

C.C. Smith

Mayor 1907 - 1908



Charles C. "Charlie" Smith was born on February 1, 1859 in Libertyville, Jefferson, IA to Edward James Smith, age 21 and Alicy Jane Glenn, age 20. He had six sisters, Jessie & Mary E. (twins) born July 27, 1863, Ella born in June 2, 1864, Florence Evelyn born September 8, 1866, Mary born in 1868 and Lucinda Mae born May 4, 1869.

He married Lerah Catherine "Kate" Clemens on December 18, 1881 when he was 22 years old. Together they had two children, a daughter Bertha Mabel, born September 2, 1882 and a son Edward Clyde, born August 22, 1886. Sadly Kate passed away on March 4, 1900 when she was 37 years old. Charles remarried Pernetta C. Stephenson on October 20, 1902 when he was 43 years old. In 1904 he built a house and moved his family to a large ranch on Deer Flat that he owned and managed.

Charles moved to Caldwell, ID when he was 10 years old with his father. He went to Long Valley from Caldwell engaging in the stock business for a number of years. From Long Valley he went to Boise, remaining there for 2 year. He then located to Ontario, Oregon where he married Mrs. Permeta Stevens. He returned to Caldwell and became very well known for his fine saddle and harness craftsmanship. He was granted several patents for his creations during his career, some as early as 1887. He established the C. C. Smith, Harness and Saddlery Shop located on Kimball Ave., in Caldwell in the early 1900's. He donated many saddles and harnesses to youth contests at the Canyon County Fair, such as the 1/2 mile race ridden by boys under 12 years or younger and the Best Boys Saddle Horse shown by boys 12 year or younger, and also donated a carriage robe for the best matched buggy team shown to harness and driven by the owner.

In 1904 he was elected as a delegate to attend the Republican Primaries in Nampa and in 1905 Charles was elected to the City Council.

In 1907 he was elected Mayor of Caldwell. May 1908 he issued a proclamation that Tuesday, May 19th would be set aside as Caldwell Clean-Up Day and that the people of the city "should cease from their regular vocations and remove from the streets and alleys weeds and such things as are offensive to the sight, injurious to health, obnoxious to cleanliness, or noisome to the smelling." In October 1908 he sold negotiable municipal coupon bonds for the city in the amount of \$5,000.00 to raise money for the construction of a wagon bridge across Indian Creek at the intersection of 7th Street. And on February 12, 1909 he issued a Proclamation in honor of Abraham Lincoln in recognition of his eminent services rendered his country by the martyr president, and that "this day would be known as a legal holiday within the confines of the City of Caldwell that all public building be appropriately decorated, and that the citizens of the city cease from their customary vocations on that day and spend the time in fitting commemoration of the life and deeds of this splendid exemplar of American manhood, Abraham Lincoln." Smith ran for Mayoral reelection on the Citizen's Ticket in 1909 but lost to Justin B. Gowen who ran on the Progressive Taxpayer's Ticket.

Fraternally he became a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in 1904 and was also a member of the Rebekah's.

On July 15, 1910 it was reported in the Caldwell Tribune that C. C. Smith was down with typhoid fever, and was getting along as well as can be expected. However, on November 4th, 1910 it was reported in the same journal that on November 1, 1910 in Caldwell, Idaho after a 2 week illness he died from said illness. He was 51 years old.