

April 13, 1899

W.H. Redman has just finished turning in the water in the Erwin ditch and laterals. There are 30 miles of ditches covering about 25,000 acres of land. There will be about 10 miles more when the Indians get through excavating.

1900-- Jay Lynch-- reported that ~~too~~ two thirds of the reservation worthless, advocated reclamation

The Indians sold 3,000 ponies at \$25 a head.

The Department acknowledge an error in the western boundary line of nearly 294 acres which the Indian commissioners offered to purchase for \$75,000 but the Indians refused, think the land, mostly covered with pine timber, is worth more.

Population of the reservation is 2,309; school children 113.

Jan 1, 1908-

Work on the Government Irrigation ditch on the Reservation has been stopped and men paid off, 100 men and teams have been employed and two miles completed this season, making a total of nine miles in all now finished.

The ditch has its inlet just below Union Gap and will be when completed about 55 miles, ending in the vicinity of Toppenish Creek.

1924..

Budget for irrigation projects \$450,000..

L.M. Holt, Major Evan Estep and William Charley met to det policy in submitting litigation report. Reviewed some 23 large ditches on the re under dispute in addit on to a number of smaller ones

1924.. L.M. Holt "superintendent"

Only one camp operated ~~in~~ at Satus in construction of Wapato project and \$60,000 available for fiscal year.

Cultivated areage dropped from 80,767 acres to 79,782 during past year, due to dropping of marginal lands for farm purposes and removal of Japanese who at one time farmed 12,000 acres.

There were 907 cars owned by the farmers or 91 more than the former year, an increase in dairy cows , 4,012 of nearly a thousand more, due to drive for more dairy cattle; hogs decreased from 5,200 to 1,000 and 33,00 head of sheep

In 1925 82,514 acres under cultivation under the Wapato, Antanum, Toppenish-Simcoe and Satus and an addit onal 8,000 in Medicine Valley and Upper Satus.

Drainage work was under way result of rec to Dr. Elwood Mead, commissioner, Wanity Slough was lowering water table of Toppenish and killing willows and cottonwood trees along its course.

1925--

Crops on Yak res project for 1925 valued at ₪8,247,000

1924 crop ₪6,325,000

Potatoes most valuable , ~~000,000~~ 71,820 tons, ₪3 million, worth ₪40
a ton.

Apples second, 1,150,800 boxes, valued at ₪1,400,000; approx 97,100
tons of hay, ₪1,36-,000 Wheat yield ₪700,000, some sections as high as
89 bushels an acre.

1926-- L.M. Holt, supervising engineer, estimated 88,000 89,100
acres under irrigation, included 75,000 on Wapato, 4 5,000 on Satus,
4,600 on Antanum, 4,000 on Toppenish-Simcoe and 500 by individual
irrigation.

to break up the White Salmon Agency and remove it to Fort Simcoe

~~It was Stevers belief that the~~
~~headquarters of the agency~~

~~On~~ ^{the} ~~Lansdale~~ wrote to J.W. Nesmith, superintendent of Indian Affairs at Salem, Ore., May 16, 1859:

"Captain Archer ^(Capt James J. Archer of Maryland, later General Archer of the Army) (James J.) of the 9th Infantry in command of this post, Simcoe, has been ordered by General Harney and as arranged by the general and yourself, turned over all public buildings at this place ["] ~~to the Indian Department, providing for the taking care of the~~
~~buildings until such time as I shall be able to transfer the Agency~~
~~from White Salmon."~~

Archer, writing from Fort Simcoe, ~~March 18~~, to headquarters, Department of Oregon April 18, 1859, ~~said~~ said, "I have this day turned over all public buildings at this post to R.H. Lansdale."

Lansdale removed to the agency June 2 ^{and lost no time in setting up the} ~~and asked that letters to~~
~~the Simcoe Agency be sent via the Dalles, Ore.~~ He wrote to Geary ^{Agency} ~~that~~ ["] ~~in order to make the subsistence of the Indians as cheap~~
~~as possible,~~ ["] I have also commenced farming operations, purchased crops of grain growing in the field and put in the ground for the use of the troops ["] ~~occupying Simcoe."~~

By ^{the next} ~~the following~~ spring the employees were ~~occupied by~~
feeding and taking care of ^{stock} ~~stock~~, procuring rails ~~and poles~~ for fencing and preparing ^{an} ~~an~~ orchard and gardens.

