

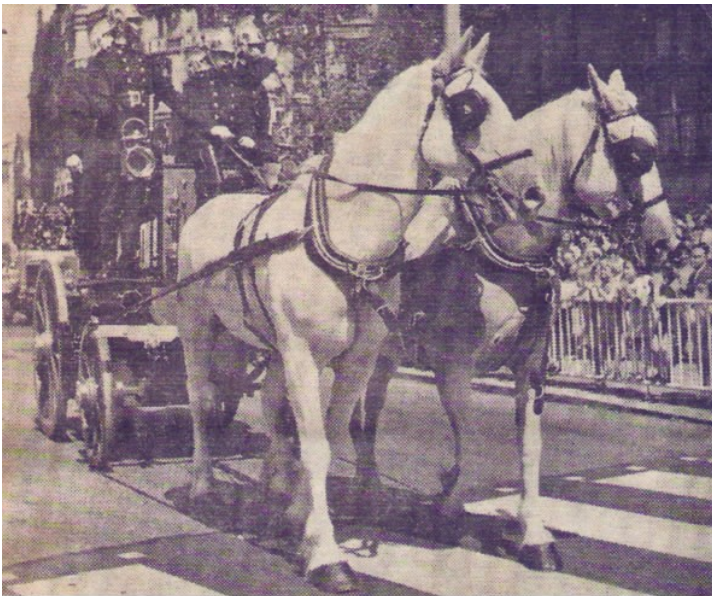
300,000 At Record Parade

By Derick Allsop

A record-breaking crowd of over 300,000 flocked into a sun-drenched Sheffield city centre on Saturday to see the city's biggest-ever Lord Mayor's Parade.

Shirtsleeves and summer dresses were the order of the day as 70 floats, 15 bands and marching contingents from many social, youth and voluntary organisations made their way along the colourful route from Savile Street to Fitzwilliam Gate.

A cheering crowd of 20,000 massed around the Town Hall alone, while others stood 15 and 20 deep along the pavements of The Moor, Fargate, High Street and Waingate. Children were hoisted shoulder-high and others scrambled up posts and walls. Shop and office staffs waved and clapped from windows high above the scene.



One of the highlights of the show — a horse-drawn steamer fire engine as used by Sheffield Fire Brigade on their formation 100 years ago.

There was a real carnival atmosphere as the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Ald., and Mrs Dan O'Neill, led the parade in a magnificent open car. The heat and atmosphere proved a little too much for some people. Several fainting cases were treated by ambulancemen, but no serious casualties nor incidents were reported.

A fanfare greeted the robed Lord Mayor as he took up his position in front of the Town Hall. With him were the Lady Mayoress and the Master and Mistress Cutler, Mr and Mrs Gilbert

As excited eyes looked to the early floats, a spectacular flypast over the city by four RAF Hunter jet aircraft caught everyone unawares—much to the distress of at least one unsuspecting police horse.

The band of the First Battalion, The Black Watch,, Highland Regiment, led this, the fifth, the biggest and probably most spectacular of Lord Mayor's Parades organised by Sheffield Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Among the most popular floats and displays with those who lined the route, and those with visitors from home and overseas seated in front of the Town Hall was a horse-drawn Tetley carriage.

Winner

A cavalcade of fire engines commemorating a centenary in the city, from the earliest horse-drawn tenders to today's monsters, was another highlight of the parade.



The scene down Fargate showing part of the vast crowd of onlookers as the parade moved slowly towards the Town Hall.



