

Portland's Bennett, Recalled, Tries Again

PORTLAND (U)—J. E. Bennett, who last May was recalled as Portland city commissioner, said Monday he would seek re-election.

Nine other candidates have filed for the post now held by Nate Boody who was appointed to the council after the recall election. Boody is one of the candidates.

Dave Goldman, the man who led the recall campaign against Bennett, said he would start court

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Three-Year-Old Idea Develops Into Centennial

This weekend will see the culmination of an idea that began some three years ago — an idea that grew and grew.

The idea of a celebration in observance of the centennial year is not new. Other counties and communities have done it in the past. This year it became Douglas County's turn.

The idea was conceived in the minds of Junior Chamber of Commerce members. It was a small idea and the Jaycees planned only a city celebration.

With the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, the idea was dropped. It was felt that this was no time to hold a centennial festival.

In January of 1951 the idea was picked up again with added interest. A Junior Chamber of Commerce committee was formed and working with it were other interested persons in the community.

County Wide Idea

Since 1852 was the year of the formation of Douglas County, someone got the idea that the celebration ought to be county wide.

That was the first big step in the centennial's growth.

It grew so fast, in fact, that it became too big for the Junior Chamber of Commerce to handle alone.

"We felt that it was inconceivable that the whole county would want to push a centennial at the same time," a spokesman said. But such was the case.

So a separate organization was formed and incorporated. The original board of governors, formed to permit representation of various professions and locations, included the following persons:

Planners Listed
Lowell Rhoden, president; Frank Taylor, first vice-president; E. G. High, second vice-president; Clifford Bagley, treasurer; Mrs. Ken Ford, Mrs. Earl Wiley, Miss Helen Casey, Robert G. Davis, Harrison Winston; Elmore Hill and Albert Micelli.

Others were asked to represent communities throughout the county.

Barbara Peterson later was selected the Junior Queen of the Centennial, while Mrs. Eva Lane Waite was chosen Dower Queen.

"It seems like everything the board suggested was made just a little bigger," Rhoden commented.

Horace Robinson, head of the University of Oregon Theater was contacted for the directorship of the pageant. Robinson, who directs the Oregon Trail Pageant in Eugene and has also put on similar shows at Klamath Falls and Salem, was later made manager-director of the Centennial effort.

It was at Robinson's suggestion

that a nationally-recognized composer be contracted to write an Robinson said he had never worked on a pageant with music especially written for the show — nor had he ever heard of it being done before.

Centennial officials contacted several widely-known composers and three were interested in the job.

Gail Kubik was offered the work first and he accepted.

He signed the contract for the work a week before he received a Pulitzer Prize for one of his musical compositions.

Nine of Kubik's compositions, never before heard in public, will appear in the pageant. Kubik's music arrived from Rome, where he is studying, and caused some concern among Centennial officials when a difficulty arose in the customs office.

When that was cleared away another minor cause of concern was the raise in price of Indian makeup paint to \$12 a gallon.

To See \$150,000 Show

Rhoden estimated that patrons will see a \$150,000 show counting the price of lumber equipment and materials donated for the stage performance.

All but 6,000 board feet of the lumber that went into construction of the 224-foot stage now being finished in front of the Fairgrounds grandstand was donated.

Under Robinson's guidance, with assistance from sub-directors and from Assistant Director Gordon Howard, the show will take on a professional tone.

The pageant is timed right down to the last second, and directors will synchronize their watches to make certain everyone gets on stage at the proper place and at the right time.

The Rev. Willis Erickson has been cast as narrator.

Upwards of 2,000 persons are taking an active part in the Centennial production, while Rhoden estimates that some 10,000 persons have taken some part in the summer's Centennial activities through supporting queen candidates or belonging to clubs supporting the occasion.

Other Centennial activities have taken place through the last two months. The celebration started in earnest when Mel Venter and his breakfast gang appeared in Roseburg early this month.

Venter and sound and gag man Sweeney were initiated into the Paul Bunyans — only after the Bunyans extracted the promise that Roseburg would become the Breakfast Club headquarters of the nation.

Bunyans, Whiskilantes and the Centennial Princesses have been active all summer appearing in civic celebrations throughout the state to promote the Centennial.

The Bunyans ran into trouble when they invaded Grants Pass — home of the famed Cavemen — during the Gladioli Festival recently.

A real battle ensued but all the red shirted Bunyans returned home safely after forcing Chief Big Horn George Hall to drink "ox's milk."

Last weekend beard growers from all over the county participated in the Centennial beard contest, while countless bearded men, some with beards better than the winners of the contest, watched as spectators.

But the big event — the one long-planned for and for which the county has waited 100 years — will be held this weekend.

The pageant gets under way at 8:30 sharp with the procession march in the first episode. Centennial Junior Queen Barbara Peterson is suddenly Queen Elizabeth who sends Sir Francis Drake overseas to find a new passage

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