

## Gold and Green Queens

From the wards and stakes also arose the custom of having queens for the Gold and Green balls, which were made part of the MIA dance program between 1922-1926. Although Gold and Green balls had been instituted in the early twenties, they did not receive prominence until after W. O. Robinson became field secretary of the YMMIA general board. He emphasized and reemphasized that dancing is a good activity and an exceptional form of recreation. He encouraged original dancing, creating some himself alone and in cooperation with the dance director of the YWMIA. He also stimulated creativity among the stakes, urging them to evolve their own dances.

### DANCE IN THE MIA

295

He should have the ability to conduct in a business-like manner the expenses connected with a successful dance program. He should be tactful but not weak. He should be firm, but not officious. He should be willing to correct, if necessary, any dancer on the floor; but should, at the same time, studiously avoid giving offense to anyone. He should be able to differentiate between vulgar and awkward dancing, and in this matter should consult with the dance directors. The manager who keeps in touch with the development of modern dancing and comes to know his young people thoroughly, must trust in his own judgment and that of the instructors as to the good and bad in marginal cases. He should know what is considered standard in music and the available orchestras, and should contract only for orchestras that will abide by the standards set."

### Dance Orchestras

Other directions were included in the communication, such as the establishment of a clearing house for dance orchestras with the result that only approved orchestras be engaged for MIA dances; that dancing classes be organized to teach the younger members good social dancing—to be accomplished either in ward or stake units; that young men who came without partners be charged double admission; and that the MIA cooperate fully in enforcing the curfew law.

### Additional Dances Introduced

A change had developed in the question of the jitterbug. In 1940 it was decided that it was not a bad dance, but that a limited number of this type of dance be included in an evening's program. From this date forward, modern dances have been adapted into the MIA dance program: the samba, the rumba, the tango—have taken their places beside the waltz, the always popular dance, and the foxtrot.

In 1942 the question of Boy Scouts and Bee Hive girls attending Gold and Green Balls and other formal dances was raised. It was the general opinion that while a rigid rule could not be made in this matter, stake and ward officers

296

HISTORY OF THE YWMIA

should know that the boards discouraged the attendance of these younger members at formal parties and recommended that special dances, beginning and closing at an early hour, be conducted for them. Of course, the final decision would have to rest with local officers, bishops, and stake presidents.

## Gold and Green Ball

One of the nicest social events of the season was held on Friday evening at the Stake Social Centre, when the four Cardston Wards of the Alberta Stake held their Gold and Green Ball, with 30 Queens participating.

The hall was attractively decorated with pany motifs, mauve and white bunting and vari-colored lights, with baskets of spring cut flowers, which made a lovely setting on the stage for the Queens—who were introduced by Master of Ceremonies Phil Williams, and each drew a carnation corsage, which was pinned on by the Gleaner Leaders of each ward; Mrs. Ella Sherwood, Cardston 1st, with Gay Jensen as Queen; Mrs. June Forsyth, Cardston 2nd, with Meadia Gregson as Queen; Mrs. Afton Lamb, Cardston 3rd, with Shirley Card as Queen; Mrs. Jean Card, Cardston 4th, with Helen Holland as Queen. Lucky numbers on the corsages determined the Queens from each ward.

Following the Queen ceremony a lovely floor show was presented with Lola and Glen Sherwood directing. The evening was concluded with dancing to the music of the Melody Kings Orchestra. A very large crowd was in attendance and a lovely time was had by all.

—CN—

### Selection of Gold and Green Queens

On February 1, 1950 announcement was made that the boards did not sponsor queens for Gold and Green. The wards and stakes insisted upon having them, and instructions were given which would direct their

instructions were explicit:

the crowning of a queen never let it be by buying. This would seem in all cases to be very unfair, but always the girl who can raise the most money is the most worthy.

Set up certain standards of worthiness based on payment of tithes, participation in various activities, spirit of willingness and cooperation, etc. This will very rarely limit the choice to which we think is good. You will now have several girls to choose from, but being chosen queen. If you want it narrowed down to one girl, following are some ways we have seen to be successful:

All girls chosen dance with their partners one special time at which time balloons are floated over the floor. The girl's partner gets a balloon for her, punctures it, and reads a paper bearing 'Our Queen'—in all others the girl is crowned the Queen.

Girls and partners promenade on the dance floor. Each girl and partner choose a tiny box from a table set up for the purpose. The box is presented to their girl. In all boxes there is a small gift. In one, a chocolate and a paper bearing the words 'You're it!'

Where flowers are inexpensive and it is feasible, a bouquet of flowers is prepared for each girl and in the heart of one of the girls is a card nominating the queen.

March 12 1951

Apr 1 1948

### MINI AND GOLD BALL

Dance lovers from all over the south filled the Stake Social Centre to overflowing on Thursday evening, at the annual Stake Green and Gold Ball.

Gold and green bells around the lights, with streamers across the balconies and a winter scene depicting the northern lights, was a beautiful setting for the 11 lovely queens and their attendants.

