

THE PIONEER JUBILEE OF JULY 1897.

WE who may be fortunate enough to be living in Salt Lake on July 24, 1947—a mere 40 years hence—the one hundredth anniversary of the coming of the pioneers into the valley—may see such a celebration of the event as Salt Lake enjoyed ten years ago, the fiftieth anniversary of the event. But until that centennial day arrives, nothing like the glories of the Pioneer Jubilee of July, 1897, are apt to be witnessed by the people of the city and the state.

It may even be doubted whether the hundredth celebration of Utah's birthday will equal the pomp and circumstance of the fiftieth. For one thing there will be no pioneers left to form the central point of the enthusiasm; for another there will be no son of a pioneer in the governor's chair to back up the plans and preparations for a fitting celebration, as there was in the person of Gov. H. M. Wells; the relics, the pioneer wagons in which the great journey was made, and the thousand and one things and circumstances that combined to make the Jubilee so notable will be lacking, and most of all there will be no Spencer Clawson, descendant of a pioneer grandfather, grandmother, father and mother, to set the big ball in motion, to keep it rolling, and to take on his shoulders the stupendous work of engineering the celebration—such a celebration as caused the entire west to open its eyes with wonderment, and made the surviving pioneers glow with a feeling that their achievements had not gone unappreciated.

An epitome of just what was done in Salt Lake by the Pioneer Jubilee commission, of which Mr. Clawson was chairman, is given herewith:

The sum of \$58,997.51 was raised by popular subscription and legislative gifts and all but \$375.19 was expended on the celebration. This balance was turned back into the state treasury.

"The Utah Pioneer Jubilee" began Tuesday, July 20, and closed Saturday, July 24, 1897, during which five days Salt Lake saw such a continuous round of excitement, pageantry, processions, reunions, meetings, assemblies and contests of various sorts as had never before been brought together or deemed possible in the intermountain region.

The crowds in attendance came from all over the United States. Among the guests of honor was Hon. Wm. J. Bryan. Pres. McKinley expected to come up to the last day, but was prevented by affairs of government. It is significant of the time, and of the "era of good feeling" in Utah in those days that the invitation to the president was prepared by Geo. Q. Cannon, Geo. W. Barch, P. H. Lamm, (then manager of the Tribune), Frank J. Cannon, Jos. L. Rawlins and W. H. King.

As special guests of the occasion all the surviving pioneers who entered Utah during the year 1847 were brought to Salt Lake, free of any expense to themselves, no matter in what part of the country they were found.

The committee was able to bring together about 700 of these veterans; all were royally entertained during their stay and each was presented with an elaborate gold badge, the cost of this feature alone exceeding \$7,000.

The Pioneer monument, at the intersection of East Temple and South Temple streets, was unveiled in the presence of thousands of citizens.

The Hall of Relics, which was removed to make way for the Deseret News building of today, was erected and made the repository for a host of relics and personal belongings of the pioneers, many of which were afterwards donated to the state Historical association.

THE COMMISSION.

The members of the Jubilee commission named by Gov. Wells and confirmed by the legislature were Spencer Clawson, Inez C. Wallace, Reed Smoot, Mrs. R. C. Easton, W. A. Nelden, Emily Katz, Cora Hooper Eldredge, Ernest S. Rognon, Edward F. Colborn, Wm. B. Preston, Jacob Moritz, Jno. D. Spencer, Elias A. Smith, H. H. Spencer (Ogden), and Horace G. Whitney.

The committee was named in a joint resolution of the legislature approved April 5, 1896, and it qualified on Nov. 20, 1896, organizing as "The Utah Semi-Centennial Commission" with Spencer Clawson as chairman, Ernest G. Rognon, secretary, and Mrs. Wallace, treasurer.

EIGHT MONTHS' HARD WORK.

