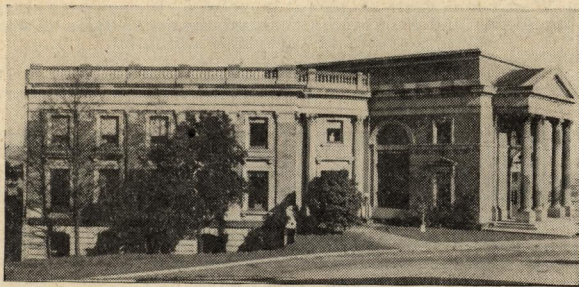


# WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWS-



LETTER

VOL. 1, NO. 5

TACOMA, WASHINGTON

AUGUST, 1947

## Start Research on Two Restoration Projects

Research work in connection with two important restoration projects in Washington has been launched by the National Parks Service, which will have charge of the two projects.

The largest is the Fort Vancouver project. A sum has been included in the next appropriation for the Park Service to make an archeological survey of the Fort Vancouver site. Actual work of restoration will not be undertaken until this survey has been completed. At that time the details of the project will also be worked out.

The Park Service also has under its direction the Whitman Mission project. Rather than restore the actual buildings, it is understood now that the Service plans a museum and the use of dioramas. This is proving a very effective method so far as the visiting public is concerned, and may also be used at Vancouver.

## Pioneer Floor of State Building is Improved

By fall the first floor of the State Building will have had its face "lifted" several degrees.

This is now the Pioneer Floor and when the work is completed, will be found one of the most attractive floors in the building.

Item No. 1 was a coat of paint and that would have been almost enough of an improvement to justify a story.

The paint, however, was just the first step. Additional steps will include a number of special displays, part of which have already been completed. Others will require most of the summer to complete, possibly a longer period.

Rearrangement is making it possible to display more material than was possible before. At least two outstanding displays are in sight for this floor but details will have to be held over for the present.

## LARGEST MURAL IN WASHINGTON HALL DEPICTS EZRA MEEKER IN MOUNTAINS OF WYOMING



This is the largest of the murals given by S. A. Perkins. It is 6½ by 16 feet and is the first mural the visitors see on entering the building.

## WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS-LETTER

Published by the Washington State Historical Society for the purpose of advancing the interests of the Society and Associated Organizations in the State of Washington. Issued quarterly at Tacoma, Washington.

CHAPIN D. FOSTER, Editor

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## Chats With the Editor

**TERRITORIAL CENTENNIAL AROUND "THE CORNER"** It is not too early for Washington to be thinking about the centennial of her attainment of territorial status, for 1953 is not many "corners" away. This is a matter which must receive legislative attention if the occasion is properly observed. The next session of that body will not too early for consideration of a comprehensive plan of observance. Celebration of the centennial should not be allowed to wait until 1953. Minnesota, under similar circumstances, is launching a preliminary program of history study two years in advance of the event itself, and allowing a couple more years for preparation of plans, so the 1949 session of the legislature should see action under way.

**ADDITION TO WASHINGTON HALL MURALS** When the Perkins Historical Photographic Murals were formally dedicated in Washington Hall last December, it is very likely that most visitors thought the job was completed. Certainly the hall would give that appearance, and not a day passes but visitors praise what has come to the Society and the state through the gift of Mr. S. A. Perkins. Within the past month three more murals have been added, and two more are awaiting selection of the right scenes. Added murals include two views of the famous Tacoma Hotel which was destroyed by fire in 1935, and portraits of Chief Seattle and Chief Joseph. These are striking views and must be seen to be appreciated. In the development of the Washington Hall murals Mr. Perkins is rendering the state an outstanding service.

**TACOMANS SHOULD BRING VISITORS TO BUILDING** A lot of Tacomans are showing excellent judgment in bringing out-of-state visitors to the State Historical Society building. The custom seems to be decidedly on the increase. Visitors are being brought to the building every day. Incidentally, the home folks are discovering changes in the building every time they come, which is one of the aims of the staff. Visitors should be shown the best Tacoma and Washington has to offer, and we think there isn't anything much more interesting than Washington history.

**INTEREST IN WASHINGTON HISTORY INCREASING** We might be prejudiced, but there is a good deal of evidence in support of the conviction that interest in Washington history is increasing. The goal is still far distant but there is good reason to believe that an increasing number of our people want to know about Washington history, and to help in its preservation. The time will come when there will be enough members of the Washington State Historical Society in each county in the state to form a local unit. That is one of our goals, and it cannot be attained too soon.

**SCHOOLS STUDYING WASHINGTON HISTORY** Washington schools are taking the study of Washington history seriously, and are making use of Washington museums in that study. During April and May almost 70 school groups were brought to the State Society's building as a part of their study of Washington history. We haven't tried to figure the percentage of increase over the previous year but it would really be something. From what we have heard, the museums in Olympia, Bellingham, Wenatchee, Spokane and the University have enjoyed many visits from school groups. In this connection, Bremerton heads the list at the State building. During the year about 10 bus loads of young people have been brought to Tacoma. The trips are carefully planned, and the groups given advance instruction in what to look for. The Director spends from one to two hours with these school groups, explaining relics and telling bits of Washington history.

**"THANK YOU" FOR RADIO PROGRAMS** When the Pacific First Federal Savings & Loan Association launched a series of radio programs based upon artifacts found in the State Historical Building, it is likely that many connected with the Association wondered if the idea was very sound. There should be no doubts any longer. The number of listeners is increasing at a gratifying rate, if we can judge by what we hear in the building, and the number of visitors who say they have come as a result of the programs. We think the Association is rendering itself a valuable service and there is no question but that Washington benefits.

**A TIP FOR STATE'S CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** Chamber of Commerce staffs are always anxious to tell visitors all the interesting places to be seen within their boundaries. They should not forget history, and there is no community but has some interesting history and interesting historical spots to be visited. If there is a museum in the city, let no visitor ask a Chamber of Commerce for travel advice without being urged to visit the institution. If there is a historical marker in or near the city, tell the visitors about them. Washington history is something we can be proud of. Also, it is something most visitors are interested in.

**TWO BOARD MEMBERS ANSWER SUMMONS** The State Society has lost two valuable members of its Board of Curators within the past few weeks—J. J. McDonald of Seattle and Adolph Schmidt of Olympia. Mr. Schmidt had been a Board member but a year but was taking an increasing interest in the work of the Society. Mr. McDonald had been a member of the Board for a number of years, and a most enthusiastic member. The work of the Society had a large place in his thinking and he was ever seeking new ways to be of service. His death occurred shortly before the last meeting of the Board, and it was only a few days before the meeting that he had said attendance at that time would be a "must." Both of these men will be greatly missed.

**THANK YOU, NEWSPAPER EDITORS** One of our greatest pleasures is saying "Thank You" to newspaper editors for recognition of the work of the Society. Tacoma newspapers have been most cooperative. Since the first of the year the Seattle Times has had a number of magazine section features based upon exhibits in the Society's museum. We don't know too much about the supply of gold in Washington hills, but we do know there is a wealth of interesting material in Washington history, stories which Washington readers are anxious to read.

**BETTER GET ONE OF THOSE NEW MAPS** The new Washington historical maps are at last a reality, but to appreciate them fully one of them must be in front of you for observation. If there is a better state historical map, it would be interesting to see it. This map should be in every Washington home in which there is interest in the foundations of our state, and certainly in every Washington school room and library.

## State Society Secures Rare Indian History

From the estate of Miss Alma USAfove of Tacoma, the State Society received a substantial cash bequest, without restrictions as to its use.

At the last meeting of the Board of Curators it was decided to take advantage of an exceptional opportunity to come into possession of a set of the famous Curtis Indian History, and purchase was made from the fund left by Miss USAfove, although it was not necessary to use all of the bequest for this purpose.

Originally the sets cost in the neighborhood of \$3500 and are by far the finest works of their kind ever published in this country. Publication was made possible through a project sponsored by Pierpont Morgan, or the price would have been much higher.

The work was done by the late Edward Curtis, a brother of the late Asahel Curtis. There are 20 large volumes of illustrated text, and 20 portfolios of large photographs of American Indians.

The Society is proud to be one of the few Northwest possessors of this outstanding work.

## New Collections at State Capitol Museum

Spring and early summer have been unusually busy at the Capitol Museum in Olympia.

A number of inter-museum trips have been made by Mrs. Richard Burford, president, and Mrs. Hattie Harrocks, curator. The Washington State and Oregon State Historical Societies have been visited, and trips are planned to Seattle, Spokane and Maryhill.

Two outstanding displays have been added recently. One has been placed by Mrs. J. Grant Hinkle, whose husband was for many years Secretary of State. Included are a plate 150 years old made at Harpers Ferry; soup tureen 90 years old; trunk 200 years old belonging to grandfather of Mr. Hinkle; two bolo knives from Spanish-American War; soldier's hat and chaplain's bag from Spanish-American War; other relics from Spanish-American War, photos relating to Mr. Hinkle's service at Olympia.

The second collection is the property of Dan Blom of Olympia and includes a collection of aboriginal weapons and ceremonial articles. Blom served in the army three and one-half years in Australia, New Guinea and the Philippines. There are about 25 items in the collec-

tion. Weapons range from a Nulla-Nulla war club to a Malay kris, a jagged-edged sword. There are arrows, a two-handed club and many ceremonial articles. The display has attracted a great deal of attention.

Mrs. F. H. Gloyd represented the Olympia Society at the Utah Centennial celebration and also visited a number of museums in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming and Utah while enjoying a motor trip with her son and daughter-in-law.

## Two Curators of State Society are Summoned

Two members of the State Society's Board of Curators have passed away suddenly in recent weeks, J. J. McDonald of Seattle and Adolph Schmidt of Olympia.

While Mr. McDonald had been in poor health for several months, he seemed to be well on the road to recovery at the time of his death, which came without warning while on a business trip to Olympia.

He had been a member of the Board for a number of years and served on important committees, manifesting a very keen interest in the work of the Society. He had visited the building a few days before his death and made plans for attendance at the next meeting of the Board.

Adolph Schmidt had been a member of the Board but a year. He attended the annual meeting of the Society shortly before his sudden death, and was manifesting an increasing interest in the work of the Society. He had been very active in his support of the State Capitol Museum at Olympia, also in preserving the historical landmarks at Tumwater, where the first Washington community was established in 1845 by the Simmons party.

### GIVE A MAP

Who doesn't wonder at times as to what might be a suitable gift. When in doubt, give one of the new state historical maps. It will find a cordial welcome in every Washington home, and is needed there. Washington homes will not get much Washington history unless Washingtonians see to it that the history is available. The maps are \$1, mailed anywhere in the United States. Order from the State Society, if not available at your book store.

## Yakima Valley Historical Groups Hold Picnic

At its annual meeting the Yakima Pioneer Association elected Walter Purdin president. Other officers are: Homer Splawn, vice president; Arch Bartholet, vice president; Lester Shaw, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Jack Splawn, historian.

Dan McDonald, Guy Longmire, Prudy Crosno, John H. Lynch and Mr. Bartholet were named to the executive committee. The annual picnic June 15 was held at the Fairgrounds jointly with the Yakima Valley Historical Society and Daughters of Pioneers. A pioneer show next year is under consideration.

## New Attendance Records At Fort Nisqually

New attendance records have been set this summer at Fort Nisqually, in Point Defiance Park, Tacoma. Old Fort Nisqually was restored in the park under the leadership of the Young Men's Business Club of Tacoma. Many of the Fort relics are found in the museum.

During the summer the old log home of Job Carr, first home built in Tacoma, was moved from the main park to the Fort as an added attraction and also that it might be better cared for. In addition to the regular park visitors who go to the Fort, many school groups visited the Fort during the closing weeks of school.

## Museum Conference Held at University

Under the direction of Dr. Erna Gunther, Director of the State Museum at the University of Washington, a Museum Conference was held at the University July 28-29.

The Conference closed at noon on the 29th. Invitations had been sent to all museum workers in Washington. Panel discussions covering practical problems in connection with museums in the state, featured the program. This was the first conference of the kind held for several years and it was much appreciated by those in attendance.

