

HISTORIC SAINT PAUL PRESENTS

TRIVIA NIGHT



About Historic Saint Paul

Historic Saint Paul is a nonprofit working to **strengthen Saint Paul neighborhoods by preserving and promoting their cultural heritage and character**. We have been around more than twenty years.

We work in partnership with private property owners, community organizations, and public agencies to leverage Saint Paul's cultural and historic resources as assets in economic development and community building initiatives.

About Saint Paul Winter Carnival

The Saint Paul Festival and Heritage Foundation's 135th Saint Paul Winter Carnival will run for 11 days (Jan. 28 - Feb. 7), the festival will attract 250,000+ people from Saint Paul and beyond to celebrate winter in Minnesota. Landmark Center, located in the heart of downtown Saint Paul, the Minnesota State Fairgrounds, and businesses throughout the city will be venues for event festivities, which include ice carving competitions, family-friendly artistic and educational activities, and much more!

Bob Olsen is the “official unofficial historian of the Saint Paul Winter Carnival Ice Palaces” and has been enamored with ice palaces since he was ten years old. In 1976, he helped revive the tradition, consulting on the first ice palace in 28 years. His work on Ice Palaces is part of the permanent collection of the Minnesota Historical Society and has been featured in a number of publications, including *National Geographic* and *Time Magazine*.





Round 1

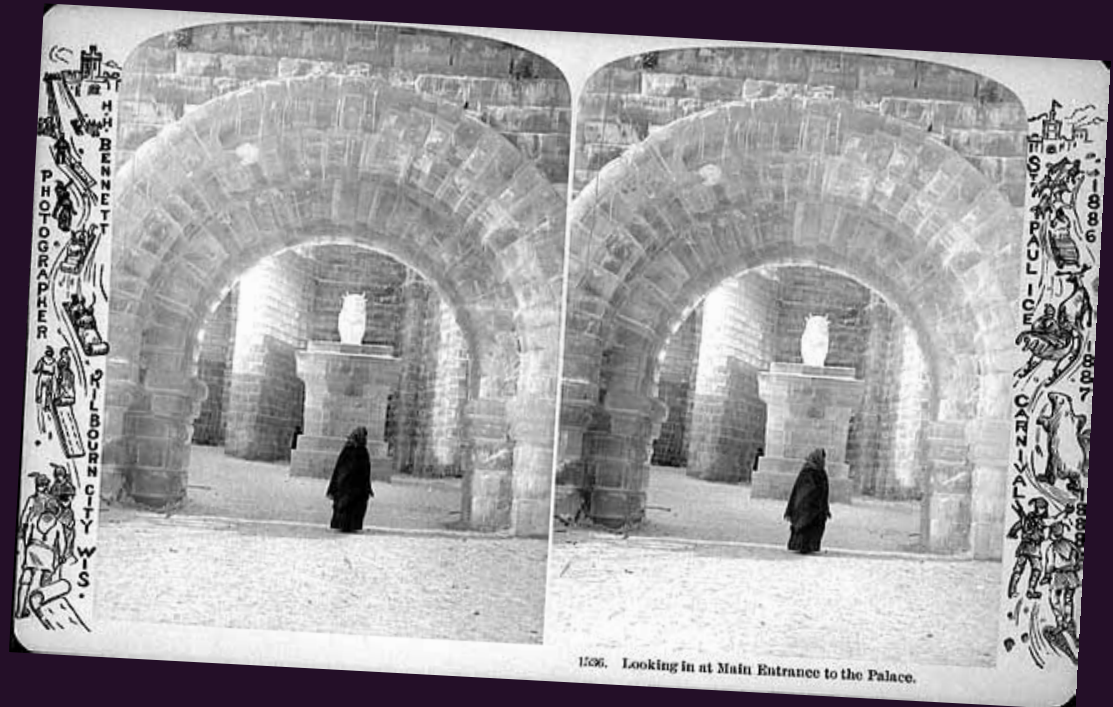


1. The very first winter carnival was inspired by what?

- A. A competition between Saint Paul & Minneapolis
- B. The 1884 Olympics
- C. Bad press that Minnesota was like Siberia
- D. Visitors & Tourism Bureau generating winter tourism

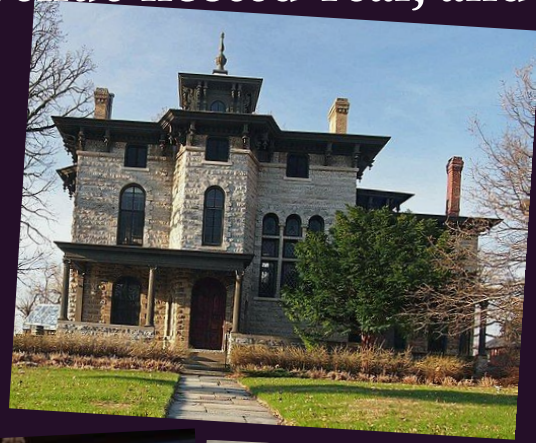
2. Today, ice palaces are only constructed every 10-15 years, usually to coincide with major events or milestones. Winter Carnival ice palaces were located in which of these Saint Paul parks:

- A. Como Park
- B. Phalen Park
- C. Harriet Island
- D. Victory Park
- E. Central Park
- F. Highland Park



