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Lane County Historian

A black and white illustration for a 'Sunset Trail' celebration. The scene is set in a forest with tall evergreen trees. In the foreground, a man in a cowboy hat sits atop a horse, looking back over his shoulder with his right hand raised. In the background, a woman stands with her arms raised, and another figure is visible near a large barrel. The sky is filled with rays of light, suggesting a sunset. The title 'SUNSET TRAIL' is written in large, bold, serif letters across the top of the illustration. Below the illustration is a decorative frame containing text about the celebration.

**SUNSET
TRAIL**

Sunset Trail Celebration
Eugene, Oregon
July 25, 26 and 27, 1929

Including a Complete Program for
"The Sunset Trail"
A Pioneer Pageant

Hayward Field, 8:00 o'clock

"Sunset Trail" Celebration, 1929

LANE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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LANE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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By Hugh Rosson, retired law professor, U of O; one-time U of O athletic manager, businessman, Manager of 1929, 1934 Eugene Pageants



A couple of "young pioneers"

All photographs used in story, "The Eugene Pageants"—1929-1950, courtesy of Lane County Museum Library.

The Eugene Pageants . . . 1929-1950

By Hugh Rosson

THE PAGEANT OF 1929

Nothing had intervened in the three-year period since 1926 to diminish resolution to present the pageant again. In fact, the resolution was strengthened by the continuing era of prosperity both locally and nationally. In retrospect, the dates of July 25, 26 and 27 are remembered as a time of enthusiasm at high pitch which was followed by a successful conclusion for the project both financially and in community unity, pride and inspiration.

The Pageant Association breathed with new life with A. A. Rogers, president, George Hitchcock, vice president, and Spencer Hinsdale, treasurer. J. H. Koke, Dr. A. F. Sether, R. F. Callahan and J. H. Gilbert constituted the executive committee.

It was this group which called at my office on a warm spring day and astounded me with a request to manage the forthcoming pageant event. I professed my inexperience in any such position but it was pointed out that guidelines from the 1926 celebration could be followed and the Board would aid me in every way possible. The offer was intriguing and the next day, after a largely sleepless night of pro and con, I accepted.

Little thought had evidently been given to the preservation of the 1926 records, but copies of the printed program were valuable as a guide.

There was no urge for innovation—just a repetition, so far as possible, of the 1926 venture. Without question, Doris Smith was to be engaged as director, Goodwin Thacher for any revision of the

script, and Mildred LeCompte Moore as dance director. John Stark Evans, director of the Eugene Gleemen would direct the pageant chorus while Rex Underwood, director of the University of Oregon orchestra, would direct the pageant orchestra.

Conferences regarding the format resulted in some revisions, omission of one dancing interlude and the locomotive episode. Queen Susannah would be crowned at an opening ceremony each night, followed by nine episodes and one dance interlude: The Pageant would be called "The Sunset Trail."

Episode I—The Mayas, repeat of 1926.

Episode II—Early Indians, repeat of 1926.

Episode III—Ship Columbia, repeat of 1926.

Episode IV—Pony Indians, repeat of 1926.

Episode V—Lewis and Clark, repeat of 1926.

Interlude: Waters of the Willamette, repeat of 1926.

Episode VI—Covered Wagon, repeat of 1926.

Episode VII—Pioneer Vision of the Future, new. A series of dances depicting development of industry, commerce and power.

Episode VIII—The Sunset Trail (narrator), new.

There is now as always
The summons of destiny
Into the fair and radiant future;
Still the trail! THE TRAIL!
The call of the SUNSET TRAIL!

The committee designations for all facets of the event, "The Sunset Trail," would be duplications of 1926 and the personnel serving in

that year, in numerous cases, were ready to serve again.

Altogether, the experience gained in 1926 saved many hours of planning and decision making, and with the arrival of Doris Smith in early June, the work of recruitment for individual parts and groups was soon under way. The popularity of participation was shown in final figures totaling almost 2,000.

Headquarters established at 948 Oak Street was soon a busy place as an information center for all questions relating to the celebration and the sale of tickets. Prices were set at \$2.00, \$1.50, \$1.00, 75c and 50c.

Cal Young would again head the Pioneer Parade and repeat his crusade of 1926 throughout the county in securing entries. The barbecue for all participants and some invited pioneer guests would be repeated under the supervision of Fred Broders and L. D. Pierce, and J. S. (Jack) Magladry would again be responsible for the Industrial Parade. He was pleased with the Pageant dates of Thursday, July 25, Friday, July 26, and Saturday, July 27, and with the Industrial Parade scheduled for Saturday. He felt the Saturday date would result in representation by more cities than in 1926 when the parade was on Friday.

In his solicitation for entries from other cities he was joined by the Radiators who arranged for ten caravans which visited every section of the state to extend invitations and to publicize the Pageant with all its features. It was a much expanded effort over that exerted largely alone by Mr. Magladry in 1926.

The queen contest committee with James K. King, chairman, E. C. Simmons and E. O. Immel, members, and Mrs. L. S. McCready,

handled publicity and was successful in securing candidates and sponsors and creating city-wide interest in the outcome. Miss Mary Gierhart was named Queen, together with Clara Curtis, Ann Steele and Bertha Waldorf as Maids of Honor.

A new element was injected into arrangements for the participation of the queen with her maids of honor and visiting princesses from nine other cities in parades, in the coronations and other ceremonies. A group of younger business and professional men designated themselves as "the Vigilantes," arrayed themselves in distinctive costumes and acted as escorts for the queen and her party.

The Radiators who had performed this function in 1926 under their category of Hospitality, looked askance at the proposal, but, in the interest of harmony and good spirit, agreed to the change.

However, the Radiators continued to be responsible for information, housing, registration, placement and operation of booths; auto accommodations, parking, restaurants and other eating places, health and comfort, police and safety, and transportation. Tribute must be paid to the group for every responsibility assumed was meticulously fulfilled.

Concessions would again crowd the park blocks area with carnival rides and shows as their chief attractions. Con Dillon, who handled the concessions section alone in 1926, headed a concessions committee with Charles Sigman, W. L. May, Paul Green and Roy Collins as members.

Passing recognition must be given to Con Dillon and his committee for their work in platting of the area, contracting the carnival features, checking income from

them, dealing with Concessionaires and maintaining constant vigil over the area to meet any emergencies.

The costumes and whisker growing contests would be repeated; the judging and awarding of prizes for each contest would follow the ending of the Old Fashioned Costume Parade on Wednesday evening, July 24, at Eighth and Oak Streets (the concession area).

At the nearby Armory on Wednesday evening at 9:00 p.m., boxing bouts arranged by Herb Owen, committee chairman, and approved by the Eugene Boxing Commission, would be held.

