

PACIFIC NORTHWEST HISTORY CONFERENCE

Spokane, May 6-7, 1955

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The State Historical Society has much more than a passing interest in the Pacific Northwest History Conference which will be held in Spokane May 6 and 7.

This Conference was started by the State Historical Society and its first four sessions were held in our building. We are still one of its sponsors and will continue in that capacity for many years if the Conference project is continued.

The 1953 Conference was held in Helena, Montana, and this year will be held in Spokane. Undoubtedly the 1956 session will be held again in Tacoma, although to be in reality a "Northwest" conference it is important that its sessions be held in various cities of the Northwest.

The Spokane hosts have planned a splendid program and members of the State Historical Society are urged to attend if possible.

The session opens Friday afternoon, May 6th, with a trip to historic Spokane House site, followed by a visit to the Spokane Public Library. Free time until 7 PM, when an informal dinner will be held at the Davenport Hotel. Lewis and Clark will be the theme of this session. Chapin D. Foster, Washington and Northwest Chairman of Lewis and Clark Committees, as well as Director of the State Society, will preside. Prof. Bert Hansen of the Montana State University and Chairman of the Montana Lewis and Clark Committee, will be the principal speaker. Mrs. Frederick B. Coons of Eugene, Oregon, will give an illustrated talk on the Oregon Trail.

Saturday's morning session will offer two panel discussions, with Lewis and Clark the theme of the first, and "Local History" methods the theme of the second. Participating in the first will be: Prof. Keith Murray, moderator, Thos. Vaughan, Director Oregon Historical Society, Clifford Worthen, Missoula, Dorothy Davis, University of Washington, and James High. In the second panel will be: Prof. Harold Barto, Ellensburg, moderator, Miss Ella Clark, Washington State College, Sister Letitia Mary, Spokane, Charles Cone, Chelan, Bruce Harding, Bellingham.

Conference delegates will be guests of Gonzaga University at lunch.

"The 20th Century in Northwest History" will be the afternoon panel theme, with personnel as follows: Prof. Siegfried Roland, Moscow, moderator; Dr. Chas. M. Gates, University of Washington; Dr. Dorothy Johansen, University of Oregon; Dr. Francis Haines, Oregon; Jules Karlin, Missoula.

The Eastern Washington State Historical Society building will be visited at 4:30 PM, with the annual banquet at 7 PM at the Davenport, with Joel E. Ferris, President of the Eastern Society, presiding. The speaker will be James T. Pabb, Librarian, of Yale University.

Certainly that is a splendid program, one which should challenge the interest of all in the Northwest interested in the preservation of Northwest history, as well as its dissemination.

This Memo is not complete up to the last detail; there may be additions or changes here or there, but it gives a good idea of what to expect at Spokane.