

EAGER THOUSANDS SWARM THROUGH EXPOSITION GATES

BANQUET TENDERED NEWSPAPERMEN BY EXPOSITION

Reporters and Editors Meet And Eat While Awaiting Opening Ceremonies.

PRESS WELL REPRESENTED

Speakers at Informal Gathering Loud in Praise of Magic City.

Newspapermen from all over the United States who have come to San Diego to "cover" the opening of the Panama-California Exposition, and whose stories will be read at the breakfast and luncheon of today this morning, gathered at an informal dinner last night at the Panama National Bank building.

Nearly two hundred scribes sat about the gaily bedecked tables and partook of the cheer provided in their honor by the Exposition officials. James A. Muller acted as toastmaster and called upon some of the more eminent of those present to illuminate the occasion with short speeches.

As the program at the Exposition grounds was scheduled to begin at 9 o'clock, the speeches were closed shortly before that time, and the diners were whisked up to "Fairland" in automobiles.

The gathering last night contained newspaper men from New York and Middle Western states and several each from Oregon, Washington, Utah, Nevada and Arizona. San Francisco and Los Angeles newspapers were well represented as well as nearly every daily newspaper in the state. The Southern California Editors' Association was represented by more than seventy-five editors and managers of newspapers south of the Tehachas who arrived during the afternoon and were greeted by Winfield Hoagboom and members of the committee named to welcome them.

Owing to the late arrival of many of the guests who were welcomed at the depot less than half an hour before the event was scheduled to start, the dinner was exceedingly informal. It served the double purpose of expressing the hospitality of the Exposition officials and of San Diego, and of getting the men together and getting them mutually acquainted.

The monarch represented the first page of The San Diego Union. During the dinner and afterwards he was provided by roof garden entertainers.

In the short time given to the various speakers, each of whom praised the Exposition and the spirit which made it a success, and predicted that its beauty would be heralded around the world by the newspapermen who had been sent here to tell the world what it is like.

Most of the visiting newspapermen will remain in San Diego until the completion of the program incident to the opening of the Fair, and will send out their stories by telegraph from day to day to their papers.

DAVIDSON HAIRD WORKER ALONG UNSELENSH AND CONSTRUCTIVE LINES

Who is G. A. Davidson, president of the Chamber of Commerce in 1909. It was during his incumbency that he formulated and set forth the plan for holding an Exposition in San Diego. In 1911, Davidson conducted a campaign which resulted in the raising of \$250,000 for the erection of the Young Men's Christian Association building, and became president of the association. He serves on the board of trustees of the First Presbyterian Church. He is a member of the Cuyamaca and San Diego Clubs, the Order of Elks, the Aero Club, and the University Club. Davidson's work in San Diego has been highly constructive, and almost all of an unselfish nature. He is always ready to give of his time and energy in any public movement without regard to his own interests. Probably no man in San Diego has been less self-seeking, and during the five years

Colonel D. C. Collier, Whose Dream Came True Last Night After Five Years of Patient Waiting.



TODAY'S EXPOSITION PROGRAM

Official program at Plaza de Panama, 11 a. m. Lyman J. Gage, presiding officer. Following are the speakers: Hon. G. A. Davidson, president of the Panama-California Exposition; Hon. William G. McDonald, secretary of the United States treasury, the personal representative of Woodrow Wilson, the president; Count Del Valle de Salazar, the personal representative of the Catholic majesty, Alfonso XIII, of Spain; Hon. John Barrett, director general of the Pan-American Union, representing the American republics; Hon. Hiram W. Johnson, governor of the state of California; Hon. Oswald West, governor of the state of Oregon; Hon. George H. Hodges, governor of the state of Nevada; Hon. Ernest Lister, governor of the state of Washington; Hon. S. W. Stewart, governor of the state of Montana; Hon. William Spry, governor of the state of Utah; Hon. William McDonald, governor of the state of New Mexico; Hon. George W. R. Hunt, governor of the state of Arizona; Hon. William Alden Smith, United States senator of the state of Michigan; Hon. James Rolph, Jr., mayor of the city of San Francisco; Hon. Frank K. Mott, mayor of the city of Oakland; Hon. Charles F. O'Neill, mayor of the city of San Diego; Hon. L. W. Pridham, chairman of the Southern California Counties Exposition Commission.

2:30 p. m.—Automobile parade, starting from Broadway and Arctic streets.

Tonight, 8 o'clock, at Cristobal cafe, the Exposition grounds, official banquet of the Panama-California Exposition.

consumed in the construction of the Panama-California Exposition. Davidson has been on the grounds practically every day, personally offering suggestions and supervising many of the matters relating to the planning and arrangement of the buildings. During these five years, Davidson has had but one idea in his mind, and that was to see that the Exposition was completed on time. He did not allow any personal feelings to interfere with this high-minded attitude, and possibly no one man has given so much of his time without remuneration for the realization of this vast project as G. Aubrey Davidson. He is the only official connected with the Exposition who has been continually active since the project was launched.