### WE'VE A PLATYPUS, TOO

The New York museum isn't the only institution boasting an Australian platypus. The State Society has one and has had him for many years. Of course, a taxidermist worked on ours, but he's a very handsome specimen and attracts a lot of attention in Washington Hall.

## S. A. Perkins Adds to Historical Mural Display

Important additions have been made recently by S. A. Perkins to the historical photographic mural in Washington Hall.

These additions include two views of the famous Tacoma Hotel, which was destroyed by fire in 1935, and Chiefs Seattle and Joseph.

The Tacoma Hotel was one of the most famous hotels of the West and deservedly has a place in the state's mural. The city of Seattle was named for the Indian chief, and Chief Joseph has been ranked as one of the great military leaders of the country. His masterly retreat, when he led his entire tribe 2000 miles without being captured by the pursuing army, has been studied by military men for years.

Mr. Perkins is to be commended for his continued and increasing interest in the development of this mural. Already it is the outstanding mural of its kind in the country.

## Outstanding Collection of Figurines on Display

Mrs. Ada Bridgman Odenrider of Seattle has three of the most interesting displays in the State Society Building—figurines, or dolls if you prefer it that way.

Her latest display is the most elaborate of the three and is attracting a great deal of attention. This display presents King Henry VIII of England and his six wives.

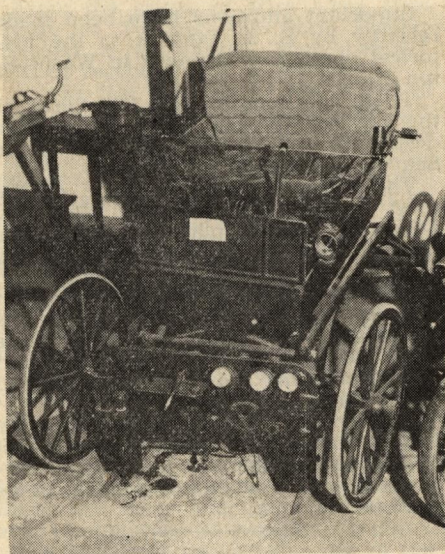
The largest display is a group of some 30 figurines. Half of the group represent the first Mercer Girls to reach Seattle and the young men at the dock to meet them, while the other half presents the styles from 1800 to 1900.

The third display presents a grandmother seated beside a cradle, knitting. Mrs. Odenrider has developed a talent in this field that makes her work compare with anything of the kind to be seen anywhere in the country.

The Henry VIII group has been insured for \$1500, which gives some idea of its value. The wives in their order of succession were Katherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour, Anne of Cleves, Catherine Howard and Catherine Parr. Ordinary descriptions are pretty weak in describing these dolls, they have to be seen to be appreciated. When seen, visitors marvel at the creative ability of Mrs. Odenrider.

Soon after the Mercer-Style groups were placed on display, a style show was held. Six young ladies donned dresses of "yesterday" in the museum's collection, and vied with the figurines for attention. The affair attracted a large attendance.

## WASHINGTON'S FIRST AUTO ON DISPLAY



One of the prized relics in the Washington State Historical Society Building is the state's first automobile. You'll have to guess the make, the manufacturer evidently was not too sure of his product. It was an electric.

## Washington Historical Map Is Now Available

Since the last issue of News-Letter, publication of the Society's historical map of Washington has become a reality and plans for distribution are well under way.

The map has been pronounced by those in a position to know, as the finest historical map yet published. It is lithographed in seven colors on heavy map paper. Thirty-four historical scenes have been depicted by an outstanding artist and 95 historical spots recognized.

On the reverse side is a condensed history of Washington, also a state map showing the origin of the county names.

This map should be in every school room in Washington, also in every home in which there is any interest in the foundations of our state. Many are finding the map makes an ideal gift. For those desiring to use the map as a gift, the Society has prepared special labels. The cost of individual maps has been held very low, only \$1 mailed in a tube anywhere in the United States.

## Famous Actress Is State Society Visitor

Among the distinguished visitors to the State Society building this spring was Miss Billie Burke, the famous actress.

Miss Burke has a number of hobbies. One of them is visiting museums. On previous professional visits to Tacoma she had visited the museum but her time in the city was so limited this spring that a visit was impossible.

The Director wrote her at Seattle about coming over if possible, and she took time from her very busy schedule for a two hour trip through the building. She remembered many things seen on previous visits and inquired about them.

"My, how many fine changes you have made here," said Miss Burke at the conclusion of her visit.

## Historical Group Hears Lecture on Pioneers

Forty members of the Lewis County Unit of Daughters of Pioneers and Lewis County Historical Society heard an address by Dr. Kate Gregg, professor emeritus of history of Lindwood College, St. Charles, Mo.

Dr. Gregg's subject was "A Pioneer—Defined in Action." She had given this address at the state meeting of the Daughters of Pioneers in Olympia. The state meeting will be held next year in Tacoma.

## Centennial of Discovery Observed at Gig Harbor

Gig Harbor, across the Narrows from Tacoma, headed the list of centennial celebrations this year.

She couldn't attach the celebration to the actual founding of the community, but to the discovery of the harbor by the Wilkes party in 1843. Actual observance of the centennial had to be postponed until this year on account of the war. An elaborate entertainment program was offered the public.

### WANTED—MEMBERS

**All historical societies need more members, and this applies to societies in Washington. While the State Society could use more members to advantage, News-Letter is sure this applies to every historical group in Washington. Here is an opportunity for members of these groups to say the right word to the right people.**

## Habitat Bird Displays Added, State Building

Two habitat bird displays have been added to the second floor where the Bowles Collection is shown.

One of these habitat displays presents a family of California quail and the other a pair of seagulls quarreling over a fish.

The work was done by J. H. Gipple of Tacoma, and has brought much favorable comment. Mr. Gipple mounted the birds and developed the background. It is hoped he can be induced to undertake more of this type of work, where his talents are outstanding. For a number of years he was connected with the North Dakota State Historical Society at Bismark.

## Seek Half Million For Seattle Museum

Under the leadership of the Seattle Historical Society, a campaign to raise half a million dollars in Seattle for a municipal museum is under way.

Recently a banquet was held, addressed by Director Scholle of the Museum of the City of New York, and the campaign was launched immediately. The Chamber of Commerce and city administration of Seattle are giving the project enthusiastic support.

## Nevada Society Director Visits Washington

During the past month the State Society received a visit from Dr. Jeanne Elizabeth Wier, executive secretary of the Nevada State Historical Society.

Dr. Wier is professor emeritus of history and political science at the University of Nevada and is now giving most of her time to the historical society.

The Nevada Society hopes to have a new building in the very near future and Dr. Wier is gathering all the ideas possible that may add to its efficiency.

## Bus Loads of Students Visit State Building

"Here come your school visitors," was a very common phrase in the State Building during April, May and early June.

Almost 70 school groups visited the building during that period, about half of them from outside Tacoma.

Bremerton schools sent more groups than any other outside school system, no less than 10 bus loads making the trip to Tacoma during the year, and eight during the last period.

Poulsbo sent two loads a distance of 60 miles, and Winlock came the longest distance, one group making the trip.

## PIONEER ASSOCIATION ORGANIZED AT WAPATO

Old-timers of the Wapato district in the Yakima Valley gathered recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Hanson, preliminary to formation of a permanent organization. About 50, a number of whom had moved to other parts of the valley, attended the gathering. The Wapato Independent relates that 20 dozen doughnuts were consumed. Isn't this some sort of a record?

## Some Historical Dates for August, September and October

### 1700's

- August 1, 1770 Birth of William Clark of the Lewis-Clark Expedition.
- August 10, 1774 Juan Perez sights Mount Olympus.
- August 18, 1774 Birth of Meriwether Lewis, Lewis-Clark Expedition.
- August 17, 1775 Heceta reaches bay but fails to cross bar which would have resulted in discovery of Columbia River.
- September 28, 1790 Captain Robert Gray leaves Boston on second voyage to Pacific Northwest; winters at Cloyoquot.
- October 1, 1787 The "Columbia" leaves Boston for Pacific Northwest, Captain Robert Gray.
- October 28, 1790 Convention between Spain and Great Britain signed.
- October 3, 1792 Captain Robert Gray weighs anchor for last time on west coast of North America.

### 1800's

- August 11, 1803 Jurisdiction of Canadian courts is extended over area of Hudson's Bay in the Indian countries, as region west of Rupert Land was called.
- September 23, 1806 Last entry of Lewis and Clark journals written at St. Louis, Missouri.

October 10, 1805 Lewis and Clark camped opposite present site of Lewiston, Idaho.  
October 18, 1805 Lewis and Clark begin journey down Columbia; camped at junction of Snake and Columbia Rivers.

#### 1810's

August 5, 1814 Birth of Michael T. Simmons, first to establish American settlement north of Columbia; Sheppardsville, Ky.  
August 9, 1818 United States takes formal possession of Fort Astoria.  
September 1817 Sloop of War Ontario ordered to Columbia peaceably to assert sovereignty of United States in territory adjacent.  
October 16, 1813 Pacific Fur Co. is taken over by Northwest Fur Co.  
October 6, 1818 British surrender Fort George to U. S., to be re-established as Fort Astoria.  
October 20, 1818 Convention signed between Great Britain and United States to establish joint occupation of Northwest Coast.

#### 1820's

August 10, 1828 Jedediah Smith is attacked by Indians with members of his party.

#### 1830's

August 18, 1838 Lt. Charles Wilkes commands first exploration expedition authorized by Congress of the United States.  
September 28, 1834 Jason Lee delivers first Sunday service at Fort Vancouver.  
September 29, 1834 Jason Lee prepares to leave for Willamette Valley to establish mission.  
October 9, 1839 Jason Lee embarks with reinforcements and settlers from New York.  
October 29, 1832 Nathaniel J. Wyeth arrives at Fort Vancouver.

#### 1840's

August 27, 1849 Fort Steilacoom established.  
October 4, 1847 First Session of Lewis County Commissioners meet at Sidney S. Ford's (M. T. Simmons, James Douglas and James Forrest).  
October 4, 1847 Sheriff Jackson presents first assessment roll of Lewis County.  
October 25, 1847 Puget Sound Milling Co., first sawmill on Puget Sound, at Tumwater, established.

#### 1850's

August 29, 1851 Convention held at Cowlitz Landing to formulate memorial asking Congress to divide Oregon Territory at the Columbia.  
August 27, 1853 Mount St. Helens is scaled by Dryer of Portland Oregonian, Wilson, Smith and Drew.  
September 27, 1850 Donation Land Law was passed by Congress and approved by Senate.  
September 11, 1852 First issue of The Columbian, first newspaper published north of the Columbia River.  
September 3, 1857 Death of Dr. John McLoughlin.  
October 15, 1850 I. N. Ebey takes claim on Whidby Island.  
October 29, 1850 First term of U. S. District Court is held at Vancouver.  
October 12, 1852 A. A. Denny is appointed postmaster at Seattle.  
October 25, 1852 Monticello convention.  
October 25, 1855 Allen Porter runs 35 miles on foot to warn village of Seattle of approaching Indians and so saves community from possible destruction.

#### 1860's

August 17, 1868 Mount Baker is first attempted, E. T. Coleman of England.  
September 1, 1864 Board of Commissioners of Northern Pacific Railroad hold first meeting in Melodeon Hall, Boston.  
October 13, 1866 Seminary moved to Walla Walla and first building dedicated.  
October 23, 1868 Name of new town is changed from Commencement City to Tacoma.

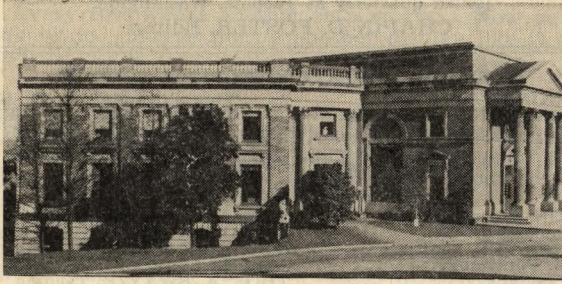
#### 1870's

August 17, 1870 Hazard Stevens and P. B. Trump make successful ascent of Mount Ranier.  
October 31, 1873 San Juan County formed.  
October 29, 1879 Death of Captain Clanrick Crosby.