The Air Circus of 1926 was to be expanded as an Air Derby with an official program of scheduled events for both Friday and Saturday at Municipal Airport, including planes offering flights for passengers. A committee of E. C. Simons, chairman, Howard Hall, Herman Hobi and Kelley Branstretter assured capable management of the event.

The Southern Pacific Company, notwithstanding the lessened emphasis on transportation as the theme of the pageant, expressed continued interest and brought to the city the same locomotive display as shown in 1926, with the addition of a huge modern snowplow. The display, as before, gave great delight to railroaders and to many others who readily admitted to classification as railroad "buffs" or fans.

Again, the weeks of anticipation and preparation were finally over, Queen Susannah arrived at the Southern Pacific depot at 3:00 p.m., Thursday, July 25, and, with her retinue, was escorted to her royal quarters at the Osburn Hotel.

All the pieces were again fitted together, pageant, carnival, parades, contests, dances, air show,

displays and overall an all pervading spirit of hospitality and excitement.

The sun shone benignly again for the entire period and the pageant was hailed as a gigantic spectacle, thrilling and enthralling to the audience as the entire program of events unfolded in remarkable order and smoothness.

One incident, however, must be recalled. Unbelievable as it might seem, Jack Magladry again lost "that bull team" in the Industrial Parade. The Simpson cattle from California had again been obtained and made an impressive entry in both the Pioneer and Industrial parades. The attendant, unfamiliar with the parade route, failed again to make the turn north at Broadway and Olive Street, and again headed toward the western city limits. However, the situation was discovered in time to move the following entries on cross streets north and east and back to the parade route, not, however, without a gap of considerable duration.

In mid-afternoon Jack appeared at pageant headquarters, woe begone and desolate to tell me, "Hugh, I lost that damned bull team again."

The End of the Trail Ball at the Armory on Saturday evening following the last performance of the pageant was the final event of the 1929 effort.

There was still work to be done by many faithful workers, collection, inventory and shipment of rented costumes, the dismantling of the stage setting, work at the fairgrounds as owners departed with livestock and equipment, policing and restoration of the park blocks area where the storage of numerous items such as properties and costumes owned by the Pageant Association were received, payment of bills, auditing and the

final financial report; all imperative work, to be performed quietly and eliciting no public notice or attention.

There was unanimous agreement that the project had again been highly successful as a community effort. It was assumed, as a matter of course, that the event would definitely be held at the end of three-year intervals.

Happily, the financial report was most pleasing to the guarantors as it showed a balance of approximately \$7,000 with all bills paid, as compared with the assessment of 9% in 1926. The pageant was firmly established as a distinctive Eugene event, expected to be repeated at three-year intervals forever.

Buoyant, indeed, were the reflections and roseate predictions of the future. Prosperity abounded throughout the nation, but, alas, only three months after the pageant dates, "Black Friday" descended on the stock market to herald the decline to the depths of the Great Depression in 1933, a period of universal worry and gloom and in many cases the tragedy of financial ruin and disaster. Certainly, pageants at the end of the three-year period, in 1932, would receive no consideration for their presentation.

PAGEANT OF 1934

The national election of 1932 had spelled the doom of Herbert Hoover and the advent of Franklin D. Roosevelt as president. His ascendancy had been accompanied by the catchy "New Deal" slogan and a constant rendition of the song, "Happy Days Are Here Again." Congress gave assent to the expenditure of billions of dollars for the relief of sufferers from the depression. Many agencies were created to handle relief calling for thousands of employees for their administration. Although the full

effect of many measures was not yet felt as 1934 dawned, hope and confidence were replacing despair and pessimism. At least, "things were looking better."

Nevertheless in 1934, it was a courageous decision for the Pageant Association to announce that a pageant would be held. Five years had elapsed since the 1929 pageant but memory of the joyous weeks and days, the community enthusiasm and the feeling of unity lingered. Those who advocated for a pageant argued it would be a tonic to eliminate the ailments of inertia and the negative attitude that had permeated business, conduct and civil programs.

Preliminarily, a solicitation for guarantors met a surprisingly ready response from business firms and individuals, assuring the needed financing.

I was again requested to accept the position of manager. But could the venture be successful under the existing economic situation? Unquestionably, there was risk. Though the management of the 1929 production had been strenuous, it had been intriguing as well and the present situation appeared to be even more challenging; so, I accepted.

The minimum risk of adverse weather again influenced the choice of dates and July 26, 27, 28 were selected. Space for headquarters was secured at Seventh and Willamette Streets and necessary office equipment was installed. It was soon a busy place of conferences, committee meetings and publicity preparation. It was also an information center and where suggestions were welcomed from interested citizens.

Directorships for the pageant presented no problem. Doris Smith was again asked to be the director. She had nurtured ideas to be embodied in the next pageant which

she felt certain would again be presented despite the passing of the three year interval. She announced she would bring with her two students, Greg Osborn and Fred Harris as her assistants.

Goodwin Thacher would make the needed changes in the script: Mildred LeCompte, again, to direct the dance groups; Rex Underwood would direct the orchestra with Delbert Moore as assistant and concert master; Cora Moore would succeed John Stark Evans as director of the chorus.

When Mrs. Smith arrived in early June, decisions were soon made to determine the format of the pageant. There would be only a few innovations but those made were important. There would be ten episodes and two interludes as follows:

<i>Episode I</i>	The Mayas
<i>Episode II</i>	Early West Indians
<i>Episode III</i>	Ship Columbia
<i>Episode IV</i>	Pony Indians
<i>Episode V</i>	Lewis & Clark
<i>Interlude</i>	Ballet
<i>Episode VI</i>	Covered Wagons
<i>Interlude</i>	Cowboys, The Cow Trails
<i>Episode VII</i>	Immigration and Government
<i>Episode VIII</i>	Reality—World War I
<i>Episode IX</i>	Post War
<i>Episode X</i>	End of Trail, New Frontier

The important changes involved the last four episodes: depiction of the Champoeg Decision in Episode VII; a tableau, "In Memoriam," as tribute to those whose lives were sacrificed in World War I; and the finale, of youth in great numbers in costume portraying activities and attitudes in song and dance. The show would end in the singing of *Oregon, My Oregon* and *The Star Spangled Banner*.

A new feature was added, a verse-speaking chorus of thirty-six voices.

The feature fulfilled a long standing ambition of Doris Smith to enroll and train such a group, one which would speak in unison and recite the opening lines of the pageant.

In harmony with economic conditions, admission prices were set as follows: reserved seats, \$1.75; general admission, 85c and children, 40c.

In preparation of other features of the celebration, familiar names were found as heads or members of various committees. Cal Young would again head the Pioneer Parade committee and Jack Magladry the Industrial Parade to be called the Parade of Progress.

