

Li'l Miss Warm Springs Pageant

# Put a song in your heart

Spilyay Tymoo photos and text by Marsha Shewczyk



Dorothy Yahtin demonstrates a Butterfly dance during pageant competition.



"What is your name, address and parents' names?" George Clements introduces Evaline Spino to judges and the audience.



Pageant contestants made necklaces to give away to special people during the pageant. In return Delvis Heath gives a little encouragement.

"There are three reservations—Wasco, Paiute and Warm Springs." Not quite the correct information but this little contestant is on the way to learning about her culture. Contestants ranging from 3 to 17 years of age culminated many weeks of dance practice, handwork skill and learning about culture for the Li'l Miss Warm Springs pageant held January 19 in the Community Center gymnasium.

Twenty girls competed for crowns in five different age categories. As their age increases the girls had to know a little more. Three to five year old girls were expected to

know their names, addresses, parents names, the round dance and skip dance while 14 to 17 year old girls had to know name, address, parents, cultural knowledge, shuffle dance and butterfly dance.

Miss Warm Springs Lenora Starr was present to offer support to the little girls. She encouraged them by saying, the audience "is very proud of you and happy that you came out here to share yourself."

"For the elders you put a song in their hearts. A happy proud song. Show them you are proud of your heritage and proud to be an Indian."



Getting ready for the pageant Suyen Smith ties moccasins before the action begins.



Matilda Mitchell joins newly crowned queen Rena Suppah in victory dance.



Five categories for different age groups resulted in the crowning of five queens at the Li'l Miss Warm Springs pageant. From left to right they are Tammi Smith, Rena Suppah, Starla Green, Josephine Johnson and Charmaine Watts.