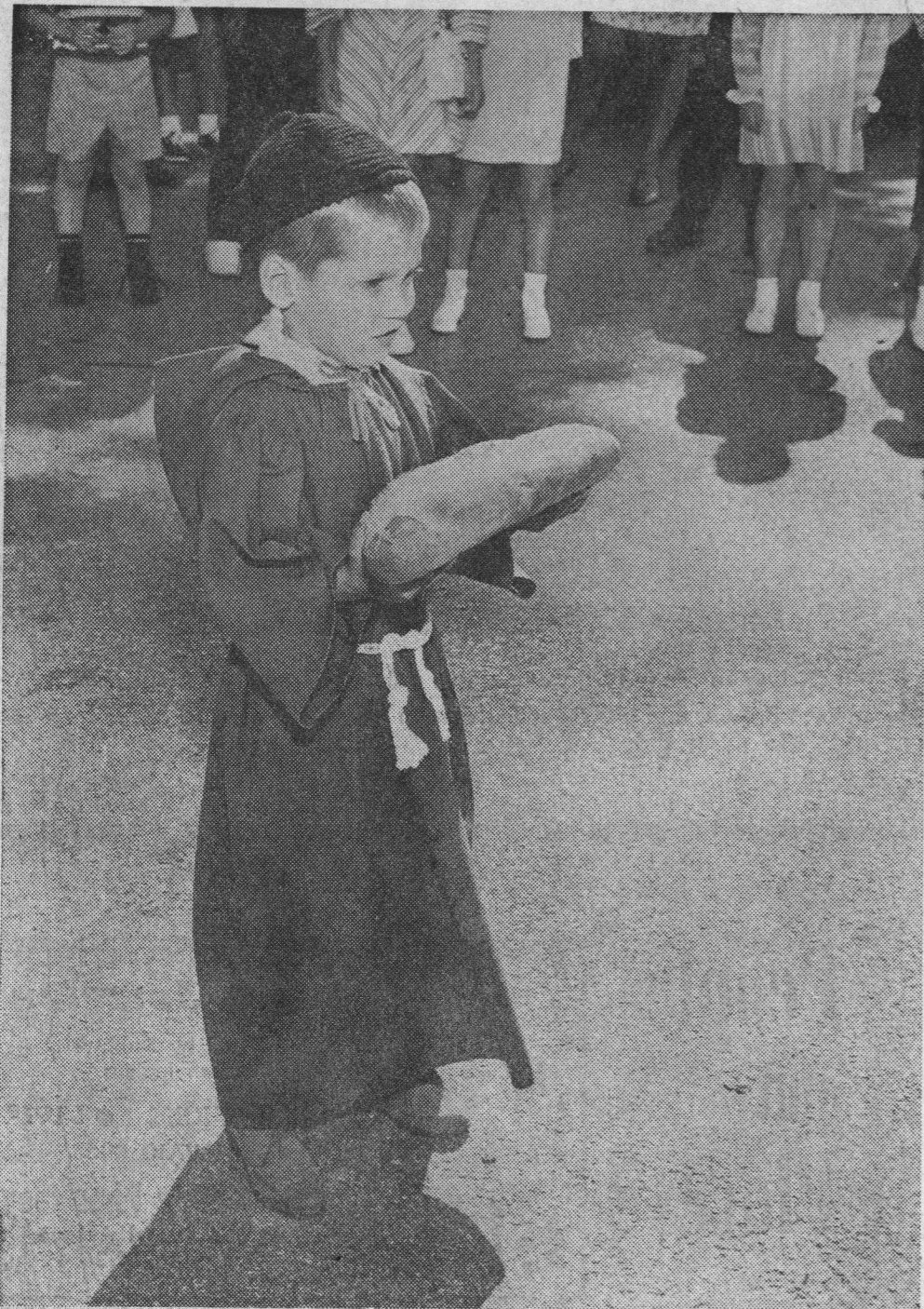


C.P.D.E.S. Festival

# Here Comes a Queen!



Saint Anthony, noted for his fasting and piety, is depicted with a loaf of bread by Chris Santos.

By MARGARET KOCH  
Sentinel Staff Writer

Each year in Santa Cruz two days are set aside by the Portuguese community for its Holy Ghost Festival. This custom started locally in 1928. This year it is July 6-7 and will include a parade, Mass, dance and feast.

However, it dates back to a devout Queen of Portugal who instituted the festival on Pentecost Sunday of the year 1296.

The festival developed in a country torn for centuries by battles between the cross and the crescent, according to August Mark Vaz in his book entitled "The Portuguese in California." Professor Vaz is a San Francisco Bay area educator of Portuguese descent.

Long after the Crusades had ceased to motivate the rest of Europe, the battle between Christians and Moslems continued in the Iberian Peninsula, he notes.

Portugal was originally an area of Lusitania; it was influenced by the Phoenicians, the Greeks and the Carthaginians who left traces of their cultures on the seaports of present-day Lisbon and Oporto. The Romans gave the area its language, political and cultural forms and its religion. Portugal as a country independent of Spain, dates from the Peace of Zamora in 1143.

"By the 15th Century, Portugal was one of the most exciting and fastest moving countries in Europe . . ." according to Dr. Vaz' book. Portuguese sailors led the world in explorations. There is historic evidence that Portugal had some knowledge of the western sea and lands existing beyond the Azore Islands, before Columbus' epic discovery.

Famous early explorers included Pedro Alvares Cabral who sailed to Brazil in 1500, Amerigo Vespucci who was first to call South America the "New World" and Gaspar Corte Real who reached Newfoundland in 1500 and sailed along the coast of North America.

Cabrillo (Cabrilho) is one of Portugal's best-known explorers; he sailed along the coast of Alta California, sparking the land expeditions that came later, with the establishment of the Missions.

