

Colonel D.C. Collier

“An Inspiration to the Citizens of Today”

By

Richard Amero

The gregarious and confident Colonel David Charles Collier (1871-1934) was a lawyer, real-estate developer, public servant, amateur archeologist, dabbler in minerals, and consultant in the holding of expositions.¹ On October 11, 1936, in the second year of the California Pacific International Exposition, San Diego honored his memory by placing a plaque on the west wall of the California Quadrangle in Balboa Park.² Designed by sculptor Frederick W. Schweigardt, it shows Collier in the process of signing his name, an image used by the colonel in numerous real estate ads. Beneath the salutation, “Yours for California,” and Collier’s signature are the words:

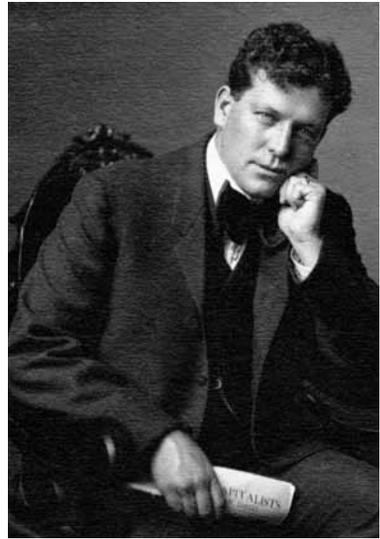
COLONEL DAVID CHARLES COLLIER

A man of vision - a dynamic leader - a developer and builder

A great and lovable character

The creative genius of the Panama-California Exposition of 1915

An inspiration to the citizens of today.³



*David C. Collier portrait - nd ©SDHC
OP 7831.*

Collier was one of San Diego’s best known characters at the turn of the twentieth century.⁴ He had a strapping figure, a leonine mane of hair, and flamboyant clothes. After returning from a visit to Brazil in 1912, he appeared at public meetings booted and spurred, with a striped poncho made of alpaca hair, a wide belt with knife attached, and an enormous sombrero on his head.⁵ He most often wore a five-gallon Stetson hat, a No. 18 turndown collar, and a Windsor tie, causing a New York reporter to ask, “Is he real or is this just theatrical makeup for a West-

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erner?”⁶ Later Collier explained, “Oh, I just like the combination. It makes me easy to find in a crowd. Few other men would wear such a getup.”⁷ His hype was done with humor, a pat on the back, and a wink of the eye.

Born in Central City, Colorado, August 14, 1871, Collier was the son of David Charles Collier and Martha Maria (Johnson) Collier. Collier, Sr., a lawyer, a judge and the manager of the *Central City Register*, decided to move the family farther west.⁸ Along with his father, mother, brother Frank and sister Mabel, twelve-year-old “Charlie” arrived in San Diego on the steamer *Orizaba* in 1884.⁹ Collier, Sr. built a house at 1545 Sixth Street, between Cypress and Cedar, and became a law partner of Alfred Haines in 1889.¹⁰

Charlie completed his education at Russ High School located on the southern edge of City (later Balboa) Park. During recess he would go down Waterworks Canyon (today’s Cabrillo Canyon) in the park to eat his lunch under a pepper tree. The only trees in the park at that time surrounded the waterworks. The remainder of the park was left to the native chaparral and cactus that grew on hardpan in the area.¹¹

At age fourteen, Charlie became a janitor, a messenger boy, and then a book-keeper at the First National Bank located at 904 Fifth Avenue.¹² While filling a tank with gas from a jet for H.D. Priens, a druggist at Fourth and E Streets, he lit a match. The explosion blew out a window and nearly cost him his life.¹³ Young Charlie learned an early lesson about explosives. At sixteen, he built what he called “a shack” at the corner of Pacific Avenue (today Coronado Avenue) and Bacon Street in Ocean Beach. He called the shack the “Alligator Rock Lodge.”¹⁴ It was a small dwelling at first but Collier kept adding to it.



Russ High School - San Diego's first Grammar School - c. 1887 ©SDHC 13257-1.



D.C. Collier in familiar outfit - 1915 ©SDHC 4582.

By 1891, at age twenty, Collier, Jr. had passed the state bar exam and become a lawyer in his father’s office—Collier and Haines—located at 1545 Sixth Avenue.¹⁵ Apparently Charlie had a tendency to be quick tempered since *The San Diego Union*, August 21, 1895, mentioned that he got into a fist fight with J.P. Hirschler in the latter’s bookstore at 1530 F Street.¹⁶

Following his father’s death in 1899, Collier became a law partner of attorney William R. Andrews, secretary of the Board of Trade in San Diego. In 1900 Charlie entered a new partnership with Sam F. Smith.¹⁷ As many of his clients were unable to pay him in cash, they gave him real estate they considered worth-

less. He subdivided this land, put in utilities, planted trees, and sold lots through the Ralston Realty Co., organized in 1904. In 1905 he organized the Easton-Collier Co., and in 1908 the Western Investment Co.¹⁸ Also in 1908 Collier built the Point Loma Railroad to provide better transportation to his subdivisions. He sold the railroad to John D. Spreckels in 1909 when Collier decided to buy out his partner A.H. Howard's interest in Ralston Realty. Collier changed the firm name to D.C. Collier and Company in 1909.¹⁹ Through these companies, he subdivided and sold lots in Ocean Beach, Point Loma, Pacific Beach, University Heights, Normal Heights, North Park, East San Diego, Encanto, La Mesa, and Ramona.

