

300,000 SEE QUEENS LINKED TO OLD CITY

New Bridge Ablaze with Red Fire and Electricity in the Evening.

SPEECHES BY NOTED MEN

Secretary Dickinson and Gov. Hughes
Review Parade — 1,500 Children
Sing "Star-Spangled Banner."

A day of bright sunshine, tempered by shifting clouds, a big, jostling, good-natured crowd, estimated at from 200,000 to 300,000 persons, all eager to see and hear and willing to be seen and heard; brief speeches of congratulation by the Governor of the State, the Secretary of War, and city officials, and a huge parade of military, civic, industrial, and social organizations, swinging its 10 miles of length past the reviewing stands while thousands cheered, were some of the features marking the formal opening of the Queensboro Bridge yesterday.

With a brief lull late in the afternoon, when everybody either went home for dinner or made ravenous onslaughts on the pie, milk, and sandwich counters, the celebration was renewed with the same vigor at night. The great bridge, the new link tying Manhattan to Long Island, was brilliantly illuminated by thousands of incandescent electric lights, and later enveloped as if by a sheet of flame when the fireworks were set off. This lasted for two hours, and then as many persons as possible crowded into the big tent, where 6,000 seats had been provided, to hear some Long Island girls sing "The Mocking Bird."

Brilliant Fireworks Display.

Manhattan Island for blocks around Fifty-ninth Street and the East River was a blaze of light from 8 to 10 o'clock. The fireworks were brilliant, and, according to Inspector Schmittberger, surpassed any similar public display he had ever seen. A magnificent search and flash light display from hundreds of tugs in the river below, contributed to the fiery display, and the total result made the thousands of people on each end of the new bridge yell with delight.

The grand illumination started at 8 o'clock, and wound up with the lighting of several thousand steady red-fire lights, which outlined the structure in lines of flame for the last half hour.

The river below was crowded with tugs, police launches, fireboats, innumerable pleasure craft, and ten tugs of the New York Central in charge of Capt. George J. Elseman, all carrying immense search lights, which were turned on to the bridge above.

No one was allowed on the bridge itself during the fireworks display, except Tom Lloyd, the veteran fireworks man, who, with forty assistants, was busy for two hours setting off the numerous pieces.

The display started with an illumination of all the surrounding section, accomplished by the tug search lights and a set of fireworks pieces that threw out waves of light, red, white, and blue, similar to searchlights.

Then followed various representations in colored fire, the leading display of which was the carnival of flowers, though an immense peach-basket hat resting on an apparent gold cloth brought out the loudest applause. Another cheer-raiser was the picture of an octopus, which was represented with extremely long, grasping claws vari-colored.

The grand climax of the spectacle was an immense representation of Niagara Falls, pictured in all the colors of the rainbow, and apparently poured over the bridge on the south side. The effect was realistic enough to bring yells of delight from the crowd. Two tons of powder, it was said, were used in the representation of the Falls.

A Great Day for Queens.

Altogether it was a great day—Queens Borough's own day, and all Queens was there in best bib and tucker. Manhattan took it calmly, for all the bridges are Manhattan's, and its citizens are used to them. Nevertheless tens of thousands of Manhattanites tramped or rode in stages across the bridge to see the celebration. Thousands gathered in Fifth Avenue also and other streets along which the parade passed to see the marchers and the scores of floats, which spoke of abundant prosperity.

The biggest time, however, was in Queens at the Long Island City end of the bridge. The grand stands and every foot of space in the streets where the police would permit the people to stand were filled by noon, though the speaking did not begin until an hour later. Every housetop and window with an outlook on the bridge plaza, through which the parade was to pass, was filled with spectators.

Gov. Hughes and John D. Crimmins of the "Committee of Forty," for whose efforts to have the bridge built Queens is grateful, were the first of the official party to arrive at the reviewing stand, followed soon by Secretary of War Dickinson and Gen. Crozier, Chief of Ordnance, U. S. A. Gov. Hughes had frequently to lift his hat in response to cheers of greeting, and these were renewed when the 1,500 school children from Queens, massed on the grand stand, sang "The Star-Spangled Banner." Secretary Dickinson was not generally recognized when he first arrived, but the people made up for it when he had concluded a brief but happy speech, in which he praised New York.

