

Portrait of Carlson Presented to City

Mayor Emeritus Recalls Memories of Early Days

Mayor Emeritus Samuel A. Carlson presented a nostalgic contrast between Jamestown today and the days when he first entered public life as an alderman from Swede Hill.

The occasion was the presentation of a portrait painting of the 86-year-old former Jamestown mayor whose political career spanned a half century.

The presentation was made by the Viking Lodge No. 63 in City Council Chambers, preceding the regular meeting of City Council Monday night.

Speaking briefly after the presentation, the white haired Mayor Emeritus recalled that many people today were not living when he first became a city official.

In that bygone day, Jamestown had no sidewalks, no paved streets, no sewers and no public buildings, he said.

Council met in the Prendergast Building at Main and Third Streets. The Treasurer's office was across the street from the present location of Field and Wright.

Mayor Emeritus Carlson was 24 when he first became an alder-

man and later he was to serve for nearly a quarter of a century as mayor.

He proposed many government reforms, was a leader in the drive for city ownership of the water and light system and just a few years ago spearheaded an unsuccessful campaign for the establishment of a municipal milk plant.

Making the presentation were Grover Bender, chief of the Viking Temple, and Nels Brandell, past grand chief. Mr. Brandell called Mr. Carlson the city's greatest "Swedish-American citizen."

And through "Elmer Holmberg... another Swedish-American... the painting will keep his name and his works bright before the people of his city as long as there shall be a Jamestown..." he added.

The painting, unveiled by Mr. Holmberg's daughter, Leisan, will hang in the lobby of City Hall.

Mayor Samuel A. Stroth accepted the painting on behalf of the city, paying tribute to Mayor Emeritus Carlson, whom he lauded as Jamestown's "first citizen."

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