EDITOR LAUDS FAIR IN REPORT OF OPENING TO ARIZONA PAPER. One instance of the valuable publicity being given San Diego through the opening of her Exposition is the press dispatch which C. H. Akers, editor and one of the owners of the Arizona Gazette, Phoenix, Ariz., sent to this newspaper last night. The dispatch of 500 words gave a glowing account of the opening ceremonies and made mention of the Exposition race of January 9. At the end of the message appeared the following order: "Set this in RED for first page." The article will appear in the Arizona Gazette today.

Exposition Bursts Into Blaze Of Electricity as President Touches Button 3000 Miles Away

DIRECT Western Union wire from Washington, D. C., to San Diego was cleared slightly before midnight last night, that the flash by which President Wilson opened the Panama-California Exposition might have a clear course over 3000 miles of intervening space. At the office of the Western Union, in the Science and Education building, the direct wire was attached to a wire of the power plant. When the flash came it was caught at both the Western Union office and the power plant of the Exposition, and the same second every light on the grounds burst forth. The same flash which opened the Exposition furnished the spark which touched off the fireworks. President Wilson was awakened slightly before 2 a. m., Washington time, and his signal came promptly at midnight here. Directly after sending the flash the president dictated a message of congratulation to the Panama-California Exposition, wishing it the greatest success.

ISTHMUS OPENS TO THOUSANDS AMID BLAZE OF ILLUMINATION

Exposition Amusement Street Furnishes Fun for Enormous Crowds; Cafes Do Capacity Business; Hawaiian Village Especially Attractive With Native Dances and Food.

UNDER a flood of light which streamed down on it from all directions, the Isthmus was opened to surging thousands promptly at opening time, 7 o'clock last night. Glittering electric signs beckoned a hearty welcome to all and to many it was merely a question of how many shows on the solid mile of amusements could be crowded into the first night. From early evening until the early hours of morning, eager crowds continued to swarm on the Isthmus, those leaving being constantly replaced by others. It was a happy, good-natured, fun-loving aggregation of people who were out for a celebration—that of New Year's Eve and the opening of the Exposition. They crowded into the shows, jostled one another in efforts to get where the lights were brighter or where a loud-voiced barker was making his show the temporary center of activities. Snapping lights of varied colors enticed the crowds from one amusement place to another and to the accompaniment of laughter and the steady made by every noise-making device known to human ingenuity, the coarse voices of showmen and the metallic grind of countless electric musical instruments could be heard. The crowd proved tickle. It rushed from one place to another, giving each interior a casual glance and then hurrying up the street lest some amusement be overlooked. Land Office Business. Every show place on the Isthmus did a land office business. Each show was rushed through as fast as possible that another might be given to those anxiously awaiting at the doors. Each manager's face was wreathed in smiles. San Diego and visitors went out for a good time. They had brought with them plenty of loose change and it flowed over the desks of ticket sellers steadily. Isthmus cafes were crowded to the limit. Brilliantly lighted from top to bottom, inside and out, the Alhambra Cafe, filled to capacity, was a scene of activity. The Cafe Cristobal was equally brilliantly lighted and a merry crowd made it one of the liveliest places on the grounds. In the "wee hours"

the crowd had not diminished and at daylight, at both cafes, people were still seeking admittance. A few of the Isthmus shows were unable to be open for the first night and this disappointed the crowd somewhat, but there were more open than could be attended in one night. Others will undoubtedly get their share of public patronage on many nights just as big as the opening celebration. There are scores of special event days during 1915. There was something on the Isthmus for the entertainment of everybody young or old, of reserved or frivolous tastes. In seeking the annual New Year's Eve celebration, there were the cafes where things to eat and drink were obtainable. If a quiet evening along an educational line was sought, the motion picture studio, "The Painted Desert," or the "Story of the Missions" were ready for visitors. If looking for sensations, the visitor might glide skyward in a captive balloon or ride in the Ferris wheel or "Climp the Yelps" or attempt the circling wave or "Anafulu Land" or try other amusements which had been provided. Story of Missions. A large number preferred to start at the beginning of the Isthmus and take in all the amusements on one side of the street, returning on the other side. Thomas P. Getz, owner of "The Story of the Missions," was one of the first to open his doors to the public. Getz had provided an entertainment which is unique at Expositions of the scope of the Panama-California, and the interesting story of early California was told by the aid of finely painted scenery and wonderful scenic effects. "Frank Salmons' Pala gem mine" was crowded from early until late. Visitors were shown a replica of the Salmons mine both inside and out. They were shown how the precious stones, found only in San Diego county, are uncovered and how they are prepared for the market. Anafulu Land, a land of metallic music, merry-go-rounds and a ride through the clouds, attracted hundreds. In Anafulu Land one gets a ride on the longest roller coaster in the world and perhaps more thrills, for the turns are quick and the drops steep. "The Temple of Mirth" and the "Oriental Joy Garden" looked tempting to those seeking amuse-

