



1853-Washington Territorial Centennial-1953

NEWS

State Historical Building
CHAPIN D. FOSTER, Director

315 No. Stadium Way, Tacoma 3
WALDO CARLSON, Associate Director

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Re: "NOTHING IN LIFE IS FREE" - Official Book of
Washington Territorial Centennial.

* * * * *

April 15, 1953 - - The announcement was made today by the NORTH-WESTERN PRESS of Minneapolis that May 1st is the publication date for Della Gould Emmons' new historical novel, NOTHING IN LIFE IS FREE, based on the actual experiences of the pioneers in their trek across country and through the Naches Pass in 1853.

This novel has been selected as the official book commemorating the Washington Territorial Centennial according to Mr. Chapin D. Foster, director of the Centennial Committee.

Della Gould Emmons, author of the successful novel, SACJAWEA of the SHOSHONES, has been serving as a curator on the Washington State Historical Board since 1950. A Minnesotan by birth, Mrs. Emmons has lived since 1918 in the state of Washington, nineteen of those years having been spent in Seattle and the remaining sixteen years in Tacoma. Writing and producing plays for school children led her to radio plays which in turn developed her talent in writing historical novels. Unlike most writers in that field, Mrs. Emmons reconstructs actual facts and uses real people as her characters, all of which entails endless, untiring research.

In her new novel, NOTHING IN LIFE IS FREE, the story of the first wagon train through Naches Pass, Mrs. Emmons was considerably assisted in her research by the descendants of her characters. Through this story the reading public will learn what the settlers of the Pacific Northwest endured to hold that section of America for the United States.

NOTHING IN LIFE IS FREE is a book that brings to life again the struggles, the disappointments, the achievements, the dangers, the romance of the pioneers of 1853 who made their way to far off Puget Sound in oxen drawn covered wagons of the famous Naches Pass wagon train. Here is man pitted against rugged nature and resentful Indians -- here is slender, blonde Jennie Howe, heroine of the story, whose indomitable spirit overcomes insurmountable obstacles. Harassed by blood-thirsty Indians, deserted by their guides, lost in the wilderness, the wagon train crosses the Naches River 68 times, struggles to the summit of the Cascades only to be confronted with a thousand-foot cliff. How the wagons, oxen and supplies are lowered over the cliff; the final struggle with the Indians; and Jenny's winning fight for her land and happiness are among the highlights of this thrilling story.

Mrs. Emmons' fascinating combination of fact and fiction pays high tribute to the achievements of the early settlers of Washington State, and provides reading as thrilling as it is historically correct.

* * * * *

NOTHING IN LIFE IS FREE will be available in all
Book Stores after May 1st.

* * * * *



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NEWS

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315 No. Stadium Way, Tacoma 3
WALDO CARLSON, Associate Director

RELEASE JUNE 3

The Library of Congress has published a catalog of its exhibition in observance of the one hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the Territory of Washington. The illustrated catalog, entitled Washington--Centennial of the Territory, contains annotated entries describing each of the 220 items in the exhibition, reproductions of 31 significant items, and an index.

The exhibition, the sixteenth in a series held in the Library in commemoration of important anniversaries in the histories of the States, will remain on view in the south gallery on the second floor of the Main Library Building through August 15. The cover of the catalog is a reproduction of a photograph of Mount Baker from Kulshan Ridge near Mount Baker Lodge.

Like the exhibit itself, the catalog is arranged in two parts. The first section describes the materials--rare books, manuscripts, old maps, prints, watercolors and photographs--that pertain to the history of Washington from its earliest exploration to the attainment of Statehood in 1889. The materials were selected from the Library's collections and from those of the National Archives, the National Gallery of Art and the National Museum.

The second section of the catalog identifies the 72 photographs in the exhibition, which depict modern Washington's recreational areas and scenery, cities and towns, power and reclamation developments, agriculture, industry and transportation, historic landmarks and colleges and museums. Some of the photographs were selected from the Library's collections, but most of them were lent by the Agriculture and Interior Departments, the Atomic Energy Commission, the Washington State Advertising Commission, the Washington State Historical Society, and individual schools, colleges, museums and other institutions in the State.

This is the sixteenth catalog in a series describing the Library's State commemorative exhibitions. It contains lists of the previous catalogs in the series and of the Library of Congress file numbers for those items of which photographs may be purchased.