A marriage to Ella May Copley in San Diego, January 1, 1896, ended in divorce, November 11, 1914.²⁰ His wife was the sister of Congressman Ira C. Copley of Illinois, who would later become the owner of the *San Diego Union* and *Evening Tribune*. Collier, his wife, and two sons, David Copley Collier and Ira Clifton Collier, lived at Alligator Rock Lodge. The lodge had become a large house with a bathing pool and a Japanese garden.²¹

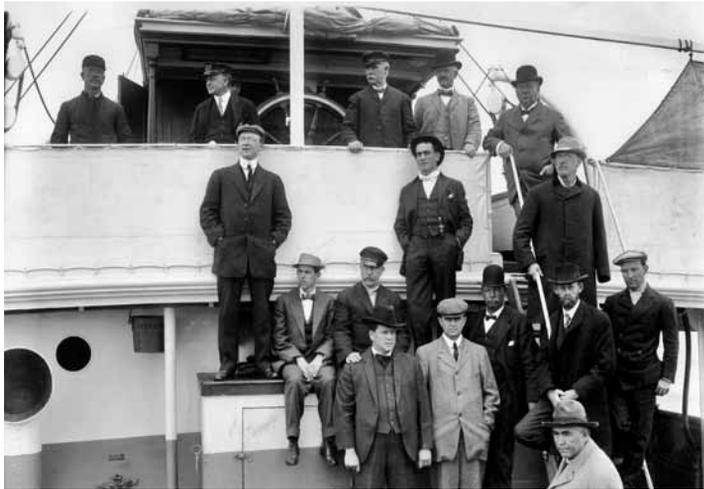
As his business prospered, Collier took a leading role in the community as a financier, politician and citizen. He won a case against the County Auditor in January 1900 when Judge Elisha S. Torrance ruled interests and penalties cannot be charged on costs of property being sold to redeem taxes.²² Collier owned the first phonograph, a Berliner Gramophone, and the first automobile in San Diego, an Oldsmobile he

purchased in 1900.²³ It moved along at 25 miles per hour and could cover 50 miles on three quarts of gasoline.

Collier, always seeking new investments, bought five mines in the Julian-Banner district in 1900. In 1905, he invested in the Santa Maria Land and Water Company in Ramona.²⁴ After that, he built a home on stilts near Hatfield

Creek on the road to Ballena, a scenic area in northeast San Diego County. Like other men, Collier sought the goodwill of his fellow citizens, but, more than any other factor, he was propelled into a whirlwind of activities by the irrepressible force of his exuberant energies. He was not content to sit back while opportunities presented themselves throughout the county.

In 1905 Collier persuaded the City Council to override the veto of Mayor John L. Sehon and to purchase water from John D. Spreckels' Southern California Mountain Water Company.²⁵ This began an on-going feud with Mayor Sehon, who served the city from 1900 to 1905. Perhaps believing that his efforts would be



Collier, front row left, accompanies Chamber of Commerce and Press to meet the Great White Fleet in Magdalena Bay, Baja California, in 1908. ©SDHC 1048.



Battleship USS Illinois - Great White Fleet - 1908
©SDHC 9287.

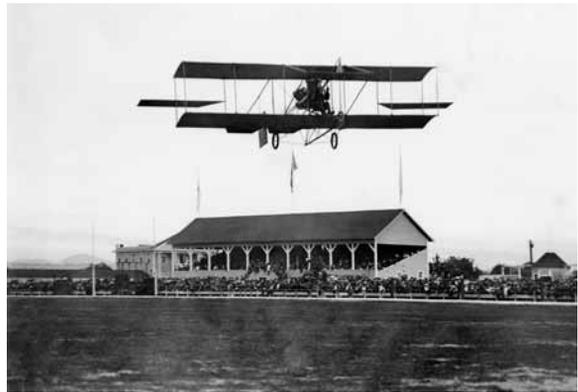
better appreciated at the state level, Collier served on the staff of California Governor J. N. Gillett from 1907 to 1911, which still allowed him to continue his never-ending variety of activities in San Diego.²⁶ In 1907 he built a home and poultry farm in La Mesa Springs, and then turned his attention to building a railroad line from San Diego to Ocean Beach in 1908-09.²⁷ In 1909 Collier built the Ocean Beach School, planted trees, put a road through Collier Park in Point Loma, and donated decomposed granite to surface the driveways and sidewalks of El Cajon Avenue.²⁸

