

Monday, April 30, 1973 Chillicothe O. Gazette— 7

# Rain and chilly winds give way for finale of Dogwood Festival

PIKETON — The 1973 Dogwood Festival was an unqualified success, judging from the comments of some of the more than estimated 10,000 visitors—many of whom braved a down-pour Friday and chilly breezes Saturday.

The third annual festival closed Sunday with a warm nod from Mother Nature and enthusiasm for the variety of craft demonstrations, the gala parade, ear-splitting Civil War re-enactments and an outstanding antique automobile show.

By Saturday afternoon, artisans were beginning to worry about having enough wares to last through the final day. Mrs. Clarence B. Anderson and her Piketon area cooking colleagues decorated and sold more than 125 dozen "Dogwood" cookies. Homemade bread, loaf and flower pot breads and funnel fried goodies sold like hot cakes and individual craftsmen reported a generally brisk business.

One Saturday highlight was the 1973 debut of the Adelphi Band under the baton of R. W. Connett of Piketon. Although lacking its full complement for this first appearance, the 16 bandmen present staged a marathon concert, playing from 3:30 p.m. until 5 p.m., almost without interruption.

The country and mountain music groups played to appreciative audiences who took time out from touring craft sites in

the Old Village of Piketon to sit on the bleachers in front of the music stage.

Climax of the Sunday post-parade program was the re-enacted skirmish in front of the Activity Center between the 1st and 5th Ohio Volunteer Infantry and the 22nd and 4th Virginia of the celebrated Stonewall Brigade. Smoke bombs, blanks and Rebel yells punctuated the Sabbath calm as the men battled in the street as hundreds of delighted spectators cheered.

The para-professional Civil War soldiers were among marching units in the parade which stretched almost the entire length of the village. An estimated 90 antique automobiles were on hand for judging and most appeared in the parade. The Piketon and Eastern High School marching bands provided martial strains and two drill teams added cadence.

A check of the Activity Center guest register indicated every section of Ohio was represented as well as Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, New York, Maryland, West Virginia, California and one visitor from Scotland.

Craftsmen were generally pleased with the turnout and predicted an even bigger attendance and participation next year. The log hewers drew crowds as they broadaxed a poplar log into a railroad tie

as was done in the old days. Both days of the muzzle loaders' shooting match, the only event at the Pike County Fair-grounds, attracted viewers and

plenty of shooters. Results of the matches will be announced, as will trophy winners in the antique automobile competition for which there were 22 classes.

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