WASHINGTON--CENTENNIAL OF THE TERRITORY may be purchased from the Supt of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C., for 60 cents a copy.
mlr/c

If you use this material we would appreciate your sending a tear sheet or clipping to State Historical Society, Tacoma 3





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RELEASE JUNE 3

The Library of Congress has opened an exhibition in observance of the one hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the Territory of Washington. The Honorable William O. Douglas, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, delivered the principal address at the opening ceremony in the Coolidge Auditorium, and Senator Warren G. Magnuson, of Washington, presided.

The Washington Territory, established on March 2, 1853, comprised the area from the Columbia River north to the Canadian border and from the Pacific coast east to the summit of the Rocky Mountains. This is the sixteenth in the Library's series of exhibitions commemorating important anniversaries in the histories of the states and it will be on view in the south gallery on the second floor of the Main Library Building through August 15.

Like previous exhibits in the series, the Washington Territory Centennial exhibition has been arranged in two sections, a historical section containing nearly 150 items relating to Washington from the first explorations in the area to the early years of Statehood, and a photographic section composed of enlarged photographs of modern Washington.

In the historical section are significant manuscripts, rare books, prints, early maps, paintings and photographs from the collections of the Library, the National Archives and the National Museum. The materials pertain to the explorations by Spanish navigators; the Pacific railroad and wagon road expeditions; Indian life; trading and military posts; homesteading; the beginnings of lumbering, fishing, and other industries; the creation of the Territory and the attainment of Statehood.

The photographic section depicts modern Washington's cities and towns, power & reclamation developments, industry and transportation, historic landmarks, cultural life and recreation areas. The photographs have been selected from the Library's collections and from those of the Agriculture and Interior Departments, the Atomic Energy Commission, the Washington State Advertising Commission, the Washington State Historical Society and individual schools, colleges, museums and other institutions in the State.

Among the documents relating to the period of exploration that are on exhibit will be a copy of Purchas his Pilgrimes (London, 1625), opened to the account of an alleged discovery of the Strait of Juan de Fuca in 1592 by a Greek sea pilot of that name who was in the Spanish service. Other published accounts of early voyages along the Washington coast on view include those of Bruno Hazeta and Antonio Mourelle (1775), Capt. James Cook (1778), John Meares (1788-89), Jose Espinosa y Tello (1792), and George Vancouver (1792). Manuscript charts of the mouth of the Columbia River and of Gray's Harbor, dated 1793, are on display to illustrate the work of early Spanish cartographers.

Early American naval expeditions to the Northwest are represented by the 1791 log book of Capt. Robert Gray's ship, the Columbia, and Capt. Joseph I. Graham's journal of the brigantine Hope, which contains his map, dated 1792, showing Washington's coast. These voyages stimulated American and British rivalry for possession of the area, which resulted in the Convention for Joint Occupation, signed on October 20, 1818. The original of this Convention is on display.

The first United States Naval exploration and surveying expedition to the Northwest, led by Capt. Charles Wilkes in 1841 is documented by the Journal kept by Joseph G. Clark, a mariner on Capt. Wilkes' s flagship Vincennes. And Wilkes's own letter book, which includes letters sent from Puget Sound, are also exhibited.



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The first overland expedition to the Washington area, that of Lewis and Clark in 1804-06, is represented by a large manuscript map made by Robert Frazer for publication with his diary. Also on view is a letter that Capt. Benjamin L. E. Bonneville wrote to Gen. Alexander Macomb from the "Wind River" country in 1833, which advises immediate American occupation of the region north of the Columbia River.

Many of the items on exhibit relate to the explorations for a railroad route to Puget Sound in 1853. Isaac I. Stevens, who led the exploration and in the same year became the first Governor and Superintendent of Indian Affairs of the Territory, supervised the Cascade Mountain exploration by Capt. (later Gen.) George B. McClellan. A manuscript map of eastern Washington, dated 1857 and drawn by Gustave Sohon, a soldier-artist with the Stevens party, is displayed; and colored lithographs of Washington military and trading posts and scenery, based on sketches by John M. Stanley (another artist with the expedition) and published in 1860 to illustrate Governor Stevens's report, also are shown. Other records of these expeditions exhibited include journals and notebooks kept by McClellan and J. F. Minter and watercolor portraits of Washington Indians painted by Lt. Johnston K. Duncan.