The 23 attendants eligible to be queens, formed an aisle down the centre of the hall. The queens, with their partners, entered the west door and walked down the aisle to the stage, preceded by four little snow fairies—Joan Hall, Gloria Odell, Bonnie Fisk and Nedra Schneider.

Pres. Briant Stringam presented the queens as follows:

- Arlene Wilde — Mt. View
- Marcene Broadhead — Beazer
- Verda Pilling — Leavitt
- Geraldine Stott — Woolford
- May Moore — Glenwood
- Shirley Oviatt — Hartley
- Mona Tolman — Hill Spring
- Genevieve Butler — Cardston 1st
- Sylvia Hinds — Cardston 2nd
- Thelma Hansen — Cardston 3rd
- Donna Forsyth — Cardston 4th

The snow fairies then presented the queens with Gleaner pins.

Twelve couples then presented a floor show, during which Ken Long sang a solo and a ladies quartette rendered a selection.

The queens and escorts and their attendants then took their places on the main floor for the Queens' Waltz.

The balance of the evening was spent dancing, to the music of the Macleod Impassials.

Apr 5 1947

## Stake Annual Gold and Green Ball

The Alberta Stake Annual Gold and Green Ball drew over 800 people on Friday evening last to the Stake Social Centre, with the Melody Kings furnishing the music.

The hall was elaborately decorated with pastel streamers and Easter lillies. The stage setting was a backing of mirrors, with yellow and white streamers and lillies. As Master of Ceremonies, Kay Greene introduced the Queens from the various wards, and they came forward and took their places on the stage. They were: Iris Jackson, Hill Spring; Phyllis Greene, Glenwood; Meadra Gregson, Cardston 2nd; Helen Holland, Cardston 4th; Gay Jensen, Cardston 1st; Shirley Card, Cardston 3rd; Rea Pitcher, Aetna; Maxine Pilling, Leavitt; Freeda Beazer, Beazer; Francis Fullmer, Hartley. Stake Y. W. M. I. A. President Mrs. Mildred Stutz then presented each Queen with a booklet of choice poetry and quotations from the Stake M. I. A.

Miss Maxine Pilling of Leavitt received special mention for 100% attendance at her Sacrament meetings, Sunday School and Mutual throughout the past year. A lovely floor show was then presented with fourteen couples taking part. All the young ladies in pastel gowns with corsages. This was directed by Lola and Glen Sherwood, Stake dance directors. The Queen's Waltz followed this, and then general dancing was resumed.

Main Street with planks over the sidewalk. Planks w shoppers. The picture was snapp

## Gold and Green Ball

More than 1,000 people from far and near, were present at the Social Centre on Friday evening, March 28, to witness the Stake Annual Gold and Green Ball. This was the outstanding social event of the M.I.A. season.

The Queens' procession entered at the side of the hall, led by two little flower girls in Gold and Green floor-length gowns—Linda Quinton and Collette Card. Eleven lovely young ladies, dressed in pastel evening gowns with rose corsages, representing the Queens from the different wards and their escorts, came next.

They marched down the centre of the main hall to the strains of soft music and took their places on the elevated platforms on the stage, with its lovely decorations and exquisite lighting effects.

Stake M.I.A. President S. A. Earl introduced the Queens, in the following order: Miss Rose Nelson, Woolford; Miss Joyce Thomas, Glenwood; Miss Anne Leavitt, Leavitt; Miss Vega Sommerfelt, Cardston 4th; Miss Donna Wolf, Hill Spring; Miss Arline Godfrey, Cardston 3rd; Miss Viola Hansen, Aetna; Miss Du'ell Earl, Mt. View; Miss Corrine Loose, Hartleyville; Miss Arva Lybbert, Cardston 2nd, and Miss Opha Smith, Cardston 1st.

As each of these young ladies were introduced, they were presented with a Gleaner Pin by the Stake Leaders, Lucille Pilling and Vera Anderson.

A pioneer pageant, "Keep the Faith", was presented in tab-leau form, in five scenes, with Rulon Bingham as the leader.

The first scene was the "Burning of Nacvoo and the Saints being driven out by the mobs; 2nd "On the Trail;" 3rd, "The Hardships and Sickness they suffered", 4th, "The Camp Fire Scene", and 5th, "Their arrival at Salt Lake Valley—This is the Place". A chorus behind the scenes sang "Come, Come Ye Saints", and "Carry On".

Pres. W. L. Smith was asked to speak and he paid tribute to the Mutual Board and officers.

Pres. S. A. Earl thanked all the committees and everyone who had assisted in any way to make this evening such a grand success.

Lunch was sold and the ice cream was green and gold, in keeping with the mutual colors.

The hall decorations were lovely, green and gold paper chandeliers on every light.

Special mention should be made of the following: Mr. Bruce Gibb of Hill Spring for the exquisite lighting effects; Mr. and Mrs. Orsen Daines, jr., who wrote the script for the pageant; Mrs. Norma Peterson, who directed the pageant; the decoration committee, with Scott Forsyth as chairman, and Mrs. Myrtle Olsen as Powder Hostess.