

3/11/68

Re

Henry Thompson

Wo/A

CELILO INDIAN VILLAGE, ORE.--Mourners from Indian tribes throughout the Northwest gathered in the little Indian village here today to pay homage to Chief Henry Thompson of the Wyampums, who will be buried Tuesday.

The 81-year-old chief of the little band of Wyams died Saturday in a hospital at Redmond, Ore. Death was due to cancer.

The chief, although an enrolled Yakima as was his right with the government, maintained his tribal leadership over the Wyams, succeeding in that capacity his well-known father, Chief Tommy Thompson or Kuni who died in 1959 when he was 102 years old. Chief Kuni was one of the last of the recognized chiefs of the Northwest.

Chief Henry Thompson was born at Celilo, March 15, 1886. Celilo was once the greatest fishery along the Columbia River but ~~dwindled~~ the village dwindled there after 1957 when the falls were flooded out by The Dalles Dam.

(more)

first ad

Chief Henry Thompson

The chief had been interested in the salmon festival held for the past two years each April under sponsorship of The Dalles Jaycees. This was held to raise funds ~~add~~ for construction of a long house at the Celilo Indian Village, to replace the one destroyed there by fire in 1961. The long house was being built as a memorial to Chief Kuni, the father, and ~~xxx~~ is partially completed.

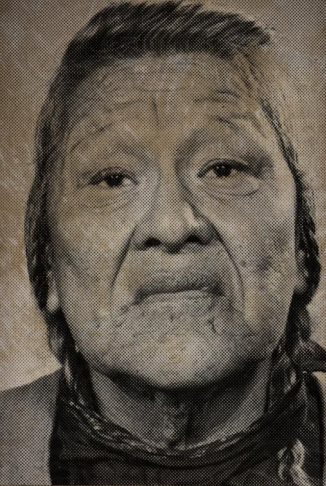
Today 300 persons are covering a part of the ~~longhouse~~ unfinished long house with canvass so funeral services can be held there. The services, drum chants for the dead and other funerary rites will continue throughout the night. Then, just before noon Tuesday, the funeral procession will carry the casket up to the old cemetery on a bluff overlooking the village, and the ~~final~~ final rites will be held, in keeping with the old Washat religion. Afterwards the ~~dear~~ mourners will return to the long house for a funeral feast.

One of the leading mourners is ~~dear~~ Mrs. Flora Thompson, stepmother and the widow of Chief Kuni.

Other survivors are the wife, Mrs. Ida Thompson; a daughter, Dorothy Simcustus of Warm Springs; ^{three} ~~two~~ sons, Curtis and Kenneth Thompson of

and a daughter; Christine Gannelas of Wapato; and two sisters,
Mrs. Ida Wynookie of ~~1060101d~~ and Mrs. Minnie Johnley, both of
Celilo Village.

Future of the chieftainship of the ~~1000x~~ Celilo Indian Village
is undecided. About 15 families live at the village.



CHIEF HENRY THOMPSON—
Successor chief at Wyam Vil
lage on the Oregon shore along
the Columbia River.