The transition from the period of exploration and trading to the homesteading era is represented by Governor Stevens's engrossed treaty with the Indian tribes of eastern Washington, which was signed by President James Buchanan in June 1855, and Stevens's manuscript journal, 1855-56, as Superintendent of Indian Affairs. A manuscript copy of the resolution of thanks presented in 1861 by the Legislative Assembly of the Territory to Lt. John Mullan for his work on the military road from Fort Benton to Walla Walla also will be exhibited.

Among the materials that reflect life during the Territorial period is a series of photogravures illustrating Indian life and crafts, made from photographs taken in the years 1909-12 by Edward S. Curtis to illustrate his book, The North American Indian; photographs of historic buildings erected before 1870; manuscript plats of trading posts and military reservations; and photographs of forts made in 1858 during an inspection tour by Col. Joseph K. F. Mansfield. A minute book of the Council of Administration at Fort Vancouver, 1850-65, containing entries written and signed by Ulysses S. Grant as recorder, is also on view.

Many documents are displayed to illustrate Washington's progress from a frontier Territory to Statehood. Among them are maps that show early settlements and surveys; guide books, published between 1857 and 1889, by Isaac I. Stevens, John Mullan, Asa S. Mercer, Ezra Meeker, Elwood Evans, and the Union Pacific Railroad; the first telegram from the Territory, sent by Gov. William Pickering to President Lincoln in 1864; late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century photographs of lumbering scenes and irrigation projects; and scrapbooks kept by Erastus Brainerd, secretary of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce, which show the effect on that city of the Alaskan gold rush of 1897-98.

Documents relating to the Territory and to Statehood include the first Journal of the House of Representatives, printed in Olympia in 1855; the first Statutes of the Territory, published in Olympia in the same year; the proposed constitution of the State, which was rejected by the voters in 1878; and a copy of the State Constitution, published in Olympia in 1889, the year Statehood was attained.

mk/c



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CHAPIN D. FOSTER

Chapin D. Foster, Director of the 1953 Washington Territorial Centennial, will be in Yakima for a short time next Friday, to meet with local Centennial leaders. Committees are being set up in each Washington county for carrying forward the Centennial program at the county level.

Letters from Foster indicate that the statewide Centennial is shaping up very well and that there is no question but that the observance will be a success.

In Yakima he will be conferring with ~~Mr.~~ Lew Garbutt, Manager of the Chamber of Commerce, and others.



PROGRESS REPORT

State Historical Bldg.

315 N. Stadium Way

Tacoma 3, Wash.

CENTENNIAL SPONSORED BY WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CH ~~NEWS RELEASE~~ (NOT A PROGRESS REPORT)
RELEASE SEPT 30

WALDO CARLSON, Associate Director

LOG OF THE STEVENS SURVEYS - 1853 By Joseph T. Hazard

Isaac Ingalls Stevens, "First Governor", entered Washington Territory through Cadotte's Pass of the Montana Rocky Mountains on September 24, 1853, and arrived at his chosen capitol, Olympia, two months later on November 25. Each day of the long trek through his far-flung domain was marked by explorations and historic events. This "log" of the Governor's surveys will appear weekly with a day by day account of where they were in terms of today's maps with the account of the most vital discoveries and events of that week of 1853.

Week of September 24 to September 30

September 24

Governor Isaac I. Stevens entered Washington Territory through Cadotte's Pass of the Continental Divide of the Montana Rockies. He proclaimed territorial government in force from that day. His engineering train of mules and horses and men camped that night ten miles down and west "in good grass with excellent water and abundance of wood." His first night in Washington greeted him with "raw, cold, and steady rain".

September 25

"Raining hard this morning." Camped that night with Lieutenant Donelson, afterwards General Donelson. One hundred forty-four miles west from Fort Benton in four days. Beyond, mountain pine with tops "like a rich, green carpet", below, a "clear rapid stream". This spot, on Blackfoot River, east from Missoula, is now a recreational reserve administered by U. S. Forest Service.

September 26

A march of "thirty-odd miles" down Blackfoot River to the "canyon". The camp was on the brink of Hell Gate Canyon just above and east from "Hell Gate Ronde", which is now Missoula, Montana.