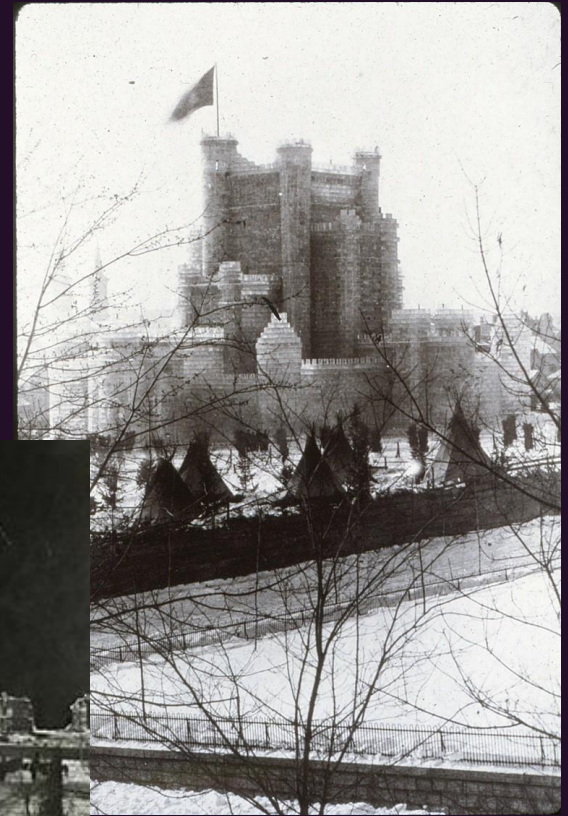
3. Which historic mansion on Summit Avenue hosted real, and imaginary, Winter Carnival parties?

- A. Burbank Livingston Griggs
- B. Weyerhaeuser
- C. James J. Hill House
- D. Louis Hill House



4. The 1886 ice palace (Saint Paul's first), was one of the first buildings in Saint Paul to have:

- A. Internet Wi-fi
- B. Indoor plumbing
- C. Electric lights
- D. Radiator heat



5. Who were special guests that attended the first Winter Carnival:

- A. King and Queen of Sweden**
- B. President Grover Cleveland**
- C. First Minnesota Infantry Regiment**
- D. The Lower Sioux Dakota community**



6. What new feature was added to the 1940 palace in Como Park?

- A. A Post office
- B. A Parade route
- C. A Toboggan slide
- D. A Skating rink



7. Who constructed the 1937 ice palace on the Capitol grounds (that caused a flood when it melted)

- A. Aquatennial volunteers**
- B. Boy Scouts**
- C. WPA workers**
- D. League of Women Voters**



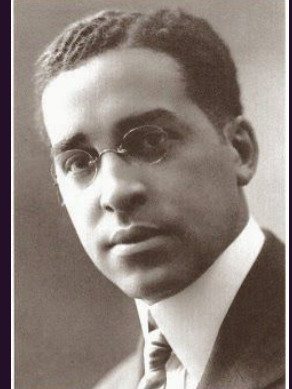
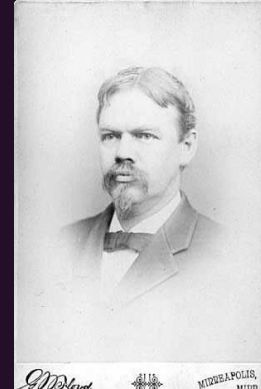
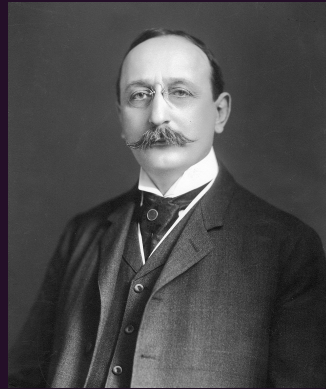
8. The smallpox epidemic of 1885 caused which city to cancel their ice palace and winter carnival, leading to the first such event in Saint Paul in 1886:

- A. St. Petersburg, Russia
- B. Saranac Lake, NY
- C. Montreal, Quebec
- D. Leadville, CO
- E. Winnipeg, Manitoba



9. Of all the civic buildings he designed for Saint Paul (including Holman Field, Chelsea Heights Elementary School, Keller Golf Course club house, Highland Park water tower), this architect called the ice palaces his “babies”.

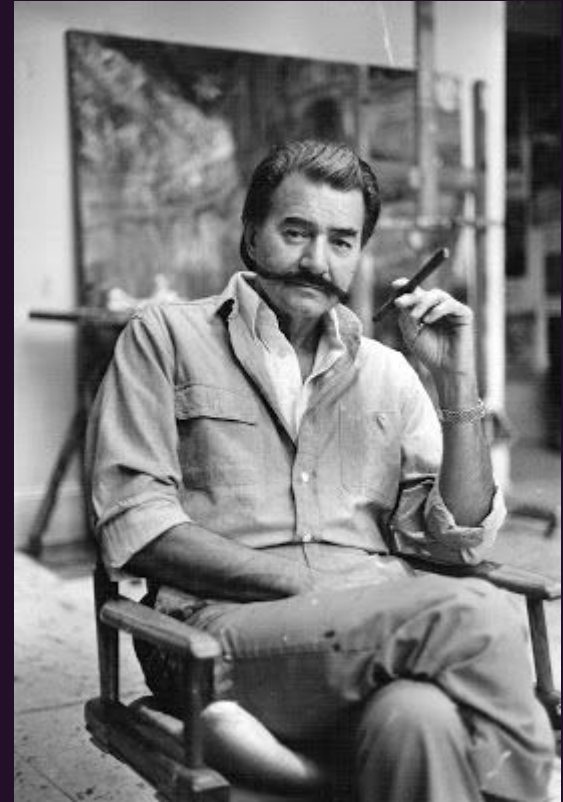
- A. Cass Gilbert
- B. William M. Godette
- C. LeRoy Buffington
- D. Clarence Wigington



Bonus point: How many palaces total did he design?

