

PIONEERS HOLD ANNUAL REUNION

Men and Women Who Traveled Oregon Trail Meet in Portland.

FEAST AND TELL STORIES

Long Day Devoted to Much Merry-Making and Modicum of Business—Joaquin Miller, Poet, Speaks at the Campfire.

The good, gray army of Oregon pioneers came down upon Portland yesterday and the city capitulated gladly and without question of terms to the men and women whose valiant striving in the trying times made the present greatness of the commonwealth possible. It was the annual reunion of the Oregon Pioneer Association, which consists partly of business sessions, but more largely of social sessions for the purpose of exchanging reminiscences of the long ago and partaking of good cheer provided by the younger generation for those whom Oregon most delights to honor.

A little older, a little more bent, but nearly as full as ever of the zest of life, the pioneers came again to recount among themselves and to their children and their children's children the brave stories of the heroic epoch of Oregon's history. There was no lack of enthusiasm nor energy displayed, however, and the impression left with those who mingled with them that they are marvellously well preserved and energetic, and that for many years the pioneers' reunion will be an annual feature.

Twelve hundred and twenty-two of them sat down to the banquet spread in the Armory yesterday, and more than that number attended the sessions of the day. In point of years they ranged from a fine old patriarch who lives at Astoria and was born in 1812, to the "kids" like T. T. Geer and George H. Himes, who are still comparatively young men. One old lady who boasted of her 81 years did a very sprightly dance, to the benefit of a few friends while they were waiting for the regular proceedings.

Features of the Reunion.

The campfire last night was perhaps the most interesting affair of the kind ever held in the state, the principal features of which were the appearance on the platform of Joaquin Miller the "Poet of the Sierras" and candidate for United States Senator, who made an address and sang a missionary hymn in Chinook jargon, and the plea of Cyrus H. Walker that this jargon be revived as an ancient language.

According to Secretary Himes there was a larger attendance than ever before in the history of the organization, which is remarkable when you consider the fact that the average age of the pioneers must be above the Scriptural limit. The Indian War veterans were there in force and occasionally one found the bronze button of the G. A. R. It was significant of the fact that the pioneers are old beyond the average expectancy that the women who served in the Civil War were all decidedly of the younger element and appeared almost youthful beside most of the men who came here to the reunion to carve a state out of the wilderness.

The mothers of the Pacific Northwest were there in force also, most of them hale and hearty. Ladies who were a presence might well shame that of the present-day leaders among their sex. All who came, whatever their story and whoever the women, were accorded the heartiest welcome by their fellows and everybody had a good time.

First Session of the Day.

Shortly after the noon hour hundreds of members of the association began to assemble at the Armory. At 2 o'clock nearly 3000 people were seated in the big hall. Chas. Buelert, chairman of the general reception committee, Secretary George H. Himes, Mrs. C. M. Cartwright, chairman of the women's auxiliary, and the members of the committee received the pioneers and their wives as they arrived. They were assisted by members of the general reception committee.

Cheer greetings were tendered the visitors as they entered. The pioneers gathered in knots about the hall and exchanged greetings. Courtesy was expressed on each countenance.

President George Is Absent.

Vice-President J. D. Lee called the association to order in the absence of President M. C. George, who is ill. His gavel fell at 2:30 o'clock and the programme was opened with a prayer, for those hearing the sunset of life by Rev. John Flinn, of Portland, formerly chaplain of the association. Rev. I. D. Driver, the chaplain was unable to be present.

Mayor Lane was introduced, and in his address gave the pioneers a hearty welcome to the city. The visitors had been sweltered in the heat of the poorly-ventilated room, and the Mayor also appeared warm.

"I am of the opinion that more pioneers will remain in the heat of this ungodly room than succumbed to the heat of the desert in the trip across the plains years ago," he said. "I regret the use of the building for your entertainment, and hope to see Portland erect a suitable structure soon for such a large gathering as the annual reunion of the pioneers. I consider it a sacred duty on the part of the city to provide a decent building."

Mayor Lane's Address.