September 27

The Stevens exploring and engineering train passed through Hell Gate of the Blackfoot River, through today's Bonner and turned south up the Bitterroot River, leaving Hell Gate Ronde, the round and lovely meadow that is now Missoula, with its University of Montana. The camp that night was some ten miles up the Bitterroot, now the junction town of Lolo.

September 28

By noon the train reached Fort Owen, opened in 1853, because of the coming of the Stevens Northern Railroad Survey. Fort Owen was formerly the St. Mary's Catholic Mission, opened in 1841, but abandoned because of Indian trouble. Its site is one mile down the Bitterroot from present-day Stevensville, which started as Cantonment Stevens, the snug headquarters for John Mullan's winter explorations.

September 29

A day of rest at Fort Owen! With nothing to do except to check the 2000 "iron rations" left by Lieutenant Saxton, revive the jaded mule train Saxton had left behind and to start building Cantonment Stevens for John Mullan. Rufus Saxton was promoted to General in the war between the States on the word to Lincoln by General Isaac I. Stevens.

September 30

More of the same! With the addition of assembling returning parties, planning new explorations, and arranging to meet and treat with the great, the only, and the historic Head Chief Victor of the three tribes of the Flathead nation.

JTH:mk/c

READ THIS TO YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND FILE 



PROGRESS REPORT

State Historical Bldg. 315 N. Stadium Way Tacoma 3, Wash.

CENTENNIAL SPONSORED BY WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CHAPIN D. FOSTER, Director

WALDO CARLSON, Assoc. Sec. 10/16/53 JTH

RELEASE OCTOBER 21st:

LOG OF THE STEVENS SURVEYS

Week of Oct. 15 - 21

October 15: The Governor's party left Coeur d'Alene Mission (Cataldo) at 8 A.M., hurrying onward to the west. As a going-away present to Brother Charles, Gov. Stevens gave him all the party's spare lariats to help hoist timbers for the church of the Mission, then building high walls. The party met many Indians, Nez Perces, Spokanes, Coeur d'Alenes, "on their way to buffalo", and counselled with all of them. After 18 miles the party camped at Wolf's Lodge, with 100 Spokanes, who informed them that the great Spokane Garry was at his farm, four miles from Spokane House.

October 16: Broke camp at 8 A.M.; soon lovely spider-shaped Lake Coeur d'Alene to the south - Spokane River, sluggish channels broken by rapids, leaving Lake Coeur d'Alene - passed Indians, camped and fishing for trout - an Indian daughter "administering to her dying father" - wide prairies ranging hundreds of wild Indian ponies. The camp was at a spring with "sparse grass" while Spokane River, a mere two miles away, was discovered during the night by the roaming horses and mules of the train.

October 17: "The River (Spokane) runs over a rocky bed of trap." Lavatte, a voyageur, took the train to old Spokane House, while Gov. Stevens, with Plante, Osgood, and Stanley, "turned from the trail to visit the falls". This was, obviously, Nine Mile Falls, for, on this original trek, the Stevens train didn't make the south bend of the Spokane River, and missed the big falls, now a scenic marvel, within the City of Spokane. Engineer Stevens records Nine Mile Falls in these words: ".... two principal falls - 20 feet and 12 feet in the latter, perpendicular fall of seven or eight feet - in a quarter of a mile, an estimated fall of 90 to 100 feet." These falls stopped the misguided oncorhynchus tshawytscha, the King Salmon, who had turned by mistake up the Spokane from the Columbia into what was not the spawning stream of birth. The Nine Mile Falls had also determined Indian fishing encampments, and David Thompson's Old Spokane House, erected in 1810. The train, waiting a mile below the "Falls" camped 9 miles down Spokane River. Spokane Garry dropped into camp that evening, and "had a long conversation".

October 18: The first official visit and camp of Gov. Isaac I. Stevens, in today's State of Washington, was at Colville. The hurrying Governor made the last 18 miles to Old Fort Colville at nine miles an hour, on horseback, and arrived at Colville at nine o'clock that night of October 18, 1853. Angus McDonald, Hudson Bay factor, was generous in his welcome. He hurried George B. McClellan to the Stevens camp, the first meeting since the surveys began. The two young army engineers, Stevens and McClellan, sat up until 1 A.M. the next morning, joining survey facts to date.