During the previous year of 1908, while serving as president of the San Diego Chamber of Commerce, Collier organized San Diego's reception for the U.S. Navy's Great White Fleet.²⁹ The visit of the fleet,

designed to promote support for the navy under President Theodore Roosevelt, was greeted by San Diegans as a future possibility of improving San Diego as a deep-water port. The fleet had to anchor in the ocean off Coronado because the harbor had not been sufficiently dredged to accommodate the large naval vessels.³⁰

Collier's activities on the Chamber varied from censuring a local firm that was reflecting poorly on San Diego to engaging in unpopular outbursts.³¹ On August 3, 1908, when at a political meeting in the Garrick Theater, he rose from the audience to protest an unscheduled speech by Captain John L. Sehon, former San Diego mayor. The audience yelled "Sit down!" and "Go back to the woods!" Collier's quick-tempered response did not win him any friends: "Yell, yell! Yell, I want you dogs to yell every time I snap my fingers. Yell and bark. Every time I snap my fingers, I want you dogs to bark."³²

In 1910 Collier organized and became president of the Aero Club of San Diego. In January of the following year he persuaded Glenn Hammond Curtiss to bring his aviation company to North Island.³³ The Curtiss School of Aviation at North Island remained open for three years during which time Curtiss produced some remarkable students of aviation. Graduates who had learned to fly his biplanes set world records while others just took advantage of North Island to learn the new sport. By the time the school closed in 1913, North Island had become known as one of the nation's outstanding aviation fields.³⁴ After taking his first flight in a Curtiss biplane



Curtiss biplane - Coronado Polo Grounds - 1911 ©SDHC 17887.

flown by Charles Hamilton, Collier told a reporter: "When I die, I hope they'll have biplanes for the funeral, for I know I'll come to life for a second then and be able to wave goodbye to the bunch just before the clods begin to fall [on the coffin]."³⁵

Also from 1911 to 1913, Collier helped secure passage of legislation from the State of California giving San Diego title to its tidelands from National City to Point Loma. According to Carl Heilbron, the passage of this legislation gave "to the city of San Diego title to its tide lands, which are the basis for our present water front and harbor development."³⁶

Collier, already ready with a cheerful slogan, was an extraordinary salesman and promoter of the San Diego region. Even maverick editor of the *San Diego Herald*, Abraham Sauer, fell temporarily under Collier's spell, June 22, 1911, when he asked:

If it takes a steamer fifteen minutes to get up steam, how long will it take Collier? The answer is one second exactly, for that is what Colonel Collier did upon arrival. He exuded steam, injected it into the backbones of the dallying, shilly-shallying, doubting Thomases until, despite themselves and their knockings, backslidings and evasions, they cheered his words to the echo.³⁷

In 1912 Collier helped organize the Order of Panamá in order to call attention to the building of the Panama Canal.³⁸ In 1913 he thought up the idea of using tiles from the ruins of the Spanish Presidio to make the cross now standing in Presidio Park.³⁹



Serra Cross - Presidio Hill - ca. 1913. ©SDHC 13875-7.



California Building - artist rendering - 1915 ©SDHC UT 2778.

A plaque was placed at the base of the cross by members of the Order of Panamá in 1913 to honor the memory of Father Junípero Serra as founder of Mission San Diego de Alcalá, first mission and settlement in Alta California. The original plaque was replaced on July 16, 1969, marking the city's bicentennial celebration.

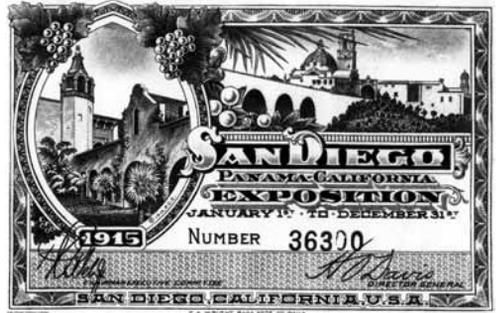
The most important civic posts Collier held in San Diego were those of Director-General of the Panama-California Exposition from 1909 to 1912, and President of the Exposition from 1912 to 1914.⁴⁰ He gave \$500,000 of his own money to the Exposition, served without pay, and paid his own travel expenses on promotional trips to Washington, D.C., South America, and Europe.⁴¹ Consequently, his real estate business floundered and he became burdened by debts. Collier,

although never failing in his support, was compelled to resign the presidency on March 5, 1914.⁴²

Collier chose the central mesa of Balboa Park as the site for the Exposition; proposed the California Mission as the architectural style; approved hiring Bertram Goodhue, a foremost authority on the Spanish Colonial style as consulting architect; insisted upon hiring Frederick Law Olmstead, a well-known landscape architect; and decided on the Indian background of the Southwest as the Exposition's main cultural theme.⁴³ Collier was a founder of the San Diego Museum (today's Museum of Man), a manager of the American School of Social Research in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and a friend of Dr. Edgar L. Hewett, director of the School of American Archaeology and first director of the San Diego Museum.⁴⁴



Balboa Park aerial - c. 1914 ©SDHC 80_9018.



