Remembering the Past and
Shaping the Present with Commemoratives

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September 30, 2010
PILGRIMS' DAY DEC. 21.

President Asks Nation-Wide Observation of 300th Anniversary.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—President Wilson in a proclamation today "suggested and requested" that Dec. 21 be celebrated throughout the United States as the tercentenary of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth in 1620 and appointed Samuel W. McCall and Richard Hooker of Massachusetts, and George Foster Peabody of New York, as members of the Pilgrim Tercentenary Commission.

In the proclamation, the President recommended that the day be fitly observed "to the end that salutary and patriotic lessons may be drawn from the fortitude, perseverance and the ideals of the Pilgrims."

The President's proclamation follows:

"My fellow countrymen: Dec. 21 next will mark the tercentenary of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth in 1620. The day will be becomingly celebrated at Plymouth under the auspices of the Plymouth Pilgrim Tercentenary Commission and at other localities in Massachusetts, New York, and other States."

Gov Coolidge Fulfills 100-Year-Old Prophecy of Daniel Webster

PLYMOUTH, Dec. 21—Fulfilling the prophecy of Daniel Webster, made here 106 years ago, but overreaching in the process any vision he could have had, the voice of Plymouth today soaks with the voices of the Pacifist Coast, in unusual commemoration of the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers and the legacy they have transmitted to a Nation of 110,000,000 people.

Gov Calvin Coolidge of Massachusetts, the country's Vice President-Elect, standing beside Senator Henry Cabot Lodge on the platform of the Old Colony Theatre, in the presence of dignitaries of State and Nation, talked into a telephone and sent vibrations across the continent to the office of Gov Stevens of California at Sacramento the message which Webster predicted, a great Nation would be waiting to hear in 1850.
Pilgrim Tercentenary Commemorative Coin, 1921
Pilgrim Tercentenary, 1-cent, 1920
(Photo, National Postal Museum Collection)
Landing of Columbus, 2-cent, 1892
(Photo, National Postal Museum Collection)
Pilgrim Tercentenary, 5-cent, 1920
(Photo, National Postal Museum Collection)
CHURCHES FOSTERING CITY FORT CENTENNARY

Plans for Celebration in 1924 Are Already Being Made—Religious Appeal Is Strong.

EXACT DATE NOT FIXED

Event Is Announced for Spring, With Special Program Honoring Huguenot-Walloon Pilgrims.

The various civic, patriotic and religious organizations which are to take part in the three hundredth anniversary of the founding of New York City are already making plans for the celebration. There is some difference of opinion as to the most appropriate date for the anniversary. According to an announcement just issued by the Federal Council of Churches, "the celebration will come largely in the Spring of 1924, and the last Sunday of April of that year will be specially observed in honor of the Huguenot-Walloon pilgrims, who, under the Dutch West India Company, made the first settlement on Manhattan Island in 1624."

Among the organizations which will take part are the Federal Council of Churches, the Alliance of Reformed Churches and practically all the Colonial societies of America, including the Huguenot-Saxon Equall and.

"OH, PIONEERS!"

The descendants of some of the first Dutch settlers on the Island of Manhattan held a pageant on Thursday night last to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the settlement of New Amsterdam by citizens of Holland. These were among the first of America's pioneers, taking their stand on the frontier south of Wall Street, clearing the forests of the lower part of the island, building a fort for protection against the Indians, and planning to develop a permanent trading post from which settlers would gradually push into the unknown portions of upper Manhattan, and across the dangerous Harlem and East Rivers into the wilderness of Long Island and Westchester. They were sturdy, hard-working, fearless men and women, not so much given to theological doctrines as the Puritans in New England, but none the less God-fearing, who almost at once imported a chaplain from Holland, and within four years obtained a full-fledged minister of the Dutch Reformed Church to attend to their spiritual needs.

Too many Americans forget that the story of this settlement foretold the story of the development of the United States. These first immigrants were the forerunners of the great wave of pioneers who gradually pushed up the rivers into the hinterland, and thence across the mountains into the plains and westward. These were the spiritual (and more often than not the physical) ancestors of the men of the days of the covered wagons. As the harder and more adventurous went forth to conquer the wilderness, newcomers took their places. Where the first pioneers found dense forests, those
Huguenot-Walloo Tercentenary, 1-cent, 1924
(Photo, National Postal Museum Collection)
Huguenot-Walloon Tercentenary, 2-cent, 1924
(Photo, National Postal Museum Collection)
Huguenot-Walloon Tercentenary, 5-cent, 1924
(Photo, National Postal Museum)
FIRST NORSE SETTLERS ARRIVED 100 YEARS AGO

New York Times (1923-Current file): Apr 12, 1925;
ProQuest Historical Newspapers The New York Times (1851 - 2006)
p. XX17

FIRST NORSE SETTLERS ARRIVED 100 YEARS AGO

Centenary at Minneapolis in June Will Commemorate Landing of Pioneer Norwegian Immigrants and Their Work in Building the Northwest.

Norwegians, Americans

receive the news of Norse immigration to the United States as having begun 100 years ago, on Oct. 12, 1825, when the sloop Restaurantanen, with fifty-three settlers from the homeland across the sea, landed in New York Harbor. The Norse-American centenary in Minneapolis next June will commemorate the arrival of the little vessel.

The main theme of the celebration, however, will be the building of the American Northwest by Norwegian pioneers. That theme will be the subject of addresses and the music of a great historical pageant, in which five hundred persons will take part. It will include more than three thousand singers and musicians from the United States, Canada and Norway. It will be illustrated in a concrete way by exhibits tracing the earliest beginnings of the Norse pioneers in America to the present time, occupied by his descendants in industry, in government, in the arts and sciences.

It is the pride of the Norse-American of today that his ancestors did not choose to add to the congestion of Eastern cities but instead followed the unexplored regions of the West.

The sloop Restaurantanen, small but capable of dealing in New York and vicinity, will become a commverage vessel which brought the little colony of the most significant of all. The immigrants took land in Kendall and Orleans counties, on the shores of Lake Ontario, about thirty-five miles from the then new town of Rochester.

As to the somewhat nasal Scandinavian flavor of the speech of the new citizens, no other national group in the United States today can so well afford such a skeleton in its closet. Not that the incident of the cry of “no” is regarded as scandalous by the Norwegian-Americans. It is on the contrary, amusing, wholesome, and tolerable. He points out that “things were different in those days.” In this connection it is recalled that no other than a son of Norwegian pioneer stock, Andrew Volstead of Minnesota, assisted in establishing the differences between these days and those.

Moreover, the Pathfinders.

An account of the Norwegian-American historical narrative would be incomplete without mention of picturesque Kjell Pearson, trail blazer for the first Norwegian expedition to the United States and for the first canoes of the early colonists from the Middle Atlantic States to the Western prairies. Kjell Pearson, also called Kjell Freder...
Norse-American Centennial, 2-cent, 1925
(Photo, National Postal Museum Collection)
Norse-American Centennial, 5 cent, 1925
(Photo, National Postal Museum Collection)
Pulaski and Kosciuszko Monuments in Washington, DC
Kosciuszko, 5-cent, 1933
(Photo, National Postal Museum Collection)