October 19 and 20: These two days were spent at Old Fort Colville on the Columbia, relaxed by the luxury of Angus McDonald's hospitality, but possessed by a growing alarm as the tales of McClellan unfolded a dire record of dalliance and failure in

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CHAPIN D. FOSTER, Director

WALDO CARLSON, Associate Director

RELEASE Oct. 28

LOG OF THE STEVENS SURVEYS

By Joseph T. Hazard

WEEK OF OCTOBER 22-28

October 22

Moving south from Colville, Stevens crossed a river (Little Pend Oreille) by a firm crossing, while McClellan took a bad one. Typical of the two. Killed a purchased cow. The Governor commented:

"... two pounds of beef and a half pound of flour per man are not too much for a day's allowance."

October 23

Five inches of snow fell. "... This river (Spokane River) is a dividing line as regards climate."

October 24

Reached the old "Chemakane Mission". (Walker and Ells, abandoned 1849) Met Spokane Garry with 200 Indians. The Stevens comments are enlightening:

"In the evening the Indians clustered around our fire, and manifested much pleasure in our treatment of them. I have now seen a great deal of Garry and am much pleased with him."

Spokane Garry, Head Chief of the Spokanes, was probably the first school teacher of Washington proper.

October 25

Stevens and McClellan accompanied wise Chief Garry to Old Spokane House. Established Camp Washington six miles to south of Spokane River.

October 26, 27, 28

At Camp Washington, where all parties came together. The Governor describes their simple fare:

"... Roasted beef, bouillon, steaks and an abundance of hot bread, coffee, sugar and our friend McDonald's good cheer."

Finally, they cooked a beef's head and ate the "inside of it".

JTH:mk/c

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RELEASE JUNE 24th

Methodism's Centennial observance in Washington has been officially set for August 23rd and, rather than being observed in one church or city, will be observed in every Methodist Church in the Pacific Northwest Conference, according to action taken by the Conference in Tacoma.

The date was set to come closest to the first regular service at Steilacoom, which was held August 28, 1853. The same year saw a service held at Coupeville.

By Conference action, Bishop A. Raymond Grant was requested to name a committee to arrange a uniform Order of Service for use on the anniversary day. A sermon outline will also be prepared, designed principally to give Methodist pastors background material for their sermons honoring the beginning of Methodism in this area.

The Rev. John F. DeVore was the pastor at Steilacoom and the State Historical Society has the official minute book of the church, which officially notes the date of the first service. The church was completed the following year. A monument was erected some years ago on the site of the first church. Services are now held in Steilacoom under Congregational leadership. The town of Steilacoom will be holding its Centennial observance at that time and a special service is being planned in the church, with representatives of both the Methodist and Congregational churches participating.

Members of the Pacific Northwest Conference, which includes all of Washington and the Panhandle of Idaho, felt that the Centennial anniversary could be most fittingly observed by holding a special service in each church in addition to the special service at Steilacoom.

mk/c



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RELEASE JULY 22

27-29

Northwest history's most spectacular incident--letting wagons down over "The Cliff" on the Naches Pass in 1853--will be re-enacted July 31st as part of the Naches Days celebration at Enumclaw.

Guests of honor will include the descendants of those who came over the trail on this first wagon train trip across Washington, before there was a trail, also members of the American Pioneer Trails Association, which is making a caravan trip across the country to hold their 1953 meeting in Washington.

There were 36 wagons in the original 1853 train headed by James Longmire, but this year only one wagon will be let down. This is the first time the scene has been re-enacted and probably the last time.

Back of the wagon project itself are Dr. and Mrs. C. J. Rose of Enumclaw, Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Hamilton and Mr. & Mrs. Don King of Buckley. They have had the wagon for some time and have been training a team of horses for the descent.

There were nearly 150 persons in the original train and many of their descendants live in Washington. Several family groups hold annual meetings and it is expected they will hold their meeting this year as part of the event on the Naches Pass.

All of the newsreel men in the Northwest are planning to take in the descent as they recognize it as the most spectacular single event in Northwest if not Western history. Television companies will be on hand, to say nothing of regular newspaper amateur photographers.