An exciting Queen contest concluded prior to the pageant dates was under the supervision of the Contest Committee, C. R. Manerud, chairman, Clarence Lombard, Laurence E. Simmons and E. O. Immel. Miss Marjorie Wilhem was the winner, to become a beautiful and gracious Queen Susannah.

Concessions were scheduled for the Park Blocks area. Con Dillon, chairman, was given assistance by Roy Collins, Frank H. Strong, Frank Reinhart and Albert D. Applegate.

The whisker contest was planned for Wednesday evening, July 25th, after a parade which would end at the concession area where judging would take place and a large number of prizes awarded. The event would be followed at 9:00 p.m. by wrestling matches at the nearby Armory under the direction of Herb Owen.

The Old Fashioned Costume Contest was given individual status in a parade for Thursday afternoon, to end at the City Hall where judging and awarding of prizes would take place.

The Airport Committee under the chairmanship of Arthur Hendershott decided to offer no pro-

gram of races or exhibitions but to confine its efforts to welcoming flyers who might visit the city and to maintain an air of cordiality at the airport.

Heretofore, no effort had been made to induce business firms to devise window displays with pioneer themes. A special committee organized with Hal W. White as chairman and assisted by a strong influential group of merchants was successful in securing interesting displays in numerous store windows.

Attention was also focused on women's activities. A luncheon for all women, featuring old fashioned costumes, was scheduled for Thursday at the Eugene Hotel, followed by final judging at 3:00 p.m. at City Hall.

A whist party with Mrs. Frank O. Chambers as chairman, was scheduled for Thursday at 2:30 p.m. at the Osburn Hotel, and, on Friday a luncheon for distinguished guests was arranged with Mrs. Gaven Dyott as chairman, with a committee of thirty-three members to conduct the event.

On Saturday a no-host luncheon was planned for the entertainment of visiting ladies with Mrs. Harry Titus as chairman, assisted by 40 committee members and a serving group of 25 young ladies.

A general committee for women's activities had been named with Mrs. William Tugman as chairman, assisted by Mrs. Dudley Holland, Mrs. Gaven Dyott, Ernestine Gilstrap, Eleanor Skene and Mrs. C. E. Hurst. The general committee together with the special committee members deserved and received high praise for the notable success of the entire program.

The End of the Oregon Trail Ball was moved from Saturday to Friday night; past experience had shown that energy was at a low ebb by Saturday night in compari-

son with the greater animation and zest on Friday. Those still in a dancing mood on Saturday evening could attend the public dances at the Armory, McElroy's Spanish Ballroom or at other locations.

Again, the pieces were all fitted together; a propitious weather god smiled benignly on the city and the spirit of celebration dominated all actions.

There was something for everyone. More than two thousand persons participated in the pageant, others, in the parades. The concession area offered release of the carnival spirit; an aura of fantasy prevailed in the movements of Queen Susannah and her entourage as they were seen about the city in attendance at various functions and events.

The pageant performance was cheered each night by large audiences and constant applause attended the parades from thousands of viewers along the line of march. The extensive program of women's activities enlisted the interest of visitors as well as local residents. Everywhere, expressions of hospitality and cordiality prevailed.

Saturday night, July 28, marked the close of festivities and exhaustion for the many who had participated as workers or spectators at all events. Sunday was a day of rest and reflection, together with the unsung and unheralded task of stage dismantling, packing the return shipment of rented costumes, the clearing of the fairgrounds area and the restoration of the Park Blocks to normalcy as well as the completion of all business details for the final financial report.

The final report showed a "break even" situation with a few dollars on the plus side. There was a sigh of relief that the guarantors would not be subjected to an assessment call.

However, the Internal Revenue

Service had required an admission tax on all tickets. An appeal was made on the grounds that the festival was an educational, cultural and civic event within exemption for such projects. The appeal was successful and the amount of approximately \$1,500 in a final report showed that profit.

* * *

PAGEANT OF 1937

There was no doubt when the three-year interval ended in 1937 that the pageant would be repeated. Gradual national economic recovery had been maintained and the pageant repetition was readily accepted as evidence of optimism and confidence in community progress.

The Pageant Association came to life with Joseph H. Koke as President, Dr. J. H. Gilbert, Vice President, Lynn McCready, Treasurer and Ralph Schomp, Secretary and Manager.

The necessary financial guaranty was quickly secured with a total of 270 signers.

The pattern of the project was well established from the experiences of the three preceding presentations and organization problems consisted almost entirely of naming personnel for the various committees.

Doris Smith would again direct the pageant cast and action, but would be relieved of technical details of stage, construction, lighting, etc., by the appointment of Horace Robinson as technical director.

Delbert Moore would direct the orchestra, Hal Young of the University of Oregon Music School faculty to direct the chorus, with Cora Moore Frey as accompanist and Mildred LeCompte Moore to again direct all dancing features.

There would be changes in the pageant format and the program would show the following listing of prelude and episodes:

Coronation of Queen Susannah
March of the Glaciers and Meeting of the Rivers

Glacier Ballet (350 dancers)

Episode I The Indians

Episode II Lewis & Clark

Episode III Covered Wagon

Train of 1843

Mormon Hand

Cart Pioneers of

1856

Episode IV Pioneer Days

The Cow Trails

Episode V The Church of the

Valley

The Death of Man

The Baptism of

Man

The Marriage of

Man

Episode VI Statehood

Episode VII The Pioneer

Recalls the Past

Finale

The End of the

Trail and the New

Frontier

The Maya Ballet, the ship Columbia, the dramatic finale of the 1926 show, the verse-speaking chorus and World War I Memorial of 1934 were relegated to memory.

A most important change was noted that the pageant site was moved to the fairgrounds. University officials had found damage to the football field inevitable and that satisfactory restoration was not possible in the short time which remained between the pageant dates and the opening of the football season. Permission for the University site was withdrawn which necessitated the move to the fairgrounds. There, a serious problem was faced as the seating capacity would be reduced from 7,000 to 4,500.

Another change in 1937 was announced. Admission prices were listed as \$5.00 for box seats, grandstand, \$3.00, bleachers, \$1.50 and \$1.00, general admission, 75c and children, 50c.

The Park Blocks were also abandoned as the chief recreation location which was moved to 10th and Olive Streets.

A new feature was a created Pioneer Village peopled by residents in pioneer costumes and which was maintained in the pioneer manner during the celebration days of the pageant.

Settler's Valley was also added, located at Willamette Park on the highway a few miles south of Eugene where dancing, games and various entertainments were offered.

Expansion of committee concepts and acceptance of new ideas were noted in the committee list as published in the program:

Historical Committee, Pageant Committee, Pioneer Parade, Industrial Parade, Street Decorations, Queen Selection, Concessions, Barbecue, Airport, Pioneer Village, Sports Committee, Publicity, Special Delegations, Health and Comfort, Transportation, Restaurants, Police and Safety, Pioneer Relics, Information, Photography, Radio Players, Queen's Ball, Settlers' Valley, Facial Adornment, Window Displays, Store Fronts, Housing, Women's Activities.