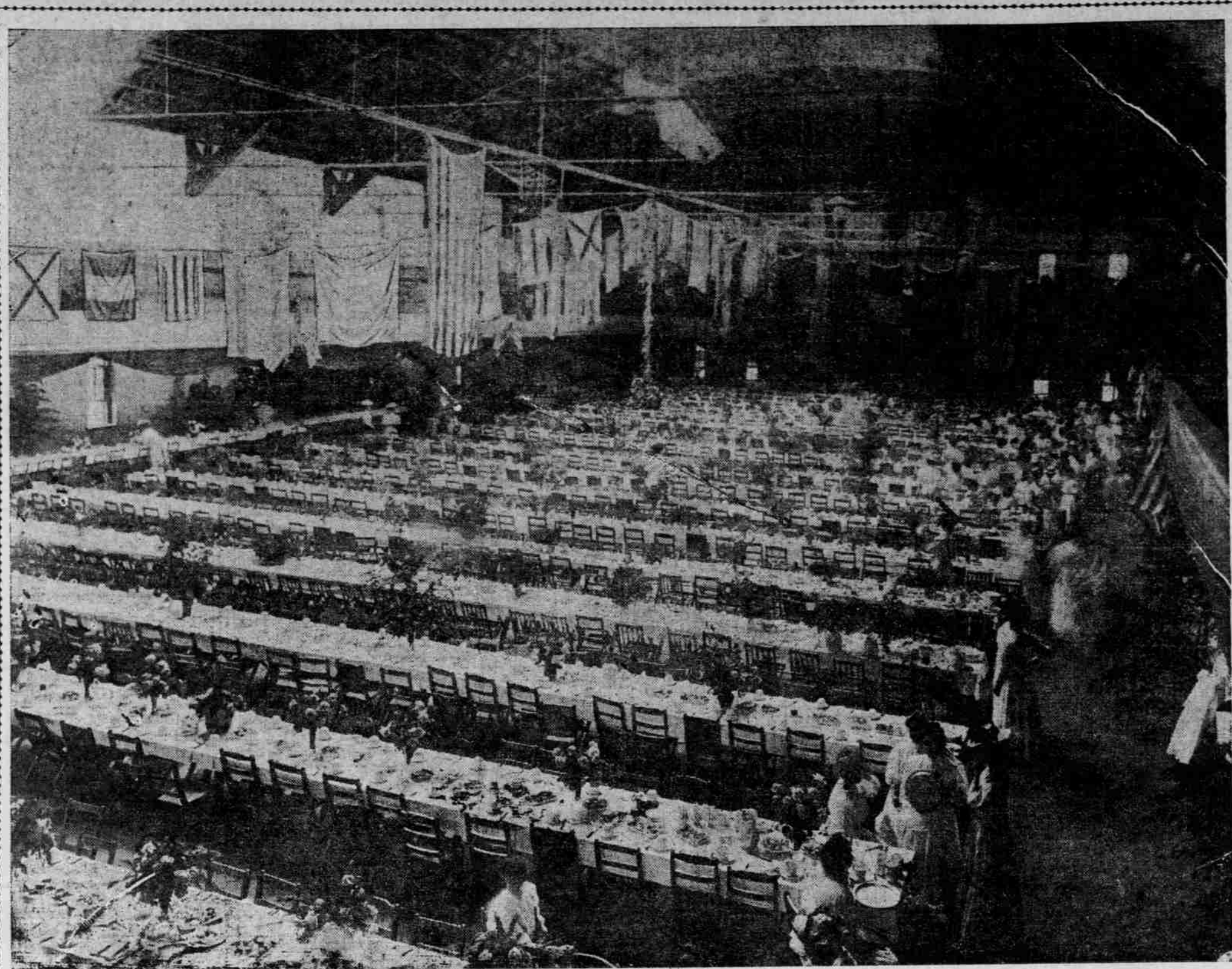
"This gathering occupies a unique position. No people in the world took such a trip and terminated their travels in so grand a country. There is no end to the romantic interest in the pioneers, because they struck into the unknown and opened up the fairest and greatest section of the United States. After 80 years, the world has discovered what we have here."

The Mayor then again extended a hearty welcome to the pioneers. Chairman Lee responded in an equally hearty manner.