CDF:mk/c
7/15/53



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In the early days in Yakima County, the Purdin ranch was a stopping place for the stage operating between the Dalles and Ellensburg. Here mail was distributed for the settlers. Freightng trips were made once a year for supplies. If the coffee gave out, parched wheat made a fair substitute. This was ground in a mill attached to the wall, the hopper holding about two quarts. This mill was also used to grind the white corn, a variety with dentless kernels. The meal made delicious cornbread and mush.

The first Christmas celebration by Americans in the Northwest was by the crew of the COLUMBIA in 1791, the ship which the following May carried Robert Gray over the bar at the mouth of the Great River of the West and named for his ship. From John Boit's LOG OF THE COLUMBIA: "(Dec.) 25 (1791) This day was kept in mirth and festivity by all the COLUMBIA'S crew and the principal Chiefs of the sound, by invitation, din'd on board ship. The Natives took a walk around the work shops on shore. They was surprised at seeing three tire (tier) of wild fowl roasting, at one of the houses---indeed we was a little surprised at the novelty of the sight ourselves, for at least there was 20 Geese roasting at one immense fire, and the Ship's Crew appear'd very happy, most of them being on shore. The Indians cou'd not understand why the Ship's and houses was decorated with spruce bows. At 10 clock fir'd a Federal Salute, and ended the day toasting our sweethearts and wives." (Note: A Salute of thirteen cannon shots.) Martinez in his diary gives the following explanation: 'They told me that the reason for not giving more shots each time was since there were thirteen of the American states and thirteen stars in the canton of their flag, they had orders from their Congress to fire these salvos with a like number of shots.')

In the territory north of the Columbia River in 1852, there were tens of thousands of the choicest lands unoccupied and awaiting the subduing hand of the pioneer agriculturist.

AFW:mk/c

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July 24, 1953

RELEASE ON RECEIPT

Descendants of James Longmire, who led the first wagon train across the Cascades in 1853, plan to have at least 30 of their number present at the re-enactment of the Cliff incident July 31st when a wagon will be let down over a cliff to show how the most spectacular single incident in Western history took place a century ago.

The dramatic episode will be staged near the Chinook Pass highway 25 miles toward the summit from Enumclaw. It will take place about 11 A.M. It is anticipated that the descent will take at least an hour, following which there will be a big picnic at the scene of the descent.

While the Longmire descendants are sending a large delegation to the scene, it may not be the largest group as all descendants are to be recognized at the picnic and it is hoped that every family in the original party will be represented.

The descent is a part of the Enumclaw Naches Days Centennial celebration. The wagon project has been developed entirely by Dr. and Mrs. C. J. Rose of Enumclaw, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hamilton and Mr. and Mrs. Don King of Buckley. There were 36 wagons which made the original descent. It would be impossible to get that many wagons for this descent but the Rose group has a covered wagon and team of horses for the re-enactment of the scene. They have been working on the project all summer and will be ready, although they insist that their descent will be no easier than that of 100 years ago.

The Longmire party was the first to cross the Cascades, before there was any trail and the descent over The Cliff, a drop of more than 1000 feet, offered the only possible escape from what seemed like certain doom for the party.

This is the first time the incident has been re-enacted and very likely will be the last time, at least for another 100 years.

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GDF:mk/c





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Release August 19

NOTE--Local Methodist pastor or pastors could be called for additional local plans, theme, etc.

Methodist churches of Washington are observing the Centennial of Methodism in this state by holding special commemorative services next Sunday, August 23rd.

The Pacific Northwest Annual Conference, at its session in June, requested every church in the state to participate in this commemorative program. In some instances it may be necessary to hold the service the following Sunday.

August 23rd was selected for the anniversary service because it is just prior to August 28, the date of the first sermon preached by a resident minister at Steilacoom, the Rev. John F. DeVore. The Steilacoom organization built the first Methodist church building in Washington Territory.

Uniform orders of service have been planned for the service by a special committee headed by Rev. Clark J. Wood of First Church, Tacoma, who was assisted by Rev. R. Kenneth Bell, Columbia River District; Rev. J. Warne Sanders, Puget Sound District; Rev. John M. Finney, Spokane District; Rev. Wm. E. Callahan, Valcouver District; Rev. Kenneth H. Underwood, Walla Walla district. Honorary chairmen are Bishop A. Raymond Grant of Portland area and Chapin D. Foster, State Centennial Director and Methodist layman.