Balboa Park - 1915 ©SDHC 82_13441.

Collier's role in enlisting U.S. Congressional support of the San Diego Exposition did much to advertise San Diego, but he failed to get government recognition because of opposition from San Francisco, which was organizing an exposition of its own. San Franciscans had acquired the support of conservatives in the Republican party.⁴⁵ When the conservatives succeeded in defeating the San Diego Exposition's bid for recognition, their triumph caused Collier to join the Progressive wing of the party.⁴⁶

Collier is pictured among the most important people in bringing about the Panama Canal celebration with the 1915 Exposition. Composite poster ©SDHC.



Theodore Roosevelt



Woodrow Wilson



David C. Collier



Mayor Charles O'Neill

William Kettner, a San Diego Democrat who was elected to Congress in November 1912, managed in his mild, un-Collier-like way, to secure the recognition Collier had sought. Since President Woodrow Wilson and Kettner belonged to the same party, the recognition went through speedily, without the intrigues that had beset Collier.⁴⁷



©SDHC 91_18564-1305

To show that they approved of Collier's efforts for the Exposition, hundreds of San Diegans attended a reception in his honor held at the Spreckels Theater, April 22, 1914. As Judge Ernest Riall presented him with a loving cup, his admirers shouted "What's the matter with Collier?" followed by the response, "He's all right!"⁴⁸ Collier told his enthusiastic audience that he

had accepted the presidency of the Pacific Southwest Railway. The railway would bring iron ore and coal from Colorado to San Diego, from which place ships would carry it around the world. He concluded: "I feel I am again spending my energy for that town whose virtue, when it is once in a man's blood, makes of him a San Diegan in this life and in the life to come."⁴⁹

Finding the Pacific Southwest Railway to be more talk than substance, Col-

lier bought back ownership of D.C. Collier and Co. in May 1914.⁵⁰ Still struggling with financial problems, he resumed his law practice in March 1915.⁵¹ The 1915 Panama-California International Exposition directors, who extended the fair for an additional year, appointed him a public relations commissioner in February 1916.⁵²

As a trustee of the defunct Wonderland Park in Ocean Beach, Collier, in April 1917, approved the transfer of ownership of animals in cages at the northeast perimeter of the Exposition to the newly formed San Diego Zoo. The Zoo paid \$500 for the animals and the trustees waived a \$2,000 balance.⁵³ Also in April, Collier ran for City Council, but, owing to his championship of George W. Marston for mayor against popular Louis J. Wilde, he was rejected in the April 3 election.⁵⁴ By claiming that Wilde would refuse to serve if he—Collier—were elected, Collier made himself look ridiculous.⁵⁵

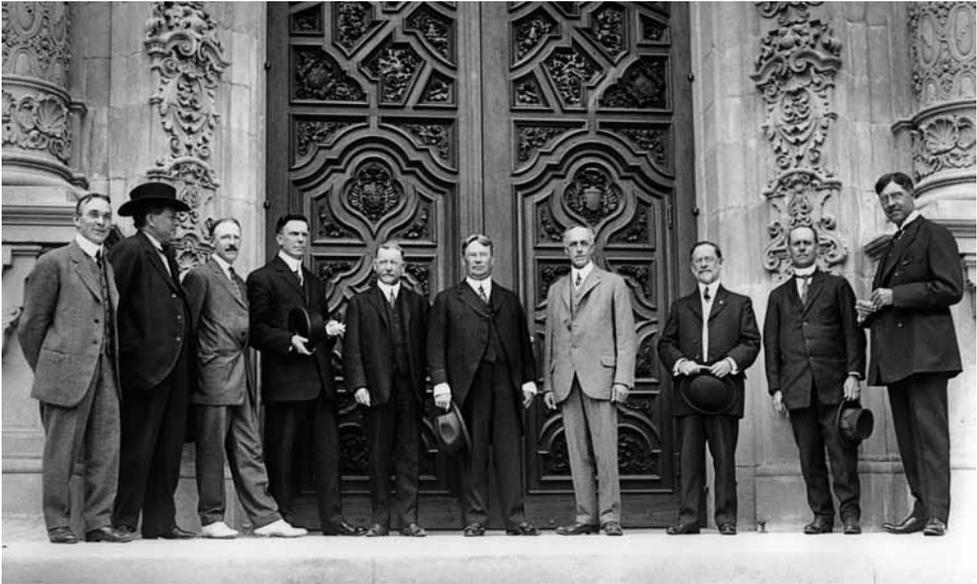
After the United States entered World War I, Collier and Congressman Kettner offered Exposition buildings, land at Linda Vista, the site of Wonderland Park, and Collier Park to the U.S. Army and then to the U.S. Navy for the duration of the war. The Navy accepted the Exposition buildings as a training center. After sparring between Los Angeles and San Diego, in which Collier did not figure, the U.S. Army chose Linda Vista Mesa, consisting of 12,720 acres, as the site for Camp Kearny.⁵⁶



Hazenbeck Animal Show Building - artist rendering - 1915 ©SDHC UT 2729.



