



Program Notes



On the heels of a severe worldwide economic depression in the late 1800's, the Klondike Gold Rush of 1897-98 provided Seattle with an immediate boost which led to one of the city's most significant periods of growth and development. Millions of dollars poured into Seattle as tens of thousands of stampeders rushed to outfit themselves for the arduous journey to the Klondike gold fields. Only a handful of stampeders found enough gold to call themselves rich, and even fewer made it home with their wealth. Yet, old-timers have not forgotten the stampede for Klondike gold, which left Seattle forever changed—stamped with a special legacy of history.

In commemoration of this most unique and colorful event in the saga of expanding America, the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park was established by congressional legislation enacted on June 30, 1976, and includes both an Alaska and a Seattle unit. The Alaska unit, dedicated in 1977, consists of historic structures in Skagway as well as the Chilkoot and White Pass Trails. Together with Canada's famous Dawson City in the Yukon and other historic sites, park visitors now have an opportunity to retrace the famous Klondike Gold Rush route over water and land from Seattle to the Yukon.

The Seattle Unit of the new park, dedicated in June, 1979, is located at 117 South Main Street, in Seattle's Pioneer Square Historic District. The facility features exhibits of photographic murals, displays of hardware and clothing, gold-mining artifacts, film and slide programs in the new auditorium, plus other special events as scheduled. Admission to the facility and all programs is free of charge. For more information call 442-2770.

GOLD FEVER

by Barry Pritchard

Directed by Robert L. Hobbs

Professional Actor Training Program



Susan Stevens as Emily



Allen Nause as Charles

Produced by the University of Washington School of Drama Paul S. Hostetler, Executive Director

Sponsored by the National Park Service, Pacific Northwest Region

Historical slides courtesy of: University of Washington Library, Photography Collection Museum of History and Industry, Seattle Historical Society Yukon Archives, Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, Canada

Allen Nause is appearing in this production through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association.

Taking photographs, or the use of any recording devices during the performance, is strictly prohibited.

As part of the National Park Service nationwide Urban Initiative Program, the Pacific Northwest Region is sponsoring the live dramatic production tour of "Gold Fever." The play depicts the story of a miner, struck by gold fever, trying to make it from Seattle to the gold fields of the Yukon. Material for the production has been thoroughly researched to maintain historical integrity in the dialogue and to achieve accurate depiction of the Klondike Gold Rush era through authentic photographs and folk songs. The special drama, presented by the University of Washington School of Drama and performed at the Seattle Unit of the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park throughout the summer of 1979, has received enthusiastic response. The National Park Service is pleased to offer this fine dramatic production tour to a wide range of audiences around the greater Puget Sound area from October 1979 through April 1980.



Stage Manager/Technician ... Linda Jordan
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