~~An orchard of~~ (300) trees, mostly apple, were set out ~~on~~ the old parade ground and men were put to plowing for sowing ~~wheat and~~ ^{grain.}
~~oats.~~

Lansdale ^{said} ~~wrote~~ that the wheat sown last fall has proved a total failure ^{because of} ~~by the reason that too much~~ alkali is in the soil or ^{lack of} ~~too little~~ rain ~~to sprout the dead grain.~~

~~Superintendent~~ Geary completed arrangements with James Knox of Linn County, Oregon, ^{on} May 29, 1860 to purchase 100 head of cattle,

Paying

for Yearly fees

~~50 yearling heifers at \$10 a head and 50 two year old heifers at \$17 for two year olds. Then he bought ahead... I have now to ask that I will require the same an additional reservation in addition 50 cows and calves and 5 bulls, the same as not~~

"When the salmon run started in the Columbia ~~that spring~~ George H. Abbott, sub Indian Agent at the Dalles, was directed to help the Indians lay in a supply of salmon for winter ~~use~~ and was instructed to purchase a ton ~~or if required two tons~~ of salt and fifty barrels for curing and packing the fish."

was under construction,
[A saw mill ~~was being constructed~~ *and* \$9,000 having been appropriated to build it ~~with the understanding that a flouring mill~~ *proposed* ~~that was~~ *would be constructed as soon as the saw mill was completed.*

Lansdale ~~was one of the several day agents~~ *who was* who had brought in 147 Klickitat Indians from Lewis River Valley ~~and~~ *because of irregularities* when he came to the reservation, was one of the early day agents ~~later~~ *"serious charges"* suspended. The following report can be found in the files:

"Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Washington D.C. 1861 reports serious charges have been brought against Agent R.H. Lansdale, now in charge of Fort Simcoe Agency, during the month of November and December last year which induced Edward R. Geary, ~~Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Washington Territory~~ *Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Washington Territory* to suspend that officer from exercise of his office until an investigation could be made regarding the said charges and ordered C.M. Walker, inspector of Indian Affairs in the Territory to proceed to Fort Simcoe and relieve Mr. Lansdale which he did, arriving at Simcoe on January 3, 1861."

"That is what the record shows. In reality there was a confusion ~~over the~~ *of higher officials* authority ~~exercised by the~~ *for* ~~heads of Indian superintendents~~ *as for long per* Moreover payment of employees did not come through ~~as~~ *as for long per* efficiently as in later years and some of the workmen, who had gone two and three years without

~~Recorded~~ On June 1 ~~that year~~ Charles R. Hutchins ^{(6) became was named} ~~took over as~~ special agent, writing to Geary "I have this day relieved Cosnell ~~as agent~~. Goods stored at Rockland can be teamed to this post at contract of \$40 per ton. About (14) Indians are at work now for the government. The wages paid them is \$30 per month and rations."

And before the end of the month, lumber ^{was} ~~was~~ ready for the flouring ^{which} mill and H.W. Shipley was ~~preparing~~ to erect. The sawmill, on Simcoe Creek, was in "constant operation."
~~Moreover~~ The government ~~is~~ ^{seriously seeking} ~~was setting about~~ to comply ^{with treaty} ~~by its terms~~ of the ~~treaty~~ ^{promises}.

[B.F. Snelling ^{was} ~~was~~ superintendent of farming. One of the farms contained 200 acres of "good soil and has a crop ~~and~~ of hay and 32 1/2 acres of oats, 2 1/2 of peas, 7 of barley, 7 1/2 of wheat and 5 of potatoes and is being enclosed ~~by~~ a board fence."

"Another farm selected on a branch of Simcoe Creek five miles distant, ^{consists} ~~consisting~~ of ~~4000~~ 300 acres but ^{impregnation} ~~impregnated~~ ~~near~~ of alkali renders it useless.