For the next eight months, indeed until after the celebration was over, the labors of the commission were almost incessant. All their efforts were devoted to raising a fund of \$50,000, which it was estimated a proper celebration would cost. Business conditions generally were depressed and great difficulty was experienced in raising the necessary funds. After all endeavors, the total receipts remained at a very low figure until in a sort of desperation the committee called a monster public meeting in the Salt Lake theater, on the night of June 2, 1897, and laid the situation before the people of the city. The audience was addressed by B. H. Roberts, O. W. Powers and members of the commission, all of whom pointed out the danger of failure. As a result, sleeping enthusiasm was awakened and from that time on money began to flow in. In addition to the donations received from the citizens of Salt Lake and various other parts of the state, substantial sums came from out-of-town firms, so that by the time the Jubilee day arrived and the receipts from various entertainments and other revenue producing means came in, the commission was in a condition to do justice to its vast program.

THE COMMITTEES.

The following committees had charge of the details:

Advertising—Whitney, Smoot, Colborn.
Amusements—Smoot, Rognon, Whitney.
Children's day—Miss Katz, Mrs. Eldredge, Mrs. Wallace.

County Display—H. H. Spencer, Preston, Moritz.
Design—Mrs. Eldredge, H. H. Spencer, Mrs. Easton.
Electrical Display—Mrs. Wallace, Nelden, Miss Katz, Easton.



THE PIONEER JUBILEE COMMISSION OF TEN YEARS AGO.

Finance—Colborn, Clawson, Rognon, Moritz, Miss Katz, Mrs. Eldredge.
Fireworks—Rognon, Mrs. Wallace, Nelden.

Flats and Parades—Moritz, Nelden, Smoot.
Invitation—Preston, Nelden, J. D. Spencer.
Legislative—Mrs. Easton, Moritz, Preston.
Music—J. D. Spencer, Smoot, Mrs. Easton.
Pioneers—Clawson, Smoot, Smith.
Railroads—Smith, Whitney, Colborn.

At this time the following additional officers were appointed: Hon. Brigham Young, director-general; Edward F. Colborn, chief press bureau.

The following made up the list of employees: H. F. McGarvie, assistant director-general; L. C. Johnson, assistant secretary; Miss Maud Patterson, Alan L. Webster, clerks; James B. Bloor, assistant chief, press bureau.

BOOK OF THE PIONEERS.

When the work of the commission was concluded there was deposited in the archives of the state "The Book of the Pioneers" in two volumes. They were bound in the most indestructible material obtainable, inscribed with a list of the resources and industries of the state, and embellished with gold, silver and copper extracted from the mines of Utah. A valuable feature of this book is the personal record of all the pioneers prepared over their own handwriting, the date of their birth, present place of residence, date of arrival in Salt Lake, under whose captaincy they traveled, etc.

The official program of the pioneers, a most elaborate publication, thousands of which were sold and are still preserved as souvenirs, forms a complete idea of the vast proportions which the celebration assumed.

FIRST DAY.

On the first day, Tuesday, July 20, a national salute was fired at sunrise by the survivors of the battery of the Nauvoo Legion. At 8 o'clock a state salute by battery A of the N. G. U.; at 9 o'clock all the pioneers assembled at the old Fort Square, the place where the first camping ground was established 50 years before, and from there they marched to the Brigham Young monument on Main street, where at 10:30 the unveiling took place in the presence of an enormous assemblage. Hon. William J. Bryan being on the platform. The ceremonies were as follows:

1. Call to order by Spencer Clawson, chairman of the semi-centennial commission.
2. Prayer by President Wilford Woodruff, oldest survivor of the first company of pioneers.

3. Chorus, "Ode to Brigham Young"—Mormon tabernacle choir.

4. Presentation of monument—Hon. James Sharp.

5. Acceptance of monument on behalf of the people—Heber M. Wells, governor.

6. Address—Brigham Young (eldest surviving son of President Brigham Young).

7. Address—C. C. Goodwin (editor Salt Lake Tribune).

8. Chorus, "Utah, We Love Thee"—Mormon tabernacle choir.

9. Benediction—Bishop Lawrence Scanlan.

The same afternoon at the tabernacle there was a public reception to all the surviving pioneers at which the tabernacle choir rendered "Hail to the Morn." The poem which was awarded the prize of \$100 entitled "The Pioneers of Utah," written by N. Albert Sherman, was read by David McKenzie. B. H. Roberts rendered the oration and each of the surviving pioneers was presented with a gold badge by 27 young ladies delegated for the task by the 27 counties of the state. These badges entitled the owners to free admission during the jubilee to all amusements. Pioneer Thomas Dobson

Ode to the Pioneers.

