THE COPELAND CRIME, be published in a " small but decent memorial edition" to be distributed to her family and friends. The Rosecrucian Press in San Jose honored her request and produced 50 leather bound editions of each book in 1938. She remainder of her estate was to be evenly distributed to The Home of the Benevolence in San Jose, The Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children in San Francisco, and The Mothers Jewels Home in York, Nebraska.

In 1936, The City of Willow Glen finally annexed with big sister San Jose. The main issue of course was the sewer problem. Willow Glen had succeeded in what they set out to do, keep the railroad out of the community, and take good care of her residents.

While the lives of the great people that I write of may never have achieved great wealth, fame,

or recognition, they were a important part of the development of a thriving community. Some of the things they stood for can still be seen today. Willow Glen for all its growth and popularity still is largely a safe residential community. Lincoln Avenue is dotted with many popular restaurants, not taverns. The community still prides itself on the element of its residents, larger parcels of land and beautiful gardens. Because of people like Paul and May the future of Willow Glen was preserved for the life I live in their home today.

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3/31/97 Ms. J.E. Bohnett Grand Daughter of Lewis D. Bohnett, City Attorney, City of Willow Glen

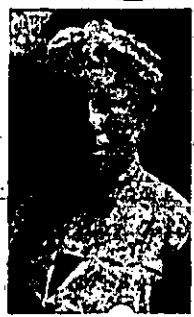
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ILL

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA: SUNDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 10, 1916



refreshments and decorating during the coming year. Mesdames T. M. Wright, Georgia Kuleff, T. Rodley, A. C. Heple, J. M. Waterman, C. M. Odenbaugh, C. L. Mitchell, A. H. Burk, J. Valencich, L. de Havre, C. C. Good, S. McCoy.

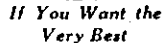
Very entertainingly, Mrs. E. A. Hayes told of his in Washington, D. C., describing many interesting places and though the lengthening shadows warned them that the

LOWER ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT—MRS. B. P. LAUGHLIN, ACTIVE IN THE WOMAN'S CLUB; MRS. L. T. SMITH, PAST PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF THE YOUNG WOMAN'S CLUB; MRS. OLIVER PORTER SHROUT, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITARIAN ALLIANCE AND PAST PRESIDENT OF THE WOMAN'S CLUB; MRS. ELMER E. CHASE, PAST PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF MOTHERS; AND MRS. NELLIE THOMPSON, PRESIDENT OF THE WOMAN'S CIVIC LEAGUE.

[illegible]

1

was the first president of the club for 10 years and, like most of the other



*If You Want the
Very Best*

Dessert.

but any other case requires
a different treatment.

Chocolate Nut Ice Cream

*Strawberry Ice
and*

Vanilla Ice Cream

If the system is $(\alpha, \alpha_1, \alpha_2)$

1. H_2O is a polar molecule.
 2. H_2O is a small molecule.
 3. H_2O is a liquid at room temperature.
 4. H_2O is a good solvent.

1000

Brien

S. J.
226

—like those that proved so popular this last week—received just in time for Monday's selling.

- Soft French Serge, Taffeta and Charmeuse;
- Large collars and novelty cuffs;
- Plaits, straight lines, full skirts;
- Quaint old-timey basques;

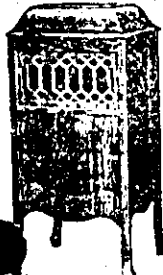
Are the distinguishing features of Autumn frocks.
—For garniture, bizarre Indian headed effects or metal thread designs are used in truly delightful fashion.

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This undated photo captures the San Jose Quest Club's three founders: Rough Rider Grant R. Bennett is seated at far right, hat in lap. Law professor-editorial writer Charley Allen is the man sporting a straw boater. Paul Fenimore Clark, Willow Glen's first mayor, peeks between the two men at far left.

day, to eat and drink and — most importantly — to listen to, dissect and evaluate the host member's research paper.

Over the years, the club's membership has been weighted heavily toward college professors, doctors, lawyers, architects, ranchers, industrialists, business executives and just enough newspapermen to ensure a note of commonality.

Quest Club isn't unique in concept, of course. Other communities have its counterpart, the conscious model for which is the Literary Club of Dr. Samuel Johnson. Through it, the essayist-lexicographer was instrumental in shaping the tastes and manners of 18th century London.

Nobody pretends Quest Club is or ever was in that league, but it has set and maintained a respectable level of discourse. The club's roster over the years suggests why.