A total of 28 committees was deemed necessary to handle all phases of the complete project and even these did not account for various group assignments of committee nature in the pageant production alone, such as recruiting, enrolling, costumes, sewing, make-up, ushering, etc.

As might be expected in the 1937 year of expansive mood, the idea of a little Pioneer Queen, little Pioneer Princesses, little Pioneer Captain and Scouts was adopted with selections for the positions, ten in number, made from candidates who could trace their ancestry to pioneers. They would become part of

Queen Susannah's entourage at all events.

Through the weeks of preparation there was also intensive effort in publicity; delegations visited numerous cities to extend official greetings and invitations, while items for press releases were prepared each day.

Almost too soon, it seemed, the days of performance arrived. No mention was made of any events on Wednesday, no Whiskerino parade to the Park Blocks, no boxing or wrestling at the Armory; not even a change of the committee's name to a "namby-pamby" nomenclature of Facial Adornment.

The ladies' costume parade ended at City Hall and the final judging there opened the three-day schedule, followed by a style show luncheon at noon at the Eugene Hotel. In the afternoon the scene shifted to the University campus where Mayor Large gave an address of welcome to visitors. Governor Martin spoke and a coronation ceremony of the Little Queen was held.

The pageant in its initial performance proved as popular as ever, and in this and in subsequent showings engendered satisfaction and pride in Eugene having "done it again."

Cal Young headed the Pioneer Parade on its line of march promptly at 10:00 a.m., Friday. He was assisted by John Silva, W.A. Ayres, Maxine Horton and Dr. Gaven Dyott. Young had secured the usual number of entries, including the Simpson oxen from California and had allowed a new section of bicycles and early motor cars to be added to the parade. The usual barbecue at the fairgrounds under the supervision of Fred Broders and L. D. Pierce was ready for the participants at the conclusion of the parade.

On Saturday, July 24th, the In-

dustrial and Statehood Parade swung into action at 10:15 a.m. The number of entries was equal to that of former years, and that peerless leader of the former parades, Mr. Magladry, named Honorary Chairman of the event in 1937, viewed the spectacle in relaxation as the cavalcade moved under the direction of W. N. Wintler assistant chairman Shy Huntington chairman and William Bartle, Elmo Chase, Earl Powell and Curly Isbell.

Queen Susannah IV arrived in the city by stagecoach and was officially received by Mayor Elisha Large at a ceremony on the University of Oregon campus before proceeding with her court to the royal quarters at the Osburn Hotel; coronation ceremonies were held each night as the prelude to the pageant performance.

The Airport Committee of 11 members under the direction of Arthur Hendershott, chairman, succeeded in securing the Third Annual National Amateur Air Meet for the dates of Friday and Saturday.

Saturday was a full day with the arrival of Flying Queen Edna Fielder by plane from Portland at 9:00 a.m., welcomed by Queen Susannah and her court. A full afternoon of flying stunts, races and speed trials was climaxed by 20 planes flying over the city in simulation of a bombing raid. Concluding festivities was a private dinner for the fliers and Queen Susannah's court at the Eugene Hotel.

The Royal Ball, the concluding event for the week, was held at Settler's Valley, starting at 11:00 p.m.

In summary, there was again united community pride and pleasure in review. "A grand time was had by all" and repetition of the pageant was more firmly assured as a certainty. Pleasant, too, was

the announcement to the guarantors that a small profit obviated any call for assessment.

* * *

PAGEANT OF 1941

In reflection it seems somewhat odd that a decision had been made to hold a pageant in 1941. True the three-year interval had been allowed to elapse by one year but the times were not such as to occupy minds with thoughts of pageants.

World War II begun in 1939 had led to a vast program of national military defense in America. Though neutral, America was also furnishing supplies to several of the warring nations in Europe.

The growing demands of the national defense program, the call to duty of reserve officers, inductions into the Army and Navy, together with increased shipments of supplies and materials to warring nations, created a booming economy, especially in the Northwest as construction demands called for vast quantities of lumber and other wood products.

At the same time there was everywhere a lurking dread that war was inevitable, a foreshadowing that clouded thoughts of festivities or celebrations.

Nevertheless, the decision was made to hold the 1941 Pageant, the underwriting was quickly secured from 300 signers, and major staff appointments were arranged.

George Hitchcock was asked to serve as manager of the entire celebration and Horace Robinson as co-director of the pageant with Doris Smith. Glen Griffith would direct the chorus, Mildred LeCompte Moore, the dancers and John Stehn, the instrumental section designated Symphonic Band.

Pageant headquarters were established at 702 Willamette Street and soon hummed with activity as



Wives and sweethearts shave the Whiskerinos

work in all phases of the project developed and progressed.

Admission prices for the pageant were increased to \$2.50 grandstand, arena chairs and end bleachers \$2.00 and general admission, \$1.00.

The pageant format was altered in some aspects, only four episodes and a tableau listed in the official program.

Overall, the theme chosen was "Man's Quest for Freedom Through the Ages."

Episode I would depict in narration and ballet "The Preparation of the Soil," "The Virgin Land," "The Glaciers," "The Waters of the Willamette" and "The Greening Earth," with a cast of 600 and would close with "Man Coming to Oregon" portrayed by Sigurd Nilsen, soloist, in rendition of "The Pilgrim Song" by Tschaikowsky.

Episode II, "Preparation of the Race," would be majestic in scope, embracing the following segments:

Moses Receiving the Ten Commandments

Socrates and His Students

Cicero Before the Roman Senate

Early Christian Scene

The Magna Charta

The Declaration of Independence

America, The Melting Pot

A cast of 750 would appear in this episode.

Episode III, "Exploration of the Oregon Empire," would bring back the ship, Columbia, with its jaunty

crew, the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and a new segment, Ft. Vancouver and Dr. McLoughlin.

Episode IV would be repetition of the ever-inspiring covered wagon spectacle with the following segments:

American Settlement Came to Oregon Empire

Mormon Hand Cart Pioneers—1856

Pioneers in Defense

Pioneer's Vision of the Future

The concluding feature would be titled "Tableaux" composed of the following segments:

Pioneer School

Church of the Valley

Spirit of the Pioneer

American Youth Carries the Torch

Re-dedication of America

The *Tableau* would close with a grand assembly of casts from the previous episodes together with numerous groups such as Boy Scouts (15 troops), Sea Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H Clubs, DeMolay and others; again, a great mass spectacle of hundreds closing the show, singing the Star Spangled Banner.

Apart from the pageant itself, the other features of the celebration were generally repetitive of the previous years.

