

# CEDAR CITY'S CELEBRATION

## THE BIGGEST EVER STAGED

### IN SOUTHERN UTAH

THREE DAYS OF GENUINE PLEASURE. THE TOWN FLOODED WITH VISITORS FROM EVERY SECTION OF THE UNITED STATES. MANY PROMINENT OFFICIALS OF UNION PACIFIC, STATE OF UTAH, AND L. D. S. CHURCH JOIN IN FESTIVITIES.

Cedar can boast of having carried out successfully the biggest celebration ever staged in Southern Utah, commencing last Wednesday morning with an interesting and impressive service in the tabernacle, the house jammed full of people with hundreds unable to gain entrance.

The services were all that could have been expected and were extraordinarily impressive and interesting. The program of the meeting was as had been published, followed out in complete detail without a hitch to mar the pleasure of the occasion.

Randall L. Jones, assistant park supervisor of the Union Pacific, was master of ceremonies, and in calling the assembly to order stated that he was proud to be identified with the holding of the celebration in commemoration of the opening of the railroad, the commemoration of the recent visit of President Harding to Southern Utah, and the laying of the golden rail as a tribute of love and respect in which he is held by all the people of this section. He said that in connection with this event the amusements provided would make for an ideal time of enjoyment and anticipated that all who participated would feel that the time had been well spent. He referred to the building of the railroad and said that it would revolutionize and make anew the southwestern states, especially those of Utah, California, Nevada and Arizona. Many had taken part in the things that had transpired; every business organization, communities and business man of this section, and now they will get together and foster and build up that which has just begun, the development of the vast resources lying in our midst. He spoke of the prominent men who several years ago started the agitation for the building up of the national park, good roads and the railroad, mentioning among them ex-Gov. Spry, Senator Lunt, Mr. Bassenger and Mr. deBrabant of the U. P. each of whom were active in interesting the railroad officials and the government to the extent that the consummation of the projects of the parks and railroad were made possible. He gave Mr. Williams of the U. P. much credit for his part in the work of building the road, and his attitude and determination to have everything in readiness for the visit of President Harding and told of his crisp and determined reply to a telegram if he would be prepared with the road for the passing of the President's special which was "Yes, at 40 miles an hour." And he made his word good.

Following Mr. Jones the choir sang after which Chaplain Uriah T. Jones offered the invocation.

The first speaker was Mayor Parley Dalley of this city who said that he was pleased to see so many together in spirit of rejoicing to celebrate the completion of the railroad. This marks the beginning of a new era, not only for Cedar City and southern Utah, but for the state and nation. We are pleased to show our appreciation to those who helped to bring about his transformation now existing, mainly through the efforts of the U. P. We appreciate the wonderful record made in the building of the road to bring to us our beloved departed President Harding. The speaker told of the immense development to be had in the future that will be consummated by the united effort and cooperation of the forces at work and the people.

Mayor Neslin of Salt Lake City then told of his great pleasure of being again in Cedar City and greatly pleased to find himself enjoying the greatest celebration held in this part of the state, which foretells the opening up and development of the resources that are here. They are beaming to the people, and the people will respond. He eulogized the people here for their genuine hospitality and generosity, and he finds that it is a joy to mingle and associate with such people. Told of Pres. Harding being profoundly impressed with the attitude of the people, their loyalty and hospitality. He said that President Harding spoke many times about this and seemed not to be able to refrain from commenting thereon. The speaker said the Cedar will be the big metropolis of southern Utah

at no far distant day, and may rival Salt Lake City in population.

There were several other speakers each speaking in an optimistic vein of the progress that has been made in this section of the country. The gentlemen who addressed the gathering of people were President of the Chamber of Commerce of Los Angeles, General Manager of the Salt Lake Route, Mr. Mather of the Zion National Park, M. deBrabant of the U. P., Congressman Don B. Colton, Senator Herschl of Hurricane, Utah; Mathew Hale and Senator Seegmiller of Kanab.

Mr. Herschl was introduced as "a southern Utah booster," and in addressing the people said that some day with our iron and coal, with Cedar City as the center, this part of Utah will become a second or new Pittsburg. Our vast resources will mean the building of an empire in this inland country that will compare favorably with any on the continent. Visitors with us from every section of the United States, from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific is proof that southern Utah is becoming known and her resources being taken note of.