THE MARSTON COMPANY

Fifth, Sixth and C Streets

CLOSED FRIDAY

New Year's Day and Opening of Panama-California Exposition

OPEN SATURDAY

January the Second, 1915, from 9 a. m. till 5:30 p. m. as usual

ment and they enjoyed a liberal patronage. Good amusement was provided at both places and crowds of laughing people emerged at intervals from them. It was at the Hawaiian Village that the merry-makers lingered longest. Both old and new Hawaiians were delighted by the aid of native huts, Hawaiian foliage and natives in the dress of years ago. The outdoor cafe was constantly filled, while many remained for performances on the stage which faced the cafe. In old Hawaii beautiful young women gave the Hula, Hula and other dances of the Hawaiian Islands. Many tried poi, awa and other native drinks and dishes. Kenneth Croft, proprietor of the village, received many compliments on the excellence of his entertainment. Ostriches Big Attraction. Those in California for the first time enjoyed seeing the California ostrich farm. The birds had been attended carefully for show purposes and some of the younger birds are in for much attention. Hundreds viewed the excellent exhibit at the Imperial art gallery, one of the Japanese shows which was planned and built under the direction of Shiro Watanabe. The collection is valuable and is alone well worth a trip to the Exposition. The ice cream pavilion, the lunch

places, the more ordinary amusement places such as "cane racks," "try-your-skill" shows, were all well patronized. Scores tried the bowling alleys, box ball alleys and the new game of skee ball, while many tried their luck in the finely appointed shooting gallery. The circling wave, the deep sea divers, Chinatown, the Ferris wheel, the captive balloon and the unique Ben Crockett and called "Climbing the Yelps" all came in for liberal attention from the crowd. At the New York motion picture studio many saw for the first time how flicker romance is made. A company from Los Angeles, which will be stationed on the Isthmus during the year 1915, gave first performances under the direction of Thomas H. Ince, director, and vice-president of the concern. "The Painted Desert," the exhibit of the Santa Fe Railroad, proved more than popular. Visitors lingered at this exhibit because it affords so much that is worth seeing. Nearly 300 Indians with their animals are using the village as a permanent abode during the life of the Exposition. The War of the Worlds and the Panama Canal concession, two of the largest shows on the grounds, were not open, but they were ready later. Both are tremendous undertakings in the amusement line and on them workmen have exerted almost superhuman energy during the past few days that they might be ready for opening night. That the Isthmus at the Panama-California Exposition is all and more than could have been expected seemed to be the general verdict. There are still several shows to be completed and several to be erected. One of them is strictly a summer amusement and probably will not be erected until May. Those in course of construction will be finished and opened to the public in a few days.

COAL PROPERTY SOLD. CLEVELAND, Dec. 31.—It was announced today that the Purslove Maher Coal Company, owners of several mines in the eastern Ohio fields where a strike has been on since the first of April last, had organized a new company and acquired coal property in West Virginia. This probably means abandonment of the eastern Ohio field by the company because of inability to settle the strike. Cleveland coal operators said.

MINISTERS TO MEET. The San Diego County Allisterial Association will hold its regular monthly meeting in the First Methodist Church Monday, January 4 at 10 a. m.

Tomorrow is the day, promptly at 9 o'clock, these doors will open wide—a day set aside for HOTEL AND ROOMING-HOUSE PROPRIETORS. We have brought forth the reserve, set up every piece of furniture from our immense warehouse basement, and the bargain reception we've planned is glorious. THE WHOLE POPULACE IS ALSO INVITED. Can you imagine yourself feasting at such a festival? Your money fairly leaps and bounds from your purses, so eager to grasp these wonderful furniture bargains. Again we say—BEAUTIFY THAT HOME NOW AT SMALL COST. Make it more comfortable and attractive "it's contagious now."

Dining Tables

"SOLID OAK" Pedestal Dining Table, similar to cut, 42-inch top; \$16.50 value. Sale price..... \$10.35

Solid Oak Dresser, golden finish, large beveled plate mirror; \$15.00 value— \$9.95

Steel Beds

Sanitary Steel Couch; can be made instantly into a full-sized bed; \$5.50 value. Sale price...\$3.35 (Similar to illustration)

BEAUTIFY YOUR HOMES AT SMALL COST

Vernis Martin Steel Bed, 2-inch posts—7-8 inch fillers—massive \$11.50 value. Sale price...\$6.15 (Similar to illustration)

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Beautiful 9x12 Axminster Rugs; \$27.50 value; sale price..... \$16.45

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9x12 Seamless Wilton Velvet Rugs; \$37.50 value; sale price..... \$21.85

9x12 Tapestry Brussels Rugs; \$18 value; sale price..... \$11.65

Best grade Crex Rugs; 9x12 size; \$21.50 value; sale price..... \$8.65

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