Ocean Beach - Wonderland Park Entrance - c. 1911-1912 ©SDHC 15540.



Balboa Park - Dignitaries on steps of California Building - Collier second from left - c. 1915 ©SDHC UT 25410.1.

Ruth E. Everson became Collier's second wife on November 14, 1915. Following her death on August 28, 1916, he married Clytie B. Lyon on December 13, 1919.⁵⁷ Collier's son David Copley Collier became a military aviator who was killed in a crash during World War I. His second son, Ira Clifton Collier, from whom he was estranged, became a newspaperman in New York City.⁵⁸ Collier also had a step-daughter, Clytie, by his third wife.

Taking advantage of contacts he had made while promoting the Pacific Southwest Railway, Collier left San Diego in 1918 to seek employment in Chicago. Instead, as a result of his meetings with Dr. Edgar Hewett from 1911 to 1914, Collier became involved in land speculation in New Mexico. At the same time, he obtained the consent of Hewett's School of American Archaeology to send exhibits to the Panama-California Exposition.⁵⁹ He focused his real estate interests on Santa Fe, Pecos, and Pojoaque. The last two places were former Pueblo Indian settlements that had been largely abandoned by Indians, absorbed by Spanish and Mexican land grants, or simply seized by squatters. Collier engaged in these promotional schemes through his Western Investment Company. As the name of this company implies, Collier was essentially investing in land in New Mexico for which in his usual flamboyant fashion he had ambitious plans.

Collier became a board member of the School of American Research (the new name of the School of American Archaeology), and also acted as business manager for the Santa Fe Community Theater Association. He had an office adjacent to the Santa Fe Plaza and had acquired the former Manderfield estate in Santa Fe, where he may have lived. As he was in arrears on a \$5,000 mortgage, he was forced to give up this property in March 1921 at which time the Santa Fe Bank became legal custodian. The legally questionable deals that Collier enjoyed proved, in the end, to be a disaster, as one by one his land claims were challenged by Pueblo Indians, by former land grantees, by former partners, by lawyers, and by the U.S. government in *U.S. vs Sandoval* 1913. His promising investments had become disastrous losses.⁶⁰

Collier's reputation as an Exposition promoter and as a Republican known in Washington, D.C., convinced President Warren G. Harding to appoint Collier as a representative to the 1922 Brazilian Centennial Exposition in Rio de Janeiro. At the end of the Fair, the Brazilian government declared Collier and his wife Clytie as guests of the nation and arranged for them to tour the principal states of the country.⁶¹

Collier returned to San Diego in 1924 and resumed selling real estate in a "drive-in" office at 1050 Ninth Street. His friends greeted him with a banquet at the San Diego Hotel. When his turn to speak came, Collier praised the cooperation that had made the Panama-California Exposition possible.⁶² Collier sold properties at Loma Portal, Wonderland Beach, Point Loma Heights, and Sunshine Gardens.⁶³ His firm was responsible for the demolition of Wonderland Park and the construction of beach houses, cottages, and apartment houses from Voltaire Street to Point Loma Avenue.⁶⁴

Collier left San Diego in February 1925 to accept the Director-Generalship of the United States Sesquicentennial to be held at Philadelphia in 1926 at a salary of \$25,000 per year. He resigned on October 29, 1925, after Philadelphia Mayor Kendrick cut the number of exhibit buildings from seven to two and an auditorium.⁶⁵ The Republic of Panama employed Collier as an exposition consultant in 1925-26.⁶⁶ Nothing concrete resulted from this enterprise and information regarding Collier's activities during the next six years did not reach the local press. He visited or lived at times in Philadelphia, Chicago, and New York City. In 1929 he was admitted to the Illinois bar.⁶⁷ He may have acted as an intermediary in the sale of goods from Brazil during that time. In 1930 he contributed toward developing the theme of the 1933 Century of Progress Exposition in Chicago.⁶⁸

In the fall of 1930, Collier returned to San Diego and resumed the practice of law.⁶⁹ He lived on Park Boulevard, but visited a retreat near Ramona, possibly his former home at Ballena, whenever he could. Carl Heilbron, his former partner, owned the retreat. Much of Collier's practice came from clients in the Ramona area.⁷⁰ In 1931 he declared that San Diego could make its waterfront as attractive as Balboa Park, if it held a Centennial Exposition there.⁷¹ Most people in San Diego ignored the suggestion. Resilient by nature, a defeat could not keep Collier down for long. In June 1932, he came in fifth in an election for the Board of Supervisors. As a person who had spent most of his life selling real estate, Collier, not surprisingly, favored lowering property taxes.⁷²



D.C. Collier - 1928 ©SDHC S-1064.