10. Speaking of “LeRoy”s, Saint Paul native LeRoy Neiman was commissioned to do a painting of an ice palace for the...

- A. Saint Paul Winter Carnival's centennial celebration**
- B. Minnesota Historical Society**
- C. F. Scott Fitzgerald Society**
- D. Minnesota Museum of Art**



Photograph by Arlene Schulman

Check your answers

Let's see how
you did...



1. The very first winter carnival was inspired by (B) **Bad press that Minnesota was like Siberia.** Several Eastern newspaper correspondents visited Saint Paul in the fall of 1885 and returned home to report that Minnesota, in general, was another Siberia, unfit for human habitation. A group of business owners decided to retaliate by creating a wintertime festival which would showcase all the beauty of Minnesota winters. The Saint Paul Winter Carnival is the oldest winter festival in the United States. It predates the Tournament of Roses Festival by two years.

2. Winter Carnival ice palaces were located in which of these Saint Paul parks:

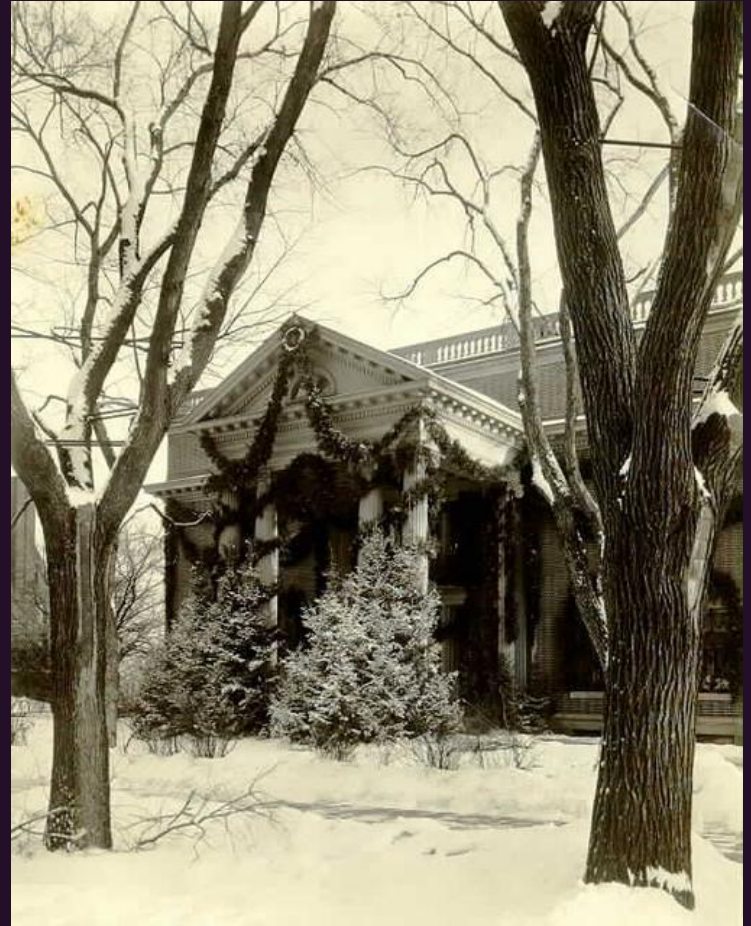
- A. Como Park
- B. Phalen Park
- C. Harriet Island
- D. Victory Park
- E. Central Park
- F. Highland Park



1986: 100th anniversary palace at Phalen Park Picnic Island. Built by 750 volunteers; 10,000 ice blocks from Lake Phalen. **Cost:** \$200,000 over and above donated labor.

3. Winter Carnival parties were held at the **(D.) Louis Hill House (260 Summit Avenue)**

Hill was the primary promoter of the 1916 & 1917 Carnivals, and had huge parties in his second floor ballroom. F Scott Fitzgerald references the Hill's ballroom in several short stories.



4. The 1886 ice palace was one of the first buildings in Saint Paul to have: **(C) Electric lights**

The castle was constructed at a cost of \$5,210 with a height of 106ft. Compare this first castle to the palace of 1992 with a cost \$1.9M and a height of 165ft (a Guinness record). Communities across the state contributed ice: White Bear Lake, Big Stone Lake, Glenwood, Wahpeton, Minnetonka, Fargo and Bismarck. Stillwater sent the cornerstone, a cube of ice over 4ft per side, cut from the St. Croix River.