#### 1880's

August 4, 1889 Spokane fire.  
October 27, 1883 Asotin County formed; Indian word meaning "eel creek" from abundance of eels there.

# WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Vol. 4, No. 1.

August, 1949.

## Planning for State's 1953 Centennial Starts

The centennial of Washington's attainment of territorial status will be observed in 1953. Let no one think to the contrary.

The 1949 session of the legislature assigned by Resolution to the Washington State Historical Society the task of heading up plans for the centennial program.

This work is under way. It is planned that this observance will reach into every home in Washington in one way or another. It will be the most important historical celebration in Washington history up to the present time and the state is beginning to think very definitely of 1953 as the Centennial Year.

## City Light Display Honors First Generator

It is expected that by the time this issue of News-Letter is out the Tacoma City Light Department display will have been completed.

Only a few more steps need to be taken and then the State Society building will have another very interesting display.

For years the Society has had the generator which turned out the first electricity in Tacoma. The generator was in the Mason & Co. mill in Old Tacoma.

The generator will have an alcove all its own, with a fine painting of the old mill just behind it and above a photographic history of the development of City Light. It will be one of the most interesting displays in the building when completed—which in this case we hope is "now."

## Cowlitz County Has New Historical Association

The Cowlitz County Historical Association was organized in April at a largely attended dinner meeting in the Community Church, Longview.

Judge Lester Huntington of Kelso acted as chairman, and Chapin D. Foster, director of the state society, the principal speaker.

Officers of the new society were elected as follows:

President—Mrs. Mildred Keith Horn, Longview.

Vice President — George Umbaugh, Kelso.

Secretary—Mrs. Margaret Huntington, Olequa.

Treasurer—Mrs. H. E. Slaughaupt, Castle Rock.

Historian—Miss Alma Imus, Kalama.  
Assistant Historians — Mrs. Wilma Stankey, Castle Rock; Robert Hamilton, Kelso; Dick Stoves, Woodland; Miss Ethel Georgig, Woodland.

Mrs. Chas. Olson told of the early days of the historical society which had disbanded. She said that Editor J. M. McClelland of the Longview News had offered space in the paper's new addition, for a museum. She caught the speaker of the evening "off-guard" by reading an original poem by way of introduction, entitled "The Speaker of the Day."

In his talk, Mr. Foster stressed the importance and wealth of Cowlitz County history and its importance to the state.

The meeting was very well attended and support of the society plan was most enthusiastic.

Among those who spoke in favor of the new society were J. M. McClelland, publisher of the Longview Daily News; Eugene Crumb, manager of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, George Umbaugh, Mrs. Horn, Mr. Stallcop and others.

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CHAPIN D. FOSTER, Editor

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### Chats With the Editor

#### LEGISLATURE WAS HISTORY MINDED

The 1949 session of the legislature set a record for interest in Washington history that should inspire future sessions to still greater interest. The 1953 Centennial was recognized by Resolution and this Society designated to head up the program. A Historical Marker Commission was created. A new law makes it possible for county and city governments to allocate space in public buildings for county museums and historical societies, and county commissioners can allocate money for support of local museums. The State Park Commission has set up a Historical Sites Advisory Board. It also adopted a resolution that makes possible the placing of a statue honoring Dr. Marcus Whitman in the Hall of Statuary in Washington, D. C. Quite a record for one legislative session. A fine start but certainly only a fine start and not the finish.

#### HISTORY IS BEING MADE

Sometimes we think of history as something in the past, forgetting that we of today are also makers of history. The Conference on Northwest History sponsored by this Society made history at its 1949 session. It adopted a syllabus on history on a regional basis. That was a five-year objective reached in one year. Don't worry about state history suffering, it will be strengthened materially. Early history of the Northwest knew nothing about state lines for they didn't exist. Teaching Northwest history on a regional basis will be a long step forward.

#### PRESIDENT A BUSY MAN

It would be hard to find a busier man in these parts than the President of this Society. Mr. Perkins is a youngster of 84 who seems to think that a full work day applies to him as well as men many years younger. A few weeks ago he took on another job, this time with the Hoover Commission, to represent it in the Northwest and serve on its executive committee. He has taken this as a work assignment, naturally.

#### WASHINGTON LOST A GOOD CITIZEN

In the sudden death of George Talcott of Olympia, Washington lost a very valuable citizen and this Society a splendid member of its Board of Curators. He had just been elected to the position of Curator Emeritus, an honor he deeply appreciated. Few men in Washington have been more interested in the preservation of her history. His place hard to fill.

#### ANOTHER MEMORIAL ALCOVE COMPLETED

Last year this department had something to say about the memorial alcove honoring Mr. and Mrs. Robert Laird McCormick. Now it's an alcove honoring Isaac I. Stevens, first territorial governor of Washington. The alcoves adjoin each other in McCormick Hall. Both are gifts of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. McCormick. If a suggestion could be added at this point, it would be that there are some more alcove spaces that could be developed as memorial projects.

#### MORE MODEL WARSHIPS

Hobbies should give hobbyists a lot of fun. Don't know how any one could have more fun with a hobby than M. I. Munch of Sumner, because with his model boat hobby he is telling the story of the growth of the U. S. Navy. Every few weeks another ship or two. Now he has 71 on display and about 25 more to do. Maybe there's another display like it somewhere but we don't know where it is.

#### "DAUGHTERS" ARE DOING FINE WORK

One of the state's most valuable historical organizations is the Daughters of Pioneers. More than 20 chapters in Washington and they are doing some fine work in collecting pioneer pictures and records. Deeply interested in historical sites and markers. More power to them, and more chapters.

#### MORE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

We hope no issue of News-Letter comes out without the story of a new county historical society. In this issue is the story of several new societies. Before Centennial Year there should be a historical society in every county and a county museum in many of them.

### Kitsap County Museum Opens in Courthouse

Birth of the Kitsap County Historical Museum has been announced over in the naval city.

Kitsap County's commissioners have allocated space in the courthouse to the Society and a museum has been started.

At present the museum is open from 11 to 5 every Monday, but it is hoped that it can be kept open longer very soon.

Relics are coming in, it is reported, and members of the Society are very optimistic.

### Bellingham Museum Adds Many Exhibits

On May 17th the Bellingham Museum was host for a Museum tour to the delegates to the State Convention of the Daughters of the Pioneers, held in Bellingham May 17-18-19.

H. W. Wheeler, formerly of Bremerton, Washington, has joined our Museum staff, and now directs much that is done on second floor. Miss Belva Ball is also one of our new workers, and is in charge of the rooms where period furniture is displayed.

The Scandinavian Room, which has gradually taken shape under the able direction of Knute Evertz, is now almost completed. Recently the display cases have been painted with the colorful designs characteristic of Scandinavian decoration. Among the recent accessions in this room are a Bible, printed in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1736, bound in slabs of wood; a clock of the period of 1710, having the typical wooden weights of the era; and an eiderdown tapestry from Iceland, made of the feathers of the eiderduck, and used in many Icelandic homes as wall decoration in place of pictures.

R. C. Moseley has recently filled one of the Museum cases with an elaborate

display of campaign buttons and political campaign data, ranging from a letter from the New York State Campaign Committee of 1888 to a Dixiecrat Flag of 1948.

George J. Listmann brought in recently a complete set of cabinet-maker's tools, such as were used during the last one hundred years in Europe and America. Some of these tools were brought to this country from Germany in 1876, and all were used in later years in the vicinity of Portland, Oregon. Two pieces of furniture, a chair and a table, made by these tools sixty-one years ago, are also on display.

The geological collection has been enriched by a collection of Leaf Imprints and petrified wood, loaned by Herman Vandermay of Lynden, Washington. These Imprints, although rare in many regions, are found in unusual numbers and excellent condition in Whatcom County. Mr. Vandermay's collection is especially fine.

This summer the towers of our old Museum building, which was once the City Hall of Bellingham, will be painted. The whole structure, built in 1892, is a typical example of mid-Victorian architecture.

### Cuttings From Ivy Brought In 1852 Feature Sale

Cuttings from ivy brought to Seattle in 1852 from Westminster Abbey in England were one of the attractions at the Seattle Historical Society's Second Annual Clothing Roundup Sale and Auction held in the old Post-Intelligencer building at 6th and Pine in May. Proceeds from the sale went towards the Seattle Museum of History and Industry.

This year for the first time an auction was held the second day of the sale.

## History Conference Charts Regional Course

The Washington State Historical Society was host for the second time to the Pacific Northwest History Conference, which was held in the Society building May 28.

Attendance included representatives from Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia.

Agreement was reached by the conference on the need for a syllabus on Northwest history that would treat the subject on a regional rather than a state basis, because it was felt that in no other way could a complete knowledge of Northwest history be gained.

A tentative syllabus prepared by Dr. Dorothy Johansen of Reed College, Portland, and Prof. Chas. M. Gates of the University of Washington was approved. This syllabus came out of a conference prior to the regular session, which brought together educators from Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

Previously it had been felt that if so much progress toward a regional history approach could be attained in five years the conference would have fully justified its existence. Prof. H. J. Deutsch of the State College of Washington, presided during this session of the conference.

The afternoon session heard an interesting discussion of books on Northwest history by Ronald Todd of the University of Washington library staff, and witnessed an outstanding demonstration of methods for teaching Northwest history, under the direction of Chet Ullin of Bremerton schools, assisted by Mrs. Travis of the same system.

At the luncheon session Prof. Dan Clark of the University of Oregon spoke on the importance of preserving Northwest history. Nearly 70 attended the conference. Col. Howard A. Hanson, vice president of the State Society, served as chairman, and Chapin D. Foster, Society director, as secretary, assisted by Mrs. M. F. McAllister.

## New Pacific County Society Selects Official Board

John Wiegardt of Ocean Park has been elected president of the new Pacific County Historical Society, when organization was completed recently.

Mrs. Verna Jacobsen of South Bend was elected secretary.

Other officers elected are as follows:

Vice president—Arlie Thompson, Raymond.

Treasurer—Mrs. Addie Shay, Willapa.  
Directors—Mrs. James G. Walker, Sr., Seaview; Mrs. Roy Moore, Bay Center; Mrs. Netta Mays, South Bend; Judge

John I. O'Phelan, Raymond; Mrs. Lydia Wentworth, Menlo.

The new officers will hold office until the annual meeting in November. There are 32 charter members of the Society. The preliminary meeting was held in South Bend in May.

The county commissioners have been asked to arrange for space in the courthouse for museum purposes.

## More Land Added to Fort Vancouver Project

Another step toward the restoration of Fort Vancouver was taken in May when the Department of the Interior accepted 58 acres of war surplus land in the Vancouver Barracks tract, which was part of the original Fort Vancouver.

The tract will become a national monument and be developed by the National Park Service. Spearheading the work looking toward recognition of this project has been the Fort Vancouver Restoration and Historical Association, assisted by the Washington State Historical Society, members of the Oregon Historical Society and the Congressional delegations of both states.

Excavations have been in progress on the site of the old fort for two years under the direction of L. R. Caywood. It is planned by the National Park Service to build a museum when funds are available and in this present the old buildings in the form of dioramas. A tract of 45 acres had been accepted previously by the Department of the Interior.

It is hoped that the construction of the museum can be started in the near future. This will depend upon appropriations being made available.

## Fall Clallam Meeting Will Be Lively Session

If you want to make a safe bet, wager that the September meeting of the Clallam County Historical Association will be quite an affair.

Miss Lee Hodson is the secretary of the Association, which was organized last December. She is also the city librarian, and city librarians are very careful in their choice and use of words.

So, when Miss Hodson writes Newsletter that "we're planning to have a whale of a meeting the first Tuesday in September," it will be just that.

Books and pictures are being received by the Association and recently it acquired a very rare copy of "O'Toole's Mallet," which tells the early history of Port Angeles.

The young association anticipates a big year.