"A Matrimonial Story," a recitation, was rendered by Miss Della Bradley, as the next number on the programme. Parsons' Orchestra played a few appropriate selections. Professor Parvin and Mrs. Julia Ramsey and choir, composed of Miss Lucy A. Latreutte, Miss Newgent and sister, Miss Vandemar, Messrs. G. T. Howard, E. A. Fairchild and Alvord sang "Columbia" banner.

Pioneers Honored in Song.

After another song by Professor Parvin and choir, Miss Newgent and choir rendered a song written for the occasion by Rob Roy Parrish, of Independence, Professor Parvin composing the music. It was "Our Good Old Pioneer," and was received with applause. After the rendering of "America" by the orchestra, Rev. John Flinn pronounced the benediction.



THE BANQUET HALL AT THE ARMORY, SHOWING THE TABLES SPREAD FOR THE PIONEERS' FEAST.

After an hour's chat in the corridors and outside the building, Chairman Joseph Buchtel and the general reception committee conducted the pioneers and their wives to the banquet hall.

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In many ways it was a remarkable banquet that was served to the members of the Oregon Pioneer Association by the Women's Auxiliary of that organization in the small hall of the Armory. Probably nowhere else in the world than on the Pacific Coast could 1200 persons bound together by such peculiar ties and of such extraordinary experiences, stretching over a period of half a century or more, be assembled around one board.

Scenes at the Banquet.

Many of those who sat down to the feast were over 80 years of age, and there were few under 60-grizzled old trail-bazers and their aged wives, all happy and smiling, and all served with the choicest of viands by their daughters and granddaughters, and in some instances their great-granddaughters. They were the empire builders of the Pacific Northwest, and for the hour the honored guests of their children and their children's children. To these men and women who had half a century ago, more or less, toiled tediously "across the plains" with "prairie-schooner" and ox-teams, cooking their scanty fare over campfires, the redskins' blood-curdling war-whoop or the dismal howl of the prairie wolf, they heard the sweet strains of a modern orchestra. Their feast was spread in a great hall that stood where many of them had seen standing the great trees of the primeval forest, long since hewn away to make room for a metropolitan community and they had just come from a splendid building of marble and sandstone, the capitol of a city some of them helped to found when they cut away the first trees and built the first rude cabins.

"These were some of the thoughts that mingled with the reminiscences of the pioneers as they sat at the flower-adorned tables. But to those who viewed the scene from the Armory balcony, and saw the 1200 guests seated, splendidly served and sent on their way rejoicing, the gallant old men, some with a rose in their coat lapel, and the smiling, snow-haired women, each with a cluster of roses in her girlish, all within the period of less than an hour, there was much to marvel at in how it was done.

Moves Like Clock-Work.

To serve more than a thousand people with a dinner of six courses is at no time a small undertaking, and had there been a less perfect organization, or a whit less of fond eagerness to anticipate every want of the old folks on the part of the girls and women who served them, there must have resulted much confusion. So thoroughly, however, had the women who had the arrangements in charge thought out all the details and planned against every emergency, that the multitude was fed without the slightest hitch or halt.

There were 19 long tables, each with a seating capacity of 72. Upon each table were scattered flowers, and at every plate lay a rose, tall vases, each with its bouquet of blossoms, were placed four feet apart on each table, each table having its own pretty color scheme, and great baskets of flowers and ferns hung from the ceiling. At ten different booths the viands were dished up systematically, and four girls, under the supervision of two women, served each table.

Long before the hour for the banquet the pioneers were gathered in the big hall-way leading to the banquet hall, and when the rope at the double doors was dropped, at a signal from George H. Himes, secretary of the association, there was a merry rush for the tables. Within a few minutes all had been systematically seated and the big feast was on. Boys carried in great boilers of steaming coffee, and pretty girls in white, with many

pleasantries, served it from pitchers. Twenty big Chinook salmon, which had been rushed from the giant oven of the Oregon Grill range, baked whole and steaming hot, had been carved into individual portions, and soon were on their way to refresh the inner man of the pioneers. More than 60 gallons of potato salad went for the same purpose, and heaps of three varieties of cold meat, including 35 large hams, also disappeared.

