

50 Years Ago Salem Was Host to Teddy Roosevelt

By BEN MAXWELL

Come May 21, and 50 years ago Salem entertained the nation's most distinguished citizen. On May 21, 1903, Salem was host to President Theodore Roosevelt.

Committees had spent days, even weeks, in preparations for the occasion. At least 10,000 visitors were expected in Salem to at least glimpse the president of the United States. Some would come by boat, others by train. But the majority were expected to drive over from Polk, Yamhill and Marion counties.

One popular Salem eating place made arrangements to serve 1400 patrons. Street cars surely would be loaded to capacity and to care for the throng the Asylum Avenue line (East Center street) arranged a 10-minute schedule.

F. T. Wrightman was marshal for the day and assisting him were F. W. Durbin, C. A. Murphy, M. W. Hunt, R. A. Crossan, John O. Estes, August Huestein, Douglas Minto, F. W. Derby and Fred Steusloff. Mrs. Hallie Parrish Hinges and the Choral Union were to provide music for the State House reception.

A committee in charge of decorations asked folks living along the line of march to hang flags and bunting, tidy up their lawns and spruce up the shrubbery. Decorations in Marion square were arranged by the Marion Square Improvement League. Another committee made arrangements for the State House and their efforts covered the platform on the west approach with bunting and a profusion of wild flowers.

Came the big moment about mid-morning on the day of President Roosevelt's arrival. Those who had not gotten themselves a front row place by 8:30 a.m. went elsewhere for a view of the president and his party. At the appointed moment, engineer Morris at the throttle of engine 2199 rolled in the special. The front of that chuffing wood-burner was decorated with bunting and cedar boughs.

Military companies from Eugene were on hand to form a hollow square on both sides of the train upon its arrival at the depot. Sixteen carriages were drawn up to receive the president and his party. President Roosevelt gave the military a snappy salute as he, Secretary Loeb, Governor Chamberlain and C. P. Bishop, then mayor of Salem, entered the first carriage.

From the depot the procession proceeded on 12th street to State, down State to Commercial, northward on Commercial to Marion, thence to Front and finally to Union where a halt was made in front of the new bandstand in Marion Square.

There President Roosevelt was greeted by Salem school children who waved flags and sang "America". He sang lustily with them. Followed an introduction by Judge George Burnett and a brief address by the president. Then the executive re-entered his carriage and started for the capitol.

He had not gone far before he observed little Constance Kantner, 5-year-old daughter of Rev. W. C. Kantner, con-

ferred to her small carriage because of illness but waving a flag and smiling. Without ado he stopped, dismounted unaccompanied and paid his respects to the child. (Constance Kantner now resides at 750 East Browning avenue).

With President Roosevelt smiling, bowing and doffing his topper, the procession wended its way to Capitol street (then a through street to State) where the cavalcade came to a stop near the east approach to the old capitol. Here formed an honor guard of Civil War veterans to the number of 200 in a double line facing each other. (In 1903, Civil War veterans were near the age of today's veterans of First World War. None now lives in Salem or Oregon.)

After a brief inspection of the legislative halls and the portraits of Oregon's pioneer leaders that hung there, the presidential party retired to the decorated platform on the west approach to the capitol on the program with song. Addresses were given by Mayor Bishop, Governor Chamberlain and Senator Brownell, followed by Mrs. Hinges' song, "Vive l'America". Next in order was the president's address, followed by the Choral Union's closing number.

What the speakers, including President Roosevelt, had to say on that occasion of 50 years ago does not particularly matter now. "The President," said a Capital Journal editorial writer, "preached a pretty good sermon at Salem yesterday."

More significant by far for generations to come was an advertisement that appeared in the Capital Journal on that May day in 1903: "The Best Thing on Wheels." Oldsmobile. "Nothing to Watch but the Road." Otto J. Wilson, 135 Commercial Street.

Willamina

Graduation exercises for the Grand Ronde grade school have been set for May 22, at 8 p.m. Valedictorian is Evelyn Westphal, and salutatorian are Judy Ayres and James. Other members of the graduating class include George Brandon, Lester Good, Sarah Hadley, Ronald Harper, Delmer Koski, Patricia Lilly, Dorothy Lytle, Orin Otjen, Vern Swensen, Nancy Voutrin, Dennis Ducharme, Allen George.

Hot dogs are removed from the picnic class but good, after this treatment! Select extra large wieners, split down the centres after cooked. Spread with mustard and top with Monosodium glutamate seasoned mashed potatoes, or if you feel partyish, squeeze potatoes out of a pastry decorating bag. Cover with grated cheese and pop into boiler until cheese melts.

Wolves were still a serious menace in Scotland in the 18th Century and a few remained there until the 18th Century.

Scio

Scio — A dedication service is being planned by the Oakview Church of God.

The date is set for Sunday afternoon, June 7.

The high school girls' tumbling team recently participated in a jamboree at Oregon State college.

Members of the team are: Shirley Woodraska, Yvonne Collier, Mary Wyman, Joanne Greenly, Lois Fox, Alice Thurston, Rosalie Kuvass, Pat Dowd, Beiva Hopkins, Pat Miller and Darlene Moore.

Jess Nickols has been very ill at his home near Shelburn. The Munker's Community club will meet Wednesday afternoon, May 13, with Roberta Ward, Hazel Griffin as co-hostess.

N. Marion High

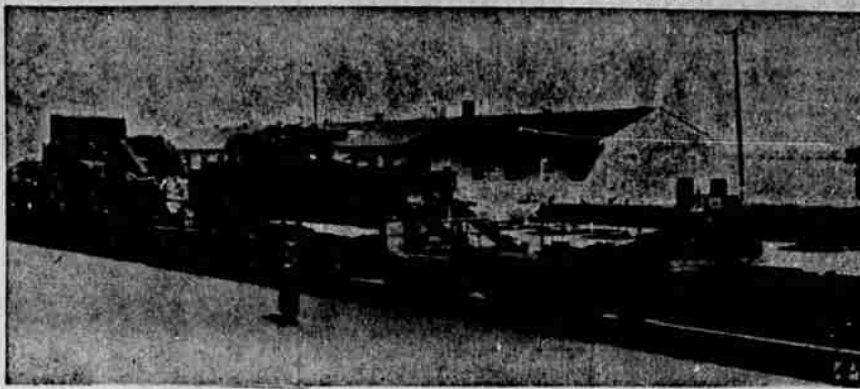
Hubbard — May Day Program at North Marion Union high school will feature the crowning of Queen Robin I, as queen of the May during the evening of May 8, beginning at 8 p.m.

The band will provide music for the program. The senior class will present a skit as will the junior and the sophomore classes. The Maypole dance will be performed by the freshmen. The Queen's Ball will follow the program.

The queen is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Berkey of Hubbard.

The North Marion music department will be represented at "Music in May" at Pacific University in Forest Grove, May 7, 8 and 9. Willamina will come to North Marion for a

ATOMIC CANNON IN NEVADA FOR TESTS



make-up league baseball game, Friday, May 8, 2:30.

The senior class swim will be held Saturday, May 9, at the YMCA in Salem.

An armed guard stands by two huge, eighty-five ton, 280mm cannon after arrival at Nellis Air Force Base, near Las Vegas, Nev., in preparation for firing the first atomic shell at the AEC proving grounds. The AEC said only one gun will be fired. (AP Wirephoto)

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