Power brokers in San Diego endorsed Frank Drugan's plan for the California Pacific International Exposition after he had secured promises of both federal and

industrial support and exhibits from Chicago's 1933 Century of Progress Exposition. They chose Balboa Park as the site for the exposition, to be held in 1935-36. No one thought to ask Collier for his opinions.⁷³ "To Colonel Collier, more than to any other single individual," wrote Carl Heilbron, "is due credit for the 1935 Exposition first because of his vision in creating the beautiful buildings and landscaping of the 1915 Exposition, and second, because he made the community exposition-conscious by his projected 1934 Exposition."⁷⁴

On November 13, 1934, Collier died of a heart attack at Scripps Memorial Hospital in La Jolla.⁷⁵ He was sixty-three years old. Funeral services were held November 15 at the Bradley-Woolman funeral parlor under the auspices of the San Diego Lodge No. 35, of the Order of Masons. He was buried in the Masonic plot at Mount Hope Cemetery in San Diego.⁷⁶ In 1936 Clytie Collier moved back East to live with her daughter. After she died on April 28, 1968, her remains were returned to San Diego for interment alongside her husband at Mount Hope Cemetery.⁷⁷

Collier's death prevented his obtaining permission from the U.S. Congress to pursue a lawsuit to win title from the U.S. Government for land at Fort Rosecrans. He claimed the government did not have clear title. If his suit had been successful, Collier would have received 75 percent of the profits from the sale of 85 estates. Judge Gordon Thompson, in the Superior Court, July 27, 1937, canceled Collier's filing fee and discharged him as administrator of the estates as he was no longer living.⁷⁸ The suit was another of Collier's bold schemes. If he had won, he would again have become rich. As it turned out, he was close to bankruptcy when he died. His widow was left with \$2,000 in uncollected fees for legal services and a debt of over \$42,000 in claims against her husband's estate.⁷⁹

Collier had both friends and enemies in San Diego. He was a blustery extrovert with an ebullient manner that recalled Theodore Roosevelt's over-flowing personality. Recognizing in him a kindred spirit, Roosevelt offered Collier the post of colonel in a regiment he was trying to form for duty during World War I.⁸⁰ Collier was also popular among members of Congress from both parties and among businessmen from South America. Yet he was vulnerable as a politician. San Diegans saw the no-holds-barred, brass-knuckle side of his character in his feuds with mayors John L. Sehon, Grant Conard, and Louis J. Wilde.⁸¹ After Collier's disillusionment with the Republican Old Guard in 1912, he aligned himself with George W. Marston, G. Aubrey Davidson, Joseph W. Sefton, Jr., and Carl Heilbron.⁸² A front man for Marston in the 1917 mayoral election, he tried to bring Marston's aloof character within touch of the masses. He failed not only because his attacks on his opponents were outlandish but also because, in dirt-slinging warfare, his opponents (men like Sehon and Wilde) were as opportunistic and bombastic as he was.



D.C. Collier portrait ©SDHC OP 17133-535.

Collier's personal side was deeper and quieter than his boisterous public mask. We can only speculate about the reasons why Collier deferred to men whom he considered superior. Did he, like Sinclair Lewis's Babbitt, know there was more to life than camaraderie and boastful promises? Did he feel that by contact with polished and professional people like George W. Marston and Dr. Edgar L. Hewett, he could somehow smooth out his own crudities and imperfections? We will never know.

Perhaps the numerous organizations that Collier belonged to can give us an indication of his expansive, forward-looking character. These were the Masons, Shriners, Elks, Archaeological Institute of America, National Geographic Society, California Historical Society, Sons of Colorado Pioneers, San Diego Chamber of Commerce, Ramona Chamber of Commerce, Order of the Liberty Bell, Chicago Athletic Club, San Diego Yacht Club, San Diego Rowing Club, Sojourners of Pen and Pencil, Philadelphia Boosters' Club, *Brazilera de Imprensa*, and *Instituto Geographical e historico de Bahia, Brazil*.⁸³ Because Collier was continuously active in establishing parks throughout the area, a number of them were named in his honor. These included Collier Park in Point Loma, Collier Park in Ocean Beach, and the 8-acre Collier County Park in Ramona.