5. Who were special guests that attended the first Winter Carnival?

(D) The Lower Sioux Dakota community

ST. PAUL, SUNDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY

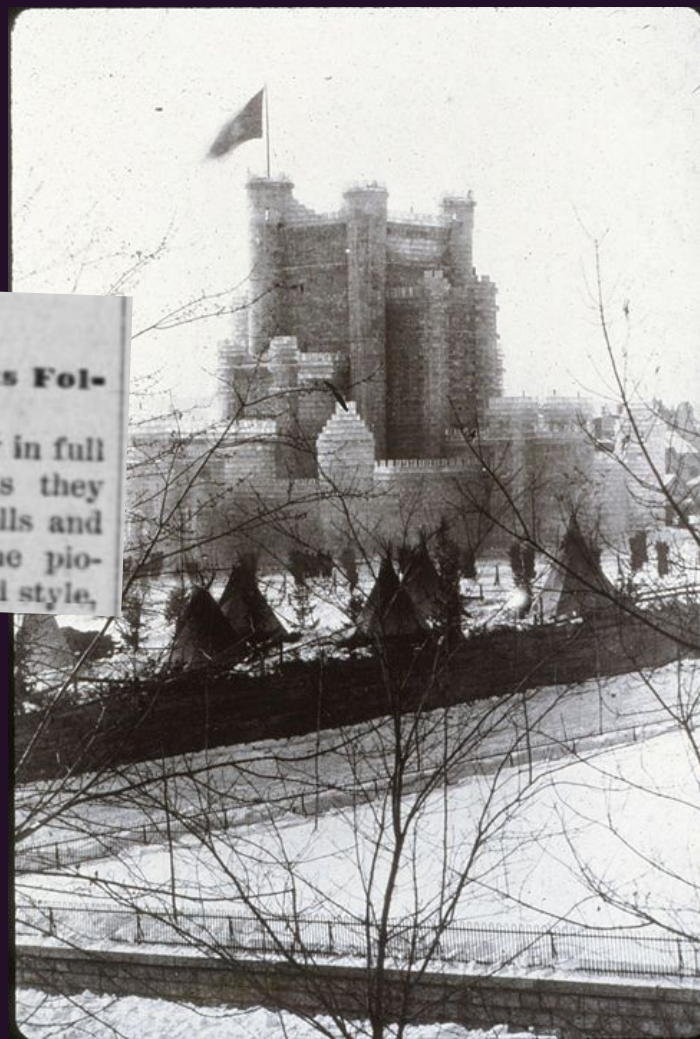


The Indian Encampment.

ABORIGINES IN LINE.

The Indians Parade the Streets Followed by Old Settlers.

The aborigines were out yesterday in full uniform and their faces painted as they were thirty years ago when their yells and whoops sent terror to the heart of the pioneer. They were gotten up in grand style,



6. What new feature was included in the 1940 ice palace in Como Park:
(A) A Post Office

In 1940 the price was .03 cents to mail a letter.

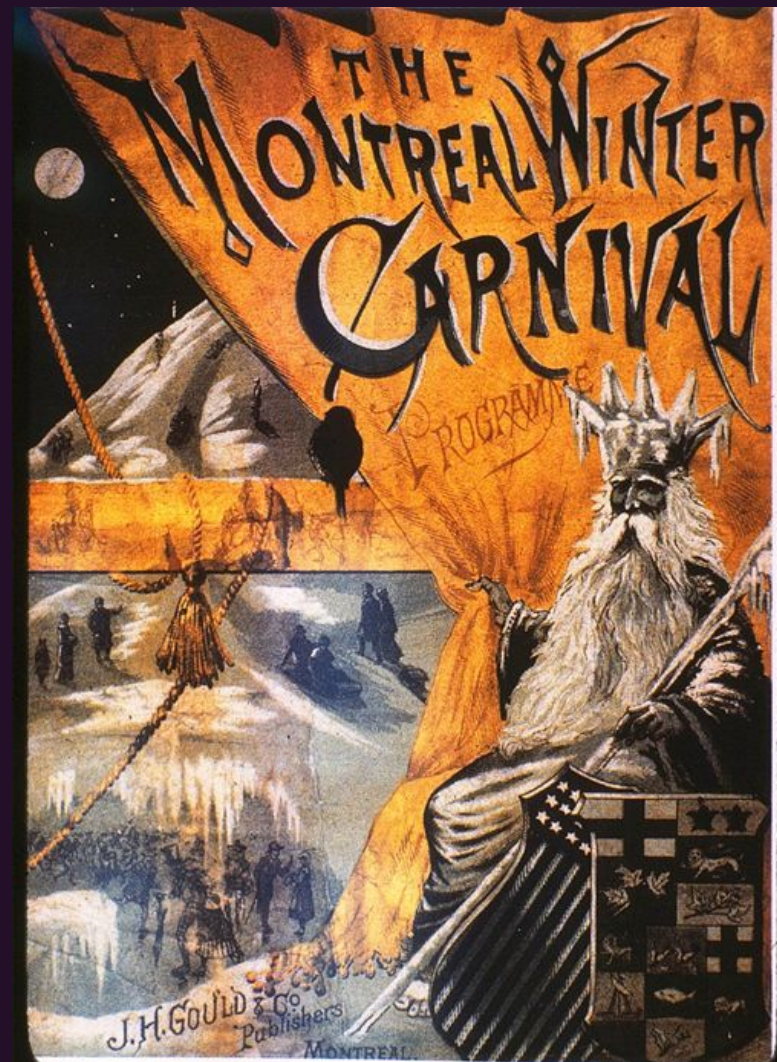


7. **C. WPA workers** built the 1937 ice palace on the Capitol grounds (that caused a flood when it melted). 600 of them worked around the clock to build the structure in less than 2 weeks. It was the only palace to have an elevator! The Boy Scouts helped on the 1939 palace.



