

Charles Gladding

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CHARLES GLADDING -- A native son of Placer County, served as mayor of Lincoln, the city where he was born, Charles Gladding first saw light on June 26, 1887, when he entered the family circle of Albert J. and Carrie (Chandler) Gladding, whose interesting life history will be found on another page in this history.



Charles was reared in Lincoln receiving his education in its public schools, after which he finished at the Placer County High School. From a boy of twelve years he put in his vacation time working at the plant of Gladding, McBean and Company, thus becoming familiar with the manufacture of clay products, in which they specialized. In 1906, his school days being over, he entered the company's offices in Lincoln and thus became closely associated with his father in the management of the plant and grew up with the business.

The plant was destroyed by fire and he saw it rebuilt on a more extensive and elaborate scale. In 1924 he became superintendent of the plant for the Gladding, McBean Corporation, a position for which his experience well qualified him, and he gave it all of his time, energy and best efforts.

The marriage of Charles Gladding occurred in his native place, when he was united with Miss Hattie Nelson, who was born in Lincoln, a daughter of N. T. Nelson, a pioneer and successful rancher of Lincoln, and their union resulted in the birth of one child, Jean Gladding. Mr. Gladding was active in civic matters and served two term as a member of the board of trustees for Lincoln. In 1924 he was elected chairman of the board or mayor, and served the municipality efficiently. He was progressive and desired the best of improvements for the city and the highest standard of civics. He was made a Mason in Gold Hill Lodge, No. 32, F. & A. M., at Lincoln, and was also a Scottish Rite Mason, his membership being in the Sacramento consistory, while he and his estimable wife were members of Friendship Chapter, No. 69, O. E. S., at Lincoln.

Mrs. Gladding was a member of the Woman's Club, of Lincoln. Mr. Gladding was a member and Past President of Silver Star Parlor, N. S. G. W., in Lincoln, and was greatly interested in preserving pioneer history and landmarks for the benefit of the archives of the State and for future generations. Politically, he was a stalwart Republican, and in a modest but effective way, worked for the success of his party.