

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WALLA WALLA_____ This "Cradle of Pacific Northwest History" will become the center of historical recognition this week-end as a series of events mark the Centennial Observance of the Stevens Treaty Council of 1855 and participation in the Lewis and Clark Sesqui-Centennial year.

Saturday brings several program features for the Centennial observance with participation by the Yakima, Nez Perce, Umatilla, Walla Walla and Cayuse tribes from the three reservations which were created by the treaties of 1855 under the direction of Governor Isaac Stevens, first territorial governor for Washington.

Re-enactment of the treaty negotiations and ceremonies of signing is the basis for the Saturday evening pageant "PE-WA-OO-YIT" at the fairgrounds with a cast of several hundred Indians and "suyapos". A prologue "Weya-Oo-Yit" will salute Lewis and Clark and will include participation by Norma Blackeagle of the Nez Perce tribe with presentation of a bible received this week in St. Louis.

The events begin at 10 a.m. at the Whitman college amphitheatre with speeches by tribal representatives and Thomas Reid of Washington, D.C., assistant commissioner of Indian Affairs. A gift of a plaque with an appropriate message will conclude that feature.

Descendants of treaty signers and others who participated in the treaty council will have an informal luncheon titled the "Stevens Council of 1955." In the afternoon there will be ceremonials and games, open to the public, at Borleske stadium. This will be followed by a "ta-makt" or barbecue feast for the Indians, flyers who will be here on the Lewis and Clark "route of the pioneers" flight from Missoula to Astoria, and others.

A religious program Sunday at 9 a.m. concludes the observance.