At one time or another, Quest Club members included: Dr. Tully Knowles, president of College of the Pacific; Dr. Thomas W. MacQuarrie, who guided San Jose State College from just after World War I into the 1950s; George L. Sullivan, dean of the University of Santa Clara School of Engineering and the man who master-planned modern San Jose's sewage-collection system; Superior Court Judge William F. James, after whom Santa Clara County's boys' ranch is named; Dr. Dwight Bissell, for years San Jose city health officer; Pierce Davies, one-time managing editor of the *Mercury*

Herald and later a professor of journalism at San Jose State. The list isn't inclusive, only representative.

Quest Club prides itself on having no rules. Tradition governs, the longest-held tradition being that membership is by invitation only, and only men get invited.

That may have been fine in 1916, but its days as an operating principle may be numbered. Last year the club was shaken by Ruth's Revolt.

Ruth is Ruth Smith, a talented, feisty woman who is the wife of club member Olney Smith, director of planning for the City of Santa Clara. Why, Ruth wanted to know, are women permitted only to serve refreshments and attend the annual season's-end barbecue in June? Why, she persisted, can't women present research papers, too?

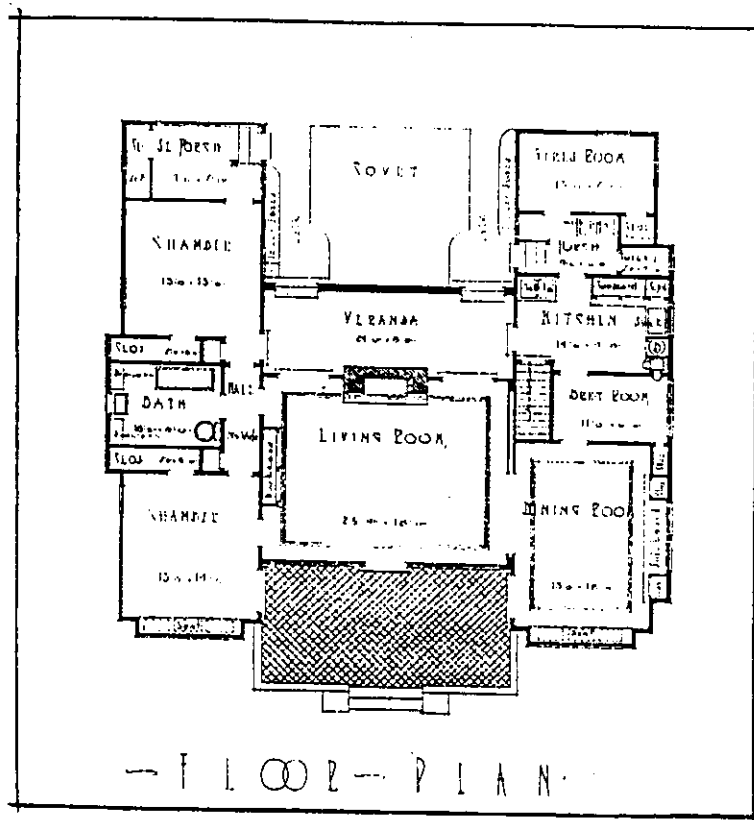
The men scratched their heads and said they couldn't think of any reason, really. Except tradition. Caught with their rationalization down, they penciled Ruth in for a paper this year.

She didn't give one; it was the principle of the thing, she explained. But don't bet she won't present a research paper someday, complete with the requisite charts, graphs and other visual aids. That's how traditions are born.

FOUR YEARS AFTER THIS THUMBNAILED HISTORY OF THE QUEST CLUB APPEARED IN THE SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS, THE CLUB EXPIRED.