Sweet Tooth Is Left.

Many big scoops of bon-bons and 90 gallons of pink-and-white striped ice cream went like the proverbial hot-cake, attesting to the "sweet tooth" of those who had shed all others. Pies, cakes and other goodies were devoured with like alacrity, and when all was done there remained little to be cleared away save the dishes.

The business session of the annual meeting commenced at 7:30 o'clock in the upper hall of the Armory. Vice-President Charles E. Ladd, 1837, Portland, presided. The annual election resulted as follows:

President, J. D. Lee, 1848, Portland; Vice President, J. E. Magers, 1832, Portland; Secretary, for his twenty-third consecutive year, George H. Himes, 1833, of Portland; Corresponding Secretary, Robert A. Miller, 1854, Portland; Treasurer, Charles E. Ladd, 1837, Portland. Directors—Cyrus H. Walker, 1838, Albany; P. H. D'Arcy, 1838, Salem; Jacob Gulliford, Dufur, Wasco County.

The resolution offered at the last annual meeting by Joseph Buchtel, giving notice of an amendment to the constitution of the Association changing the manner of keeping the records, was called up and after considerable discussion adopted by a vote of 341 to 31. This closed the annual meeting.

Sons and Daughters Elect.

More than 150 members of the Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers were present at the various meetings yesterday. The old officers were re-elected for another year, as follows: President, Judge M. C. George; vice-president, John W. Minto; secretary, Mrs. I. W. Pratt; treasurer and corresponding secretary, Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton. Mr. Minto and Mrs. A. B. Crossman were elected for five years to fill two vacancies in the board of directors.

The pioneers held a "campfire" in the dance hall of the Armory at 8:30 o'clock last night, closing their annual reunion. Over 1500 people attended. The evening was spent in a most enjoyable manner.

Joaquin Miller was a visitor and the pioneers insisted that he take a place on the platform, where he was in great demand to participate in the programme. Robert A. Miller, 1854, presided.

After a selection by Parson's Orchestra, "Viva La America" was sung by G. T. Howard and chorus, the music being by Professor Z. M. Farvin.

Joaquin Miller, Poet, Sings.

Joaquin Miller was called upon, and

was introduced by President Lee in "Chinook wawa." He made a short address, then sang "Kah-o-kah Mitlitta Moses," in the jargon that was used by the Hudson Bay Company's traders in dealing with the Indians. All the pioneers understood the language, and prolonged applause greeted the poet's rendering of the selection, which, in English, is called "Where Now Is Good Old Moses," etc.

Miss Minnie M. Rode then gave a recitation of her own composition, called the "Pioneer's Dance." It dealt with the social side of early Western life, and was a pronounced success with the audience.

Mrs. Abigail Dunlavy told the audience of Joaquin Miller's poems and recited a verse of his "Mothers of Men" in Chinook jargon. In reference to the poem she made a short talk, saying that the woman who did not like men was no good and missed her destiny, and the same about the man who did not like women.

"Campfire talks" took up a portion of the evening. P. H. D'Arcy, of Salem, and others referring to the old days and the new.

Would Revive the Jargon.

Cyrus H. Walker, the oldest living native son, who was born at the Whitman mission in 1833, was a lively speaker. He made a plea for a revival of the Chinook jargon as an every-day language.

Mrs. Fred L. Olson sang "When This Old Town Was New," and the programme was closed by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" by the audience.

Most of the pioneers and those accompanying them to the reunion will remain over in the city for the Rose Festival.

The following resolutions were drawn up by the pioneers yesterday: At this joyous season we wish to remember with affection those who in former years joined with us in these festivities, and in pioneer reminiscences and good-fellowship, who since our last reunion have passed to the realms of shade, but who remain with us as a fragrant memory that pervades all our hearts.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Pioneers are due and are hereby expressed to Mrs. C. M. Cartwright and her able corps of assistants for the preparation each year of the magnificent spread in the dining-hall, realizing, as we do, the immense amount of labor it involves, without charge or compensation aside from a desire to honor the state builders, to whom so much is due for the development of the great commonwealth in which we live.