## No Summer Vacation For New Cowlitz Association

Summer may be a time for vacations but not for the new Cowlitz County Historical Society. It is taking a leading part in planning observance of the Huntington Centennial to be observed in August.

George H. Umbaugh, vice president of the Society, has been named to the Historical Sites Advisory Board, which held its first meeting in Ellensburg June 24.

The society is only a few months old but already its energetic president, Mrs. Mildred Keith Horn, is preparing an unusual historical exhibit to be displayed at the Longview Public Library. It consists of photographs of the first dwellings and landmarks, schools and public buildings in this area. It will be formally opened during the Longview Silver Jubilee August 8-14.

Descendants of the signers of the Monticello Convention are being sought by Mrs. Margaret H. Huntington, chairman of the Huntington Centennial Committee, and by Art Campbell, chairman of the Silver Jubilee Committee.

They will be invited to the historical pageant to be presented, at which time the convention scene will be re-enacted. Following are the 44 signers: G. N. McConaha, R. J. White, Q. A. Brooks, C. S. Hathaway, E. W. Winslow, A. Cook, A. S. Scott, W. M. Bell, A. A. Denny, L. M. Collins, G. D. Roberts, L. W. Stone, L. H. Davis, C. H. Hale, S. D. Ruddell, E. J. Allen, A. D. Dillenbaugh, J. R. Jackson, D. S. Maynard, F. A. Clark, Will W. Plumb, A. Wylie, Seth Catlin, J. N. Low, C. C. Terry, A. J. Simmons, S. Plamondon, H. A. Goldsborough, G. Drew, M. T. Simmons, H. C. Wilson, L. B. Hastings, S. S. Ford, B. C. Armstrong, J. Fowler, A. Crawford, H. D. Huntington, W. A. L. McCorkle, N. Ostrander, C. F. Porter, E. L. Finch, H. Miles, P. W. Crawford, S. P. Moses.

Fred Stallcop of Woodland, member of the historical society, recently completed two hand-made gavels made from wood of the historic walnut tree planted by Uncle "Darby" Huntington in the '50's. He presented one to the society and one to the Cowlitz Huntington Family. The gavel will be used to call together the Huntington descendants when they got together during the Longview Silver Jubilee.

Eight pioneer Huntington fathers crossed the plains between 1854 and 1854 to settle in the Cowlitz Valley. The old tree is near the spot where the Monticello Convention was held.

Mrs. Margaret Huntington's address is Route 1, Castle Rock.

## Archeologists Dig in Ruins to Fort Walla Walla

Fort Vancouver and Whitman Mission are not the only spots that interest historical archeologists at the present time.

Under the direction of Thos. Garth, work was done at the site of old Fort Walla Walla near the present town of Wallula.

Lack of funds prevented completion of the work but excavations covering part of the fort site uncovered some very interesting Hudson's Bay Company relics. It is hoped the work can be continued before fall.

This site will be under water when the McNary Dam is completed, so whatever is done must be done within the next year.

## Centennial of Unfurling Flag, Vancouver Barracks

May 14th marked the centennial of the day when the Stars and Stripes were first unfurled over Vancouver Barracks.

## New Alcove Honors Governor Isaac I. Stevens

The newest alcove in McCormick Hall in the State Society's building honors Isaac I. Stevens, Washington's first territorial governor.

The alcove is a gift to the Society by Mr. and Mrs. W. L. McCormick. Last year Mr. and Mrs. McCormick gave the alcove honoring his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Laird McCormick.

Both alcoves are finished in black walnut, with attractive new display cases. The Society has a fine collection of Stevens relics and they are now very properly housed.

## Pictorial Map Used In Designing Basket

A pictorial map showing a birdseye view of Seattle in 1889 has been utilized by the Seattle Historical Society in designing a unique and very smart looking waste basket now on sale in the Society's office, 603 Medical Arts building, at Second Avenue and Seneca street.

All money realized from their sale will go toward the Building Fund of the proposed Seattle Museum of History and Industry, according to Mrs. Theodore Plestcheeff, president. Baskets may also be obtained by phoning Main 6845.

## State Capitol Museum Still on Busy Schedule

The State Capitol Museum at Olympia continues with its busy schedule.

The Editors' Alcove attracts increasing attention as it develops. Mrs. Ida Burford, director, has been searching for photographs for this project for four years and still there are a few "missing" territorial editors.

It is hoped that a father-son combination may develop also.

The museum is now on a revised schedule, being open each day from 1 to 5 p. m. A part-time clerk has been added to the staff.

Since the earthquake, the Museum has housed the office of the State Treasurer, which has necessitated some re-arrangement and condensing of exhibits.

The Art League of Olympia is sponsoring a summer display in the Art Room, an exhibit of work by the Adult Class of the High School, under the leadership of James Gilmore.

Recently the Museum received some nice publicity from C. T. Conover, writing in the Seattle Times.

## Donald Stewart Again Heads Historical Ass'n

Donald J. Stewart has been re-elected president of the Fort Vancouver Restoration and Historical Society at Vancouver.

Mrs. C. S. Thayer is vice president, Carl Landerholme is secretary, and John F. Camp, Jr., treasurer.

Trustees include the following: Miss Eva Santee, Donald J. Stewart, W. K. Peery, Ray Bachman, Dr. Ralph Prose, Mrs. C. S. Thayer and Lewis D. Cannell.

The annual meeting of the Society was held in the parlors of the Congregational church. Dr. H. S. Goddard of Salmon Creek and Mrs. Belle H. Gillogly of Vancouver entertained with stories of pioneer days. L. R. Caywood told of progress in archeological work at Fort Vancouver. Decorations of the tables and rooms carried out the pioneer motif.

The Society has been working in cooperation with the Soroptimists and the Vancouver school board for the renovation of the old Officers Quarters in the former barracks. This building is associated with many outstanding military men of the past—Bonneville, Grant, Sheridan, McClellan, Miles, Harney, Anderson, Marshall, and others.

The Society has also, with apparently satisfactory results, opposed the proposed return of some of the former barracks to army use. Such return seemed detrimental to the projected Fort Vancouver National Monument.

We have commenced planning for some suitable observance next year of

the 125th anniversary of the founding of Fort Vancouver.

A committee is working on a project of setting up markers at a number of historical points in this area, such as the several Lewis and Clark encampments in Clark County, the old Hudson's Bay Company "plains," certain pioneer sites, and so forth.

## Bowles Hall Habitat Displays Win Praise

A good deal has been written about the new displays in Bowles Hall in the State Society building but those who have seen the display since its opening a few weeks ago will agree that not too much has been said.

There are 10 habitat displays in all—four the gift of the Washington Hardware Co. of Tacoma, four given by G. E. Karlen of Tacoma and two by the Society. The taxidermy and scenic work was by J. H. Gipple, backgrounds by Kenn E. Johnson and case construction by Wm. LaPointe of the Society staff.

The habitats are combined with the cream of the J. H. Bowles egg and nest collection and the result is an exhibit that will compare with anything of the kind to be seen in this country.

More habitat displays are planned for Bowles Hall as soon as sponsors offer their cooperation.

## Seattle Historical Society "Re-discovers" E. S. Curtis

One of the greatest picture-makers of the Old West, Edward S. Curtis, formerly of Seattle, has been rediscovered by local admirers. In poor health and 81 years old, he is living in retirement in Los Angeles.

When librarians mention the Curtis Indian photographs, 20 folios of large plates and 20 volumes of illustrated text, they speak almost reverently, for these rare and beautiful prints are art treasures as well as a priceless record of a vanishing native way of life.

Several collections of Curtis works exist in Seattle, but it was not until the Seattle Historical Society acquired seven volumes in the Sophie Frye Bass collection that steps were taken to learn what had become of the man responsible for these magnificent photographs.

The society, endeavoring to round up biographical material, has carried on an extensive correspondence with Mr. Curtis in which he described incidents of the colorful years when he roamed from Arizona to the Arctic in quest of picture subjects.

## Museum Conference In Tacoma July 25

The second annual Washington Museum Conference is scheduled to be held in the Washington State Historical Society building July 25.

This will be a one-day session and will bring to Tacoma directors and representatives of all of the museums in Washington.

The program will be devoted entirely to practical problems encountered by museum executives. Several historical museums have been started in the state in the past year and more are contemplated in the near future, so these conferences take on added importance.

## President's Council to Sponsor Novel Display

It would be nice if you could look a little later but that is difficult without one of those Russian iron curtain affairs.

In McCormick Hall in the State Society building a very interesting exhibit is developing but it will be several months, probably, before it is completed.

The President's Council of Tacoma has taken on a project which means developing a pioneer sitting room. Early furniture and musical instruments, three striking "ladies" and other things are already in place but much more is planned as rapidly as the work can be done.

All this meant re-arrangement of three-fourths of the contents of McCormick Hall. However, the results will fully justify all the extra work involved.

## Another Peace Marker Dedicated on Boundary

One of the most colorful events ever staged in Okanogan County was held May 1 at the international boundary north of Oroville and marked the dedication of a peace marker.

The dedication was under the sponsorship of the Okanogan Kiwanis Club, assisted by Kiwanis Clubs of the district.

Government and civic leaders from both sides of the boundary participated in the ceremony.

There is no boundary in the world like that between this country and Canada in that for 3,000 miles it is unfortified. Recognition of this fact in ceremonies such as that which took place May 1st advances the cause of world peace.

## State to Get More Historical Museums

Washington historical museums are increasing pretty rapidly.

The Kitsap County Historical Association has one going now, the Jefferson County Historical Association also has its museum open to the public.

Down at Ilwaco they are planning the Robert Gray Museum. Over in Yakima County a new museum building is under construction in connection with the Junior College development.

Both Clallam and Grays Harbor County associations are thinking of museums and that applies also to Pacific and Cowlitz Counties.

A historical society in every county in Washington and a local museum in every county—a worthwhile goal toward which progress seems pretty rapid just now.

## Famous Mail Plane Saved for Museum

When the Seattle Museum of History and Industry is finished one of the exhibits of which the city may be most proud will be the Boeing B. Flying Boat which operated between Seattle and Victoria, B. C. on the first scheduled international airmail line, October 20, 1920.

The airplane was bought by the Seattle Historical Society to be placed in its proposed museum, in the aviation wing donated to the museum by the Boeing Airplane Company as a memorial to its late president, Philip G. Johnson.

Mrs. Theodore Plestcheff, president of the society, received a letter last month regarding the airplane from Mr. Paul Edward Garber, Curator of the National Air Museum of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D. C.

Mr. Garber wrote in part: "It was my privilege to be associated with the first scheduled airmail line, which operated between New York and Washington, (D. C.) in 1918-1921, and I have always been a student of airmail history. . . . I note in a recent issue of the 'Statistical Study of U. S. Civil Aircraft' that you were listed as custodians for an early Boeing B. Flying Boat. I am greatly pleased to learn that this historic airplane is still in existence. . . ."

Among the other exhibits which the museum will hold will be the desk Arthur A. Denny used to sort mail in Seattle's first postoffice, in his log cabin; the "Petticoat Flag" made of red flannel petticoats and sheetings for the Seattle blockhouse during the Indian War of 1856; old cable car No. 13, used in Yesler Way (the only one like it is in the Smithsonian Institution) and Mr. H. W. McCurdy's marine collection.

## **Peace Arch Program Announced for September 23**

Washington can participate in a bit of history not possible anywhere else in the world—at the Peace Arch on the boundary at Blaine.

This year's program is set for September 23 in the evening. More than 20,000 are expected to attend the ceremony and broadcasts will carry the program to all parts of the United States and Canada.

Veterans and schools take the lead in working up the program.

Three years ago the centennial of the signing of the boundary treaty was celebrated at the Arch under the joint sponsorship of the Washington State Historical Society and the British Columbia Historical Association, assisted by the city governments on both sides of the line.

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## **Dr. Erna Gunther Honored By National Museum Body**

Dr. Erna Gunther attended the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Museums in Chicago May 19-21. She has just been elected a member of the Council of the Association.