The Queen Contest would be the usual preliminary event to engender interest and publicity with the

naming of Queen Susannah and the princesses prior to the pageant dates. The Queen and her retinue would arrive by horse-drawn hacks at 3:30 p.m., Wednesday at the Park Blocks to be greeted by Mayor Large, then view the final judging in the old-fashioned costume contest before proceeding to the Osburn Hotel for a public reception in her honor.

The Civic and Industrial Parade was moved from Saturday to Thursday. An incomplete listing in the official program shows only 65 entries with a brief statement that floats not mentioned would be late entries.

The Pioneer Parade on Friday also showed a decrease in number of entries, only 98 with an added auto section of 11 entries.

The carnival area would be located at 13th and Olive Streets and called Amusement Center. West Coast Circus Attractions would provide the usual rides, games and shows.

Noticeable in program listings were certain omissions and additions. Omitted were the old fashioned costumes and Whiskalentes parades, the Sports Committee, airport events. However, judging of costumes and whiskers was shown as Wednesday events, contestants evidently simply assembled at the Park Blocks for judging.

Also absent were the Pioneer Village, Settlers' Valley and the Pioneer Relic Committee.

Less stress on Women's Activities was indicated in the listing, there would be only costume judging on Wednesday and the guest luncheon and style show at the Eugene Hotel on Saturday.

Additions would be a Court of Elders with Fred G. Stickels, L. L. Ray, C. V. Boyer, Robert F. Callahan, C. S. Dillon and S. A. Sexsmith as members; a Music Committee with John Stark Evans as

chairman; a Pageant Boosters Committee, Joe Johnson chairman; and a listing of Serenaders, David Blair, Roy McBain, Joe Anway and Waldo Davis, but with no explanation of duties or functions under the romantic heading.

Baseball as an event would make its debut at Civic Stadium on Saturday afternoon in a game between the Eugene Athletics and the House of David team.

The Vigilantes presented a list of 34 members as able-bodied vassals in the Queen's retinue, but there was regret in the absence of any reference to that praise-worthy group, the Radiators.

Inevitably, the celebration days arrived, the pageant thrilled the capacity crowds, and the parades drew thousands of expected viewers. Festivity and enjoyment pervaded the city. A tired but exuberant population closed the week in reflection on another great pageant presentation with its attendant events and features.



"The Good Old Days" relived in 1937 Pageant

But the end of the Pageant Festival arrived without the usual finale, the End of the Trail Ball on Saturday night; instead, the event was scheduled as an invitational ball, \$1.50 a couple. It was held at Gerlinger Hall on the University of Oregon campus on Friday from 10 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

Good tidings were again conveyed to the guarantors by the announcement the venture had been successful financially, that a surplus permitted the building of a warehouse at the fairgrounds for the storage of scenery, relics and properties, to be available for use in future productions. Even after the expenditure for the warehouse building, a balance of several hundred dollars remained.

* * *

PAGEANT OF 1947

The foreboding of war in 1941 suddenly disappeared into reality as the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941, shattered all hopes of continued neutrality and plunged the nation into World War II. Quickly, there was girding to war's demands, in men, material and the tempering of the citizenry to stoic determination to victory. There was no interest in pageantry during the four year period or in the year following as the end of war emphasized the multitude of problems to be faced in the return to peaceful conditions.

Even in 1947 as the pageant idea was broached, there was warning from the Chamber of Commerce that certain obstacles should be carefully considered by the Pageant Board, the increased costs, the shortages of materials in many lines and the increased difficulty there would be in securing trained animals, handlers, riders and drivers.

However, there was a positive pledge of support in any decision that might be made by the Board,

and which came forth with a resounding voice of "Can Do, Will Do" (if an editorial in the *Register-Guard* can be deemed literally true).

In any event, the favorable decision was made, and the routine procedure of naming directors and committees was underway. Doris Smith and Horace Robinson were co-directors again, with Mr. Robinson also serving as General Manager. Robert D. Stedman was technical director, Glen Griffith, musical advisor and chorus director, John Stehn, director of the symphonic orchestra, and dances arranged and directed by Mildred LeCompte Moore.

A most noticeable change was a seven-day schedule, July 21 - July 27, with the West Coast Shows opening on Monday at 19th and Patterson Streets (the present site of South Eugene High School) to operate for a full seven days.

On Tuesday a baseball game at 8:30 p.m. at Civic Stadium, between the Giustina Reds and Miller's Lumbermen would be added.

Wednesday, the Civic and Industrial parade at 11:00 a.m., with 103 listed entries, remained comparable to the past parades in size.

Pageant showings were increased to four this year with the first performance on Wednesday night.

Thursday was a full day. The Pioneer Parade moved into line of march promptly at 10:00 a.m., though somewhat physically dampened by rain, was spiritually inspired by remembrance of experiences of the pioneers in Oregon showers.

The listing of 81 entries together with an auto section of 7 cars gave notice of the constant attrition in pioneer ranks and the increasing difficulty in securing authentic entries and capable participants.

A barbecue luncheon at noon was held for the parade participants

and those of pioneer heritage who assembled for the luncheon and visits through the afternoon. Cal Young was present but "Honorary" was placed before his name as younger trainees succeeded to the responsibilities of leadership of the parade and luncheon.

A new feature was the Oregon Trail Championship Rodeo masterminded by Horace Robinson as an income-producing event, held at Civic Stadium on Thursday, Friday and Saturday afternoons, July 24, 25 and 26.

The rodeo and the carnival offerings constituted the general public daytime offerings for July 25 and 26 with the pageant presentations at night.

On Sunday, July 27, the West Coast Shows were in full operation and an afternoon baseball game between Hills Creek Billies and the Giustina Reds was held at Civic Stadium.

Emphatically noticeable in pageant research was a lessened reference to Queen Suannah and the princesses. A Queen's contest and a Queen's Ball took place on July 12 but the only reference to her during the pageant days was the coronation ceremony as the prelude to the pageant each evening. How she got to town and what happened to her outside of pageant hours, is not divulged. Even the End of the Trail Ball appeared to have been abandoned.

A new organization as "Official Escorts" appeared on the scene as The Brigadiers, although no explanation of their particular duties was disclosed. The Vigilantes and Whiskalentes continued to be listed.

Women's activities carried only brief listings as contrasted to extensive committee memberships and explanations of events in the earlier years. There was a "Settlers' Luncheon and Style Show" at the Eugene Hotel on Saturday and a

whist party that afternoon. There was also reference to a costume party parade but no intimation of when or where it was held. Time was surely bringing its changes.

The last statement, emphasized in the program, was the listing of only 15 committees in contrast to the 28 listed in 1937. Possibly efficiency had become a watchword as well as the discarding of numerous non-profitable events.