At least four Methodist churches were started in Washington Territory in 1853: Whidby Island, Steilacoom, Seattle and Vancouver. Methodist Mission work began in the region in 1840 with a mission house for Indian work erected near old Fort Nisqually. The first sermon in the region was preached at Fort Vancouver Sept. 28, 1834 by the Rev. Jason Lee, pioneer Methodist missionary, who visited Puget Sound in 1838 to survey mission possibilities.

A monument was erected some years ago on the site of the Steilacoom church and here a special commemorative service will be held Sunday morning at 10 o'clock as part of the Stailacoom Centennial program.

CDF:mk/c



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WALDO CARLSON, Associate Director

RELEASE AUGUST 26 (SPECIAL)

A Centennial anniversary date that will easily pass unnoticed occurs Tuesday, Sept. 1, the day in 1862 that Isaac I. Stevens, first territorial governor of Washington, was killed in the battle of Chantilly in Virginia.

Stevens held the rank of Major General at the time of his death and was the youngest general of that rank in the Northern army.

At the time the Civil War broke out, Stevens was a delegate to Congress from Washington Territory. His sympathies were with the South so far as states' rights were concerned, but when hostilities actually broke out, he offered his services at once to President Lincoln. Owing to his previous political beliefs on the issue, the President was advised to go slow in making use of Stevens' services, but the President was very soon convinced of the Westerner's sincerity and his advance in the army was rapid.

During the years of dispute with the Indians in the Territory, Stevens had left no doubt as to his personal courage and the Battle of Chantilly offered additional proof. The boy carrying the flag was shot down and, rather than assign the flag to someone else, Stevens picked it up himself and carried it forward, being shot down as he advanced. This flag is one of the cherished relics in the Stevens Alcove in the Washington State Historical Society building in Tacoma.

A short commemorative service is planned for August 30th on the Chantilly battlefield.

CDF:mk/c
8/21/53



1853-Washington Territorial Centennial-1953

NEWS

State Historical Building
CHAPIN D. FOSTER, Director

315 No. Stadium Way, Tacoma 3
WALDO CARLSON, Associate Director

RELEASE SEPT. 9

One of the features of the closing weeks of the Territorial Centennial will be the dedication of the first of Washington's new historical markers.

The Washington historical marker program is one of the most pretentious of the country, a joint program sponsored by the Historical Sites Advisory Board, working under the State Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Washington State Marker Commission, working under the Highway Department.

The first markers to be dedicated will be at New Wallula (at the site of Fort Walla Walla), Ainsworth and Yakima.

Dr. Keith Murray of the Western Washington College of Education and chairman of the Historical Sites Board, is chairman of the Centennial Dedications Committee and is working on programs for the three dedications. Dates will be announced as soon as possible.

The marker panels are about 6x8 ft., of Washington aluminum with raised letters. These panels are supported by cedar timbers. Across the top of each panel is a sketch of the spot being recognized. There is also a raised map of Washington with a star, indicating the location of the historical spot.

In addition to the marker honoring Fort Walla Walla, there is a reproduction of part of the foundation of Fort Walla Walla made of rocks from the Fort. Ainsworth was a colorful railroad town at the junction of the Snake and Columbia Rivers, a vital cog in the extension of the Northern Pacific to the Sound. Indian Painted rocks at Yakima date back for many years. Impressive ceremonies are being planned for these markers. It may be possible to dedicate others before November 11th.

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RELEASE SEPT. 23rd

If Washington, in 2053, knows what this area did in 1953 to make the Territorial Centennial a success, it will be because a lot of local people cooperate with the Chamber of Commerce in making the record complete.

Impressive ceremonies are planned at Olympia November 11th, Statehood Day, which will also mark the official close of the Centennial period.

Featuring the ceremony will be the deposit of a capsule to be opened in 2053 and containing a complete record of all Centennial activities during this year.

Judge Matthew W. Hill, of the Supreme Court and Chairman of the Advisory Committee, has asked the Centennial headquarters to place with Chambers of Commerce the responsibility for bringing together the Centennial record at the local level.

The Chamber of Commerce is anxious that the local record be 100 per cent complete and is asking that every organization that tied in its work in any way with the Centennial, get in touch with it at once.

