

# SPLENDORS OF THE PORTOLA FESTIVAL

Great Pageant Planned to Celebrate Restoration of San Francisco and to Commemorate Discovery of Its Harbor by California's First Spanish Governor

Three Big Parades Will Be Spectacular Features of the Affair - Electrical Display and Decorations to Surpass All Former Attempts in America

By WALTON WILLIAMS. THROUGH streets that will be a wonderland of color and marching to the accompaniment of scores of crashing bands and the booming of the big guns of the great fleet of warships in the harbor Don Gaspar de Portola, California's first Spanish governor, who will be impersonated by Nicholas A. Covarrubias during the week of the Portola festival, Oct. 19-25, at San Francisco, will make a triumphant entry with his army into that city on Oct. 19 and formally inaugurate the great festival that is to celebrate the rehabilitation of San Francisco and the return of the doughty old warrior to its harbor he discovered one hundred and forty odd years ago.

gilla Bogue, who has been chosen queen of the celebration, is one of the most beautiful women in America. Instead of the handful of footsore and starving troops which followed him on the expedition on which he discovered the bay of San Francisco, Don Gaspar de Portola will be escorted by a full company of royal dragoons in faultless uniforms, with shining helmets and breastplates and mounted on glossy black chargers, and will lead an army composed of the soldiers and sailors of the world. This parade through the streets will be a most imposing spectacle. The cavalry and infantry of the regular army, the national guard and the uniformed drill corps of the various organizations, with the naval forces from the warships, will represent the United States, while the bluejackets and marines from the foreign vessels will show the fighting forces of the nations around the entire world.

teen electric lamps of sixteen candle power each. Fifteen hundred lamps will be used in the colonnade alone. By day the city will be an entrancing bower of beauty. Thousands of miles of bunting will be used in draping buildings, and hundreds of thousands of Portola pennants and banners will flutter in the breeze.

Huge Bell of Electric Lights. At the junction of Market, Kearny and Third streets will be erected what probably will be the largest piece of electrical display ever exhibited, in the form of a huge bell, 120 feet in diameter, to be suspended by large steel cables 125 feet in the air. Hundreds of lamps will be used in the construction of this bell. At the top of the bell twenty eight-foot carnival flags and an immense United States flag will form a circle. From this circle loops of red, white and blue lights will extend to the lips of the bell. A few minutes before midnight all of the lights within a radius of five blocks of Third and Market streets will be extinguished, and only those in the immense bell will burn. Along the steel cables men in fantastic garments glowing with electric lights will walk and perform acrobatic feats.

Loops of incandescent lamps at forty foot intervals will be strung across many streets, and arches and loops of flags will also decorate them. A brilliant pyrotechnic display will be given in Union square during the evenings of Portola week. These displays will commence about 11 o'clock in the evening and will continue until after midnight.

A 200 mile road race for automobiles over the beautiful boulevards of Alameda county will be one of the features of the festival. The race will be the biggest affair of its kind ever held in the west and will be on a par with the famous Vanderbilt cup races. The athletic committee arranging the elaborate program of sport to be conducted during the Portola festival is leaving no stone unturned in an effort to make the carnival of sports unusual in the history of athletics in San Francisco. Boxing, wrestling, swimming, rowing, association football, Rugby, tennis and golf will be included in the series of events announced for that week.

A flight of an aeroplane across the Golden Gate is one of the attractions for the Portola festival. While the distance is not great, ranging from three to seven miles, according to the course chosen, it would give every one a chance to see the flight from start to finish.

The flight of aeroplanes is but one of the many novel features for the Portola festival. Balls and entertainments of all kinds will be provided to delight and charm the visitor. The much disputed pronunciation of Portola has been settled. Don Gaspar de Portola, first governor of California, wrote his signature with an accent mark on the last syllable—thus, Portola. This is shown by a photo engraving of an authentic signature of the doughty old Spaniard in "The March of Portola," a book which has been compiled and written by Zoeth S. Eldredge and E. J. Molera. The original document showing the signature of Don Gaspar de Portola is in the possession of Molera. It was received by him from Puebla, Mexico, where Portola was governor after leaving California. The narrative of Portola's overland march to San Francisco has been drawn principally from the diary of Father Crespi, who was one of the party.