The pageant itself underwent change in format in recognition of the Centennial year of Eugene with a dedication of the spectacle to the pioneers; specifically, with the naming of Eugene Skinner, Elijah Bristow, William Dodson and Felix Scott.

Episode I opened the production in ballet under the titles of The Inland Sea, The Earth and Life with the dances arranged and directed by Mildred LeCompte Moore.

Episode II was largely a repetition of the Early Indian and ship Columbia segments of former presentations but with an added recognition of the Louisiana Purchase.

Episode III, The Coming of the White Man which called forth the familiar portrayal of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the assemblage at Champoeg and a new feature, The Six Nuns at St. Paul.

Episode IV, The First Settlers—the narrator in the show was called the Settler. How natural it was that he was accompanied by the Settler's Wife, thereby animating the narration from a monologue to conversation (*Episode IV* will perhaps draw commendation in circles advocating equality of women without exception).

The covered wagon appeared in *Episode IV* with passengers, the descendents of the actual pioneer families who had settled in Lane County; the printed program carried the names of the participants.

Episode V, portrayal of the vari-

ous elements of the Middle Years, pioneer doctor, bank, general store, stage coach, hotel, political rallies, saloon, first church wedding, barber shop, fire station, auctioneers, medicine show, new citizens, opera singer and a reputed incident of Abraham Lincoln declining to accept the governorship of the Oregon Territory.

Episode VI depicted the founding of the University of Oregon. The narrator explained the problem of securing the necessary funds while action illustrated how directors of the Union University Association and pledgors obligated themselves to contribute funds. Included also was a showing of the first graduating class of nine members.

Episode VII was titled Lane County and Finale. It called for considerable narration by Mr. and Mrs. Settler who called attention to 23 towns and communities in the county. The episode was followed by the massing of the entire pageant cast and the singing of "This Is My Country."

Ticket prices had been noticeably raised to \$3.60, \$3.00, \$2.40 and \$1.20 but there was no indication of any complaint.

Success again! All had ended well, a great gala week had come to a close. The inevitable clean-up work was soon completed and final reports showed that the sixth presentation stood up well in comparison with its predecessors in community interest and support. Good news was also forthcoming in a notice to the 341 guarantors that a modest balance remained in the bank after the payment of all expenses.

* * *

PAGEANT OF 1950

As the three-year interval ended and 1950 became the current year, there was no doubt the pageant would be repeated.

The warnings of 1947 were repeated in a constructive editorial in the *Register-Guard* which pointed out the continuing deterioration of pioneer equipment, the scarcity of trained animals and capable handlers. Greatly increased costs were mentioned and the editorial, in tone, created the impression that an era was closing in which vivid portrayal of pioneer life would become increasingly difficult.

As offset to some of these problems, it was suggested that membership in the Pageant Association be greatly enlarged so as to include all participants and that annual meetings such as picnics, etc., of a reunion nature be held.

Under this plan, 4-H Clubs, Boy Scouts, other youth organizations and the schools would undertake programs to train their members for participation in the various pageant features.

The suggestion seemed to have produced no response except from Doris Smith who endorsed the idea.

The decision by the board to hold the pageant was never in doubt and, following the announcement of the event, the usual solicitation for guarantors proceeded; a list of 270 persons and firms was obtained, a decline, however, from the 341 listed in 1947.

No difficult problems confronted the board. Doris Smith would, of course, direct. However, her work would be confined to recruitment and training of the cast, while Mr. Robinson would be designated Producer, and have at his command Mr. Stedman as technical director, Howard L. Raney, lighting technician, James P. Price, art director and Fred Murray, stage construction.

As business manager also, Mr. Robinson would assemble an office staff with Marvin A. Krenk as Assistant Manager, largely responsible

for all business details and general operation of the headquarters office at 666 Willamette Street.

The symphonic orchestra of 1947 became the Oregon Trail Pageant Band, again, under the direction of John Stehn. A new name would be noted as Musical Advisor and Chorus Director, Donald Allison, and the ever faithful Mildred Le-Compte Moore, again, arranger and director of dances, with Janet Tugman listed as her assistant.

In viewing the printed program, one is strongly impressed by the changes that had occurred through the years.

In the 1926 event there seemed to be an urge for everyone to participate in some way—cast, committees, paraders, hosts, hostesses, greeters, wearers of old fashioned costumes or growers of whiskers.

That mass participation was the vital factor in all decisions, and, also in preparation for each presentation, possibly reached its peak in 1937, when there was a listing of 28 committees with a total of 335 members. Continuing declines in the number have been noted in subsequent years with a trend toward employment of professional individuals to do the work of former volunteer committees. That trend reached a climax in 1950 with the naming of nine committees with 77 members.

In the earlier years each day was filled with events from the entrance to the city of Queen Susannah and the "comings and goings" of the Queen and her retinue to the costume parades, antics and judging of the Whiskerinos, boxing and wrestling, drum corps, air circuses, pioneer and industrial parades, dancing and carnivals, and later, baseball and rodeo.

There was no such folderol in 1950. The West Coast Shows held forth seven days at 17th and Pat-

erson Streets, Monday, July 24 through Sunday, July 30, to insure the greatest possible income from that source.

The official program listed seven days of activity but that is somewhat misleading for the West Coast Shows were the only listings on July 24, 26 and 30 and the first performance of the pageant was shown for Wednesday.

The Pioneer Parade on Thursday was a joining of the industrial entries with the pioneer segments to result in one parade rather than the former two separate parades. The usual barbecue for parade participants was offered at the fairgrounds after the parade.

There were no daytime events for Friday and only the pageant performance in the evening while a "Settlers' Luncheon" was scheduled during the day on Saturday.

The crowding of days with such bygone features as boxing, wrestling, air shows, rodeos, baseball games, dances, costume parades and the antics, parades of the whiskerinos had become passe. Somehow, exuberance, gayety and fun appears to be absent as one reads the 1950 program.

Only the West Coast Shows, the Pioneer Parade and Barbecue, Settlers' Luncheon and four pageant performances were listed as scheduled events. The activities of Queen Susannah were not publicized and no mention made of women's activities.

It was a stream-lined project. Ticket prices were Boxes (8 seats) \$32.00, Grandstand Seats, \$3.60, East and West Stands, \$2.40 and General Admission, \$1.20.

It was hoped that the budget of \$52,000 would be met from ticket sales, the Queen's contest and a percentage from the West Coast Shows.

The Pageant itself underwent considerable changes. It reflected

the culmination of a frequently expressed desire of Doris Smith to develop a pageant some day on the theme of the four seasons. In the 1950 pageant that desire was gratified.

