

3 Mar 1925

PAY FINAL TRIBUTE TO JOHN F. CLAGUE

Funeral services for John F. Clague were held at the Elks' temple Sunday at 2:30 p. m., the Elks, Odd-fellows, and the members of the city council attending in a body. These, together with neighbors and friends, filled the spacious lodge room to overflowing. The large attendance and the magnificent floral tributes bore silent testimony to the general esteem in which the deceased was held.

The ritualistic services of the B. P. O. E. were observed at the temple and also at the cemetery. Mrs. O. A. Spuhler and Miss Viva Harrington sang "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds", Mrs. Ross Young at the piano. The Elks' quartet, composed of Messrs. Dunsire, John, Nolan and Sheppard, sang "Rock of Ages" and "The Vacant Chair". Goddard's orchestra rendered the funeral march. Reverend B. Scott Bates of the Presbyterian church, pastor of the deceased, paid a personal tribute to Mr. Clague, and brought a message of comfort to the bereaved. Edward Clague of Swan Lake, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Clague of Anaconda, Mrs. Bien and son, Ferris and wife of Deer Lodge, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wilson of Butte were out-of-town relatives attending the funeral. Illness had prevented the coming of Mr. Clague's brother in Tacoma, and distance a brother in Alaska. The pall bearers were Messrs. C. D. O'Neil, M. A. Beaudin, J. H. C. Fitch, A. H. Burch, J. E. Rockwood and Thomas Perry.

Deceased was 55 years old last August, having been born in Ontario, Canada, in 1869. His early schooling was at Windsor, Ontario, and he was later a student in Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, and came to Montana in 1889. Mr. Clague was married June 6, 1906, at Deer Lodge, to Miss Margaret Wilson, whose parents were early pioneers of the state. The bride and groom went directly to British Columbia, remaining about a year, afterwards living in Idaho about three years before returning to Montana. They first lived in Anaconda, coming to Kalispell in 1909. Here the deceased engaged in the plumbing business with W. M. Beauchamp and continued in that work until his sudden demise.

Mr. Clague was a member of the Presbyterian church, the Elks' and Odd Fellows' lodges and the city council.

Deceased was the third of a family of six brothers, four of whom survive. They are: Edward of Swan Lake; Harry of Anaconda; James of Tacoma, Washington; and Charles of Alaska. He also leaves his wife, two sons, Donald and Wayne, and a daughter, Dorothy, all of Kalispell, besides other relatives and a host of friends, who will mourn his loss.

Ed. Clague and E. A. Weed motored to Kalispell Friday, Mr. Clague being called there by the death of his brother, John F. Clague of Kalispell.

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later, a multimillionaire and a United States Senator. He was born in Connellsville, Pa., on January 8, 1839.

A school teacher in central Missouri when the gold rush lured him to Colorado and then to Idaho, Clark's services to that part of the territory which later became the State of Montana—he helped to draft its constitution—were recognized a few years ago by the Society of Montana Pioneers in the form of a monument "to commemorate, while he still is living, his deeds which have contributed in major part to the development of the great west."

Upon reaching Idaho, Clark became successively a miner, teamster, merchant, railway builder, capitalist. In more recent years he was known as a philanthropist and art collector. He was elected to the United States senate, after a long and bitter political controversy, and served the full term from 1901 to 1907. In 1880 he had claimed that honor but was denied his seat. In 1898, having apparently won election to the senate, his seat was contested and he resigned. Later his seat was declared void by the Upper House.

Senator Clark for years was a central figure in the triangular industrial war between the Clark, Heinze and Daly mining interests and around this spectacular fight for supremacy was woven much of the history of Montana. It led to battles between great numbers of miners underground, occupied the courts of Montana almost to the exclusion of all other litigation and at last established the "apex" principle as the mining law of America. Subsequently the Heinze and Daly interests were merged and the conflict came to an end.

Mr. Clark's property holdings at this time extended from Montana to Southern Mexico and to France. They included the United Verde copper mine at Jerome, Arizona, a beet sugar factory, bronze factory, steam and street railway systems, mining mills, timber lands, wire factory, power plants, business blocks and mercantile establishments in several cities and banks and residences in New York, Paris and Butte, Montana.

One of his gifts to the city of Butte was a public park known as "Columbia Gardens", a playground abounding in flowers, landscapes, picnic groves, baseball park, a zoological collection and other recreation features. Another was the Paul Clark Home, a refuge for poor and crippled children, built in memory of a son who died in childhood. In Los Angeles, Senator Clark built the Mary Andrews Clark home for working girls in honor of his mother. In New York he maintained a kindergarten school named for one of his other children who died early in life.

The former senator was twice married. His first wife, formerly Miss Kate L. Stauffer of Connellsville, Pa., whom he married in 1869, died in 1893. On May 25, 1901 he married Miss Anna E. LaChappelle of Butte, Mont., who with one child now survives him.