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## QUEEN CONCHITA RULES PORTOLA FETE

Having Received the Key From Mayor Rolph, Queen Conchita Is Presented to the Carnival City by Balboa

### GRACIOUS QUEEN OF PORTOLA RULES

Even a Cat Became Excited, Says Grace MacGowan Cooke, When Great Royal Cortège Approached

By GRACE MACGOWAN COOKE  
Author of "The Power and the Glory" and Other Stories

**H**UMANITY still needs the pomp and thrill of royalty. The gilded courts of the old world were the toy, the peep-show, the gaudy fairing of a starved peasantry. A childish love for their plaything held them loyal long after force would have failed.

And even a democracy, when its people turn out to play, must have a coronation. We have carried the thing into the region of romance, the country where dreams come true, the fortunate realm where a queen is chosen for her loveliness.

The pessimists tell us that we are ruled by money, but it wouldn't appeal to anybody's imagination to penetrate the office of a trust magnate with creases on his neck, and crown his low brow with a wreath. We do better than that. When we make festival we pick out a queen and let her choose a consort—fairly tales forever!

**CAT WAITS FOR THE QUEEN**  
A cat may look at a queen.

The crowds in Union square swayed against the ropes, the crowds in the grandstand chatted and stared. Everybody was on tiptoe, the great moment was approaching, when a black cat strolled leisurely across the grass, picked her way with some disgust when she got to where the hose had been busy, and sat down under a bush. A dog, astray in a crowd, looks degenerate and desolate. A cat carries her cathood with her through every crisis. Puss, under the bush there, waiting for the queen, might have been sitting on her own hearth rug after a good saucer of milk. The crowds were nothing to her. One got a glimpse of why the Egyptians worshiped cats.

Everybody was good natured, nobody minded having his corns trodden on; the waiting was in some ways the best part of it, and finally away off somewhere came the blare of brass, the throbbing of drums.

They were coming—coming.

"They" turned out to be a division of khaki clad soldiers and the marines from the Dakota. More waiting, some cheering. The cat walked across the gravelled way and took up a new position. She wouldn't have admitted it for the world, but she was getting excited. Perhaps it was the brazen music. The blare of a trumpet does go down your spine with an electric thrill.

**THE SOUND OF DISTANT MUSIC**  
Again the distant sound of



### BALBOA IS HERE AND FESTIVAL IS ON

Navigator Discovers San Francisco Bay and Is Acclaimed by Thousands as He Parades Streets

By ARTHUR L. PRICE

Whoever discovered the farther side of the Pacific is unknown to fame, but Vasco Nunes de Balboa found this rim of the great ocean, and he's in town today. Therefore, the Portola!

He was received in honor, as befits his achievement; he was escorted up Market street by soldiers and sailors. He was conveyed to Union square, and there, in a green court of honor, where the first pansies of winter bloomed and the margolds glowed, he announced to Queen Conchita that he had found the Pacific ocean.

It was an announcement befitting the event.

**ON WITH THE MERRIMENT**  
The stately brunette queen, in golden robes, with a golden crown in her black, black hair, stood on a crimson carpet surrounded by a retinue of beautiful maids of honor and attended by a cortege of knights and pages, received Balboa and received with gracious dignity the word which the captain brought.

Then she bade the explorer come and take the vacant throne by her side and be her consort, and right willingly did Balboa accept the honor which was his.

Nor was that all. Soon came Mayor Rolph and bestowed on the queen and her royal consort the golden key to the city and bade them lead the citizens in merriment.

**THOUSANDS SEE PAGEANTRY**  
It was a brilliant pageantry and was witnessed by hundreds of thousands.

Such a court of honor so suitable to great adventure and brave report would be hard to find. Before the gorgeous dais of the queen the battle monument, with the Victory of the Seas topped its slender, gray shaft, stood in honor of all heroes of the sea and gave a touch of permanence to the passing glories of the pageant setting.

On the four sides of the square rose the gray stone buildings, 10 and 12 stories high, the St. Francis hotel forming the background for the great stage. Nor were the buildings cold stone alone. Every window framed enthusiasm and beauty, for in every window facing on Union square, north, south, east and west, and along

### THOUSANDS VISIT CITY FOR PORTOLA

Crowd Here Now Will Be Increased Many Fold by Tomorrow Eve

San Francisco will have its "S. R. O." sign out tomorrow night, according to the estimates of hotel men and passenger traffic officials.