In *Episode I*, a massive opening assemblage witnessed the raising of the American flag and heard the voices of the narrators, The Pioneer (Dr. Frederick Hunter) and the Settler (Terrance Roseen). The Settler's wife of 1947 was not included. One is left to wonder if she continued to face each day courageously with buoyancy and hope or if log cabin life had become too monotonous and had transformed her into a carping complainer of women's lot in life. Alas, we shall not know for she appeared not and no sound of her voice broke the silence of her absence. Women's Lib must evidently find new speakers.

Also, I am reminded that two pages of the official program were allotted to an excellent fictional article by Gladys Wilkins McCready in which she related the experiences of a young bride on the long, grueling, exhausting and dangerous trek from the Wagon Train assemblage at St. Joseph, Missouri, in the springtime through the heat of summer, autumn days and finally to her destination in Oregon.

The episode was designed to impress the audience by placement of an amazing number of groups on stage representing features and activities of life in the city and county. Listed in various groups were the following:

Sheriff's Posses—Lane (54 riders), Benton, Douglas, and Linn Counties
Lane County Girls Posse
The Hunt Club
Square Dance on Horseback
Patriotic Groups
City of Eugene Departments
Eugene Gleemen

Fraternal Groups
Queen's Procession
Educational Groups
Business
Service Clubs
Recreation
Social Club
Culture

All was a colorful spectacle, entrancing in movement and musical accompaniment and time consuming as part of a full evening program.

Episode II broke sharply from the tone of modernity in *Episode I* to that ever-fascinating portrayal of the covered wagon days by the assembly of the train at St. Joseph, Missouri. Doris Smith named the episode "Springtime."

The various elements, oxen, wagons, scouts, riders and families assembled in preparation for the journey. Approximately 300 children presented games and dances while square dance groups with 250 participants obeyed the strident commands of the caller and the intoxicating rhythm of the fiddler.

Summer at Independence Rock was the title of *Episode III*. The narration was by both Pioneer and Settler while action centered on lurking Indians, followed by an Indian attack and the arrival of the bluecoats and the rescue of the beleaguered pioneers.

Autumn as *Episode IV* was presented wholly as a ballet. "Rain Ballet Dancers," 140 in number, opened the scene, followed by approximately 100 animal dancers, bears, beavers, coyotes, deer, rabbits, skunks and squirrels. *Episode IV* was closed by a group of 20 "Waterfall Dancers."

Episode V represented Winter with a dancing group of 100 circle waltzers and a Nativity scene. It was followed by *Episode II* again, "Spring," but a house-raising with the assistance of neighbors which

was followed by a closing rendition of "Home Sweet Home" and "Heritage of Freedom."

So much of the past pageants had been discarded in the 1950 production, so that a completely new script had been written by Professor Thacher.

The streamlined week progressed well with West Coast Shows holding forth at 19th and Patterson Streets and the ticket sales for the four pageant performances promised expected income totals. The combined parade on Thursday had drawn 150 entries making it a longer procession than heretofore, although some viewers argued the mixture of modern and pioneer elements was less thrilling and impressive.

But, alas, the ogre of bad weather was yet to be confronted. That nefarious servant of Jupe Pluvius diabolically opened the faucets of rain during the Friday evening performance, to quickly create a muddy arena, a dangerous rain-soaked stage and ramps and a be-draggled cast of performers.

In professional tradition "the show went on" but continuance of the moisture laden clouds forced announcement on Saturday morning that the evening performance was cancelled.

It was, indeed, a terrible blow, particularly to those concerned with financial management. Approximately \$12,000 in ticket sales for the Saturday evening show had been collected, and, over a stated refund period, \$11,000 returned to ticket holders.

From confidence of financial success, the venture was plunged into certainty of a deficit with the final accounting showing the necessity to call upon the guarantors for 15% of their pledged amounts.

Only in 1926 had an assessment previously been made (9%), but

good weather had prevailed in all the preceding years.

In tribute to the guarantors, the assessments were promptly paid, and in numerous cases letters of commendation to the pageant management accompanied the payments.

So, in subdued and quiet vein, the pageant of 1950 made its departure from current thought or attention in the life of the city. However, there was no expressed thought that this marked the end of the pageant years.

In fact, some of the more confirmed and thoughtful devotees conversed on long-range plans embodying a strong permanent organization and the acquisition and development of a suitable site affording ample seating capacity, parking facilities and all needed buildings and grounds. Admittedly, such thoughts were imaginative but there was actual scouting about the countryside in search of a location which possessed all the desired features.

But life was moving fast in the 1950's. Though World War II was ever more in the past, the demands for housing and goods of all descriptions seemed insatiable and preservation of pioneer memories commanded little attention in such an atmosphere.

In 1953, the end of the three-year interval, at a sober and analytical meeting of the Pageant Board, an announcement was made to explain the negative decision—No Pageant in 1953.

The decision was supported by the *Register-Guard* in a well-reasoned editorial which reviewed the reasons heretofore stated and emphasized life as ever changing and that events fading from possible reenactment be relegated to the confines of memory or documentary recordings.

It marked the end of the pageant years, a grand and proud chapter in the history of Eugene. Hail and farewell, we shall not see the like again!

PRESIDENTS

- 1926..... Jos. H. Koke
- 1929..... A. A. Rogers
- 1934..... Jos. H. Koke
- 1937..... Jos. H. Koke
- 1941..... Jos. H. Koke
- 1947..... L. L. Ray
- 1950..... George Hitchcock

QUEEN SUSANNAH

- 1926..... Kathleen Powell
- 1929..... Mary Gierhart
- 1934..... Marjorie Wilhelm
- 1937..... Mary Sue Jackson
- 1941..... LaVonne Ledahl
- 1947..... Leone Decker
- 1950..... Helen Clark

GRAND MARSHALS

PIONEER PARADE

- 1926..... Ezra Meeker
- 1929..... Capt. O. C. Applegate
- 1934..... Miss Ann Whiteaker
- 1937..... Darwin Bristow
- 1941..... Hon. Leslie Scott
- 1947..... Cal Young
Addis F. Hill
Hallie Huntington
- 1950..... Sheridan Hills

**GRAND MARSHALS
INDUSTRIAL PARADE**

- 1926..... Hon. R. A. Booth
- 1929..... Hon. R. B. Wilcox
- 1934..... R. W. Sawyer
- 1937..... Earl Snell, Secy. of State
- 1941..... Gov. Charles A. Sprague
- 1947..... Mayor Earl McNutt
- 1950..... Gov. Douglas McKay

MANAGERS

- 1926..... J. R. Raley
- 1929..... H. E. Rosson
- 1934..... H. E. Rosson
- 1937..... Ralph Schomp
- 1941..... George P. Hitchcock
- 1947..... Horace Robinson
- 1950..... Horace Robinson