The Department of Anthropology of the University of Washington is cooperating with the University of British Columbia in an excavation at Pt. Roberts, Washington. Dr. Charles Borden is in charge of this project.

The School Services Department of the Washington State Museum sent 1,724 exhibits to the schools of the State.

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## **Will Reorganize Museum At Whitman College**

An old museum but recently re-organized is that of Whitman College, and a start has been made on several constructive projects.

Mr. Phillip H. Pope is curator of the museum. He has announced plans for its development. It will be impossible, he has said, to have the museum open as much as desired but he hopes for a better schedule in the near future.

The mineral collection is a very strong one, also the collection of plant life in the Northwest.

Almost every phase of natural history is covered in some degree and it is hoped to make the museum of great value to the Northwest.

Many groups have made trips through the museum during the spring months.

## **More Model Ships From M. I. Munch Shop**

And still they come—those model warships from the M. I. Munch shop in Sumner.

We don't know where Mr. Munch has his shop, whether it's in the basement or the living room, but it's a very busy place.

About three years ago the State Society held a model boat show. Mr. Munch brought about a dozen models and called it a day.

Then he got an idea—to tell a story with model boats, the story of the growth of the U. S. Navy from 1865.

Now Mr. Munch has 71 models on display in the State Society building and every few weeks Mr. Munch can be expected to enter the building with a couple of model boats under his arm.

He expects it will take about 100 models to complete the task.

Also, Mr. Munch is having a great time with his hobby.

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## **Washington Adds Two Historical Commissions**

Washington has two new historical commissions that will be rendering the state valuable service in that field.

The 1949 legislature created a Historical Marker Commission. Members of this body are the Director of Highways, Director of State Historical Society, State Regent of the D. A. R., President of the Daughters of Pioneers, and Chairman of Progress Commission.

The State Parks and Recreation Commission has created a Historical Sites Advisory Board, which is already functioning. Members of this group are: E. T. Beacher, Spokane, chairman; Dr. Todd, State College, vice chairman; Mrs. Truman Reed, Spokane, secretary; Chapin D. Foster, Tacoma; George H. Umbaugh, Kelso; Dr. Erna Gunther, Seattle; Prof. Keith Murray, Bellingham; Judge Brown, Okanogan; Walter J. Purdin, Yakima; Dr. Brockman, Seattle; Rev. W. L. Davis, Spokane.

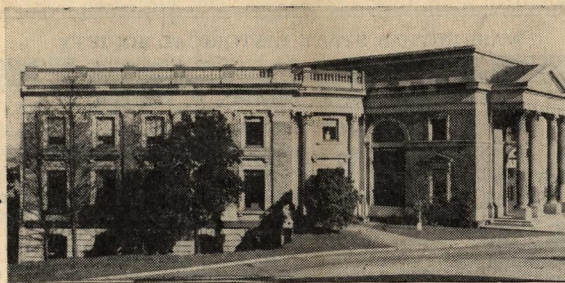
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## **Gammell Paintings Shown at Maryhill**

The Maryhill Museum of Fine Arts has been offering summer visitors a special treat this year in an exhibition of paintings by R. H. Ives Gammell.

The exhibit opened June 1st and will continue through August 31st.

# WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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## "Award of Merit" for 1949 to State Society

An honor eagerly sought by every historical organization in the United States, came to the Washington State Historical Society this fall in the form of the 1949 Award of Merit granted by the American Association for State and Local History.

The citation accompanying the award gave the following reasons for the selection made by the national organization: "For its sponsorship of the Regional Conference on Northwest History in 1948 and 1949, which has paved the way for regional cooperation in all fields of local historical endeavor, and for its program

The American Association for State and Local History  
Washington, D. C.

## Award of Merit

The American Association for State and Local History is pleased to recognize and commend  
the distinctive contribution of the

Washington State Historical Society

To American Local History, in witness whereof this Certificate is presented in accordance with the formal citation of the  
Committee on Awards dated on the 14th day of September, 1949 and transmitted to the  
proper officers.



for the revitalization of its museum, and particularly for a series of photographic murals of outstanding significance as documentary displays of the character of the past."

Notice of the award came in a letter from Dr. Albert B. Corey of the University of New York, chairman of the committee on awards.

Early in the summer the Society was asked to review its activities in recent years and, while it was felt the record was nothing to be ashamed of, it was

(Turn to page 7)

## Two Large Pictures Added to Perkins Murals

Two new paintings have been added during the past month to the S. A. Perkins historical murals.

Those who have seen them are a unit in their praise.

Both present Indian life. The largest is 8 x 8 feet and includes Chiefs Yellow Wolf and Peopeo Thaleckt of the Nez Perce tribe standing before their tepee. The second is 5 x 6 feet and shows two Indian Scouts in the Yakima hills.

The work of enlarging the photographs was done by the Richards Studio of Tacoma and the coloring by Mrs. Nina Ferris of the Richards organization. It would be difficult to imagine a better job being done.

Mr. Perkins is determined that Washington Hall be the outstanding hall of its kind in the United States. Most people feel it is that already, but Mr. Perkins says he has not completed the project yet.

## Parker McAllister Historical Watercolors Exhibited

When Parker McAllister, Seattle Times artist, displayed a collection of his historical watercolors, in the State Society building last year, there was a universal desire for a return exhibit.

The new exhibit opened in December and is being continued as long as possible.

The McAllister pictures are excellent art, but they are also excellent history, representing a great deal of research. It is not too difficult for an artist to launch such a series, but to turn out a new painting every week is something else.

The McAllister exhibit is something no one interested in Washington history and able to get to the State Society building, should miss.

## WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS-LETTER

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CHAPIN D. FOSTER, Editor

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## Chats With the Editor

### SOCIETY GAINS

**NATIONAL RECOGNITION** The finest recognition of the work accomplished by the Washington State Historical Society, has taken the form of the 1949 Award of Merit by the American Association for State and Local History. Every member of the Society can join with the staff in a little cheer for all have had a part. The Award is important, but also the reasons for our selection—sponsorship of the Northwest Regional History Conference, general development program in the building and the S. A. Perkins photographic murals. But, let no one think the work has been completed. Around Society headquarters the staff thinks we've just got a good start. Which is as it should be. Let's see what can happen in another five years.

### MR. PERKINS ADDS MORE MURALS

Two additions to the Perkins Photographic Murals have been added in Washington Hall. They're just about the most beautiful in the entire collection. You can see them from the main floor of Washington Hall but to see them at their best you've got to go to the Indian Floor above. You should go there, and to every floor, of course. These new murals are Indian pictures, one showing a couple of war scouts in the Yakima hills and the other two Nez Perce chiefs in war regalia. Words fail to do justice to these pictures. By all means, see them soon.

### TWO CENTENNIALS IN THE OFFING

Olympia is really going to town in getting ready for her centennial in 1950 and Seattle is well under way for her celebration in 1951. More power to these important events. Just this word to both cities—keep in mind that there is a state centennial in 1953 and Washington will be looking to you two for leadership.

### PLEASURE FROM MEMORIAL PROJECTS

"I'm delighted to have my name attached to a project like that." These words from a man who had invested in a special project in our building. Well, he has reason to be delighted for the project itself will stand comparison with any in the country. Pleasure will come to the sponsor for years, also the public. We've got a pretty imposing list of special projects which can be taken over by sponsors.

### WASHINGTON HISTORY LOSES A FRIEND

I recall the early days of the Bellingham Museum. The days were not so easy. A woman up there had a vision and she intended to make it a reality. The Bellingham Museum owes more to Mrs. Alan Jenkins than anyone else, I suspect, and in her passing Washington history loses a most valued worker. She was a frequent visitor to the State Society building. It was always a pleasure to have her come. Her enthusiasm for museums was a good tonic.

### DARBY HUNTINGTON CENTENNIAL

Down at Longview they held a couple of important celebrations this fall. The first honored 25 years of Longview and the second, held at the same time, the coming of "Uncle Darby" Huntington a century ago. At the Huntington house the Monticello Convention requesting territorial status, was held. A lot of people had worked on the Huntington project. I don't know them all but certainly Mrs. Margaret Huntington would head the list.

### YOUNG MAN MAKES A WISE DECISION

Down at Chehalis they know the Rosbach boys as football players, and good ones. Four so far and another coming along from the Frank Rosbach family. This paragraph has to do with Ron. Attending Eastern College of Education at Cheney. He was going to be a football coach. A little while ago he changed his mind. Going to teach Northwest history. As a starter, a life membership in W.H.S. On his way to a game at Olympia, he spent half a day in our library, the other half studying. He's made a smart decision, will make some school a great teacher.

### BUT NOT FOR LONG, MRS. ODENRIDER

A frequent remark has been "We want to see those dolls." The dolls in question were made by Mrs. Ada Bridgman Odenrider of Seattle. Henry VIII and his wives were first in interest. They were away several months winning a blue ribbon at a big doll-makers show in California. Now they're back. Our present concern, though, is that Mrs. Odenrider isn't making many dolls for a little while. Make it a very short "vacation" if you please, Mrs. Odenrider.

### P. R. JEFFCOTT WRITES A GREAT BOOK

For years P. R. Jeffcott of Ferndale has been collecting pictures, history and stories of his neighborhood. He has just published a book entitled "Nooksack Trails and Tales," which will stand for a long time as one of the finest pieces of history preservation this state has seen. Ferndale and Whatcom can well be proud of what Mr. Jeffcott has done. Washington can also do a little "priding."

## State Capitol Museum Adds Many Old Relics

Many interesting museum additions have been reported by the State Capitol Historical Museum, part of them as loan collections and others as permanent gifts to the society.

A new display includes many interesting articles from a collection of Spanish American War pictures, Indian relics, old newspapers, shawls. These have been contributed by Mrs. E. McClarty. This is one of the most interesting collections acquired by the society.

Bernice Sapp of Olympia has been showing a number of very interesting Indian and historical relics.

Mrs. Marion Burgess, great-granddaughter of Michael T. Simmons, founder of Tumwater, has given the society a broadaxe used by the founding party, also a mortar and pestle which served the party before the first grist mill could be built.

Among others who have provided material for new displays are: Elvie B. Page and Mrs. Myrtle Finnell, W. C. T. U. material; Mrs. George Tarbell, newspapers and Paisley shawl; Claretta Smith of Ellensburg, newspapers and books; Louis Cover, opera coat made for his grandmother.

## Museum Preview Is Founders Week Feature

Founders Day was celebrated in Seattle under the general sponsorship of the Seattle Historical Society, joined by the Chamber of Commerce at the annual Chamber dinner November 18.

Something was added this year in the form of a "Museum Preview" which was held in the Olympic Hotel penthouse, November 7-27. The preview was held for the benefit of the "Spirit of Seattle" memorial building which it is hoped will be erected and completed when Seattle observes her centennial in 1952.

The museum preview brought together many interesting relics. There were pioneer and Indian relics, including the desk A. A. Denny used while serving as Seattle's first postmaster; portraits of Seattle pioneers; pioneer furniture; ship models from the H. W. McCurdy collection; 18th century silver; Russian Imperial porcelain dating back to 1792.

A special display of Boeing airplane models was included in the exhibit.

During the weeks of the preview, members of various organizations in Seattle acted as hostesses.

The Seattle Historical Society has been working for many years on its museum project. The new name for the building will be the "Spirit of Seattle Memorial Building."

## Fort Vancouver Society Promoting '50 Program

The Fort Vancouver Restoration and Historical Society continues to function actively. At least one meeting of the trustees is held each month, sometimes more.

Our recent efforts have been in three principal directions (a) the selection of suitable locations for historical markers, (b) promoting some significant observation in 1950 of the 125th anniversary of the establishment of the Hudson's Bay post of Fort Vancouver, and (c) the preservation of historical sites, such as the old military cemetery and the old Headquarters building in the former Barracks—the latter associated with many famous military men, such as U. S. Grant, George B. McClellan, Philip H. Sheridan, William S. Harney, Oliver O. Howard, Nelson A. Miles, George C. Marshall, and a goodly number of others.

On the evening of Friday, November 4, 1949, there was a dinner meeting of the Fort Vancouver Restoration and Historical Society with appropriate program, held in Bradford Hall of the Congregational Church. By invitation representatives of several civic organizations attended.