"THE WILLOWS" SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA
F. D. WOLFE AND C. J. WOLFE, ARCHITECTS



The Home in the West

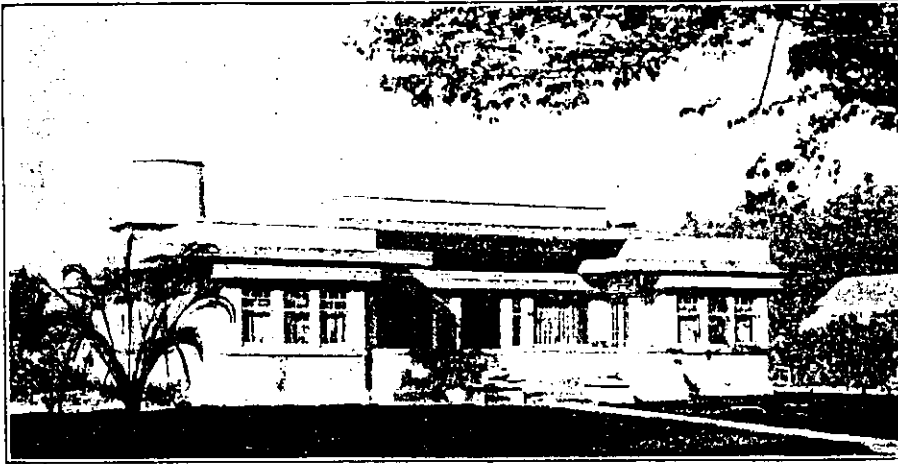
CONDUCTED BY LILLIAN FERGUSON

Planning a House for Privacy

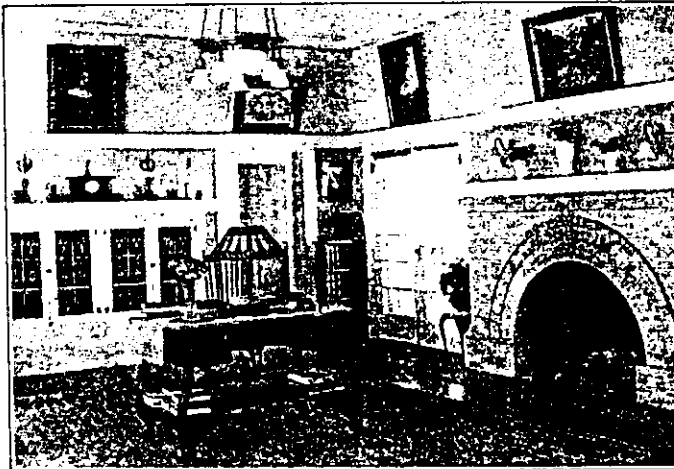
WHEN the mistress of a San Jose house designed it, she was determined to emphasize its keynote of privacy. At first glance this may not be apparent. So many French doors and wide windows suggest close contact with the outside and with neighbors. But look at their location. None of the doors face adjoining lots. They are placed on the recessed front veranda, visible only to the people across the avenue, or they open into the secluded family court. Most of the side windows are high. All of them could be made so without sacrificing air or light, for every important room has at least two exposures. Both front rooms of the wings have three.

The long walls of the living-room, which is 18 x 24, are practically of glass except for the eight feet occupied by the fireplace. This very high room is further lighted from above by a long clear-story window of six sashes that add a touch of artistry with their faintly stained-glass design, which is repeated in the window over the long sideboard and in the doors of the built-in bookcase and china closets. The other three unbroken wall-surfaces of this upper story furnish a most effective gallery for large pictures, which give a sense of beauty and balance to the apartment. The double-width sliding door between the living-room and dining-room is fitted with panes of hammered glass which, though light and translucent, still screen the preparation and removal of meals.

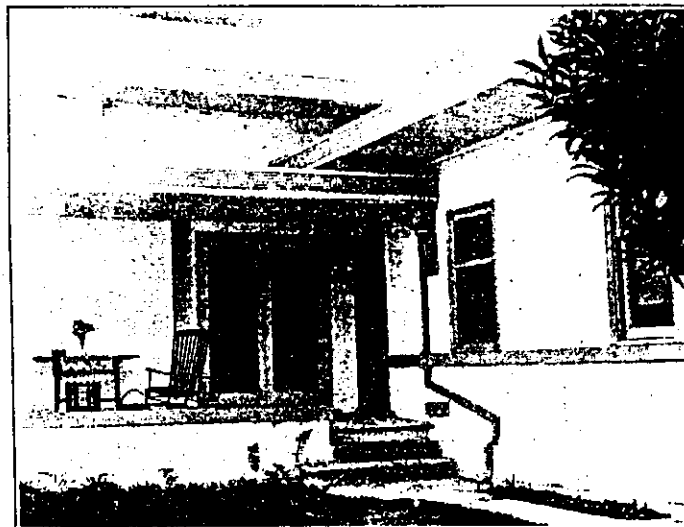
Other features of this house tend toward privacy. Though easily accessible from three rooms, the bath is isolated. Between it and the living-room are two doors and a



"Casa Mañana," home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul F. Clark, in San Jose, California



Unbroken wall surfaces furnish an effective gallery for pictures



Sheltered doors lead into the sunny and secluded family patio

hall, while the flanking bedrooms are cut off by two walls and a closet. A secluded bathroom is always a comfort. The family bed-chambers are well separated from each other and from the kitchen disturbances.

