

# Distinguished Longview 'Pioneers' Given Citations

Longview's organization of pioneer citizens, the '23 Club, made up of persons who lived here in the year of the city's founding, this week singled out 10 of its members to be honored with citations for distinguished service to Longview. In addition the club made a special citation to the family of the city's founder, R. A. Long.

Here in summary are the records of service by these 10 as compiled by the '23 Club which were recited at presentation ceremonies Tuesday evening at the club's annual dinner meeting:



Arthur C. Campbell came west from Kansas City in 1922 as secretary to J. D. Tennant, Long-Bell vice president. Served the city on many occasions when leadership in civic celebrations was called for. He served as chairman, or played a leading role in, the Pageant of Progress of 1924, the several Rolleos in the late '20s and early '30s, and the Silver Jubilee of 1948. In recent years he has been chairman of the Marine Parade on Lake Sacajawea. Former president of Rotary, an organizer and promoter of the Community Concert Association, Civil Defense director for nearly 10 years, charter member of the American Legion Post, president of the Chamber of Commerce, life member of the BPOE, former commodore of the Longview Yacht Club.

The Rev. E. H. Gebert, the pioneer pastor of Longview, came to the city as minister of the Longview Community Church when that original church was founded in 1923. He served for 35 years until his retirement in 1958. The Rev. Gebert served as chairman of the Board of Directors of the YMCA, president of the local Red Cross Chapter, chairman of the Easter Seal Sale, an organizer of the Toutle River Boys Ranch, was a member of the Chamber of Commerce, president of the County Ministerial Association, president of the National Council of Community Churches. In June of 1953 Lewis & Clark College conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity in recognition of his high standing in the ministry of the Northwest.



Clifford E. Hadley, a retired Long-Bell executive, Hadley was chairman of the recently successful fund drive that made possible a new Cowlitz General Hospital. Was district governor of Rotary International in 1963-64, served a number of years on the Longview Board of Education, was chairman of the Area Boy Scout Council for five years, awarded the Silver Beaver, the highest citation that Scouting can bestow on a voluntary worker, was a charter member of the American Legion Post, served several terms as chairman of the Board of Directors of the Longview Community Church, president of the Longview Rotary Club, active participant in the work of the YMCA, United Fund, the Heart Fund and the Cancer Drive.

John and Esther Hill. Recognized primarily for their service as a musical team, John as a song leader and writer of lyrics and Mrs. Hill as a composer and pianist and teacher. Both have been leaders in the musical life of the city including the Community Concert Association, Music Teacher Association, church choir and various public musical programs heard throughout the years. Mr. Hill, a charter member of the Longview Kiwanis Club, was one of the originators of the Kiwanis Amateur Show and a leader in the youth program of the Kiwanis Club. Like Art Campbell, he participated in the organization and staging of all the city's celebrations including the Rolleos and the Silver Jubilee. Mrs. Hill has given special service to the Longview Business and Professional Clubs and the Longview-Kelso Altrusa Club.







**J. M. McClelland.** Member of the first Longview City Council, chairman of the original Longview Library Board, an organizer of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, Longview Community Church, Longview Elks Club, YMCA, Memorial Hospital, Longview Country Club. Served as a member of the Chamber of Commerce committee that secured the Reynolds Metals Company for this community, was a member of the Washington State Planning Council for many years and served on many boards and committees concerned with problems of growth and development both in Cowlitz County and on the state level.

**Roy F. Morse.** As a Long-Bell executive, Mr. Morse was introduced to Longview at a meeting of company executives at Longview Farm near Kansas City in the spring of 1922 when the name of the new city was chosen and the decision was made to acquire all of the valley rather than a part of it. He, with S. M. Morris and John Tennant, were largely responsible for putting Longview together and also Ryderwood, the LP&N Railway and the lumber mills. Known as the "father" of Ryderwood. A participant in early year theatricals and was frequently toastmaster at civic events. An organizer of the Lions Club, serving as its second president. One of the organizers of the Longview Elks Lodge.



**John E. Null.** Employed by R. A. Long in the spring of 1923 to undertake the task of building the extensive park system in Longview. He was responsible for the landscaping and beautification of the Civic Center, Sacajawea Park, and the Longview Wye which made Longview famous in the late 1920s. He managed to save a substantial portion of the park system during depression years when funds were available for only two park employes and all of Lake Sacajawea Park had to be abandoned with no care given it at all. Later he supervised the restoration of the entire parks system and continued as city park superintendent until he retired in 1953 at the age of 83. Now 96, his name has been perpetuated through the John Null Park on Pacific Way.

**Gay M. Quoidbach.** The first woman to serve on the Longview City Council, she was active in the organization of the Lower Columbia Junior College, helped form the Community Concert Association and served as its president for 20 years, served as chairman of Community Chest and the American Red Cross drives, chairman of the Cowlitz County School District Organization Committee for 10 years, organized the non-academic sorority Theta Sigma Phi, which now has grown to nine active chapters outside Longview. Mrs. Quoidbach is a past president of the Washington State Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs and a past president of the Longview Club. She was a Camp Fire leader and organized the Cowlitz Camp Fire Board and served as its first president.



**Charles C. Tibbetts.** First a printer, then a real estate man, C. C. Tibbetts has had a long career of public service in Longview. He was elected to the city council in 1931. He was appointed to fill the office of mayor on the death of Mayor John Bell in 1938. Then elected and re-elected, he served for 10 years during the crucial period between 1938 and 1948. During this period the city overcame a debt of \$100,000 and re-acquired the park areas that had been taken over by the county for delinquent taxes. Under the Tibbetts administration the city purchased and modernized the city water system, established building codes and planning ordinances.

A citation awarded to the Family of R. A. Long bears the following wording:

"The '23 Club proudly presents its Longview Distinguished Service Award to the Family of R. A. Long as a measure of recognition that it was Robert A. Long who founded Longview, and gave it a great thrust forward with his inspiration and leadership, as well as generous gifts; and for the friendship of his family and their continuing interest in Longview down through the years."