8. **C. Montreal QC** (... all of the other cities DID have ice palaces, too!) In North America, Montreal was the first to create an Ice Palace. When smallpox broke out in 1885, St. Paul leaders moved quickly to build a palace here in hopes to attract tourism to St. Paul.

To date, the St. Paul Winter Carnival has built over two dozen Ice Palaces, all of different shapes and sizes. Ice Palaces only appear every 10-15 years and coincide with major events, like the 2018 Super Bowl.



9. Of all the buildings **(D) Clarence Wigington** designed for Saint Paul he called the ice palaces his “babies.” William Godette (choice B.) was a structural engineer that worked with Wigington on all the civic buildings.

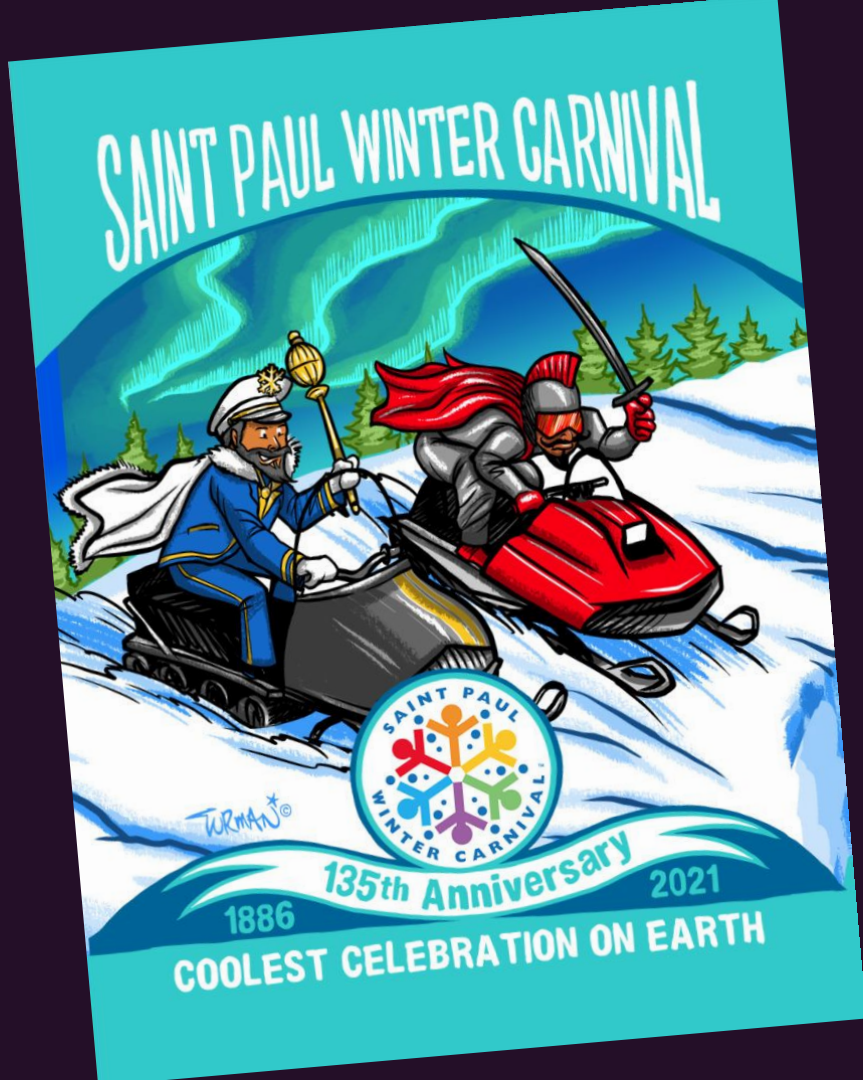
Bonus: **Six palaces!**



10. Saint Paul native
LeRoy Neiman was
commissioned to do a
painting of an ice palace
for the (A) Saint Paul
Winter Carnival's
centennial celebration in
1986



Questions, comments?
& Intermission



Round 2

11. Toboggans were clocked going 80 miles per hour down which public slide:

- A. Battle Creek slide**
- B. Dayton's Bluff slide**
- C. Ramsey Hill slide**
- D. Cedar Street slide**