The maid's personal quarters are placed in the opposite wing and are further set aside by having their windows open, not on the common court like

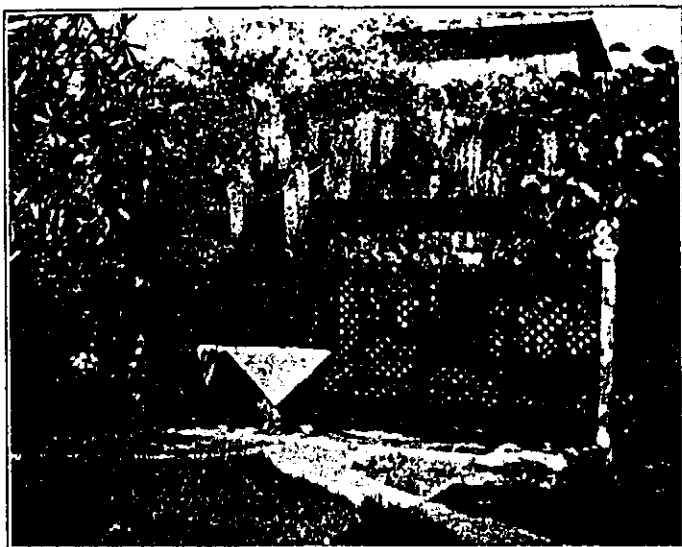
those of the other back chambers, but on the gardens. Her room does not join the kitchen. It is reached through the less used laundry. Even she escapes the heat and odor of cooking and needless contact with the family.

In passing through the house one seldom intrudes upon others, for practically every room has an outside door. The verandas furnish short cuts between the wings. The back one is the maid's hallway, which relieves the living-room of her errands. The sheltering wings shut out the neighbors and bring in the gardens.

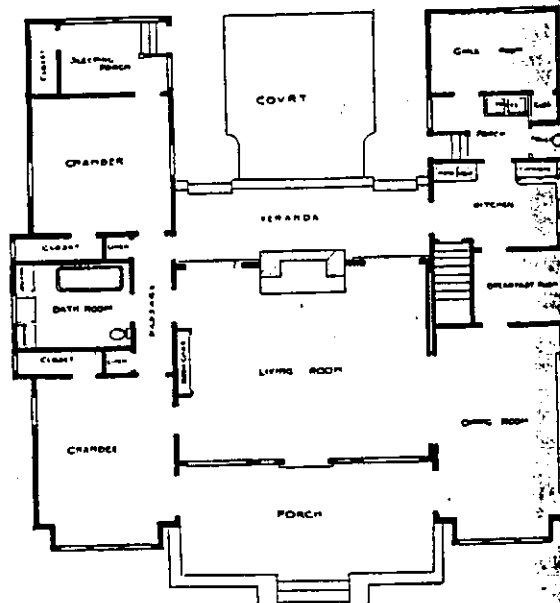
Behind the court a rose and wistaria trellis with its central arbor screens the open side of this walled-in quadrangle and makes shift for several outdoor apartments. The back veranda shelters a sewing-room. The arbor has seats and a convenient writing table, much in demand. The broad steps by the kitchen afford a comfortable place from which to watch the birds and flowers, while the peas seem to shell themselves and the cherries are stoned unconsciously. Wind-blown hair, stained fingers and careless pose are unimportant in this haven of seclusion.

To the other advantages of this house-plan may be added the ease with which it can be built piecemeal. One young

The Home in the West



Behind the court is a rose and wistaria trellis where a tea-table serves also as writing-desk



couple started with the right wing. Another cut off the maid's room and the sleeping-porch and reduced the living-

room. Both began by owning a livable home; and they had an incentive to complete the design which would give

them ultimately, not only more room, but the dignity of greater privacy.

MAY ROBERTS CLARK

ILL. 5

T A K A
the man who would
be white

BY
MAY ROBERTS CLARK



THE ROSICRUCIAN PRESS, LTD.
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

1938

ILL.6

The Key To The Copeland Crime

BY

MAY ROBERTS CLARK



THE ROSICRUCIAN PRESS, LTD.
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

1938

CASA MAÑANA

(At San Jose')

Oh, "House of Tomorrow!" dear home of ease,
Like a dreaming gull, on the languid seas,
With quiet wings folded to peaceful breast,
You drowse in the sunshine, and rest—and rest.