Portuguese people first came to Alta California to engage in whaling—they were expert seamen—and later, to mine gold. Whaling settlements were thriving by 1850 at Monterey, Half Moon Bay, Pescadero, Carmel, San Simeon, Point Conception, Portuguese Cove, Portuguese Bend and at San Diego.

But whaling declined and the Gold Rush turned into the black gold of rich lands for these people who also were expert farmers and dairymen.

Always the Portuguese have been motivated by a strong sense of family importance and the organizing of brotherhoods. In Santa Cruz, C. P. D. E. S. stands for Colonia Portuesa Do Espirito Santo (Portuguese Colony of the Holy Ghost.)

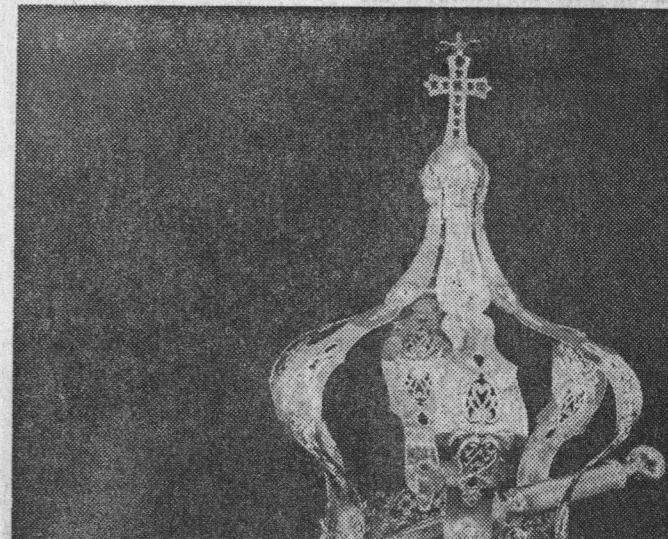
Many of the Portuguese people in Santa Cruz County are from the Azores, that chain of volcanic islands approximately 850 miles from the mainland of Portugal. The name Azores is said to be derived from the Portuguese word for hawk—Acor.

Before 1908 the Azores were a main source of Portuguese immigration to the United States. The white dove, one symbol used in the Holy Ghost Festival in many places, originated in the Azores. It is said that a white dove flew to the altar of a church on the island of San Miguel in 1673, heralding the miraculous lifting of a plague that had killed hundreds of islanders.

In Santa Cruz, the C.P.D.E.S. is headed by President Joe Alves. Other officers and directors include: Joe English, John Allegretti, Al Marshall, Manuel Netto, Joaquin Souza, Jim Anecito, Phil Camacho, Marvin Brown, John Pacheco, Joe Mello, Gil Santos, Joe Brazil, Joe Benito, Frank Terra, Fred Machado, Manuel Oliver, Tony Furtado.



Mrs. Clifford Armatis helps her daughter, Kathy, with her cape. Kathy is this year's Senior Queen of the Holy Ghost Festival. Mrs. Armatis sewed 21,063 pearls and more than 10,000 beads and sequins by hand, one by one, on the cape. She started last February.





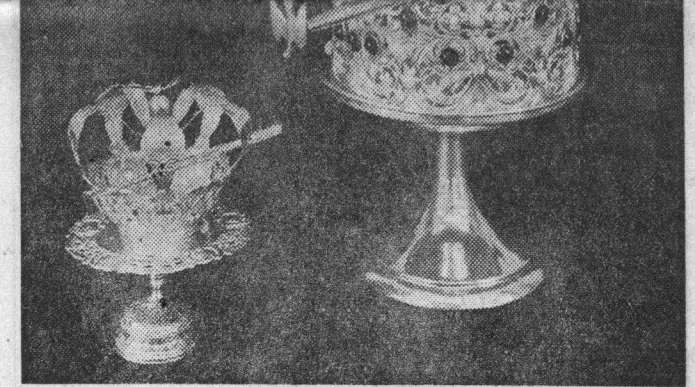
# Tree'n'Sea Living

Sunday, June 30, 1968

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Bouquets of flowers, symbolizing a legend about one of Queen Isabel's miracles, will be exchanged by side maids during the grand march of the Festival. Exchanging flowers above are Judy Brown, left, and Deanna Bruntmyer; looking on from the center is Lenora Simoes.



Large silver crown is a replica of Queen Isabel of Portugal's crown. Small crown is worn by Junior Queen. Scepters also are copies of those used by Portuguese royalty.



The cross and the flag are carried by Jeff Armatis and Nuno Vieira.

## How It Started

Queen Isabel of Portugal reigned in a day when the poor were very poor indeed and the rich were very rich, powerful and inclined to be arrogant.

The good Queen was a pious woman who did all she could for the poor—sometimes against the wishes of her husband, King Diniz of Portugal.

In 1296, Queen Isabel determined that the poor of Portugal should have one day each year of "festa" (festival) and feasting. She cajoled and persuaded her noble relatives and friends to donate food and their services for waiting on table; then she invited all the poor of Portugal to a feast.

During the event, the Queen took the poorest of the poor, led him to the altar of the royal chapel at Alenquer. There the Bishop placed the royal scepter in his hand and the royal crown on his head. After Mass, came the feast with the Queen and nobles serving the poor.



"Sopa" and "carne y vino" are traditional dishes of the Holy Ghost Festival, dating from the first "festa" when Queen Isabel of Portugal fed the poor. Above, getting ready for the feast are (from left) Chefs Joe Mello, a director; Joe Alves who is president of the C.P.D.E.S. and Joe Benito, a director. Sopa is made with bread and meat sauce; carne is the meat, and vino is the wine with which it is cooked. Last year more than 3000 persons were fed at the Festival. The public is always invited to eat.