

## "Stories from the Book of Ages" Told in Sparkling Pageantry by the Floats

Admiral Young and His Sailor Boys



When the grand caravan of electrically-illuminated floats, twenty in number, trains into the streets of Omaha for the annual electrical parade of the AK-Sar-Ben festivities, the night of October 7, they will be led by the King's float. Hitherto it has been customary for the King to occupy the last float in the long train of magnificence. The order has been reversed for this time. So the ruler of the Realm of Quivera, King Ak-Sar-Ben XXI, will burst upon the assembled multitude in the lead float, decorated with all the splendor and magnificence that befits the ruler of so great and so prosperous a commonwealth, and surrounded by his staff of high officials and guards.

"Pictures from the Book of Ages" is the title of the parade spectacle. Including the king's float and the title float, there are to be twenty floats. The Book of Ages is, of course, the Bible, and the spectacles the various floats will represent each to represent a familiar biblical scene, incident or situation.

### Floats in Order.

Sketched briefly, the floats in the order in which they are to appear in the parade will be as follows:

No. 1—"The King." This is a scene of regal magnificence, with the king in full paraphernalia occupying a central position in the setting. The architecture of the float is Egyptian in design. The Grand Mufti, Grand Notary, Grand Marshal and numerous guards and attendants are to be present around the person of the King.

No. 2—"Pictures from the Book of Ages." This is the title float. It will be unmanned. Without the aid of human hands or human presence, it stands out unique and self-explanatory. An immense open book, the Bible, is represented. Across its pages, in golden letters, are blazoned the words, "Pictures from the Book of Ages."

No. 3—"The Expulsion from the Garden." Here are Adam and Eve in the setting in which they received their first severe lesson on earth. They are surrounded by a garden of flowers. The serpent is seen ready to pour the venom of its false influence upon them. Wild beasts mentioned in the story of creation are everywhere present. The gates of Paradise, shown at the head of the float, are guarded by a flaming sword.

No. 4—"After the Deluge." Here is Noah's Ark, fast on the mountain top, where the receding waters of the flood had left it. The dove is just returning with the olive branch. A splendid rainbow is seen, with all the promise that it holds forth.

No. 5—"The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah." Here is Lot's wife as the pillar of salt. Lot and the two daughters are fleeing. The ass that carried their belongings is seen with his burden. The wicked city of Sodom is in flames, and destruction looms luridly in the rear.

No. 6—"Rebekah at the Well." Rebekah is here shown at the well offering drink to the servant of Isaac and his camels. With such an ingenuity is the float built that the camels are actually shown drinking.

No. 7—"Jacob's Dream." Here are the angels on the stairway leading to heaven. The float is simple and carries the picture in a few strokes. The vision seen by Jacob in the wilderness is depicted.

No. 8—"Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's Dream." Pharaoh, the wise men, and the soldiers are all present in this picture. The courtiers of Pharaoh are listening to Joseph as he tells them of the seven fat and seven lean years that are to come.

No. 9—"Moses in the Bull Ruts." The little basket-boat in which Moses floated down until he drifted ashore is here shown. Pharaoh's daughter and her friends are seen at the edge of the water discovering the little basket.

No. 10—"In the Wilderness." Moses has just received the tables of stone from the lord on the mountain top. He is coming down bearing the precious hieroglyphic laws in his arms. The people are shown in the valley worshipping various golden idols. The rock smitten by the staff of Moses is spouting water.

No. 11—"The Return of the Spies from Canaan." Bunches of grapes so gigantic as to require two men to carry a single bunch are shown carried by the spies that were sent into Canaan to learn of the land. They are returning in the picture, bearing evidence of having discovered a land of great productive power and a region of plenty.

No. 12—"Before the Walls of Jericho." Here is the besieged city. The Israelites are marching about the walls of the city. They are blowing trumpets and carrying the arc of the covenant. The fall of the city on the seventh day is depicted.

No. 13—"Joshua's Command to the Sun." The brave commander who stopped the sun in its course to prevent it from setting until he had won the great battle is here shown, in the midst of his great fighting army.

No. 14—"Samson and Delilah." The secret of Samson's strength is here about to be jured from his lips by the wily Delilah. Both the characters are shown in the picture, and the Temple of Dagon is shown in the foreground.

No. 15—"David and Goliath." Little David, flush with his triumph, is here shown over the dead form of Goliath whom he has just slain with his sling, after the giant has terrorized all the people.

No. 16—"Solomon and the Queen of Sheba." All the splendor of the reception the queen of Sheba got at Solomon's court is here shown.

No. 17—"Elijah's Ascent in a Chariot of Fire." Great lashing tongues of fire here sweep the chariot in which Elijah is ascending to heaven. His garment, the garment that enabled him to perform miracles, is left behind, discarded on earth. Red-mouthed bears, called to destroy the boys who taunted Elijah, are seen approaching from the wilderness.

No. 18—"The Feast of Belshazzar." Here the handwriting on the wall is seen. The great feast and wicked jollification is in the midst of its wildest revelry. The words are inscribed on the stone wall, and the terror, consternation and confusion it occasioned is written on the faces of the revelers.

No. 19—"Daniel in the Lion's Den." Cowering lions, slinking to dark corners in the presence of the good and noble Daniel are here seen. The ferocious beasts are completely subdued in the presence of the radiant character they were expected to devour.

No. 20—"Jonah and the Whale." Jonah is here actually pictured in the stomach of the giant whale. Still hungry the great sea monster is lunging about in the

### Themes of Electrical Pageant

- 1895..... "Feast of Mondamin"
- 1896..... "Feast of Olympia"
- 1897..... "Pageant of Quivera"
- 1898..... "Constellations"
- 1898..... "The Alhambra"
- 1899..... "Gems and Grand and Comic Opera"
- 1900..... "Isles of the Sea"
- 1901..... "When Knighthood Was in Flower"
- 1902..... "The Festival of Fairyland"
- 1903..... "Poem Pictures"
- 1904..... "The Story of the State"
- 1905..... "The World of Mystery"
- 1906..... "The Nations of the Earth"
- 1907..... "Days We Celebrate and Songs We Sing"
- 1908..... "The Golden West and Samson in Polytx"
- 1909..... "The World's a Stage"
- 1910..... "The Ship of State and Samson's Quaint Quips"
- 1911..... "Samson's Anthology"
- 1912..... "Gems and Flowers"
- 1913..... "Stories from the 'Arabian Nights'"
- 1914..... "Stories from the 'Book of Ages'"

water with mouth open, seeking small fishes to appease his hunger.

#### Of No Avail.

The ragged wayfarer trudged up the garden path bathed in the sunshine, and took off his hat to the lady at the door. She eyed him keenly, and a look of recognition passed over her countenance. "Look here," she said, "you called at this house in the middle of the winter."

"I did, ma'am," he sorrowfully admitted.

"And I gave you a good meal, on con-

dition that you swept the snow out of my backyard."

"That's right, ma'am."

"And when you had the meal you went off without doing it."

The man passed the back of his hand tremulously over his eyes.

"Yes, ma'am," he said, brokenly, "and my conscience smote me. That's why I've tramped all the way back, under the scorching sun, to finish the job!"

"But consciences of such a caliber were not in demand in that neighborhood just then, and he went empty away."

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