WITHOUT

Our avenue lies broad and fair.
Under the gnarled old pepper trees,
Between whose trunks, one sometimes sees,
A distant mountain, blue and bare;
A clipped lawn here, an orchard there.
Exotic odors scent the breeze.
Great Christmas garlands deck the trees.
On pepper boughs and toyons flare,
The scarlet berries, everywhere.

WITHIN

The living-room has air and light,
And space in height and breadth and length,
A little color—not too bright—
A look of solid, structural strength.

In front, wide windows frame a scene,
Of velvet lawns—a palm or two,
A far, faint mountain, through the green,
A pepper-shaded avenue.

Within this room—come, read a book,
Or rest—the couch is over there;
Or talk in this bright ingle-nook,
How fare the old-time friends—and where?

THE PATIO

Behind, French-windows open wide,
 On shady porch, and court combined;
 Where roses bloom on either side,
 The summer-house—wisteria twined.
 Beside the trellis, lemons grow,
 And oranges, and loquats bright.
 Magnolias bloom, figs come and go,
 Within our gardens of delight.

THE SEA URCHIN

(Beach Cottage at Carmel By-the-Sea.)

On the loveliest strand,
 Of this beautiful land,
 The Sea Urchin watches for you,
 At the edge of the shore,
 Where the great breakers roar,
 From an ocean intensely blue.
 Through the mist and the sun,
 See the ghostly ships run.
 There—the billows to China flow.
 We shall wait for you here,
 Till the night-shades appear,
 And the lamps in The Urchin glow.

DE PROFUNDIS

I.

In our old home, no one is left,
 But I alone.
 I hear the night-bird's cry, bereft;
 The wind-harp's moan.
 The lights burn dim, and ghostly blue.
 I swoon from tears.
 I shall be calling—calling you—
 Through all the years.

II.

How could I guess the endless grief—
 That never sleeps?
 Each empty day, without relief,
 Its vigil keeps.
 Stark through the night, wan shadows stray.
 Oh bitter rue!
 I bow my head, and try to pray—
 By calling you.

FINIS

BLOSSOM BOUND

A COLLECTION OF POEMS

BY

DANA THOMAS



WILLOW GLEN :: CALIFORNIA
BRADLEY-THOMPSON PUBLISHING COMPANY
1934

A WILLOW GLEN GARDEN

I know a fair garden,
 (A Willow Glen garden)
 Where the dearest and sweetest things grow;
 Iris, Sweet Alyssum,
 Sainily Chrysanthemum,
 And Daisies all along its paths blow.

And in this fair garden,
 (This Willow Glen garden)
 Homes a Walnut tree rich in its shade;
 Marigold from the lea,
 Tells to Rose—Cherokee,
 Why Wall-flower remains an old maid.

On watch in this garden,
 (This Willow Glen garden)
 At each side Hollyhocks stand a-guard
 Over Snowdrops and Lillacs,
 Baby-breath and Smilax,
 (Rhymes that kiss fair for any old bard.)

In this fairest garden,
 (This Willow Glen garden)
 Near the Vine, on the old chimney climbs,
 Daffodils, always glad,
 Comfort Bleeding Hearts, sad,
 While the Fern for more shade sadly pines.

And in this fair garden,
 (This Willow Glen garden)
 At its farthest Verbena lined verge,
 Canaries are wooing,
 Meek turtle-doves cooing,
 While bees yield to Honeysuckle urge.

I see in this garden,
 (This Willow Glen garden)
 A rare Lily with petals light brown,
 Which warm, windy weather,
 And sunshine together,
 Spotted the Tiger-lily of renown.

Also in this garden,
 (This Willow Glen garden)
 Walked a maiden with lily-like face,
 And as you might suppose,
 Freckles lit on her nose,
 Each quaint freckle in just the right place.

Why in this quaint garden,
 (This Willow Glen garden)
 Flowers just run all over the ground,
 Baby buds "playing tag",
 'Round the Roses and Flag,
 If you doubt it, why just call around.

And in this fair garden,
 (This Willow Glen garden)
 Walks those, sweeter far than its flowers,
 For tho' Faith is found there,
 And bright Hope breathes its air,
 Patient Love is at home in its bowers.