The Chamber is the logical organization to get together the local Centennial record", writes Chapin D. Foster, Centennial director, "but the Chamber needs cooperation if the record is to be complete. Every local organization should feel a responsibility for getting its record to the Chamber without delay, for it takes time to provide for adequate capsule space. Folks in 2053 will be mighty interested in the 1953 record."

Program details are being worked out under the direction of Judge Hill and will be announced later, but of immediate importance is getting the record of local Centennial activities to headquarters in Tacoma without delay.

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NOTE TO THE EDITOR—This is an "Extra" offered with the compliments of Mr. Hazard. It is a timely piece, which I hope will be usable. C. D. F.

GOVERNOR STEVENS PROCLAIMS WASHINGTON TERRITORY By Joseph T. Hazard

SEPTEMBER TWENTY-FOUR, EIGHTEEN FIFTY-THREE!

It was on that day, just a hundred years ago, that Governor Isaac Ingalls Stevens proclaimed the New Washington Territory and took over as its first Governor.

The scene, an impressive one, was at Cadotte's Pass on the Continental Divide of Montana's Rocky Mountains, for in the year 1853, that divide was the eastern boundary of a far-flung Washington Territory. While Washington Territory was created on March 2, 1853, when Pres. Millard Fillmore signed the enabling bill of Congress, it was not actually proclaimed until the day, Sept. 24, 1853, when an eager and ambitious Governor Stevens actually entered his domain.

All day, September 24, 1853, the aggressive little Governor had crowded the pace of his engineering train of mules and horses. He describes his approach from the semi-arid lands of Montana Territory in these prophetic words:

"The country is somewhat more broken today than it was yesterday; timber comes in view of the tops of the mountains, and the scenery becomes more grand with every mile as we proceed."

The progress of this rugged exploring and engineering train, upslope and into Cadotte's Pass of the Continental Divide, is told most dramatically by Governor Stevens in his journal, published by Congress in the year 1860.

"As we ascended the divide, a severe pelling hail and rain storm, accompanied by high wind, thunder and lightning, suddenly came upon us, and did not abate until we had reached the summit." "It was with great gratification that we now left the plains of the Missouri to enter upon the country watered by the Columbia; and it was the more especially gratifying to me, looking to my future duties in the Territory, I felt that I could welcome to my future home and the scene of my future labors the gentlemen of the party, which I did very cordially and heartily."

Almost four months earlier, on June 6, 1853, the tiny Governor had left St. Paul with the main party of his complex survey, which was composed of 200 half-broken Missouri mules, 40 horses and 111 men. To reach Cadotte's Pass and the Washington Territory, they had crossed from east to west all of Minnesota and North Dakota and the "plains" of Montana. They had maneuvered their way through thousands of "pacified" to "hostile" Indians, the last of them the 12,000 membered wild and warlike four tribes of the Blackfoot Nation. Still they had surveyed, for routes



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and resources, a broad path along the northern borders from 100 to 300 miles wide.
No roads, no continuous trails, just wilderness!

It was a complex party, for a wide range of investigations.

There were sappers and dragoons; civil engineers and a surgeon; a naturalist and a disbursing agent; an artist, a topographer, and an astronomer; a magnetic observer and a meteorologist; a quartermaster and a commissary clerk; and, not least, seven young and active "aides", of whom Elwood Evans was a ring leader in prompt service and irrepressible mischief.

Less technical, but equally necessary, were a wagon-master, a pack-master, five half-Indian guides, a hunter and sixty teamsters, packers and voyageurs.

Among these 111 widely assorted, but carefully chosen, members of the main survey there were future generals, world scientists and many models of romantic adventure. No wonder the doughty Governor, leaving all wheels at Fort Benton, pushing up the Rockies with mules and men, was moved to celebrate with ceremonies at Cadotte's Pass!

That celebration was the real beginning of Washington Territory. Hazard Stevens, the son, tells the more serious part of it in these words:

"Governor Stevens issued his proclamation, declaring the civil territorial government extended and inaugurated over the new Territory of Washington. And then, as related in the narrative (Journal of Surveys), he heartily welcomed the members of the party to his new home."

While Isaac Ingalls Stevens did not arrive in Olympia with his new government and his vital administration of it until November 25, 1853, it was on its way from Cadotte's Pass of the Rockies on September 24 in the year 1853.

JTH:mk/c