

YEARS TURNED BACK BY CARROLL COUNTY
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION DEPICTS INDIAN SCENES
QUEEN ANNIE MAI REIGNS

POLITICS RELEGATED TO BACKGROUND AS NATIVE SONS REENACT SCENES OF
STIRRING MISSISSIPPI HISTORY

by Kenneth Toler
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CARROLLTON, MISSISSIPPI, July 17, 1934.--

Under the reigning beauty of Queen Annie Mai Brunson, Carroll County celebrated its 100th birthday today by casting aside intr-county animosities and joining in an old-time family reunion and festival.

Noted for its fondness for politics, Carroll County's citizenry forced this issue into the background to give way to events which 100 years ago made Mississippi history.

Created out of lands once the hunting grounds of the Choctaw Indians, scenes dramatized the treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek in which Chief Greenwood Leflore deeded to the whites territory that was to be called Carroll County

PORTRAY TREATY

Descendants of that Indian chief, whose home, Malmaison, is only six miles from the celebration, portrayed the signing of that treaty, with beautiful Queen Annie and her court adding modernization to the centennial party.

The history of Carroll County, which has contributed territory for the founding of Montgomery and adjoining counties, was recounted in a parade of floats.

Carroll County was created by legislative enactment in 1933,

but it was not organized until March the following year. The name was in honor of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Md., one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and the last one to die.

At the time of its formation, Carroll County was under the governing hand of a board of police made up of E. G. Whitehead, Daniel McEachern, John Rogers, Woodward Applewhite, and Thomas Mathews. Descendants of these men participated in the celebration. During the Civil War period, the Scalwags took charge of the county's affairs, and remained in office until whites and a few negroes who historians classify as "faithful negroes", wrested control through the ballot box.

STATESMEN

It was after this that such men as J. Z. George and H. D. Money rose to fame, only to be followed by other statesmen, such as Earl Brewer, who served as governor; William Hemingway of the constitutional convention of 1865; Henry P. McCain, who was adjutant general of the United States army at the beginning of the World War and now governor of the Old Soldiers' Home at Washington; Gen. C. F. Hemingway, adjutant general and major general in the Mexican War; Williamson Hemingway, one-time secretary of state and clerk of the supreme court; Monroe McClurg, attorney general, and the present day churchman, the Rev. W. L. Duren, now of New Orleans, and L. A. Olsen, director of the state extension forces.

Following the parade, native sons who have strayed from home to other parts recounted their activities at a get-together in the politically famous tabernacle on the banks of Big Sandy Creek. From old Carrollton, the latter created North Carrollton just across the creek, Vaiden, and other towns of the county, came the celebrants.

No mention was made of the dividing of the two Carrolltons which took place when the old Southern laid its tracks on an airline, leaving Carrollton south of the creek isolated. Both towns have set up separate governing bodies, schools, and churches.

OFFICIALS PRESENT

State and national officials joined in today's program. They included Walker Wood, secretary of state, native of neighboring Montgomery County; Congressman Jeff Busby; District Attorney A. L. Ford; Representative Dave Glass; Judge John Allen; Dr. Jack Barkdale; Joe George, former legislator and postmaster of Greenwood, son of the late J. Z. George; and State Senator Frank Harper, a native of Carroll County.

Cars bearing descendants of the following old Carroll County citizens were in the parade:

W. G. Herring, first sheriff, 1829

Streaters, 1845

Redditt, 1830

Loving, 1829

Woddell, 1840

Lott, 1834

Matthews, 1834

Bole, 1830

Gayden, 1839

Smith, 1819

Liddell, 1844

McMillan, 1833, and others

The mayors of the twin cities, J. H. Terney and S. D. Turner, sat side by side, as did the boards of aldermen, Clint Gee, W. B.

Vance, G. T. Lee, Charles Bingham, and H. E. Merrill of Carrollton, and J. C. Powell, W. T. Sanders, N. A. Delap, E.M. Hovis, and W. H. Neill of North Carrollton.

Queen Annie, given the title of "Miss Carroll County", was from the small town of Avalon. She was attended by Louise Huff, "Miss Carrollton;" Dot Vaiden, "MissVaiden;" Virginia Spencer, "Miss McCarley;" LoisElliott, "Miss Blackhawk"; Frances Sudduth, "Miss Coila;" Elizabeth Ball, "Miss Teoc;" Mai Stanford, "Miss Sylvan Hall."

BEAUTIES RIDE

Another beauty, Evelyn Vance, occupied the World War Red Cross float. On the float depicting the signing of the treaty of Dancing Rabbit were: John Leflore, representing Chief Greenwood Leflore; Andrew Montgomery and Charles Leflore, representing Major Eaton and Colonel Coffee; two Indian chieftains, William Montgomery and I. H. Arnold; three squaws, Mrs. A. R. Redditt, Mrs. Cot Sanders, and Mrs. J. D. Lee; two councilmen, James and Carlyle Long, and Indian children, Juanita Leflore and Louise Redditt.

Riding on the centennial committee float were those who supervised the celebration: Chairman W. C. Neill, Mrs. O. E. Bee, Mrs. D. B. Turner, Mrs. E. C. Neill, and C. D. Alexander.

Other floats included:

Vaiden -- Shongalo, founded in 1832 on which were

Mary Ray Fullilove

Felice Vaiden

Daisy Hawkins Avery

Eugenia Bradford

Annie Jean Butt

Sarah Eunice Vandiver

Margaret (Marguerite) Dulin

Josephine Collins

Blackhawk College, founded in 1830, which about 1870 was moved to Jackson and called Millsaps College. The girls' division went to Grenada and became Grenada College, both now being operated by the Methodist Church;

Social life of 1869, represented by Mr. and Mrs. James Shackelford;

H. D. Money Chapter, U. D. C.;

Spanish War Veterans;

Liberty float;

Early settlers of the county;

A float illustrating the educational advantages and progress of 1934.