Why not have a garden,
 (A sweet wholesome garden)
 Of flowers all a-bloom in your heart,
 Whose pureness will dress you,
 Whose fragrance will bless you,
 And make you of Love's garden a part.

September 15, 1927

The first meeting of the Board of Trustees or City Council of the City of Willow Glen was held pursuant to written consent on September 15th, 1927, at the hour of 7:00 P.M. at the residence of Joe Hageman, at the intersection of Willow St. and Cherry Ave. in said city.

The following members of the Board of Trustees or City Council were present to-wit:

Paul F. Clark
Joe Hageman
L.C. Rossi
A.R. Webster
R.A. Whiffen

being the same persons who were elected trustees at the election held September 8th, 1927 and who were, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara, State of California, at the meeting of said Board of Supervisors held September 12th, 1927, declared to be the duly elected members of the Board of Trustees or City Council of the City of Willow Glen, California.

No Trustees were absent.

Dana Thomas and C.J. Clark, who were the persons elected at said election held September 8th, 1927, as Clerk and Treasurer of said City of Willow Glen, respectively, and who were the persons declared by said Board of Supervisors at said meeting to be the Clerk and Treasurer, respectively, of the said City of Willow Glen, were also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by Dana Thomas, who acted as chairman.

The chairman presented and read a certified copy of the Resolution of said Board of Supervisors declaring the incorporation of said City of Willow Glen. The chairman then presented and read a telegram from Frank C. Jordan, Secretary of State of the State of California, dated Sept. 15th, 1927, stating that there had been filed in the office of the Secretary of State of California, a certified copy of the order of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara, California declaring the incorporation of the City of Willow Glen.

The Chairman announced that each person elected as a member of the Board of Trustees and as Clerk and Treasurer, respectively, of the City of Willow Glen, had taken and subscribed to the Constitutional Oath of Office which were on file.

The Chairman announced that the first order of business was the election of a president of the Board.

A ballot was then ~~drawn~~ had and Paul F. Clark was unanimously elected as President of said Board of Trustees or City Council of the City of Willow Glen.

Chairman Thomas thereupon declared Trustee Paul F. Clark to be the President of the Board of Trustees or City Council of the City of Willow Glen,

President Clark thereupon assumed the chair and thereafter presided over the meeting and Clerk Dana Thomas acted as Clerk of the meeting.

REGULAR MEETING JUNE 13 , 1932 .

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Willow Glen was held in the Council Chamber on the above date .

The Clark announced the permanent absence of Mayor Paul F Clark and called for the nomination of a temporary chairman . Councilman A R Webster was chosen to act as mayor until the regular meeting of the Council in July .

The following Resolution was then read by the acting mayor Webster and unanimously passed :

WHEREAS , Time in its inexorable march has taken from our midst our beloved mayor , Paul F Clark , now therefore , be it

RESOLVED : That in the passing of our brother Paul , the City of Willow Glen has lost its foremost citizen and the people of the City have lost as true a friend as ever lived .

Among the first to realize the necessity of incorporating our community into a municipality , he was more responsible than any other man for the success of the incorporation movement and for the marked success of our municipal government since incorporation . He gave without stint of his time and his unusual talent for the upbuilding of our city without reward other than the satisfaction one receives from work well done ; and be it further

RESOLVED : That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the Minutes of this meeting and that a copy , certified by the City Clerk be presented to Mrs May Clark , widow of Paul , as a testimonial to her and to posterity of our appreciation of and affection for our most esteemed co-worker , and dearest and truest friend .

B11

C59

JAN 4 - 1934

To My Trail-Mate of a Life-Time

c. 1

PAUL FENIMORE CLARK

IN MEMORIAM

CONTIGO

I've been with you, upon the tundras dry,
 Along moraines, beneath the glacier's brim,
 Through virgin forests, where the light grew dim;
 And near cascades, that thundered from on high.
 At times, our crude canoes have drifted by
 Ghost-cities sunk in jungles, vast and grim,
 At times, like atoms on the canyon's rim,
 Our cavalcades have strung across the sky.

Through polar ice, or burning tropic sea,
 On stately ship, or barge, or hollow tree,
 By camel-back, palanquin, sedan-chair—
 No journey was too hard, if you were there.
 Where strange lands called, or luring trade-winds
 blew,
 I've been with you—I've always been with you.

94905

Eternal Quest

By

May Roberts Clark



Philadelphia

DORRANCE & CO., INC.

1933