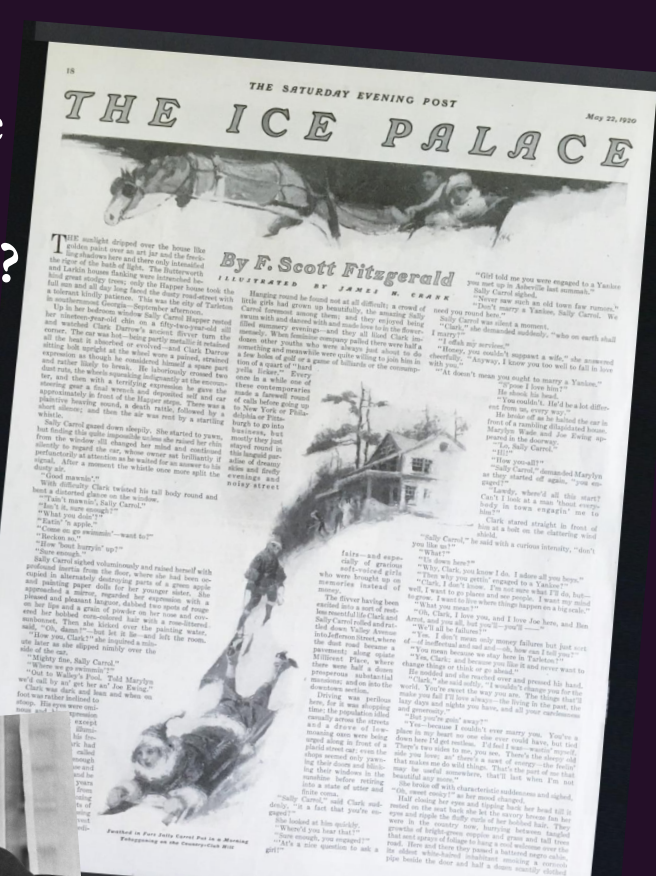
12. Scientists flocked to study the 1886 ice palace to learn...

- A. If icebergs could be used for military purposes
- B. Why there are so many different colors of ice
- C. If fish frozen in the blocks of ice were in suspended animation
- D. About light diffusion through ice



13. What architectural feature of the 1888 ice palace plays a prominent role in F Scott Fitzgerald's 1920 short story, "The Ice Palace"?

- A. The five giant ice sculptures embedded in the east wall of the palace, depicting ice skating, curling, tobogganing, snow shoeing, and the great White Bear
- B. The Grand Court and Reception Hall
- C. The Labyrinth
- D. The Moorish Tower



14. As part of the 1917 Winter Carnival, Henry Ford did which of the following:

- A. Introduced snow tires for the Model T
- B. Included a heater as standard equipment in cars and trucks made in Saint Paul assembly plant
- C. Commissioned John Philip Sousa to compose the "Make It a Hotter One" Carnival March
- D. Filmed Louis Hill participating in winter sports at the Town and Country Club



1917 Winter Carnival button (MNHS)

15. Speaking of the Town and Country Club, which historic Saint Paul marching club was thrown out of Carnival for rowdiness, and subsequently founded the Town and Country Club?

- A. Saint George's Snowshoe Club
- B. Nushka Club
- C. Washtae Toboggan Club
- D. Rainbow Toboggan Club





16. The 1889 ice palace was never built, due to an unseasonably warm December. Had it been built on Harriet Island as planned, which of the following features would it have had?

- A. A main tower 150 feet tall
- B. A two-storey labyrinth
- C. An indoor skating rink
- D. A toboggan slide that started across the river, and ended at the entrance of the palace

17. What historic building was the first headquarters of the Saint Paul Ice Palace and Winter Carnival Association?

- A. The Pioneer Press building
- B. The Ryan Hotel
- C. The Great Northern Railway building
- D. The Saint Paul Union Depot (original)



18. What street in downtown Saint Paul was closed off for a popular ice skating rink in the 1950s and 1960s?

- A. Wabasha Street**
- B. Saint Peter Street**
- C. Fifth Street**
- D. Robert Street**

BONUS: What was the de-facto warming house?

- A. Gokey's Sporting Goods**
- B. Moudry's Apothecary**
- C. Bridgeman's Ice Cream**
- D. Albrecht's Furs**
- E. Dayton's Department Store**



19. Volunteerism from the business community is at the heart of the winter carnival. The Royal Family and Vulcan Krewe are made up of volunteers that make over 400 appearances to festivals, nursing homes, schools and hospitals on behalf of the Winter Carnival & St. Paul. Today, King Boreas and the Queen of the Snows rule over approximately 21 members of the Royal Family including Boreas's four brothers who represent the four winds. One point each for the brothers you can name!



20. Klondike Kate is Saint Paul's mistress of fun, frivolity, and good fellowship. What is the lore of her character?

- A. A cabaret entertainer, she survives the most brutal winters thanks to the warmth of her voice and smile
- B. Queen of the Snows, she reigns with King Boreas over the festival
- C. A woman who made her way east from the Gold Rush
- D. A business gal at heart, she represents hospitality businesses



21. Sisters Joan & Jane are known as the “Carnival Twins” volunteer in various ways, have been attending the carnival since what year?