Senator Seegmiller expressed his great pleasure in being with us and joining in the celebration of the fulfillment of the dreams of the pioneers. He said we have walked over undeveloped resources of southern Utah little realizing their value, but Brigham Young realized them 50 years ago saying "the head will rival the head in industry and population."

#### HARDING MEMORIAL SERVICES

At the Harding memorial in the afternoon on the spot where President Harding's special stood, and where he alighted to greet the people of southern Utah the services were held and the laying of the golden rail took place.

After the singing by the Cedar City choir of the "Recessional," and Invocation by Apostle Anthony W. Ivins, State Road Commissioner Henry W. Lunt introduced Honorable States Senator Reed Smoot as the orator. Senator Smoot said:

President Harding lived for America and died for America, the more the people come to know of his life his high ideals and true Americanism the more they will appreciate him and his unselfish service to his country. The thousands assembled were visibly moved when the senator recalled the visit of President and Mrs. Harding and related intimate incidents which occurred showing the extremely human side of the president's nature. The speaker also referred to his conversation with Mrs. Harding when she declared that the trip to Zion canyon was one of the most enjoyable in her life.

After an address by President Heber J. Grant, the choir sang, "Lead Kindly Light." President Harding's favorite hymn, following which the Golden Memorial rail was brought forward on a miniature float drawn by four small boys dressed in white, and presented by little Miss Mary Farnsworth to Gov. Chas. R. Mabey, who, representing the state, drove the first of four iron spikes made in old Irontown, Iron County, 60 years ago. The other three spikes were driven by David Bulloch, representing Iron county, D. S. Spencer of the railroad company and District Forester J. H. Rutledge, on behalf of the forest service.

Following the ceremony of placing the rail, President Heber J. Grant briefly expressed his pleasure at being present to participate in the celebration and said that he was grateful for having been privileged to be with him on the trip to Zion park. President Grant concluded by reading two prayers written by Lafayette Hanchett, being his impressions of the events which happened on the trip of the presidential party to Zion park. President Grant said after reading them, he had dispatched a copy by wire to President Harding while he was on the ocean speeding toward Alaska.

Vice President H. M. Adams, of the Union Pacific, was next introduced and said that he brought greeting from President Carl R. Gray, who because of press of business following a vacation period was unable to be present.

\* At this point, services were terminated by a heavy downpour of rain from skies that had been more or less threatening during the early part of the day.

#### THE RODEO

Space forbids a detailed report of the Rodeo feature of the celebration which was handled by the Legion boys of the Cedar Post, and handled in a most creditable manner.

The races, wild horse riding, wild steer riding, wrestling, boxing, balloon ascensions, parachute drops, jumping from high buildings, were all thrillers, and pleased everybody.

The order maintained, the system with which the many events were pulled off, the courtesy of the boys in charge, proved that the Legion boys know how to put "over the top" an affair of this kind.

Everything was given as advertised and nothing was omitted, rather much was shown that had not been mentioned.

We are told that the horse races were the fairest that has been held here in a long time, and each horse owner was satisfied with the treatment received at the hands of the judges.

The boxing bouts held Thursday night at the rodeo grounds were well patronized and the bouts all that could have been expected. Every fan got his money's worth of thrills and felt well paid for his time and money spent for admission to witness the bouts.

The big world's championship wrestling match between Ira Dern, champion and Cyclone Workman of San Francisco, was a good affair and well patronized. The preliminary between Jones and Parks, was good and proved to be a draw. To the reporter the best work was done by Parks, every move he made being clean and above board, while that of Jones at times was slightly shady to say the least. The boys wrestled one hour and fifteen minutes, and it seemed that had the wrestlers been allowed to go another five minutes Parks would have been the victor.

The main event was fast while it lasted, Dern getting the first fall in 37 1-2 minutes, and the second fall in 9 minutes 3 seconds. Workman was a clean wrestler, and powerful, but was handicapped by the high altitude with which he was not climated, he having been used to the low altitude of the coast. The rarified air in this locality was too much for him, and he was not able to go the pace that he can when on the coast. Dern maintained his title as world's champion, but he was precariously near to losing it several times, and was compelled to exert every known tactic and all his strength to avoid being pinned to the floor. Of the two men the Record thinks that Workman is the cleaner wrestler of the two.

At the conclusion of the contest Workman gracefully acknowledged defeat explaining his handicap in not being used to the rarified air here. He challenged Mr. Dern to another contest to take place at any time convenient to Mr. Dern after ten days.