By O. J. Whitney.

This poem was set to music by Prof. Evan Stephens and was first rendered in public at the grand concert in honor of the Pioneers, held in the Tabernacle on the Second day of the Pioneer Jubilee. A Prize of \$100, was awarded the composer.

HAIL to the Year of Jubilee!

Let pealing anthems rise,

And bursts of echoing melody

Loud mingle with the skies!

Let earth resound with music's power

Glads welcoming the year

When Utah sees her natal hour

The fiftieth time appear!

Far down the mystic river of the mind,

A fleet of recollections slowly wind!

A wreath of flowers from fancy's garden

brought;

Historic views on memory's canvas,

wrought.

Lo issuing from the canyon's rough defile,

Where frowns, on either side, a lofty

pile.

A little band of sunburnt mountaineers

Halt on the ridge - whose midler

summit rears,

The towering peaks and plains to intervene

And gaze with wonder on the glorious

scene.

Ah! marvel nothing if the eye may trace

The care lines on each toil-worn

hero's face;

Nor yet, if down his cheek in silent show,

The trickling tides of tender feeling

flow.

Would e'en the coldest heart forbear to

say,

Good cause had gratitude to weep

that day?

Or censure for a flow of manly tears,

That brave-souled band-immortal

pioneers?

Their names? Go view them on the

Golden Page,

The gift of glory to remotest age;

The van of civilization's westward sweep.

The few that sowed what millions

yet shall reap.

rendered a jig, and John Y. Smith the "Song of the Handcart Brigade," chorus by the choir.

CONCERT IN TABERNACLE.

That night a grand concert was given in the tabernacle in honor of the pioneers, Mr. and Mrs. William Jennings Bryan being present as guests of honor. A special feature was made of the entrance of a young lady representing Utah, Miss Emma Lunt. As she came into the building supported by her maids of honor, the audience arose, and "The Star Spangled Banner" by the choir, organ, band and audience was rendered in a fashion that was truly uplifting. Those who took part on the program were the Knights of Pythias band, under Prof. Pedersen, Geneva Jennings and Viola Pratt-Gillette, Prof. Daynes, Ladies' chorus under Madam Swenson, R. C. Easton and a ladies' club from Denver.

The same night the theater was opened and the play of "The Charcoal Burner" was rendered by a pioneer cast, in which John S. Lindsay, Phil Margetts, H. E. Bowring, D. McAllister, Harry Taylor, J. E. Evans, E. Clissold, Della Clawson Cummings, Nellie Clawson Brown and Ruby Lindsay took part.

SECOND DAY.

On Wednesday, July 21, the grand "Pageant of Progress," illustrating the growth and development of Utah in fifty years, took place on the streets of Salt Lake. The great procession included Indians, an Indian band, the pioneers, bands from country points and a long array of floats illustrating the progress of the state. Among the notable floats were Jim Bridger's cabin, Utah in 1847, the first saw pit, the first house in Utah, the gulls and crickets, the first legislative hall, the ship Brooklyn, the Deseret Evening News (founded June 15, 1850), the temple building in 1862, the first sugar mill in Utah, the Utah Sugar company, the Overland stage, the first fast mail, the first telegram sent from Utah, the prairie schooner, the establishment of mining in Utah, the first smelter in Utah, the first street car in Utah, the silk worm, Utah in 1897, our sister state Colorado, followed by private floats, bicycles, vehicles, citizens and carriages, etc.

The same night a grand ball took place at Saltair in honor of Utah and her maids and the county queens. There was also football at Beck's Hot Springs between Wyoming and Salt Lake, baseball at Fort Douglas, etc.