The purpose of the meeting was to stimulate an even greater and active interest in the history of this truly historical area. It was a well attended and enthusiastic get-together.

## Gen. Marshall Visits Former Barracks Home

When it comes to being active, the Fort Vancouver Restoration and Historical Association can make a good claim for itself.

It has been backing a movement looking toward preservation of the cemetery at Fort Vancouver Barracks as a historical site. In this project the cooperation of the State Historical Sites Advisory Board and State Parks and Recreation Commission will be used.

When Gen. George C. Marshall was in Vancouver during the fall, he was given the key to his old home at the Barracks. The presentation was made by Roger Camp.

The Association worked with the city commission to secure the ground on which the historic apple tree stands, the first apple tree in the Northwest.

Vancouver celebrates her 125th year in 1950 and elaborate plans are being projected for the event.

## Mrs. Huntington Heads Cowlitz Historical Society

The Cowlitz County Historical Society presented Parker McAllister, staff artist of the Seattle Times in an exhibition of thirty-eight of his original watercolors from the "100 Years in the Pacific Northwest Series," at the annual dinner of the organization on November 7th.

Later the schools of the county used the pictures in art and history classes. They were also displayed in the adult education classes of the Lower Columbia College at Longview. Children in Kelso, Longview, Kalama, Castle Rock and Woodland were privileged to view these historical painting of events which happened 100 years ago in our region.

The Society went on record at its annual meeting with a resolution to be forwarded to the State Highway Department, requesting that the new bridge over the Cowlitz between East and West Kelso, be called the Peter Crawford Bridge, in honor of the Scotchman who came into the Cowlitz Valley 100 years ago and later laid out the town and named it "Kelso" after his old home in Scotland.

At the election of officers for the coming year, the Cowlitz County Historical Society voted in the following: President, Mrs. Margaret Hull Huntington, Olequa; secretary, Miss Ethel Georig, Woodland, and Mrs. Joe Miller, Longview; historian, Miss Alma Imus, Kalama; treasurer, Mrs. Flora Slaughaupt, Castle Rock; three year board members, Attorney Lester Huntington, Kelso; Mrs. Dan Welsh, Kelso; and Mrs. Plinney Shephardson, of Castle Rock; for the two year term, Mrs. Mildred Keith Horn, Longview; Mrs. G. N. Campbell, Kalama; and John McClelland, Jr.; for the one year term, Mrs. Harry Siversen, Castle Rock; Guy Anderson, Longview; and John Hill, Longview. The resignation of Mrs. Mildred Keith Horn from the presidency, due to increased activity in connection with her position at the Longview Library, was accepted with much regret.

The Society was the recipient of a valuable collection of Indian relics and Phoenix buttons, given by Mr. Sanford Lord of Kelso, to be placed on display when the society has safe and suitable housing. Such gifts inspire the organization with greater zeal to acquire a museum. At the last board meeting the following committee was appointed to further this objective: Chairman, George Umbaugh, Mrs. Harry Siversen, and Guy Anderson.

## Predict Up to 350 Bus Loads to State Building

Predictions are always in order. One that is being made around the office of the State Society, is that between 300 and 350 busloads of school pupils will visit the building before the close of the school year.

The prediction is based upon the fact that so far these visits are double last year's figure for the same period.

More pupils are coming, and from longer distances. They come as a part of their study of Washington history. The Director takes them on a tour of the building and gives the story back of many of the relics seen.

## Special Displays of Photos at Bellingham

During November the Museum had a special exhibit of one hundred of P. R. Jeffcott's photographs of Whatcom County's pioneer buildings. These buildings were the homes of the early settlers in the county, erected in the 1870's and 1880's, and they tell the story of the efforts made by the pioneers to carve out a home for themselves and their families in this Puget Sound region.

Mr. Jeffcott, who is the official historian of the Whatcom County Pioneer Association, has recently published his book, "Nooksack Tales and Trails," which consists of carefully authenticated stories and records of Whatcom County.

Among the recent additions to the Museum is a collection of Alaskan craft work, including weapons, games, and utensils made by Alaskan Indians near Gambell, Alaska, and also a number of their ivory carvings. These last are exquisitely done, and follow the traditional Eskimo designs. This collection comes from Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gissher of Gambell, Alaska.

In the Hobby collection we have received a miniature reproduction of a railway dining car. It is done on a one-half inch scale, is 36 inches long, and contains 11,000 parts. The exterior is made of brass. It was made by H. C. Collins of Bellingham, and exhibited at the Model Makers Guild during their convention in San Francisco, taking the first prize.

The Museum observed Washington State Day, November 11, by a special showing of articles used in the state prior to 1889.

## Olympia to Observe Founding Centennial

1950 will be Centennial Year in Olympia and that enterprising city has a most ambitious program developed for observance of the event.

May 1-7 has been set for the centennial celebration and the week will be crammed with anniversary events. Most of the downtown area of Olympia will be turned over to the birthday party. There will be the "Street of Olympia Yesterday" and this will be one of the most popular features of the event.

A historical pageant will be presented May 5-6.

Many special events are being planned for the week and there is no question but that Olympia will know it has passed the century mark, and also that the state will know a lot about her capital city.

Every civic organization in the city will have a part in the week's program.

## Many Additions at Paul Karshner Museum

During the summer and autumn the Paul Karshner Memorial Museum at Puyallup high school has been the recipient of a number of useful and interesting gifts:

A new filing case, table lamp, and built-in storage space under one of the display cases to take care of early newspapers and framed pictures, are welcome additions to the museum assistants.

Students show a great deal of interest in the gifts from the French Merci Train, a spike of Maize from Alabama, donated by Mrs. H. G. Hofmeister, of Auburn, Washington, and a large specimen of cockscomb calcyte crystal with galena ore contact from the Pend Oreille Mine, Metaline Falls, Washington, presented by C. H. Robinson, a member of the Puyallup Mineral and Rock Club.

A pestle and a grooved stone axe from Ohio was received from Dr. and Mrs. W. M. Karshner, together with a number of books and scientific magazines, among them, "Who's Who for Washington," "The Insect Guide" by Ralph B. Swain; "Of Ants and Men" by Caryl P. Haskins; and "The Birds of Washington" by William Leon Dawson and John Hooper Bowles. The latter is No. 22 of the Author Edition, in two volumes, beautifully bound.

In addition to our regularly scheduled classes we have welcomed two groups from a neighboring county, this month, and have others scheduled. This is in keeping with our general plan of increased service to other schools.

## Territorial Centennial Plans Going Forward

Let no one think the 1953 Washington Territorial Centennial is being neglected or forgotten.

In such undertakings a great deal of work has to go forward behind the scenes before the public realizes what has transpired.

A request has been made through the Washington State Historical Society for the issuance of a commemorative coin in 1953. At the present time it is doubtful if this request is granted. Bills for the issuance of coins for both Wisconsin and Minnesota territorial centennials were vetoed by President Truman, who noted in his message that it would be the policy of the government not to issue such coins—at least, not in the immediate future.

Request has also been made for the issuance of a centennial stamp. There is little doubt that this will be done.

Senator Warren G. Magnuson is handling these two items and will also see that the event is properly recognized in the Congressional Record.

The work of preparing for educational cooperation at different school levels is also under way, as well as the development of a general publicity program. Both the daily and weekly newspapers of the state are planning to cooperate in this program.

Other phases of the centennial program are being developed as rapidly as possible.

## Jefferson County Society Names New Officers

New officers have been elected by the Jefferson County Historical Association, although in some instances election has meant re-election.

Mrs. William H. Jackson, member of a pioneer Port Townsend family, was re-elected to the presidency.

Other officers are: vice president, Howard Eldridge, Chimacum; secretary, Miss Nel Willison, Port Townsend; treasurer, Dan H. Hill, Port Townsend.

The Port Townsend Society is a very active organization and will have some busy days ahead as Port Townsend has a centennial of her own in the offing.

## Regional Director Busy

Mrs. Rosamond Johnson, regional director of the South Kitsap District unit of the Kitsap County Historical Society, has held monthly meetings in Ollala, Retsil, Manchester, Port Orchard, Harper, Gorst and Fernwood. A splendid record that will bring results.

## Roe E. Shaub, Tacoma Named to State Board

Roe E. Shaub of Tacoma was elected to the Board of Curators of the State Society December 3. He will fill a vacancy on the Board and serve until 1952.

Mr. Shaub has been a successful Tacoma business man for many years. He has served as president of the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club and on many boards and community programs. Members of the Board of Curators are happy that Mr. Shaub accepted his assignment to the Board.

## Another State Society Hall Is Modernized

More face-lifting is under way in the State Society building, with the Gun Hall on the receiving end.

The Society has an excellent collection of guns, revolvers, swords, etc., and within a short time the hall will be ready to stand comparison with similar halls over the country.

New fronts have been built for the cases, so they harmonize with those in Bowles Hall adjoining. The cases will open from the rear. There are two corner displays, one featuring the gun that figured in the "Pig War" on San Juan Island, and the other the outstanding collection of gun-maker's tools.

Special cases have been built for two displays representing early warfare. A statue of a Greek gladiator has a large display of his own, Artist Kenn Johnson having developed a scene around the walls of the case in keeping with the warrior's activities centuries ago.

A short distance from the Greek gladiator is the Society's suit of English armor used in the 16th century. A special display has been arranged for this also, which visitors will find very effective.

The mural which forms an effective background for Bowles Hall has been extended around the Gun Hall.

Space on this floor has been allocated for six animal habitats, development of which awaits sponsorship. When ultimately completed, this floor will prove one of the most interesting in the building.

During the coming year it is hoped to get to the program for Ferry Hall, where the Alaska and boat collections are found. When this project is completed the change will be outstanding.

## Grays Harbor Society Sets Up Active Program

LATER—Since this story was received, the annual election has been held. Ed Van Syckle is the new president, and Mrs. G. E. Anderson, secretary. Names of other officers will be printed in the next issue.

Super-active probably would be a better word to describe the program of the Grays Harbor Historical Society, support of that description being found in this story of the society's program.

Following are the officers and executive members of the society: Mrs. Willis G. Hopkins, president, Central Park; Ed Van Syckle, vice president, Aberdeen; Mrs. Kate Adair, secretary, Ocean City; Ted Middleton, treasurer, Aberdeen.

Executive board: Frank H. Lamb, Hoquiam; Thomas Soule, Hoquiam; Mrs. Cleve Jackson, Taholah; Mrs. Bill Ostrom, Quinalt; Arnold Lock, Copalis; Mrs. G. E. Anderson, Jr., Aberdeen; Mrs. Fred Baker, Aberdeen; Irvine Seath, Aberdeen; Miss Florence Lewis, Aberdeen; Mrs. Wm. Irvine, Aberdeen; Harry J. Dring, Central Park; Dennis Atwood, Johns River; Ben Weatherwax, Aberdeen; Mrs. Everette McNelly, Montesano.

Mrs. William Ostrom is compiling a great deal of the Quinalt and Hump-tulips Valley history. Mr. Lock is writing a book on Copalis and its history. Mr. Seath, who is on the World, is giving us good publicity. Miss Lewis is at present custodian of what we gather.

Mr. Dring was lately a member of the Pacific Marine Research Association of Oakland, California, and an amateur photographer. He is making us some fine reprints of early pictures. He is especially interested in the early sailing vessels and has a fine collection of them. Mr. Weatherwax is doing a series of stories of early day Aberdeen over the radio at 8 p. m. Monday to Friday. Mrs. McNelly is co-editor on the book on the Frye family which has just been published.

The police department is moving out of the City Hall, and the city councilmen think there will be a room for us there as soon as the change is made. This will make it possible to collect material other than documents and pictures. The room will be available soon.

Mrs. Annabel Walker of Hoquiam has collected the history of the churches in Hoquiam, and also a great quantity of data on Grays Harbor City, which is now being typed.

Fred Pratsch, whose father was the first photographer in Aberdeen, has about 600 glass negatives of early day scenes which he has promised the society.

## Henry VIII Doll Group Again in State Building

They're back again.