Inspector Schmittberger, in charge of the police arrangements, permitted no one to stand in the street in front of the speakers, so few heard the addresses except those on the stand itself. Controller Metz was greeted by cries of "Oh, you Metz" when he dashed up in an automobile followed closely by Borough Presidents Ahearn of Manhattan and Gresser of Queens and Acting Mayor McGowan.

Following the example of Chairman William H. Williams, Jr., who presided, all the speeches were brief. The Governor, who spoke longest of all, was on his feet not more than fifteen minutes, and Acting Mayor McGowan's words were briefest of all.

"On behalf of the city I accept this bridge," he said after Mgr. Lavelle had offered the invocation with which the exercises began, "and I hope it may serve to bind together the hearts and minds of the two boroughs it connects."

Borough Presidents Ahearn and Gresser accepted the bridge, the former saying that its construction reflected credit on the present administration of the city, which he declared had done much for the Borough of Queens. He said New York was a city to be proud of and was "soon to be first in population in the whole world, as it was first now in many respects."

Secretary Dickinson intimated that he

Crowd Waiting for the Parade at Manhattan End of New Bridge.

felt something like an outsider at a family gathering. "New York, however," he said, "is the Mecca for all of the people of the United States, and all may rejoice in the prosperity which you enjoy."

Hughes Urges Civic Unity.

Chairman Williams introduced the Governor as one who had occupied the "Governor's chair two terms with commendation," and the sentiment was applauded. But the Governor made his greatest hit when later he got down off the stand and went out in front to look at the school children. He applauded them, and they cheered him.

"This is a day of happy omen for the people of this State," said the Governor in his address. "The State of New York has no single interest of more importance than the prosperity of this city. For better or for worse, the State has consented for the people of four counties to unite themselves under one administration."

He declared that the prosperity and greatness of the city was a source of pride to all the people of the State, but that it was not possible to make a great city by legislative enactment. That must be done, if at all, he said, by civic consciousness, so that a citizen of any borough might feel that every other citizen of the city was indeed his "fellow-citizen."

"Borough development is important," he declared, "but we are going to stand or fall together." He said it was necessary to have interborough communication for the growth of the city, and that in Queens were the city's greatest areas awaiting development.

The Queens contingent in the throng gave a big cheer when he expressed the opinion that the future of Queens was the brightest among all the boroughs, because so much of Queens lies in the future. He thought that in Queens would be solved the problem of municipal living; there the people would get back to normal living, but he urged the citizens of Queens not to lose interest in the welfare of Manhattan and other boroughs, because their interests were identical.

"Three cheers for Gov. Hughes!" shouted big William Williams, the man who nearly a year ago kicked the celebration ball off at a little meeting of business men in Long Island City. The cheers were lustily given, with a tiger for good measure.

Cheers for the President.

"Three cheers for the President of the United States!" then shouted Chairman Williams, who is himself built on the Taft architectural lines. This call received a handsome response also. As the voices of the crowd died away the children sang with much sweetness, "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," the throng joining in. The head of the parade did not arrive until about ten minutes later, and the interval was spent by those on the stand in shaking hands.

Chairman Williams presented Dr. Thomas Rainey to the audience as the father of the Queensboro Bridge idea, and the doctor, white haired and with snowy beard, received a rousing cheer. Then there came the blare of horns, the rumble of drums, and flashes of gold as the gaily caparisoned horses of Major Gen. Roe, Grand Marshal, and his staff, leading the parade, clattered before the reviewing stand.

Secretary Dickinson was all attention the moment the military put in its appearance. Springing to his feet to receive the salute of Gen. Roe, he remained standing throughout the hour consumed by the military in passing, never taking his eye off the troopers. It was the first opportunity since accepting the war portfolio to see the National Guard of New York, and he made the most of it. An hour before he had arrived from West Point, where he had inspected the cadets.