- A. 1980
- B. 1925
- C. 1949
- D. 2000

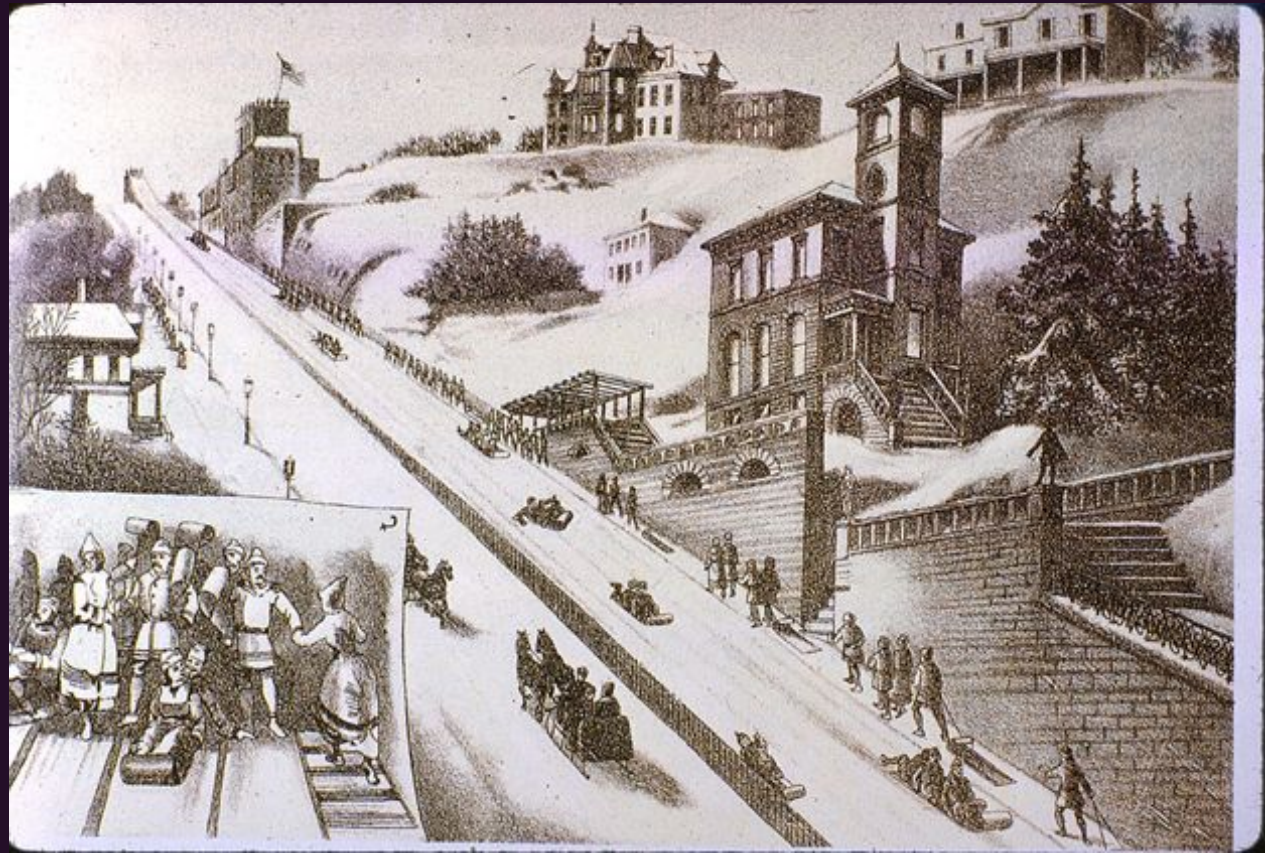


Check your answers

Let's see how
you did...



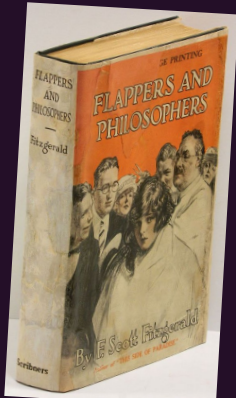
11. Toboggans
were clocked
going 80 miles per
hour down
Ramsey Hill slide
– “It made the
young men
scream, and the
young ladies
faint.”



12. Scientists flocked to study the 1886 ice palace to learn...
(C.) If fish frozen in the blocks of ice were in suspended animation



13. C. **The Labyrinth** in the 1888 ice palace plays a prominent role in Fitzgerald's 1920 short story, "The Ice Palace". The palace itself required two months of labor and 55,000 blocks of ice. Rising to 15 stories, it took more than 4 months to melt.



14. As part of the 1917 Winter Carnival, Henry Ford (D) **filmed** Louis Hill participating in winter sports at the Town and Country Club



15. (B) **the Nushka Club** was thrown out of Carnival for rowdiness, and subsequently founded the Town and Country Club.



^ Nushka float 1887. (MNHS)

^ Nushka Club cloak 1886 (MNHS)

16. The 1889 ice palace was never built, due to an unseasonably warm December.

Had it been built on Harriet Island as planned, which of the following features would it have had? **All of them!**

- A. A main tower 150 feet tall
- B. A two-storey labyrinth
- C. An indoor skating rink
- D. A toboggan slide that started across the river, and ended at the entrance of the palace



17. (B) **The Ryan Hotel** was the first headquarters of the Saint Paul Ice Palace and Winter Carnival Association.

“Completed in 1885 and demolished with minimal fanfare in 1962, the Ryan ... was a marvelous Victorian Gothic extravaganza with no peers in the Twin Cities.

A parking lot initially replaced the hotel, in 1982 the site was filled in with a 21-story office building constructed for the Minnesota Mutual Life Insurance Co. (now Securian Financial Group).

Had the Ryan survived into the 1970s, when the idea of historic preservation finally took hold in St. Paul, the old hotel might well have been restored and renovated.”