"~~Besides~~ There are three gardens in the immediate vicinity of the agency containing about eight acres which are planted with corn, oats, barley, potatoes and other ~~very~~ vegetables."

The next agent,

Ashley H. Bancroft was appointed by President Lincoln. Bancroft was a brother of George Bancroft, a historian, United States Minister to Prussia in 1867 and father of Hubert Howe Bancroft whose histories of the Pacific Coast ^{and Mexico} have never been equalled, yet the agent, Bancroft, proved a failure at Fort Simcoe.

He too, and because of ~~economic~~ ^{Civil War} conditions, ~~during the Civil War, and~~ ^{like his employees,} ~~as well as~~ ^{went} ~~went with his employees~~ for ~~many~~ extended periods without pay. ^{They} ~~and were~~ ^{also were} compelled to draw upon the stores at the agency to ~~subsist~~ ^{live,} ~~themselves.~~

Leaders of the different tribes or bands ~~belonging to the~~ ^{belonging to the} ~~Simcoe~~ were disturbed ~~in regard to their agent.~~ They reported on numerous ~~occasions~~ that annuities ~~which by treaty with the government they were to receive at Simcoe~~ ^{which by treaty with the government they were to receive at Simcoe} were growing less and less, and by the second year of Bancroft's administration, ~~the annuities~~ had become so small that they were not worth making the trip to secure. In fact, many of the ~~Indians~~ refused to go after their goods believing that the Great White Father in Washington must be angry with them, and meant to do them harm, or he would not have sent a man such as Bancroft to look after them.

They ~~had~~ needed, as ~~Mansdale~~ ^{who was Superintendent of teaching} wrote, a chief like Kamiakin.

The Rev. Wilbur was held in respect by the Indians and they ~~confided~~ ^{confided} him regarding their feelings for Bancroft. Wilbur ~~on occasions~~ tried to reason with Bancroft and this ~~finally~~ ^{dismissal} resulted in his ~~discharge~~ ^{dismissal} as ~~superintendent of teaching, a position to which he had been recommended by the Methodist Conference.~~

Wilbur's removal was ordered by C.N. Hale, newly appointed commissioner of Indian Affairs, whereupon he ~~gathered~~ ^{gathered} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Indians~~ ^{Indians} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~him~~ ^{him} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~agency~~ ^{agency} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~they~~ ^{they} ~~gathered~~ ^{gathered} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Indians~~ ^{Indians} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~him~~ ^{him} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~agency~~ ^{agency} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~they~~ ^{they} ~~gathered~~ ^{gathered} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Indians~~ ^{Indians} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~him~~ ^{him} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~agency~~ ^{agency} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~they~~ ^{they} ~~gathered~~ ^{gathered} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Indians~~ ^{Indians} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~him~~ ^{him} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~agency~~ ^{agency} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~they~~ ^{they} ~~gathered~~ ^{gathered} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Indians~~ ^{Indians} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~him~~ ^{him} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~agency~~ ^{agency} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~they~~ ^{they} ~~gathered~~ ^{gathered} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Indians~~ ^{Indians} ~~to~~ 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Wilbur ~~recovered~~ was discharged on October 10 by B.F. Kendall, superintendent of Indian Affairs for "ashington Territory and in a letter two days later asked permission to remain "without expense to the government" as teacher of the Indians, an appointment he had received by the Oregon Annual Conference of the Methodist Church, but this was denied, so he went back to Oregon ~~and to the same place~~ for a time but could not forget the Yakima need.

~~recovered~~ Bancroft also discharged the agency physician, Dr. S.H. Roberts, and ~~also discharged the agency teacher~~ on the grounds that "he attempted to incite the Indians against their agent by stating to them that so long as he (the agent) remained here there would be no money sent to the reservation. that at the same time he induced many of them to sign a paper or papers which he represented to them would have the effect to remove the agent." All of which rendering him a dangerous person to be upon the reservation I accordingly suspended him from duty."

On January 13, 1862, Bancroft issued annuities to 1,458 men, women and children.