With Gen. Roe were his chief of staff, Lieut. Col. George Albert Wingate, and the aids, including Lieut. Col. W. W. Ladd, Lieut. Col. Gifford Hurry, Lieut. Col. N. B. Thurston, Lieut. Col. William H. Chapin, Lieut. Col. J. Wray Cleveland, Lieut. Col. John N. Stearns, Jr., Lieut. Col. George W. Bunnell, Jr., Lieut. Col. William G. Le Boutillier, Lieut. Col. Frederick T. Leigh, Lieut. Col. B. B. McAlpin, Major John B. Holland, Capt. Louis M. Greer, Capt. Cornelius Vanderbilt, and Capt. Adrian H. Mather.

Squadron A, escort for the Grand Marshal, shared with Gen. Roe and his staff in the general applause which greeted the head of the line. Immediately behind the squadron came Bridge Commissioner Stevenson and his staff in carriages, followed by a platoon of engineers of the Bridge Department. Mr. Stevenson joined those on the reviewing stand, and was congratulated by the Governor and Secretary Dickinson on the appearance of his men in line.

Parade a Brilliant Spectacle.

Next came the Committee of Forty in carriages, its members also joining those on the reviewing stand. From that moment until more than fifty minutes had elapsed soldiers of the National Guard, blue jackets from the navy yard, and regulars from the forts, swung by at a pace almost bewildering. The color scheme of the parading columns was kaleidoscopic, and the martial spectacle brought forth continuous applause. The blue jackets got a lion's share of it as they swept by at a clip which ground dust from the cobble stones, followed immediately by the no less attractive looking United States Marine Corps, the two forming the first division of the parade.

After them came what seemed an end-

less chain of cavalry, infantry, and artillery of the National Guard, constituting the second division and commanded by Brig. Gen. George Moore Smith, escorted by Squadron C, Regiments marching under Gen. Smith were the Twenty-second, Engineers; First Battalion Field Artillery, the Seventh Regiment, the Sixty-ninth Regiment, and the First Company Signal Corps, acting as escort for Col. Daniel Appleton, commanding the First Brigade.

Under Col. John G. Eddy, commanding the Second Brigade, were the Second Company Signal Corps, his escort; Twenty-third Regiment, Fourteenth Regiment, and the Forty-seventh Regiment. Capt. Jacob W. Miller commanded the Naval Militia of New York, First and Second Battalions, which composed the third and last of the military divisions.

While the infantry had not the advantage of the color display in caps and jackets which were so effective in arousing the applause of the onlooker through their fresh looking blue coats, spotless duck trousers, and the even swing at which they stepped along, made a showing which evidently was not lost on Secretary Dickinson, who watched them with unflagging interest.