Archaeologist and director of the San Diego Museum [of Man] from 1916 to 1929, Dr. Edgar L. Hewett paid tribute to Collier in a 1935 issue of *El Palacio*. His words are quoted because they convey a view of Collier as an exponent of "rugged individualism," with all the ruthlessness the phrase implies:

One can only think of Colonel Collier as tremendously alive. He was the most dynamic personality I have ever known; a product of human evolution well described by the term "rugged individualism." Every believer in humanity must hope and pray that the type may survive and increase.⁸⁴



San Diego History Center

U.S. ARCHITECTURAL COLLEGE

Annual Pass for the Panama-California Exposition - 1915 ©SDHC 82_13052.

NOTES

1. Collier received the title of "Colonel" when he served on the staff of California Governor J.N. Gillett from 1907 to 1911. *San Diego Union*, April 28, 1907, 2.
2. *San Diego Union*, February 28, 1935, 5.
3. Carl H. Heilbron, ed., *History of San Diego County* (San Diego: The San Diego Press Club, 1936), 172.
4. One of the ironies of history is the manner in which the achievements of people who were famous in their lifetimes are soon forgotten. In the span of 59 years, D. C. Collier has become little known and communities that had honored him are even removing his name from parks and schools in order to commemorate today's important people.
5. *San Diego Union*, August 8, 1912, 10.
6. *San Diego Union*, May 7, 1913, 12.
7. *San Diego Union*, April 14, 1934, B-1.
8. Samuel F. Black, *San Diego County, California, A Record of Settlement, Organization, Progress and Achievement*, (Chicago: The S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1913), 2:108.
9. *San Diego Union*, April 29, 1884.
10. *San Diego Union*, June 18, 1885; Leland Ghent Stanford, *San Diego's LL.B Legal Lore and the Bar* (San Diego: San Diego County Bar Association Law Library Justice Foundation, 1968), 120. Alfred Haines later became a judge and his house at 2470 E Street in Golden Hill became a San Diego Historical Society Showcase Home in the Craftsman style in 2005.
11. *San Diego Sun*, December 30, 1916.
12. Black, *San Diego County*, 108.
13. *San Diego Union*, August 3, 1969, G-1.
14. Ruth Varney Held, *Beach Town: Early Days in Ocean Beach* (San Diego: private printing, 1975), 142.
15. *San Diego Union*, August 20, 1891, 5; Heilbron wrote that Collier entered the law offices of Collier & Mulford, of which Charlie's father was senior partner, in 1886. This Collier is in fact William Collier—not D.C. Collier, Sr. Heilbron, *History of San Diego County*, 171.
16. *San Diego Union*, August 23, 1895, 5.
17. *San Diego Union*, August 12, 1899, 5; November 6, 1899, 5; August 4, 1900, 6.
18. *San Diego Union*, November 14, 1904, B-1; May 16, 1905, 5; January 13, 1905, 5; Emil C. Reinhold, *Scrapbook*, San Diego History Center archives.
19. Reinhold, *Scrapbook*.
20. *San Diego Union*, January 2, 1896, 5; *San Diego Evening Tribune*, July 23, 1914, 8; *San Diego Sun*, November 11, 1914.
21. Winifred Davidson, "The Birthplace of Large Ideas," *Ocean Beach News*, March 30, 1934, 1.
22. *San Diego Union*, November 16, 1900, 5; Held, *Beach Town*, 143.
23. Held, *Beach Town*, 142.
24. *San Diego Union*, January 6, 1900, 5; Charles R. LeMenager, *Ramona and Roundabout* (Eagle Park Publishing Co., 1989), 121.
25. *San Diego Union*, October 30, 1905, 6.
26. *San Diego Union*, April 28, 1907, 2.
27. *San Diego Union*, March 20, 1907, 14; May 1, 1909, II, 9.
28. San Diego Park Board Minutes, December 4, 1908, San Diego City Clerk's Office; *San Diego Union*, March 9, 1909, 7.
29. *San Diego Union*, January 14, 1908, II, 9; March 5, 1908, 3.
30. Vessels in the Great White Fleet included the battleships *Kansas*, *Maine*, *Alabama*, *Connecticut*,

Nebraska, and others plus six early destroyers and several auxiliary ships circumnavigating the globe from December 16, 1907, to February 22, 1909. The squadrons were manned by 14,000 sailors and covered some 43,000 nautical miles. Even though the ships were constructed after the Spanish-American War, many were outdated and unfit for battle.