"On first coming together there was a very general disposition manifest ~~by the Indians~~ not to ~~receive~~ receive the goods, he wrote to ~~Superintendent~~ Kendall. "Many said that they were not consulted on the Treaty for the land and would not give it up and take pay for it, but upon convincing them that the land was sold, they concluded to receive the goods. Owing to the deep snow ~~very~~ many ~~Indians~~ who are entitled to annuities ~~from this agency~~ could not come for them ~~this winter~~. In order to do justice to this class I have retained a portion of the goods for distribution in the spring."

"Meanwhile there were reports of Secessionist activities around the Reservation and military men were sent to investigate, keeping their activities secret from the agent, much to ~~his~~ his discomfort

included \$3,925 for treaty employees, a superintendent of farming and two farmers at \$800 a year; ~~superintendent~~ superintendent of schools, two teachers, physician, two blacksmiths, carpenter, plow and wagon maker, a miller ~~in charge of the saw~~ tinner and head chief.

A barn ~~was~~ for storage of grain was estimated at \$2,500, fences at \$1,000 and a reaper, thresher, separator, three breaking plows and other agricultural tools at \$1,200.

Bancroft, in a communication to Hale wrote that he "was not strongly attached to the service. Among the multitude of my thoughts has sometimes been that of resigning

Wilbur ^{who} left the agency in February, 1864, journeyed to Washington and laid his protests before President Lincoln, ~~He~~ ^{and} began duties in 1865. He returned with the appointment as Indian Agent, a position he held with only one interruption, for nearly 18 years.

Immediately the agency reports took on a businesslike appearance.

H.C. Thompson, superintendent of farming reported breaking of 75 acres of ground in one month and ~~the~~ seeding of 30 acres, ~~accomplished~~

Walter Carman, the miller, ~~turned out~~ ground 142 bushels of grain for the Indians in one month and 15,239 feet of lumber were turned out by the ~~mill~~ saw mill.

Alfred Hall, the carpenter, ~~reported~~ filled a report with Wilbur in April, 1865, that ~~he had~~ made and stained three coffins, \$18; 6 ax handles at 50 cents, \$3; 5 rake heads, \$2.50; 4 bed boards, \$3 dressed out 2 gunstocks for the gunsmith, \$3, made six framed picket gates and hung them, \$42 and spent the rest of his time getting out lumber for fencing. The next month he worked 14 days ~~about~~ on the barn at the mill and spent a day grinding the cutter and putting up the mower.

James McGrew, the blacksmith shod horses, made 64 harrow teeth, ironed six neck yokes, ~~and~~ ^{and} turned three sets of double trees,

made 100 rings, repaired wagons at a cost of \$25 and ~~made~~ a branding iron.

As he was called by the ~~Indians~~ ~~and later~~
the
Father Wilbur was a just and honest man and an untiring worker
for the betterment of the ~~Indians~~ ^{tribe}. They made ~~good~~ progress in education
and agriculture ~~good progress~~ under his serious although religious
administration.

Grazing privileges were granted to a few of the stockmen ~~with~~ *bring in* several thousand dollars annually ~~thus derived~~ for the benefit of the *People* ~~Indians~~ ~~Indians~~ ~~Indians~~

Lumber from the saw mill ~~had been used to build~~ was converted into homes, replacing tepees which had dotted the valley ~~for years.~~

Wagons, plows, harrows and harness were bought and given to those who desired to cultivate the soil. Soon there were grain fields and gardens scattered about the reservation.

Early in 1866 a stage road, complete with relay stations, was opened through the reservation near the present route to Goldendale over Satus Pass. En 1878 ~~it was reported~~ there were over 3,500 head of ID cattle on the reservation as well as some 16,000 head of horses. Most of the lumber produced at the mill was used for fencing the cultivated areas to keep out the stock, which was beginning to create a serious overgrazing problem.