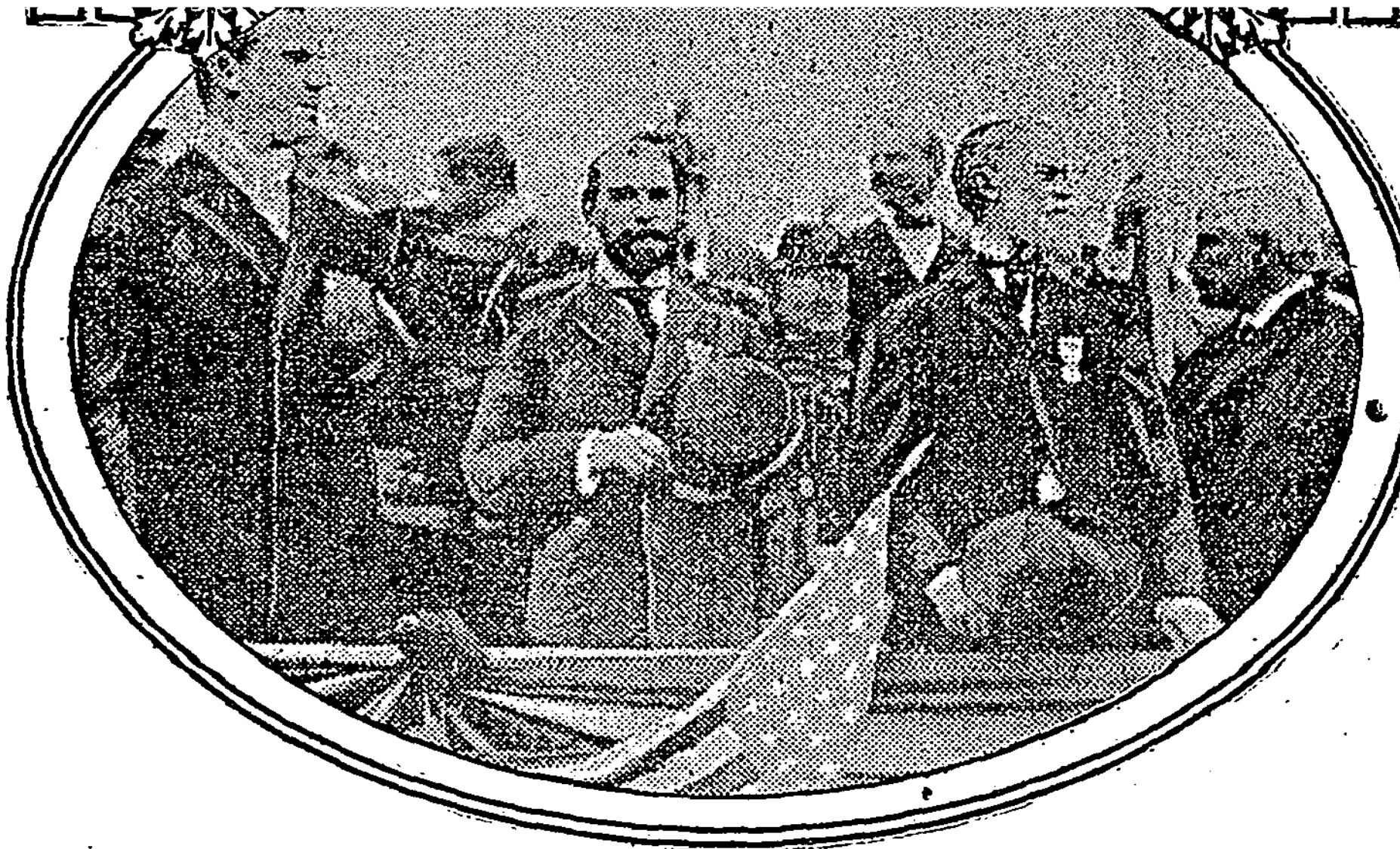
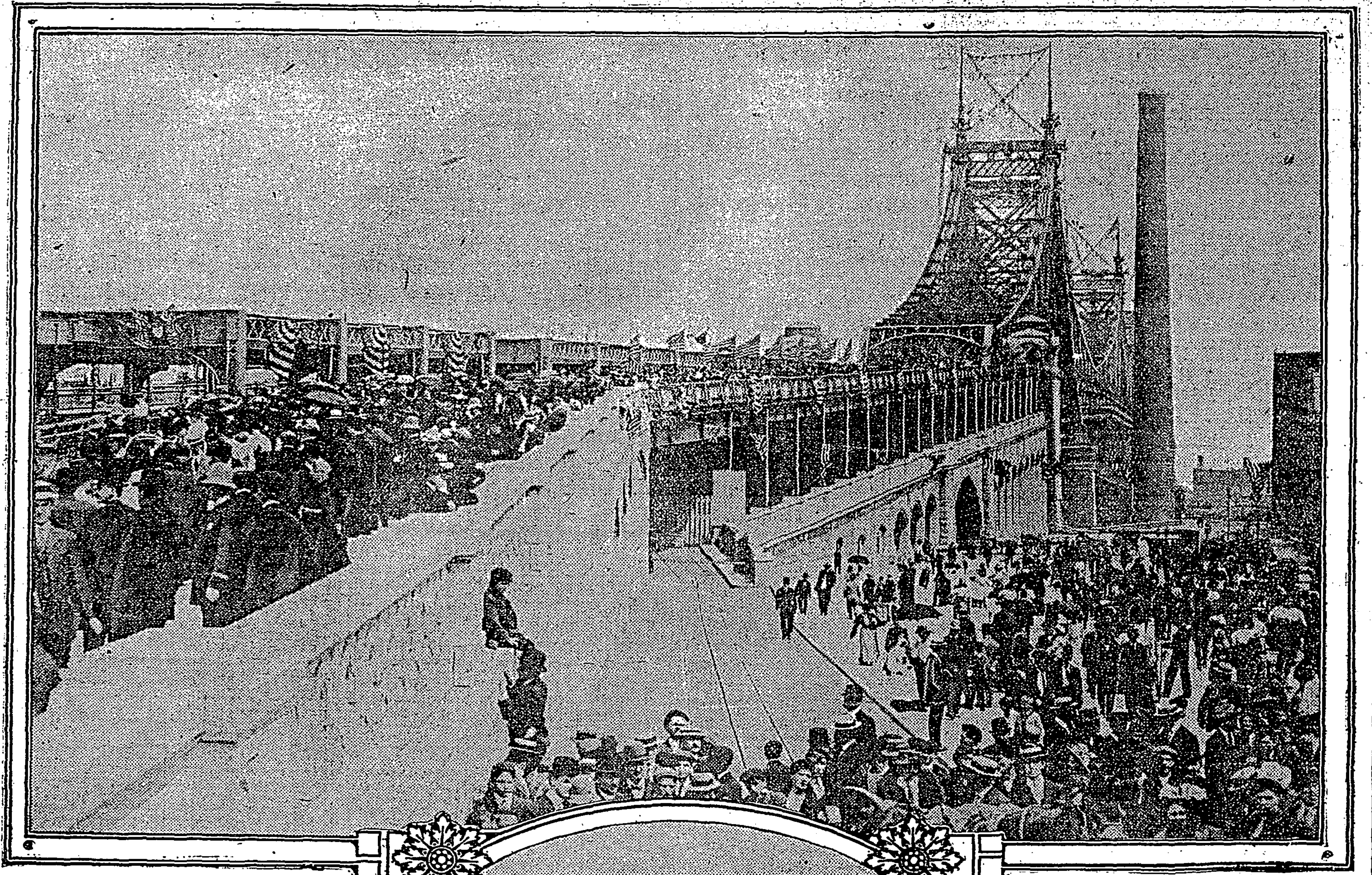
He and Gov. Hughes stood together while the militia was passing, and though they continually lifted their hats in response to the unending "guide left" with which they were honored by the passing columns, they found time to comment on the appearance of the men. From the Governor's frequent smiles and nods in reply to remarks by the Secretary of War, it was evident that New York's contingent of the National Guard had found favor in Mr. Dickinson's eyes.