Excerpted from a **Lost Twin Cities** article by Larry Millett
Special to the Star Tribune JANUARY 4, 2019



18. What street in downtown Saint Paul was closed off for a popular ice skating rink in the 1950s and 1960s?

- A. Wabasha Street
- B. Saint Peter Street
- C. Fifth Street (between Saint Peter and Wabasha)**
- D. Robert Street

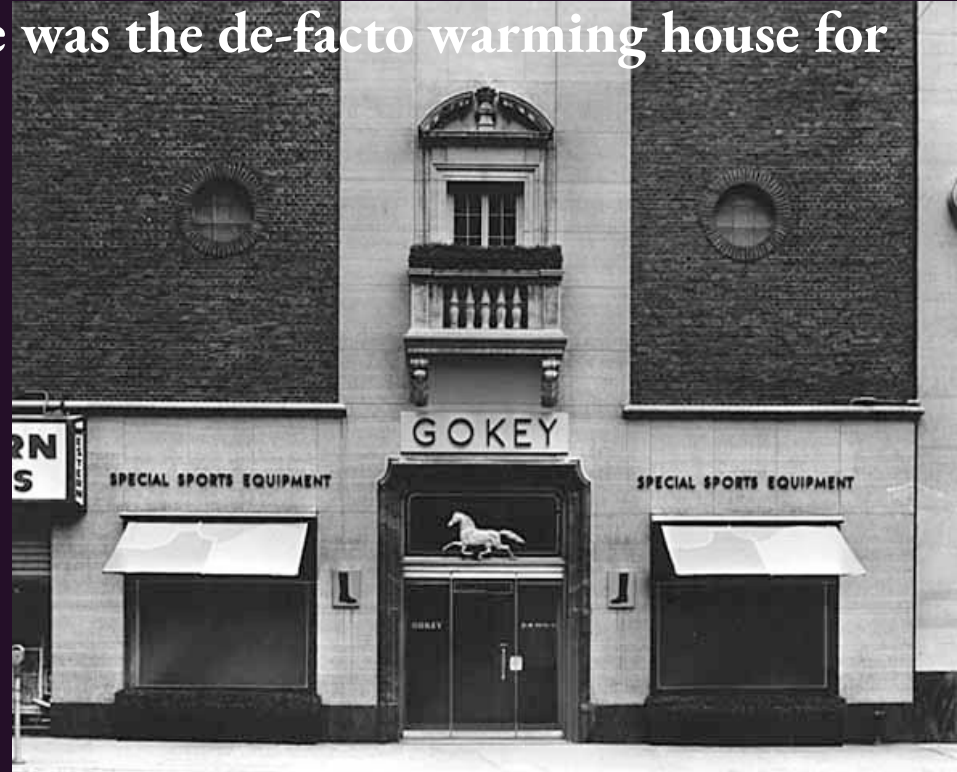


18. EXTRA CREDIT: What store was the de-facto warming house for this popular ice skating rink?

A. Gokey's Sporting Goods

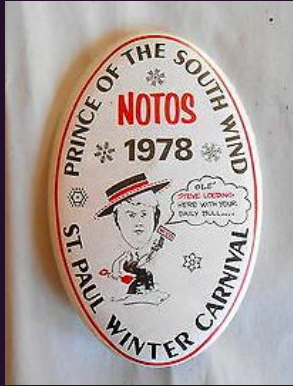


< Nina Stewart representing Gokey's at Winter Carnival
(app. 1937, MNHS)



^ Gokey Company 21 W. 5th St. (app. 1966, MNHS)

19. **Titan, Euros, Zephyrus & Notos** The Legend goes... as the “King of the Winds,” Boreas assigned to each of his brothers a permanent grant of great force and power. To Titan - blustery North Wind. To Euros - the irresponsible East Wind. Zephyrus was given the bountiful West Wind and Notos was presented the balmy but unstable South Wind. Fun fact: the genesis of Notos was out of concern by the North End businesses in the 1930’s that there wasn’t a business person representing their community and thus was born Notos, Keeper of the Northern Lights.



20. The character Klondike Kate, mistress of fun, frivolity, and good fellowship, originated from (C) **A woman from the Gold Rush.** While earliest appearances are not known, in 1971 the St. Paul Jaycees & Winter Carnival office decided to bring the character back and initiated a competition. Initially the reigning Klondike Kate performed alone. As years went by, she became so flamboyant and dynamic that she became more in demand. By 1996, to meet the demand for appearances, former Kates (who are members of the Royal Order of Klondike Kates) began performing with the new Kate and still today create memories of the Gold Rush era in our country.



21. Joan & Jane, who say they are in their “late 60s,” and since **C. 1949**, have only missed the carnival during their college years. The twins received the Sal & Francesca LoBaido Volunteer Service Award in 2016, where they were described as the “notorious Carnival Twins” whose “bright smiles, infectious laughter and deep love for the Winter Carnival cannot be missed.”



Questions, comments?

All done ~ congrats!

Thank you to our questions contributors . . .

Bob Olsen

Cathy Rajtar

Minnesota Historical Society

Ramsey County Historical Society

Saint Paul Winter Carnival

You can help!

Please send your Trivia questions & ideas to:
info@historicsaintpaul.org

And, as always, we appreciate your financial support!
If you are able to contribute please visit:
www.historicsaintpaul.org and click **Donate!**

And thanks to you for joining us!