The severe winter of ~~1880-81~~ 1880-81 gave the stockmen a serious setback both on and outside the reservation because 80 to 90 per cent of the stock froze or ~~or~~ starved to death, ~~the winter was a~~ *earlier* *repetition of the 1861-62 winter* *just 19* *years before.* *of (19) 4*

The military returned ~~toedond~~ to the reservations in 1869 -70 placing Lieutenant James H. Smith in ~~charge~~ charge. He was quick to point out the shortcomings of ~~the~~ Wilbur, who remained at heart an over-zealous missionary.

The lieutenant ^{asserted} ~~reported~~ that those following Wilbur's faith could

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obtain all they asked for, but others who adhered to their old beliefs were ~~denied annuities~~. "He ~~was~~ wrote" in the margin
~~"Most everything was denied to others. Furthermore, in comparing~~
~~the highly favorable reports from this agency regarding the wealth~~
~~of the Yakima Indians on the reserve the conclusion forces itself~~
~~to mind that these reports were grossly exaggerated and must have~~
~~been so colored with a view to create favorable impressions, he~~
~~asserted in an official report.~~

The government terminated ~~its~~ military control over the reservations and Wilbur returned as agent in 1871. *and set forth his policy*

And an inquiry into Lieutenant Smith's assertions brought substantiation:

~~"The Government~~ "restraint of their religious liberty was always the occasion of great discontent ~~among the Indians~~ and a direct violation of the most cherished ideas of the American people."

~~Wilbur, upon his return, advocated a policy:~~

"If I fail to give moral character to an Indian I can give him nothing that does him permanent good. If I can succeed in giving him moral character, ~~so that he is no more a liar, a thief, a drunkard, a profane person, a polygamist or a gambler but a man of integrity,~~ industry, sobriety and purity, ^{then} ~~then~~ he no longer needs the gifts of government ~~or the Government~~ charities of anybody. He ~~then~~ becomes a ~~matured~~ man like any other and can take care of himself."

Wilbur built up attendance at the Indian school; the children were eagerly learning the ways of the white man ~~and how to read and write.~~

He outlawed those who preyed upon the reservation by liquor running, and he outlawed gambling. *He was a strict disciplinarian who resorted to the whips, post and ball and chain to ~~restrain~~ as punishment.*
~~On October 1, 1882, Wilbur wrote his resignation as agent on~~
(young soldier)
~~December 1, 1882, and went to Walla Walla, where he died October 8, 1887.~~

August 15, 1882 and went to Walla Walla, where he died October 8, ~~when~~ *when he was 76, killed by a few months his wife,*
1887. *who was born September 11, 1811 in New York State*
who had also been a teacher when at the agency

The ~~years, the people and the country~~ years that swirled around Fort Simcoe and the Yakima Reservation, the people who lived there and the country ~~around it~~ ^{Surrounding} (are so rich in historical lore that many books would be required to tell the story ~~completely~~).

There are several ~~historical~~ events however that show the temper and disposition of the Rev. Wilbur and give a new insight into the Yakimas.

(There was the time when the combattant Snake and Paiute Indians ^{Utah} ~~and Nevada~~ of Oregon, who resisted the settlement days for so long, were finally ^{(and in the dead of a severe winter} ~~subjugated~~ subjugated. And out of a ~~clear~~ clear sky,) they were ^{herded} ~~impounded~~ on the Yakima Reservation ^{where they were impounded}.

"Five hundred and forty three Snake and Piute Indians arrived yesterday without official notice of their coming, in a destitute condition, nearly naked. Something must be done immediately to feed and clothe them,"

Wilbur wired to E.A. Hayt, commissioner of Indian Affairs on Feb. 3, 1879.

(Wilbur took ^{definitely} ~~his~~ ^{me} ~~the~~ the Yakima chief and interpreter ~~out~~ to meet Captain W.W. Winters of the 1st Cavalry and the prisoners.

~~George~~

The Yakimas went to work with teams and hauled lumber from the steam sawmill to build a shelter 150 feet long and 17 feet wide.

"It affords me pleasure to say the Indians of the agency did not revolt but took hold with a ^{willy} ~~will~~ to help locate them and make them comfortable," he wrote. The camp was set up on Toppenish Creek, seven miles east of Fort Simcoe and Wilbur personally directed twenty ~~of~~ Indian freighters to help move the prisoners and the two companies of soldiers accompanying them.