Resolved, That the pioneers present hereby send greetings to the pioneers of the state who are not in the habit of attending these annual reunions, and extend to them an urgent request to attend the annual reunions hereafter, so that their old friends may meet and greet them, and a more intimate fellowship among all the pioneers of the state be established.

Resolved, That we sincerely regret the illness of our distinguished president, Hon. M. C. George, which made his presence at our today impossible, and we have our united hope for his speedy restoration to good health.

T. T. GEER,
F. H. GRUBBS,
J. E. MAGERS,
Committee.

ARE ROSE CITY PARK LOTS TOO HIGH?

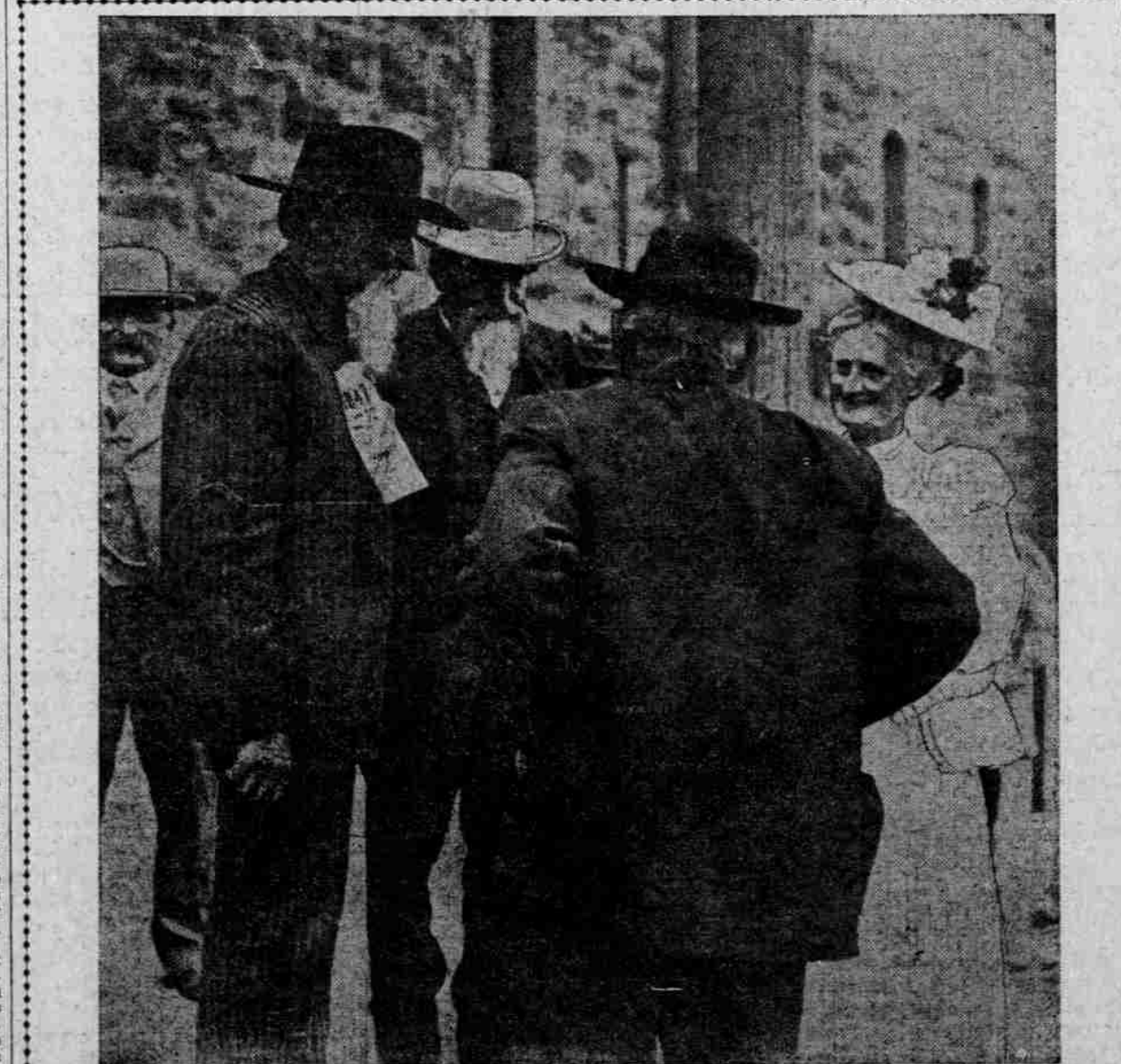
Arguments Which Go to Prove That They Are Selling at Too Low a Price.