At night the grand musical contest occurred at the tabernacle, many out-of-town bands and soloists competing. Among the Salt Lake entries in the

male voice contest, the song being "The Holy City," were H. S. Ensign, Fred Graham, Frank Foster, and R. E. Graham.

The same evening at the theater, the pioneer players revived the two-act comedy, "A Wonderful Woman," and "The Toodles," Margetts and Lindsay heading the cast.

At Calder's Park every day and night during the jubilee week, native Indians gave war and ghost dances to enormous crowds.

THIRD DAY.

Thursday, July 22, was children's day and as the 10,000 children passed the Pioneer monument, they literally covered the pedestal with flowers. Many new floats were in line, among some of the most striking being the following:

Beauty's float, Mother Goose, the seagull, Peter, Peter, Pumpkin Eater, a pony turnout, the basket float, designed by Artist J. W. Clawson, the bee hive, the old woman who lived in a shoe, the gulls and crickets, our free schools, all nations, a fairy queen, Little Miss Muffet, etc.

After the parade the children assembled at the tabernacle, where there was a special program rendered, Dr. Karl G. Maeser opened with prayer. Hon. George Q. Cannon delivered an address, and the oldest pioneer present was crowned by a little girl, the granddaughter of a pioneer. At the close each child in attendance was given buns and lemonade.

The usual sports and attractions at Calder's and Saltair were continued during the day and evening. At night there was an illuminated parade, "Great Salt Lake, Real and Fanciful," at which the whole population of the city turned out to see the fantastic procession. Among the new floats present were the serpent of the Great Salt Lake, the salt wave, a bath in the lake, friends of fifty years, a salt fountain, grotto, home of the wave, a stream of time, The salt cave, and Utah lake.

FOURTH DAY.

Friday, July 23, saw the parade of the counties, each county in the state being represented by a float of its own manufacture, designed to convey an idea of the resources and attractions of the great district outside of Salt Lake. The side features were the bombardment of the steamer "Garfield" at Garfield resort, while the usual sports went on at Calder's, Saltair, Fort Douglas, and Beck's Hot Springs. At night there was a grand concert at the Tabernacle and the Theater gave a repetition of the previous night's bill.

FIFTH DAY.

Saturday, July 24th, the fiftieth anniversary of Utah's birthday, witnessed the crowning efforts of the Jubilee. The parade eclipsed in length, beauty and diversity any other ever seen in the United States west of the Mississippi river. The military, headed by Col. I. Ford Kent and staff, turned out with the Twenty-Fourth United States Infantry band, Governor Wells and staff with the National Guard of Utah, a troop of Indians, the survivors of the Mormon Battalion, and many others made up, with an assemblage of all the floats of the previous days, a memorable turnout, such as had never before been witnessed in Salt Lake's history. At night there was a grand exhibition of fire-works on Capitol Hill, managed by the California Fire Works company of San Francisco. A life sized portrait of President Brigham Young, The Coat of Arms of Utah, The Dollar of our Daddies, a portrait of Governor Wells, and a reproduction of the Temple were featured in fire, and made up a striking part of the wonderful exhibition.

Under the direction of Judge Colborn, editor James B. Bloor turned out several issues of "The Pony Express," the official organ of the Jubilee Commission, a very interesting and characteristic magazine.

When the labors of the Pioneer Jubilee commission had concluded, their report was submitted to the legislature, by which they were returned a warm vote of thanks. Their report was bound in handsome style and forms a part of the public records. The concluding paragraphs of that report, which well summarize the accomplishments of the commission are as follows:

"Of the Jubilee as a whole, no extended review will be attempted. The commission recalls it from memory with profound satisfaction, and the members look back with pleasure to details prepared under their special supervision. It was the result of the careful thought and protracted effort of the commission, and without egotism the opinion is offered that in comprehensiveness of expression, accuracy of detail and promptness of action, it will compare favorably with the notable celebrations of this generation. Not alone for its aggregated splendor, nor for the novelty and appropriateness of its varied features, will it be remembered. There will never be another Pioneer Parade, for the men and events which made it realistic will be wanting. That profound satisfaction and the members look back with pleasure to details prepared under their special supervision. 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