



Rose Bowl sights: (upper left), an earlier football game; (left) the trotters invade the bowl; (above) the stadium under construction.

## FROM GREASED PIGS TO PIGSKINS

Pasadena's annual Tournament of Roses offered unusual entertainment before finding football.



Millions of sports fans sitting in front of the tube watching a greased pig contest? Could have been.

That's one of the ways the Tournament of Roses Association celebrated New Year's Day in the beginnings of its

100-year history.

Football didn't enter the picture until 1890. Then it kind of sputtered along for awhile. Football, that is. The Tournament of Roses and its annual parade has always been a big deal.

In fact, the first intersectional, post-season college football game occurred in Tournament Park (now part of the Cal Tech campus) in 1902. Michigan thumped Stanford 49-0 and thus began and ended east-west football rivalries for 14 years.

Polo replaced football in 1903, followed by chariot races a year later. From 1903-15 Pasadena saw bronco busting, track and field, ostrich races, and—yes—even a race be-

tween an elephant and camel.

It wasn't until 1916 that a college football clash between Brown and Washington State Universities cemented the New Year's Day tradition sponsored solely by the Tournament of Roses Association. And by 1922, when 49,000 fans elbowed into tiny Tournament Park, association officials knew they'd better plan for the future. That meant a bigger stadium, hopefully by the next game.

Work began on the Rose Bowl Stadium.

Volunteers raised \$272,198 by selling seat subscriptions as construction teams, using horses to pull wagons and scrapers, cleared a section of the Arroyo Seco. Most of the work was hand work, picks and shovels. Hundreds of wheelbarrows carried yards of cement.

On Jan. 1, 1923, a capacity crowd of 56,000 saw USC take on Penn State in the first Rose Bowl game.

The popularity of "the granddaddy of bowl games" has necessitated improvements and renovations through the years.

By enclosing the south end of the original horseshoe and adding more seats, more than 105,000 spectators now enjoy the game annually. It's always a sellout.

Many legendary players and coaches—Pop Warner, Knute Rockne, the Four Horsemen, Ernest Nevers, O.J. Simpson, Howard Cassidy, Jim Plunkett—played here.

Many others brought fame to the Rose Bowl. Ten Heisman Trophy winners have appeared. Many other players have gone on to professional stardom.

—Dr. Kent Kurtz