That's good news for the many admirers of the doll-making skill of Mrs. Ada Bridgman Odenrider of Seattle.

In this case the news has to do with the return of King Henry VIII and his six wives, to the State Society building.

Henry and his party spent some time in California, where they won a blue ribbon for their creator.

## AWARD OF MERIT

(Continued from page 1)

hardly to be hoped that it could rank first in the nation for this year.

Readers of News-Letter are familiar with the history conference sponsored by the Society. Entering its third year, the conference is taking a definite place of leadership in the Northwest.

Nor do readers of News-Letter need to be told about the S. A. Perkins photographic mural project or the revitalization of the museum. Columns of this publication have contained much information about the murals and the changes taking place in the museum.

Gratified by the recognition accorded this year, the Society staff does not feel that the goal has been reached in Society development. Rather, an excellent start has been made and it has been given national recognition. The work of development will be continued.

Mr. Milhofer of Hoquiam has an extensive collection of Grays Harbor City photographs, and promises to let us have copies of them.

Chapin Collins of the Montesano Vidette is shortly going to publish a resume of the Luark Diary in the Vidette, and the other Luark Diary is a possibility which we will shortly see about. We have quite a number of articles from Captain Peasley's collection.

Mr. Bowers of Montesano is soon going to make us copies of the plats of the ghost cities of the harbor. The city clerk has compiled a list of each succeeding city official from the time of the incorporation of the town, and the city has promised us some of the original documents.

We intend to ask the Hoquiam city council for material also, as well as the places elsewhere in the county. Westport is now collecting such material for us. The county is giving us the first tax rolls, and we are going soon to look over any of their records which they will give us. For instance they have a little book containing the record of the first one hundred marriages recorded in the county which we hope to get.

## President's Council, Tacoma, Meets in State Society Building



Not all groups visiting the State Society Building come from schools. Here you see the President's Council of Tacoma arriving for its tour-meeting. They started with a breakfast of coffee and doughnuts. Many adult groups hold tour-meetings in the building.

### Ceremony Honors First Coast Naval Casualty

Sponsored by the Kitsap County Historical Society, an impressive ceremony was held at the old Port Gamble cemetery, when a headstone was unveiled over the grave of Coxswain Gustave Englebrecht, first U. S. sailor to die in action on the Pacific Coast.

Englebrecht was killed in the "Battle of Fort Gamble," fought November 21, 1856, the battle which ended the Indian War on the Sound.

Capt. Bushnell of the Torpedo Station at Keyport, delivered the dedicatory remarks at the grave, followed by prayer, volley by firing squad and taps. The Society was given every possible cooperation by officers and men of the 13th Naval district.

### Duwamish History Out, By Seattle High School

Another Washington school saw a chance to preserve local history and did it.

The Cleveland High School of Seattle set out to publish a book depicting early history in the Duwamish Valley.

Class, director and school are to be congratulated. It is hoped that other schools will undertake similar projects.

### New Historical Society Formed in Island County

Greetings to another county historical society.

This time it is Island County, and few if any counties have more reason for such an organization.

For some time there has been agitation for a county historical society on Whidby and Orcas Islands.

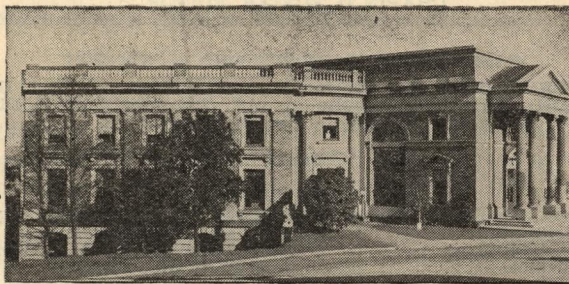
Dr. W. P. Race of Coupeville has been very active in getting the new organization under way. The first meeting was held November 22 and the second December 1. The latter meeting was attended by the Director of the State Society, which had been giving the new organization every possible aid.

This new society will find plenty to do, for the islands teem with early history which should be preserved. It can also be expected that there will be a county museum sponsored by the society.

Mrs. Nelle Benson was elected president. Other officers are as follows: Vice presidents, Earle Darst, Margaret Smith, George Heap; secretary, Ida M. Hill; treasurer, Mrs. Nora Coupe; corresponding secretary, Marian Cook; trustees, Ernest E. Noble, Elmer Calhoun, Ollie O'Leary, R. M. Hastie, Glenn Darst, W. P. Race.

With the cooperation of the board of county commissioners, the Society feels it has an opportunity for community display second to no county in Washington. This would be accomplished through utilization of the old courthouse.

# WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Vol. 6, No. 1.

August, 1952.

## J. P. Weyerhaeuser, Jr., New President State Society

The annual election of Society officers resulted as follows:

President—J. P. Weyerhaeuser, Jr.

Vice Presidents—Col. Howard A. Hanson and Dr. Herman J. Deutsch.

Treasurer—Guy T. Pierce.

Director—Chapin D. Foster.

Curators (three years)—Mrs. Thos. P. Gose, Walla Walla; Leon K. Jones, Seattle; W. L. McCormick, Tacoma; Judge Donald A. McDonald, Seattle; S. A. Perkins, Tacoma; Mrs. Pearl Wanamaker, Olympia; Robert Hitchman, Seattle; John M. McClelland, Jr., Longview.

John M. McClelland, Jr., and Robert Hitchman are new Board members. Members of the Board are normally elected for three years unless to fill out an unexpired term.

## Cowlitz County Has Fine Start For Museum

Cowlitz County has the beginnings of a fine museum.

The Cowlitz County PUD has leased a large room to the Cowlitz County Historical Society, and exhibits are being assembled.

Mrs. Howard Crosby is chairman of the museum committee.

The society is making plenty of plans for a great Centennial program next year.

## Official Seal Adopted For Territorial Centennial

The Centennial has an official seal.

You'll see it a great many times during the coming year.

The seal is registered with the Secretary of State and cannot be used without the permission of the Centennial headquarters.

If you see it being used in some way which seems to indicate its use has not been authorized, please notify Centennial Headquarters, 315 No. Stadium Way, Tacoma.

## Women's Clubs In State Will Boost Centennial

Mrs. Mitchell Doumit, president of the Washington State Federation of Women's Clubs, outlined as one of the Federation's objectives for 1953 participation in and cooperation with the Centennial.

That means a great deal for this great group of women's clubs is a power for good in Washington.

Through the cooperation of Mrs. Mildred Keith Horn, president of the State Library Association, an outline has been prepared that will make it possible for every woman's club to develop a Washington program for the entire year, for a month or any period.

There will be many ways in which club members will be cooperating with the Centennial. Mrs. Doumit is a member of the State Advisory Committee.

## WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS-LETTER

Published by the Washington State Historical Society for the purpose of advancing the interests of the Society and Associated Organizations in the State of Washington.  
Issued quarterly at Tacoma, Washington

CHAPIN D. FOSTER, EDITOR

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## CHATS WITH THE EDITOR

**WE START OFF WITH AN EXPLANATION** Perhaps this should have been started off with an apology, but editors are not expected to apologize and in this instance an explanation for the non-appearance of News-Letter would be more in order. In the first place the budget at the close of the biennium was hardly in condition to stand another issue. On top of that the Society was given the task of developing a Territorial Centennial program for 1953 and so many problems have come up in connection with the early stages of that project that there didn't seem to be enough of the editor to cover both assignments. I hope this explanation covers the situation. Time still is very short but it appears that an issue of News-Letter is a "must," so it's being done.

**THE SOCIETY IS UNDER A NEW PRESIDENT** It is hardly news to members of the Society to say that we have a new President for it's pretty certain that all members of the Society know it but it is not out of order to say that we have a President who is going to prove a very fine leader. J. P. Weyerhaeuser, Jr., is one of the most important industrial leaders in the United States, head of a company known in every part of the country for constructive leadership in the forest products field. Probably some thought, "He'll be too busy to pay any attention to the Historical Society." Anyone thinking that was wrong. Mr. Weyerhaeuser is taking a very keen interest in the work of the Society.

**THE CENTENNIAL IS THE SOCIETY'S NO. 1 PROJECT** A state celebrates a territorial centennial just once and it should make that observance a memorable occasion in the life of the state. The Legislature assigned the planning job to this Society. It's the most important assignment we've received. The appropriation permits of no more than a minimum staff—putting "minimum" in capital letters. That gives thousands of Washingtonians an opportunity to get their shoulders to the wheel, and out of it all will come a great grass-roots observance. The jig-saw puzzle is beginning to take shape.

**ANOTHER FLOOR GETTING A MAJOR FACE-LIFTING** One of the popular expressions today is "don't look now" and that's the one that applies to the Indian Floor. It's undergoing a major face-lifting, a project that can hardly be completed within a year, but when the opening is announced the department will be one of the most interesting in the country—not the largest, just very interesting. I am confident the Society will be proud of the results.

**GOV. LANGLEIE GAVE THE STATE A CHALLENGE** In his splendid address to the Society at the annual meeting, Gov. Langlie gave Washington a challenge. He took his theme from the address of Governor Isaac Stevens to the first Territorial legislature. Gov. Stevens was a man of great vision and Gov. Langlie pointed out what Washington could do in building another great century on the first century, and the vision which Gov. Stevens voiced in 1854.

**THE OLD RECORD WENT THATAWAY** Not a year recently but has seen a new mark set for school group attendance. Last year seemed to be up pretty far but the record couldn't stand up against the 1951-52 record. The figures show a 25 per cent increase and that's increasing fast enough for anybody. Attendance by small groups other than school classes, probably increased nearer 100 per cent. However, you can't hear any complaints around the building for serving young Washington is one of our prime responsibilities.

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!** All those kind words are for the Plymouth dealers of Tacoma. They are really Centennial minded. They have made available to the Centennial a fine new Plymouth for use during the Centennial year—and this year, of course. The car is a cream colored job and three beautiful Centennial signs have been painted on it, so all suggestion of modesty has been pigeon-holed for the duration. The Plymouth dealers will get some good advertising BUT the Centennial will get some wonderful service, plus some good advertising.

## Gov. Stevens Set Pattern For 1953 Centennial

Do you know what Gov. Isaac Stevens told the Territorial legislature at its first session in 1854?

Just what Washington boosters for years have been saying about our state and her potentialities.

The Centennial Advisory Committee thinks a lot of that Stevens message, and it's going to sponsor an oratorical contest which will be made a part of the all-state school program.

The Advisory Committee is chair-manned by Judge Matthew Hill of the State Supreme Court, and it will be heard from many times during the year.

## Beautiful Poster Stamps To Publicize Centennial

You buy poster stamps for many worthy causes, why not add Centennial to your list?

These stamps will be available in the near future, will cost very little and do a lot toward spreading the Centennial message.

The stamps will come in handy little books and can be used on letters and postcards.

Order them from headquarters or if you have a local committee in your community, give them the order and help them earn some money for local expenses.

There are eight designs in the packet, in three colors, worked into the Centennial seal. They'll cost only 50 cents for a book of 120 stamps. Nothing wrong with that bargain.

## Two New Members On State Board of Curators

Two new members were added to the Board of Curators by the election announced at the annual meeting.

The new members are John M. McClelland, Jr., of Longview and Robert Hitchman of Seattle.

Mr. McClelland is editor of the Longview Daily News and very deeply interested in the history of Washington as well as of his own part of the state. Recently as a part of the observance of Longview's 25th anniversary, Mr. McClelland published a history of the city. It was a very fine piece of work, a real service to the city.

Mr. McClelland is a member of the State Parks & Recreation Commission and was largely instrumental in securing the grounds of Fort Columbia when they were being abandoned by the government. He has been very helpful to the Cowlitz County Historical Society in many ways.

Mr. Hitchman is a member of the Historical Sites Advisory Board and considered one of the best posted men in the state on the origin of Washington names. Next year he expects to publish a volume on which he has been working for the past 20 years.

Along with his study of Washington community names has come a knowledge of Washington history that will be of great value to the Society.

## History Committee For Centennial Has Big Job

One of the busiest Centennial committees is the History Committee, headed by Dr. Herman Deutsch of the State College of Washington.