The pace set by the soldiers was uncommonly brisk for a hot day, and the stout men suffered greatly. Many passed with the perspiration streaming down their faces. Not so, however, one big fellow of the Seventy-first Regiment, a file closer, in blue jacket and white duck trousers, who attracted the attention of hundreds as he swept along with a sturdy shuffle which gave his big body the impetus of a battering ram. Still, he didn't look even flushed.

"That man looks as if he could march from Albany to Buffalo like that," said a spectator.

The school children of Long Island City, Newtown, Corona, and other towns in Queens shared the applause with the best of the marchers, for their fellow-pupils on the reviewing stand jumped up, cheered, and waved flags as each school body swung by.

During a temporary break in the line District School Supt. C. E. Franklin of Elmhurst came up to the stand and was joined by Gov. Hughes, and the pair of them, escorted by half a dozen policemen,



Gov. Hughes on the Reviewing Stand, Between John D. Crimmins and Mr. Williams.

marched out into the middle of the street, so that the Governor might get a good view of the children. Evidently the Governor and the children liked each other. The Governor waved his silk hat enthusiastically and the children waved their flags back at him, concluding with three shrill but enthusiastic cheers.

Every one commented on the precision with which the boys marched and the dignity of their bearing. They were in knickerbockers, and each wore a red, white, and blue shoulder sash, and each company was commanded by a boy captain. The boys, too, as they passed the reviewing stand "left dressed" toward the Governor and reviewing party, this and the counter-command, "Front," coming shrilly, but with the promptness usually expected only of regulars.

Between the schoolboy battalions came a number of historical floats, with the lads posing as Indians and historic personages in the early annals of New York. One was Gen. Woodhull at Jamaica, refusing while a sword point pressed against his body, to say "God save the King." Another represented the Indians granting land to the Dutch settlers, and then came the keen-witted Mrs. Murray, who entertained the British so charmingly that Gen. Washington and his patriotic little

army escaped from an overwhelming force.

Brooklynites Bait Metz.

The Exempt Firemen of Long Island City, the Veteran Firemen's Association, and the famous Whitestone organization in mauve uniforms, all attracted much attention, while the Long Island cowboys, followed by a typical prairie schooner, gave a touch of Wild West color to the parade. The German singing societies also added interest.

Among the political and Board of Trade paraders were a prosperous lot from South Brooklyn who had fun at Controller Metz's expense. Banners and streamers bearing the inscription "Fourth Avenue Subway" decorated their carriages, and almost every occupant of the carriages had something to say to the Controller. It was usually, "Oh, you Metz! We'll win in spite of you," or "Come on, Herman; get aboard the band wagon." The Controller, taking the bantering good naturedly, shouted back replies as fast as he could, but most of them were drowned by fresh sallies.

The line closed with the prosperity floats, headed by J. R. Rapps's wagons and marching employes, and an uncom-

monly interesting procession of brewers' wagons, employes, and a miniature brewery float. Gov. Hughes enthusiastically applauded these floats, and some one remarked that Dr. T. A. MacNicholl, who made the charges about the drinking of children, should have been there, as about half of the brewery wagons were filled with school children, and the other half with bright, new beer kegs.

While there were a number of small accidents, and some of the soldiers were partially overcome by the heat, the day was singularly free from serious mishaps. There were a number of arrests, but for only trifling offenses.

Statistics of the Bridge.

The Queensboro Bridge is 3,724½ feet long. It is the largest public cantilever bridge in the world. The river span west of Blackwell's Island is 1,182 feet long. The river span east of the island is 984 feet long. The length of the island span is 630 feet. The clear height of the Bridge above mean high water is 155 feet. The maximum grade on Bridge is 3.41 per cent. Height of towers above bottom chord is 185 feet. Eight years were taken to build it. It was opened to traffic March 30, 1909. It can accommodate 215,000 persons. Its total dead load equals 120,000,000 pounds. It has four elevated railroad tracks. It has two promenades and four trolley tracks.

Casualties of the Day.

Maude Payne, a sixteen-year-old school girl of 417 West Fifty-sixth Street, while watching the parade at Forty-first Street and Fifth Avenue fell to the sidewalk, overcome by the heat. She was attended by Dr. Knowles of 35 West Forty-sixth Street and Ambulance Surgeon Hohe of Bellevue and was sent home.

Frank Stalker, a driver, of 200 North Seventh Street Brooklyn, was marching in the parade on the Bridge when overcome by the heat. He was attended by Dr. Hallman and taken to St. John's Hospital.

Edward Phillips, 7 years old, of 329 West Forty-ninth Street was walking on the south end of the Bridge when his head struck an iron girder. The boy sustained a serious scalp wound. He was attended by Police Surgeon Donlin and taken home.

While marching with one of the delegations, Max Mertes of 421 East Nineteenth Street was overcome by the heat and dropped out on the roadway. He was attended by Dr. Barton of Flower Hospital and taken to St. John's Hospital in Long Island City.