DOWAGER QUEEN

- 1926..... Mrs. Mary Elliott
- 1929..... Mrs. Pamela Bradley
- 1934..... Mrs. Bianca R. Hill
- 1937..... Miss Ida Patterson
- 1941..... Mrs. Elizabeth Knowles
- 1947..... Mrs. Emma Preston
- 1950..... Laura Harris

NARRATORS

- 1926 Klatawa—Irving E. Vining
- 1929 The Pioneer—
Marshal N. Dana
- 1934 The Pioneer—
Burt Brown Barker
- 1937 The Pioneer—
W. F. G. Thacher
- 1941 The Pioneer—John Casteal
- 1947 The Settler—Don Motter
The Settler's Wife—
Dorothy Parks Scott
- 1950 The Pioneer—
Dr. Frederick Hunter
The Settler—Terrance Roseen

Noted Leaders for "Sunset Trail" Pageant



In the photo above are, left to right, upper row: Mrs. Dorris Smith, director of pageant; Cal M. Young, in charge of pioneer parade; W. F. G. Thacher, author of pageant, "Sunset Trail." Below: Robert Earl, Chairman of committee; A. A. Rogers, president of association, and Hugh Rosson, manager of pageant.

Be in Eugene, July 25, 26 and 27

"Sunset Trail" Pageant Leaders—1929

SOLOISTS

1926	Capt. Robert Gray	Harry C. Scaugall
	Sacajawea	Miss Eva Richmond
1929	The Chief (Pony Indian Episode)	Sydney Dixon
	Indian Love Call	
1934	Great White Chief	Raymond Marlowe, leading lyric tenor, San Francisco Opera Co.
	Sacajawea	Grace Burnett
1937	Chief White Eagle	Hal Young
	Sacajawea	Frances DeLoe
	The Ranger	Hal Young
	Down the Oregon Trail	Charles B. Moore
1941	Pilgrim Song	Sigurd Nilssen
	Pale Moon—Sacajawea	Grace Burnett Bryant
	Bendemier's Dream	Sigurd Nilssen and Chorus
1947	In scene, Coming of White Man	Wayne Sherwood
	Opera Singer	Margaret Zimmerman
	Drink To Me Only With Thine Eyes	Dorothy French
	Beautiful Dreamer	Bertel Olin
1950	Lest We Forget	James Kays
	The Driver's Song	Lowell Chase
	Abide With Me	Margaret Hillyer
	Away, Awake Beloved	Les Ready
	The Oregon Trail	Hugh Simpson
	Waltz from Capella Ballet	Adriana Jaunlins

SOME FEATURES LONG TO BE REMEMBERED

- 1926 The great setting of scenery and ground level stage, center platform and ramps.
Audience surprise at magnitude of production.
The impressive Maya episode.
The ship "Columbia" and crew.
Lewis & Clark Expedition.
The Wagon Train.
The powerful finale "Breaking the Barrier."
Queen Susannah and her court.
Distinguished guests.
Concessions and carnival.
Parades—Pioneer, Industrial, Old Fashioned Costumes, Whiskerinos.
Hospitality—Women's events, Radiators, Dances.
The memorable display of railroad equipment by the Southern Pacific Company.
- 1929 Volunteer caravans to many cities of the state for publicity.
Repetition of the Mayas, Indians, Ship "Columbia," Lewis & Clark, Wagon Train, choruses and dances.
Activities of Queen Susannah and Court.
Radiators, Vigilantes, Whisker Contest, Parades.
Concessions and Carnival (Park Blocks).
Sunset Trail Ball.
Repetition of railroad equipment display.
- 1934 Again, repetition of Mayas, early Indians, ship "Columbia," Lewis & Clark, and Covered Wagon Train.

- 1934 New elements: Champoeg, In Memoriam (World War I), End of Trail and The New Frontier.
Queen Susannah and Court.
Concessions and Carnival (Park Blocks), Parades.
Visiting Fliers at Airport.
Women's Activities.
Queen's Ball.
- 1937 Removal from Hayward Field to fairground site.
Organization expansion—28 committees, total of 335 members.
Increased emphasis on Women's Activities, costume parade and picnic; luncheon and style show, whist party and luncheon for distinguished guests.
Parades.
Concession area removed to 10th and Olive Streets.
Air show at airport.
Pioneer Village at fairgrounds.
Settler's Village at Willamette Park.
Omission of Maya and ship "Columbia" scenes.
Opening with eruption of Mt. Multnomah.
New segments: Creation, Mormon hand cart pioneers, Church of the Valley, Baptism, Marriage, Death, Statehood.
- 1941 Queen Susannah and Women's Activities.
Concessions and Carnival, 13th and Olive Streets, Parades.
Judging old time costumes, Park Blocks.
Judging Whisker Contest, Park Blocks.
Queen's Ball, Gerlinger Hall, University campus.
Pageant Opening: Ballet, Preparation of the Soil.
Episode II, Preparation of the Race, Moses, Cicero, Early Christians, Magna Charta, Declaration of Independence.
Episode II, Exploration of the Oregon Empire.
Episode IV, The Covered Wagon.
Closing Tableau: Pioneer School, Church, Spirit of the Pioneer and Re-dedication of America.
- 1947 Four performances of pageant.
Queen Susannah and Court.
Brigadiers, Vigilantes, Whiskalantes.
Parades.
Amusement Center, 19th and Patterson Streets.
Championship Rodeo.
Lane County Centennial Year.
The Settler's Wife in role of narrator.
341 guarantors (record number).
- 1950 Four pageant performances.
Dedication of event to Doris Smith.
Amusement Center, 19th and Patterson Streets.
Rain on Friday night.
Cancellation of Saturday evening performance.
Refunding of ticket purchases.
Assessment of 15% on guarantors' pledges.
Pageant theme of Four Seasons.
Pioneer and Settler as narrators.
Streamlined organization—9 committees, total of 77 members.



"Sold Out." Left to right, Herb Wiltshire, Ralph Schomp, and Zollie Volchek.
(Ralph Schomp, Manager, 1937 Pageant)



"CHAIN UP" WITH THE
OREGON TRAIL
 P A G E A N T
 CAST OF 2000
 EUGENE, OREGON

July 26, 1937

My dear friend of the Oregon Trail Pageant:

Together, again, we have delivered a beautiful Pageant to our community.

Eugene thanks you very much. However, this is my personal note of gratitude and appreciation for your splendid ability and cooperation in making your unit of so great an undertaking most perfect, efficient, and in the spirit of the commemoration.

Across the Trail, dear comrade, I clasp your hand and from the bottom of my heart I say "I thank you".

Your friend in the Oregon Trail Pageant.

Doris Smith

Doris Smith

"Thank You" note from Doris Smith, 1937

LANE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
740 West 13th Ave., Eugene, Oregon

Organization
Non-Profit
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 96
Eugene, Oregon



Edith Kerns Chambers at Barbecue after Pioneer Parade, 1947