31. A meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was called on July 27, 1908, to investigate charges that the law firm of Crane and Andrews had tarnished the reputation of San Diego businesses by declaring that seventeen of them were on the verge of bankruptcy, erupted into a fight between Collier and Andrews. Taking Collier's side, the Chamber ruled that Crane and Andrews had been "disloyal to the people of San Diego." *San Diego Union*, July 28, 1908, II, 2.
32. *San Diego Union*, August 4, 1908, 1.
33. *San Diego Union*, November 2, 1909, 5; January 30, 1910, 6; January 26, 1931.
34. See Gary Kurutz, "The Only Safe and Sane Method: The Curtiss School of Aviation," *The Journal of San Diego History*, 25 (Winter 1979), 26-59.
35. *San Diego Union*, January 26, 1910; Heilbron, *San Diego County*, 172.
36. Heilbron, *San Diego County*, 172; *San Diego Union*, March 12, 1911, II, 9.
37. *San Diego Herald*, June 22, 1911.
38. *San Diego Union*, January 5, 1912, 2.
39. *San Diego Union*, September 27, 1913, 3.
40. *San Diego Union*, November 23, 1911, II, 11.
41. *San Diego Union*, March 9, 1914, 1; *San Diego Sun*, November 14, 1934, B-1.
42. *San Diego Union*, March 9, 1914, 1; *San Diego Sun*, March 30, 1914, 1.
43. *San Diego Sun*, March 30, 1914, 1; John C. Olmsted to George W. Marston, July 7, 1911, George W. Marston File, San Diego History Center Research Library; *San Diego Sun*, June 18, 1910, 7; *San Diego Union*, January 28, 1911, 101; *San Diego Union*, September 8, 1909, 1; *San Diego Sun*, September 8, 1909, 2.
44. *San Diego Sun*, April 27, 1911, 3.
45. *San Diego Union*, February 5, 1912, 6.
46. *San Diego Union*, February 29, 1912, 10.
47. *San Diego Sun*, May 21, 1913, 8.
48. *San Diego Examiner*, April 24, 1914, 1.
49. *San Diego Union*, April 23, 1914, 1.
50. *San Diego Sun*, May 9, 1914, 9.
51. *San Diego Union*, March 9, 1915, 4.
52. *San Diego Union*, February 5, 1916, 9.
53. Harry M. Wegeforth and Neil Morgan, *It Began With a Roar! The Beginning of the World-Famous San Diego Zoo* (San Diego: Zoological Society of San Diego, 1969), 81.
54. *San Diego Union*, April 4, 1917, 1.
55. *San Diego Union*, March 23, 1917, 8.
56. *San Diego Sun*, April 7, 1917, 1; *San Diego Union*, April 24, 1917, *San Diego Sun*, May 1, 1917, 1; Richard F. Pourade, *Gold In The Sun* (San Diego: Union-Tribune Publishing Co., 1965), 226.
57. *San Diego Union*, August 29, 1916, II, 9; November 14, 1934, B-2.
58. *San Diego Union* November 14, 1934, B-1.
59. The School of American Archaeology's parent organization was the Archaeological Institute of America that sent exhibits to the Panama-California Exposition.
60. G. Emlen Hall tells the story of the demise of Collier's real-estate maneuverings in plentiful detail in *Four Leagues of Pecos: A Legal History of the Pecos Land Grant, 1800-1933*, New Mexico Land Grant Series, (New Mexico: University of New Mexico Press, 1984).

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61. Heilbron, *History of San Diego County*, 172.
62. *San Diego Union*, March 27, 1924, 4.
63. *San Diego Union*, July 20, 1924, 9.
64. *San Diego Union*, October 5, 1924, Building, 4; *San Diego Union*, November 27, 1924, 20; November 30, 1924, Building, 4; February 15, 1925 Building, 3.
65. *San Diego Union*, February 4, 1925, 24; October 30, 1925, 16.
66. Heilbron, *San Diego County*, 172.
67. *San Diego Union*, November 14, 1934, 3.
68. *San Diego Sun*, January 26, 1931, B-1; Heilbron, *San Diego County*, 173.
69. *San Diego Sun*, October 17, 1930, 8.
70. *San Diego Sun*, November 14, 1934, B-1.
71. *San Diego Union*, September 9, 1931, II, 3:3; October 14, 1931, 7.
72. *San Diego Union*, June 27, 1932, 3.
73. *San Diego Union*, October 5, 1934, 9; April 8, 1950, B-1.
74. Heilbron, *San Diego County*, 173.
75. *San Diego Sun*, November 11, 1934, B-1.
76. *San Diego Union*, November 15, 1934, 3.
77. *San Diego Union*, May 3, 1968, 14.
78. *San Diego Union*, July 28, 1937, 5.
79. San Diego County Probate Court, Notice to Creditors, No. 21835; *San Diego Union*, December 6, 1934, 5.
80. *San Diego Sun*, November 14, 1934, B-1.
81. *San Diego Union*, July 27, 1908, 6; *San Diego Sun*, April 3, 1909, 1; *San Diego Evening Tribune*, October 30, 1914, 1; *San Diego Sun*, October 31, 1914, 1. John Sehon served from 1901 to 1905; Conard 1909 to 1911; and Wilde 1917 to 1921.
82. *San Diego Sun*, February 13, 1912, 1.
83. Heilbron, *San Diego County*, 174.
84. Edgar L. Hewett, "Colonel D. C. Collier," *El Palacio* 5 no. 38 (1935), 9.