"We shall bring in 50,000 persons from outside the bay region," said H. R. Judah, assistant general passenger agent of the Southern Pacific.

"The extra transbay traffic will amount to 250,000 persons."

"We brought in 2,000 extra passengers today," said H. K. Gregory, assistant general passenger agent of the Santa Fe. "That isn't a patching to what we will bring in every day during the remainder of the week."

**SPECIAL TRAINS ALL WEEK**  
The Harvard, up from Los Angeles this morning, was loaded to the guards. The ship carried 591 passengers.

All incoming trains had three and four extra coaches full of passengers. The Santa Fe, Southern Pacific, Northwestern Pacific and Western Pacific will run several special trains.

Continued on Page 2, Column 2

### HAM AND EGGS FOR QUEEN Y. M. C. A. RUNNERS TAKE A BIG LEAD

RASPBERRIES FOR DESSERT

By MARY ASHE MILLER

Breakfast had just been brought up to her, simultaneously with the arrival of the four ladies in waiting.

There was a heaping bowl of raspberries and, although it comes perilously near being too plebian for royal diet, it seemed to be ham and eggs which were to fortify for the business of being queen.

"I appreciate so much the honor of going to the south for the winter, but since they were good enough to ask me, I could not go away. I am to appear today and at the ball this evening and I believe I must review the parades Friday and Saturday night and go to the ball Saturday, too. I am going to see the different sports though every afternoon, because I love that sort of thing. I am sorry that I can not go out in the morning."

And then she interrupted herself to send in a hairdresser to a lady in waiting in the next room and to give one or two orders.

She acknowledged that, although she was not really nervous she found herself possessed of a rather unusual amount of somewhat superfluous energy.

**BEST FOR ROYAL LADY**  
When she settled herself again for a few minutes she continued her explanation of why she was unable to attend the excitements of each morning.

"They say I must rest then or I will be too tired to look at all like a queen should. I think, though, that I shall enjoy every minute of it too much to get so very tired."

Then she spoke with enthusiasm of her four ladies in waiting, all of whom are personal friends and all of whom she feels will be a great support to her through such moments as may be trying in a royal career.

"I have told the girls," she said, "if they see me fainting to gather all around me so that no one can tell what is happening. It would be terrible for a queen to faint, would it not?"

Just then a conscientious lady in waiting insisted that the breakfast was getting cold and it was time to eat anyway, or she might faint, really, so the raspberries were sugared and the coffee poured, and affairs of state gave way to more personal matters.

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### Y. M. C. A. RUNNERS TAKE A BIG LEAD

They Are 17 Minutes to Good When Signal Is Given to Dive Off Pier

**BULLETIN**  
The runners dove off the Alameda pier shortly after 1 o'clock, the Y. M. C. A. man having a lead of 17 minutes. Each swimmer performs for 10 minutes, when he gives way to a relief man. During the first half hour of the race the high school contestants gained steadily on their rivals from the Y. M. C. A. and they seem to stand a good chance of overtaking them and gaining the lead before the Mission street wharf is reached.

Thomas Connolly, representing the high schools relay team, and Clarence Bovey, representing the Y. M. C. A. team, were handed messages to Queen Conchita of the Portola festival from M. J. Burke, president of the city commission, and Lieutenant Governor Wallace at the capital at 7:45 last night, and immediately started on the first mile relay of the intercity land and water relay race between Sacramento and San Francisco.

Leaving Sacramento, the relays carried the messages along the highway

### WOMAN'S SCREAMS CAUSE 2 TO FAINT

Sensational Incident Closes Ceremony Held in Union Square

Except for one crush at the finish of the ceremony in the Union Square park this morning, the crowd, which was numbered by tens of thousands, was one of the most orderly of any in the history of the city. Just at the close of the exercises, while Queen Conchita was welcoming Balboa, there was a shriek from a woman standing close to the Dewey monument. The crowd swayed and there came another scream. The women standing close to the rope which held the throng back, became panic stricken and two of them fainted.

Several patrolmen hurried to the scene and, finding it a hopeless task to force the crowd back, lowered the restraining rope and allowed the mass of men, women and children to thin out a little. The two women whose shrieks started a near panic were not hurt. The pressure of the people behind them was responsible for their cries. They were hurried away to places of safety by friends.

### AS SURE AS THE SUN RISES

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