Sarah Winnemucca, ^(the pathetic) a heroine of the Paiutes accompanied her people and Wilbur engaged her as interpreter and teacher and made preparations to open a school. ~~which~~

At the same time Chief Moses and two hundred of his people from higher on the Columbia were brought ⁱⁿ ~~onto the reservation~~ as a precaution against any outbreak ~~of disgruntled people~~ following the ~~Nez Perce~~ war with the Nez Perce.

^(an unexplainable) ~~Moses~~ There was a ~~strange~~ friendship between Moses and the agent and at one time ~~it became necessary for Wilbur to imprison Moses~~ ^{imprisoned Moses} ~~as~~ ^{him} ~~in jail~~, a protective measure to keep ~~from~~ the chief from being seized by settlers at old town, ~~now~~ (Union Gap). When Moses eventually was seized and ^{fallen to} ~~imprisoned in~~ old town, Wilbur himself ^{bailed him out and} ~~provided bail and~~ stood by Moses until ^{the chief} ~~he~~ was acquitted of charges resulting from the minor outbreaks which all occurred off the reservation ~~and in which~~

^{Keenly}
Wilbur was disappointed that Moses and his people did not chose to

remain on the Yakima Reservation, and that the Paiutes became dissatisfied
^{when he enforced his "no work, no annuities" policy}
and deserted in wholesale numbers, ~~because~~ ^{because} he constantly sought increased
appropriations for school, subsistence and annuities, all based on
^{attempting to create}
the empire of many tribes he was ~~building up~~.

[But a reservation was ~~not~~ created by Presidential proclamation for
Moses, ~~and his people~~, and Sarah Winnemucca, ~~and her people~~ while seemingly content,
at first, finally took personal issue with Wilbur and she also went directly
to Washington and complained ~~there~~ to authorities.

^{where she strongly}
[During all this time the Yakima looked upon the ~~Paiute~~ ^{Paiutes} as as
^{OR "brothers"}
guests ~~or those~~ needing assistance, ^{They} ~~and~~ willingly consented

to withdrawals of rations from Yakima stores. ~~And when~~ ^{And when} during such
^{times}
~~occasions~~ as Christmas, they slaughtered cattle, gathered presents of

^{and clothing}
food, and delivered them personally to the Paiutes, ^{without consulting the}
^{Agent} ~~without consulting the~~

~~Even~~ For a time some of Sarah's own people turned against her
^{bitter}

and there were long, ~~and~~ councils at which her brother, Leex Winnemucca
^{defended her, explaining}

~~and explained~~ how it was and ~~where~~ ^{and Natchez} Paiute leaders like
^{in a few years}

Leggins, Paddy, ~~and~~ Oytes spoke. ~~But eventually~~ the Paiutes broke away

and scattered to ^S Oregon and their old home, ~~in Nevada and Idaho~~. ^{And the}
^{Yakima went on about the work of building their lives anew.}

~~After that Sarah barnstormed about the country giving her~~
~~version of the Wilbur administration and the wrongs of her people,~~
~~until she grew old and ill and poor, and died in Montana.~~

She ~~wrote~~ ^{expressed} her feelings in letters and now she ^{are} ~~wrote~~

"Father Wilbur says he ~~was~~ should be much relieved if the Piutes were not on the reservation. They have been the cause of much labor and anxiety to him. Yet he does all he ^{can} ~~can~~ to prevent their going away.

"What can be the meaning of this? Is it not plain that they are a source of riches to him? He starves them and sells their supplies. He does not say

much against me, but he does say that if my influence was removed my

people would be contended here... " But she did not mention the refusal of many to work and make their own way as the Yakimas were trying to do

Sarah, when she left the reservation, barnstormed about the country for a time, spreading far and wide

giving her version of the Wilbur administration and the wrongs inflicted

upon ^{her} ~~the~~ people and there were few who contradicted her. So she

she grew poor and she grew ill and old and died in Montana.

she until she finally