### PAGEANT IN ILLINOIS.

Events in Settling the Middle West to Be Depicted at Evanston. Society women in Evanston, Ill., are busy preparing a historical pageant which is to last three days on the campus of the Northwestern university and is planned to depict many of the most interesting events in the settlement of the middle west. Evanston is the chief suburb of Chicago and has one of the largest and most prosperous women's clubs in the United States.

Mrs. Henry J. Patten and Mrs. C. G. Little have charge of the pageant plans. They have enrolled more than 500 women and girls and are enlisting the same number of men and boys. Women in colonial and pioneer costumes will represent the thirteen original states. There will be old time prairie schooners and an attack by Indians upon pioneers headed west with their wives and children. An Indian village will be a feature, and it is the hope of the women to have every detail historically correct.

D. A. R. to Mark Santa Fe Trail. The Daughters of the American Revolution have taken steps to mark the old Santa Fe trail with a permanent memorial. Miss Elizabeth Gentry of Kansas City has the work in hand, and the present plan is to put up milestones along the trail through several western states. Just now Miss Gentry is preparing a petition to the Kansas legislature to appropriate money to put up milestones through that state. Clubwomen are assisting her in gathering names, and many members of the legislature have expressed themselves in favor of the plan.

Device to See by Telephone. Alberto Sanchez, a Mexican electrical engineer, who is an inmate of Belem prison, declares he has invented an apparatus whereby vision as well as the voice may be transmitted over an ordinary telephone wire. He calls his invention a teleadioptron, and the prison officials say that successful tests have been made with models. The contrivance is said to resemble a pair of short opera glasses attached to a battery.



VERGILIA BOGUE, CHOSEN QUEEN OF SAN FRANCISCO'S PORTOLA FESTIVAL, AND NICHOLAS A. COVARRUBIAS, IMPERSONATOR OF DON GASPAR DE PORTOLA.

ceptance as part of the great army which will march in military formation at the opening parade. This opening parade will be strictly military and will combine the features of a historical pageant and a modern review of troops. The Portola dragoons, that company of uniformed yeomen which will be the personal escort of Don Gaspar de Portola, will be one of the most picturesque features of the affair. Recruited from the handsomest and sturdiest men in San Francisco, they will be adorned with helmets and cuirasses and will be mounted on champion chargers. The first parade will differ from the historical pageant in that it will represent the reception of the discoverer of the bay in 1768 by the people of the city which has been built on its shores and by the state and the nation. Portola himself and his dragoons, with the Indians and other followers, will be in the costume of their own period, and the entrance to the city will be in the manner of the historical pageant.

during the week of the festival. The festival committee will spend at least \$100,000 to decorate and illuminate the streets. All of the famous street decorations and illuminations of the past for which San Francisco has been notable are to be eclipsed. It is expected that the displays in magnitude and magnificence will surpass anything ever before attempted in the United States. More than 100,000 incandescent electric lamps, with a total of nearly 2,000,000 candle power, will be used in the illumination. Courts of honor, colonnades and big displays hung high in the air will form the principal features of the decorations and illuminations. They will extend over three miles of streets. Market street for more than one mile will be spanned by loops of electric lights stretching from building to building every twenty-five feet. Snow White Colonnade. At the foot of Market street, in front of the ferry building, will be erected a colonnade of Spanish architecture, consisting of twenty columns, each twenty-eight feet in height. The columns will be three and a half feet square at the top. The cornices will be decorated with egg and dart moldings. On each side of the columns will be placed the letter "P," made of stucco and five feet in height. A five-foot Spanish flag will float between each column, and on the pinnacles will be placed four five-foot carnival flags and a six-foot flag of the United States. The entire colonnade will be snow white. Radiating from the ferry tower to the top of each column will be loops of incandescent lamps. Between each column other loops of lights will be strung, forming an electric circle 125 feet in diameter. On the cornice of each column will be placed seven-

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