It would be difficult to list all the committee's activities but it will get into the picture wherever the published word has anything to do with Washington history.

Inasmuch as a good deal of Washington history will be published at the state level, it is easy to see that this committee will have plenty to do.

## Washington Newspapers To Set 'Special Edition' Mark

Newspapers of Washington will set a record next year in the number of special editions published.

It's just a little early to predict the number but not too early to predict a record that will stand for many years, probably until 1889 at least.

It looks now that all the daily newspapers will publish Centennial editions and a very large percentage of the weekly newspapers.

The Centennial is helping them with this project.

## 80 Centennial Leaders To Olympia For Kick-off Meet

When Governor Langlie invited Centennial leaders to meet in Olympia for a kick-off conference, it was thought that possibly 25 or 30 might appear inasmuch as all those attending would have to finance the trip.

The 25 or 30 were on hand and then the help around the capitol began bringing in chairs.

When this little task was completed it would have been difficult to crowd anyone else into the Conference Room as the count stood at close to 80.

It was a remarkable meeting for it found a group of people from all parts of the state, anxious to respond to the challenge of the Governor to make the Centennial something of which Washington would be proud for many years to come.

## Richfield Co. Presents Film to State Society

At the meeting of the Board of Curators of the State Society August 2, the Richfield Oil Co. presented a copy of its latest Washington film for use during the Centennial program but to become the permanent property of the Society.

The film was shown during the luncheon period and drew compliments from all members of the Board.

## Mrs. Joe Cline Heads Cowlitz County Society

The past year has been a busy one for the Cowlitz County Historical Society. Mrs. Joe Cline was elected president to succeed Mrs. Jean Huntington, who became chairman of the society's Centennial Committee.

Getting a museum was the principal objective and in that the Society has been successful. Displays were made first in the Court House and now space has been secured in the PUD building.

A Hobby Show was sponsored at the Cowlitz County fair. The society assisted in the establishment of Fort Columbia. It has been raising funds for the Dr. Whitman statue to be placed in Statuary Hall in Washington, D. C.

One of the most important pieces of work of the society has been making tape recordings of statements of early pioneers.

## School Attendance Has Broken Another Record

Records are not expected to last very long, particularly the record of school-museum attendance.

Each year has seen the record broken and the school year just closed proved no exception.

When the record was tallied up it was found to be 25 per cent above the 1950-51 record, which is moving right along.

Up to this year the Director has handled all school visits but with the Centennial program under his direction, this has been impossible during the current year save in emergencies.

Mrs. Wm. Taplin has been in charge of the work as Society Receptionist, and has been rendering excellent service.

The 25 per cent increase is for bus loads, but in the case of groups of school children brought to the building in other capacities, the increase has been much greater.

The staff is getting ready for another record-breaking year in 1952-53.

## Eight State Newspapers Honored By Society

Last year two Washington newspapers received plaques in the competition sponsored by the Society. They were the Seattle Times and Ilwaco Tribune.

Competition last year was keen but so keen this year that additions had to be made to the awards. There are two groups of daily newspapers and three awards in each group.

In the metropolitan daily division awards went to The Seattle Times and Spokane Spokesman-Review.

In the non-metropolitan field awards to The Yakima Republic-Herald, Longview Daily News and Bellingham Herald.

In the weekly field to the Lynden Tribune, Port Townsend Leader and Concrete Herald.

Judges in this competition are warned now that they will have a real job on their hands in 1953. The competition is in the field of preservation of Washington history. "Success" is expressing it mildly. Publishers are discovering that local history is very popular with their readers.

## Garden Clubs Give Statue Background Shrubs

A few years ago the grounds to the north of the Society building needed some landscaping to supplement the lawn planted by the late Joe Long, member of the Board of Curators.

The landscaping was provided by the Capitol District of the State Federation of Garden Clubs.

When the Boy Scouts of the Mt. Rainier Council gave the Society the first replica of the Statue of Liberty to be placed in Washington the surrounding grounds needed some landscaping.

A suggestion to the District Officers was all that was necessary. The shrubbery was installed. The Society had the ground put in shape and grass planted. Mrs. E. D. Johnson and Mrs. Fred W. Clarke were in charge of the work.

The Society's thanks to the Boy Scouts and the garden clubs.

## Says Life Membership A 'Best' Investment

"I feel that membership in the Washington State Historical Society is one of the best investments one can make, not only in dollars and cents return but also in what it helps accomplish in perpetuating the historical assets of our state."

That's the kind of a letter a state society likes to get and in this instance it came from Mitchell Doumit of Cathlamet when he took out a Life Membership.

Mr. Doumit thinks we have a fine form of government, that the foundations laid by the pioneers are worth preserving, and that from knowledge of the early days and trials of our first citizens we get inspiration for a better future.

Our thanks to Mr. Doumit, in letters that can be seen across the Columbia.

## Square Dance Enthusiasts To Help Open Centennial

The Centennial Special Events Committee, headed by James Greene of Cashmere, is planning something for the opening Centennial night that should prove popular.

In Olympia on the evening of March 2nd, will be held the official Centennial Ball, which will be a costume-square dance affair.

The Special Events Committee wants one of these in every community in Washington the same night. Granges will have a chance to hold these in their halls, also.

## Here's A Centennial Display Idea That's O. K.

The idea is all right.

As part of the Centennial program, the Society was preparing to suggest that local communities could have a lot of fun putting pioneer exhibits in store windows.

The idea got a good start at Cathlamet several years ago and the Director thought it would work for the Centennial.

Montesano has proven the idea sound. They're observing their city centennial

## Legislative Program Will Open Centennial March 2

The Territorial Centennial will officially open March 2, 1953, with an outstanding program in the House of Representatives in Olympia.

This program is under the direction of the special Legislative committee, headed by Senator B. J. Dahl of Chewelah.

Plans are being made for a statewide broadcast of the program, also for schools over the state to hold special assemblies so the program can be heard while it is in progress.

One aim is to recognize on this program native Washingtonians who have gained national prominence. The program has not been completed but it can be announced now that Ralph J. Cordiner, president of General Electric, will be the speaker. Mr. Cordiner was born in Walla Walla, worked his way through Whitman College and is a very dynamic speaker.

In the evening there will be an official Centennial Ball in Olympia, probably a costume-square dance affair. It is hoped that a similar affair will be held in every city and town in the state.

## Story Of Sunnyside In Book By Sheller

The story of another Washington community is in permanent form.

Roscoe Sheller of Sunnyside has published a book telling the story of that city and the growth of reclamation in the southern part of the Yakima Valley.

Having lived in Sunnyside practically all his life, Mr. Sheller knows Sunnyside and has done an excellent job of putting the story together.

this year. Someone suggested window displays. Some thought it wouldn't work but no harm in trying it out.

There's hardly a store window in Montesano that isn't filled with early relics and pictures and hardly a day but finds something added. Any town in Washington tying in with the Centennial in '53 can rest assured that this idea will "click." In fact, it will "clang," it goes over great.

## 1952 History Conference Hears Centennial Plans

The 1952 Northwest History Conference, sponsored by the State Historical Society and bringing together historians and instructors in history from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and British Columbia, proved a success in every way.

The attendance was a little above previous marks, indicating a continuation of interest in reaching the goal of a common ground for the teaching of Northwest history on a regional basis as well as a state basis.

The Conference believes there is so much Northwest history that occurred prior to boundary lines, that the regional basis for that early history is sound.

This year one session was given over to a discussion of best methods of bringing out the Territorial Centennial story. Some excellent ideas were presented by the speakers.

Prof. Robert Comegys of Whitman College was in charge of this year's Conference program.

Taking part in the Centennial panel directed by Bruce Harding of Bellingham, were: Miss Dorothy Elliott, Seattle; R. D. Campbell, Bremerton; Miss Ethel Henson, Seattle; John M. McClelland, Jr., Longview.

Willard Ireland of Victoria chairmanned the Reproduction discussion in which Dr. Merrill Burlingame of Montana and Rodney K. Waldon of Idaho participated.

George Feykman of Washington State College was the luncheon speaker. Business session reports were given by Mrs. Alta Grim, Olympia, Dr. Dorothy Johansen, Portland, Prof. Harold Barto, Ellensburg, and Dr. Herman Deutsch, Pullman.

## Unique Features Mark Cowlitz County Meeting

Two unique features marked the annual meeting of the Cowlitz County Historical Society.

On display was the flag made for the first Fourth of July celebration at Monticello, and it was shown by Mrs. Clara Wilde of Woodland.

## Centennial Story To Be On All Phone Directories

When you pick up your telephone directory next year you will be reminded of the Centennial.

There will be about a million such reminders during the year because the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. is putting the Centennial message on every telephone directory it publishes.

The first directory carrying the message will be out this fall and the directories come along regularly during the year.

The company publishes better than a million directories during the year so this is a very fine piece of cooperation. The back cover will be carrying the Centennial seal, an outline of Washington and a nutshell story of the Centennial.

It is very probable that independent telephone companies will offer similar service.

## Two Important Books On Washington Published

Mrs. Lelah Jackson Edson of Bellingham has done something we hope will be copied many times over in Washington, and she will join in this hope, we're certain.

She has published *The Fourth Corner*, the history of the Bellingham area. Mrs. Edson has a book that ought to be in many Washington homes. The story is excellent and the pictures outstanding.

For eastern Washingtonians a book has just been published which should be widely read. It's the story of the Spokane Spokesman-Review and its publisher for so many years, W. H. Cowles, Sr.

This book is a "must" for those interested in newspaper publishing, also for those interested in the development of the Inland Empire.

Another unique feature was a miniature Indian village made by Mrs. Chas. Olson, historical writer.

"Looking Through Wagon Wheels at Washington's History" was the title of the address given by Chapin D. Foster, director of the state society.



This is the handsome Plymouth automobile which Plymouth dealers of Tacoma have made available to the Centennial "for the duration." The car is already in use and will be seen all over the state. As you see it bears some very "modest" identification. Chapin D. Foster, Centennial Director, stands with his hand affectionately on the cowl, while Waldo Carlson, associate director, stands beside the car. If any Plymouth dealer in Tacoma runs for President he can be sure of two votes, at least.

## Tourists In 1953 Will Know Centennial Is On

If you were an out-of-state tourist in 1953, about the first thing you'd see upon entering the state would be a welcome sign at the city entrance bearing the Centennial seal. You'd have no trouble seeing the sign. Then you'd see the same sign at the entrance to practically every city and town in the state.

Store windows in every town would carry Centennial window cards. If there was a community event in the community it would be a Centennial event with plenty of Centennial tie-ins.

Home-town boosters would give you a copy of the city's special newspaper edition. You'd see thousands of Centennial membership buttons. You might buy one yourself for a souvenir.

You'd be tempted (and yield, we hope) to buy some Territorial playing cards for that canasta or bridge game at home, Centennial postcards and the Centennial Book which will record a century of Washington progress.

In other words, if you were a tourist you'd be very conscious of the fact that something was doing in Washington in 1953, a big birthday party. Why not plan to be an inside-Washington tourist in 1953. Drive around and see what your state looks like. You'll be proud of it.

## Jefferson Co. Museum Shows Fine Growth

The Jefferson County Historical Society's museum in Port Townsend becomes more valuable to the county week by week, as exhibits are added. Cases, desks and other equipment have been donated. The museum is open every Thursday from 1 to 5.

Society meetings can now be held in the museum. In connection with the Port Townsend Centennial, in which the society was very active, a ball was held which netted the society \$340, which was turned over to the Centennial committee.

A total of more than 100 families are on the membership roll with 25 associate members. Mrs. Wm. Jackson is president of the society, Mrs. Linnie R. Kuehn, secretary, and Mrs. Harry Robins, museum chairman.

## Two Fine Art Exhibits In Olympia, Tacoma

Olympia and the State Society art galleries shared in showing the outstanding Quigley horse paintings last spring. This is one of the finest groups of horse paintings in the Northwest.

Olympia also showed the Dumond collection during July and August and the State Society planned to show the same collection as soon as it is available.