Many people cannot understand how Rose City Park lots can be sold at the prices that are quoted, including all the improvements that are contemplated, and allow the owners to make any money. At the same time it is true that there are those who believe that the prices quoted for Rose City Park lots are too high. This question develops an interesting point for consideration.

The entire 1000 acres of what is now known as Rose City Park were purchased by a syndicate of the wealthiest men in Portland. An unusually low price was secured by them, owing to the exceedingly large purchase that was made. All the improvements that are being made are contracted for upon a wholesale plan. As a consequence, the work is being done at prices that are far below the figures that could be obtained if the work had been prosecuted upon a small scale.

The result of this method of transacting business on a large scale has made it possible for the firm of Hartman & Thompson to make a remarkable statement. The cost of developing Rose City Park for residential purposes has been watched so closely that it is safe to say that no acreage beyond Rose City Park could be purchased now at any price that would admit of the improvement work that is being done in Rose City Park and allow the owners any profit. This fact alone ought to convince the skeptical that Rose City Park lots are being sold at a much lower price than they are really worth.

Probably the secret of the whole affair is that the syndicate behind the Rose City Park movement were more determined to make that section of the city a permanent and delightful residence district than they were to augment their fortunes by boosting the prices far above their normal worth. The truth remains that the amount of improvement work that is being done is far out of proportion to that which is being done or even contemplated by any other addition now on the market in this city.



PIONEERS GATHERING FOR THE ANNUAL REUNION AT THE ARMORY.

Two Things of Which Portland May Well Be Proud

The Finest Roses in the World

and Columbia Tailoring

Both are in the top-notch class—undisputed leaders

Columbia Tailors

Grant Phegley, Manager
Elks' Building
Seventh and Stark

HIGHWAYMEN AT WORK

Two Cases of Holdup Are Reported to the Police.

An unknown highwayman held up and tried to rob Lee Koo, a Chinaman, on Stark street between Eleventh and Twelfth streets, last night at 11:30 o'clock. Failing to secure anything, the thug assaulted the Chinaman, cutting a deep gash on his right hand. Lee describes his assailant as being about 5 feet eight inches tall and wearing a black mask.

J. G. Turck reported to the police that he was set upon, beaten and robbed by two men at the corner of Front and Morrison streets early in the night by two thugs, who relieved him of \$28 in coin and a gold watch. Turck was considerably under the influence of liquor and was unable to give a description of his assailants.

KISER FOR SOUVENIR PHOTOS
Northwest Scenery—Imperial Hotel.

EILERS WINDOWS FLORAL BOWERS

UNIQUE AND LAVISH DISPLAY. FULL SIZE GRAND PIANO IN FLOWERS—RUSTIC BRIDGE WITH POOL OF SPARKLING WATER.

Interior of Store Profusely Decorated With Thousands of the Finest Natural Roses—One of the Handsomest Exhibits of the Fiesta—One of the Sights to Be Seen by All Lovers of Floral Beauty.

One of the most elaborate floral displays of the Rose Carnival has been made by Eilers Floral House, who, with their customary progressiveness, have spared neither time nor expense to produce something both beautiful and unique.

The large corner window of their store has been turned into a veritable floral paradise, lavishly arranged with such a wealth of the most beautiful of Portland's famous roses and other flowers as to eclipse probably anything ever attempted in this city of a similar nature. With appropriate attention, the centerpiece is a magnificent grand piano, full size, all done in flowers, with a rustic bridge and a pool of sparkling water close at hand, with moss, rocks and natural evergreens.

From hundreds of crystal vases hanging from the molding entirely surrounding the interior of the store are to be seen thousands more of the choicest roses to be found in the city, transforming the store into a most realistic garden scene.