



PROGRESS REPORT

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

Centennial Sponsored by Washington State Historical Society

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THIS ADVERTISEMENT TOLD THE TRUTH

Most advertising is truthful, but in this instance we have in mind a series of advertisements published nationally some years ago under the theme, "Never Underestimate the Power of Women". The series was published by a national woman's magazine and this piece hasn't a thing to do with the magazine, just paying tribute to some women who caught the Centennial idea and did something about it.

The last Report hinted that something might be doing in Tacoma, Centennialwise. At the time the piece was written the Tacoma movement seemed to promise more than a hint and now we can say that the Tacoma movement is more on the order of a prairie fire--with a woman directing the fire. A new city government took over in June and one of Mayor Tollefson's first acts was to see what Tacoma should be doing about the Centennial because just 100 years ago lumber was shipped from the Delin Mill at the head of Commencement Bay. The Mayor asked the Acting Mayor (when Tollefson is away) to do something. The Acting Mayor is Mrs. Clara Goering and to say she has done something about the Centennial is a gross understatement.

Mrs. Goering called a meeting to see if anyone else was interested in a Centennial observance. The meeting was something for the well-known 'Book' for more than 30 organizations were represented. Not a sour note, nothing but go-ahead stuff, "What can I do to help?" and more of the same. Organizations not reached during the day ahead of the meeting called up to get into the picture.

Well, there's a full-fledged program going ahead at a speed that makes Slo Mo seem in reverse. August 24-29 are the dates--"The Washington Story" two nights, big square dance program with retail opening first night, Scandinavian Day, Salmon Bake, Centennial Parade and Horse Show last day. WHISKERS--some said no one would grow 'em. Well, take a look around Tacoma. Not since the Jubilee celebration in 1939 has Tacoma been so busy. And the busiest person is Mrs. Clara Goering who is on the Centennial job just about 24 hours a day. Committees--scads of them but committees of workers, not names.

In Puyallup they've just finished a fine Centennial observance and--you guessed it--another record by a group headed by a woman. In this case it was Mrs. Irene Mankertz. Probably there were some in the city who could see a Centennial program but when it was learned that Mrs. Mankertz was at the head, the verdict was unanimous that it would be a success and that's what it was. The Director looked in on the opening Pioneer Dinner and to say it was a success would be putting it too mildly. Pioneer costumes everywhere and a great Centennial spirit. Mrs. Mankertz was the boss of Puyallup that week.

Everett has a Centennial week in progress as this is written and up there is being written another great story of community cooperation behind a great project and a woman was selected to head it up. Mrs. Myrtle Ferrell has turned in a remarkable job of rush organization. Everett leaders felt their city should see "The Washington Story" and they wrapped up a community package to go with it.

Earlier in the summer Mount Vernon turned in a great Centennial program and here again it was a woman, Mrs. Ann McCoy of the Altrusa Club, who headed up the organization. It was a week long to be remembered in Mount Vernon history.

In each of these cases the leaders received wonderful cooperation from civic workers, press and radio, but just now we'll doff the hat to the women who were at the head of these four observances. If there are other cases of feminine leadership, let us know.

READ THIS TO YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND FILE



LONG LIVE THE QUEEN!

The Territorial Centennial doesn't have a King--why do celebrations seldom have a King!--but we do have a Queen, and a very charming Queen she is. She would be when chosen from 26 Washington Queens. The selection was made during the Seattle Seafair by five very competent judges, who finally selected Miss Jackie Adkins of Port Orchard for the honor. She was crowned during the Aqua Follies performance on the 6th, surrounded by the 25 other contentants. For maids-in-waiting, the judges selected the misses Norma Jean Denzer, Renton & Judy Klöyberg, Everett. The Director had the honor of officiating at the coronation ceremony. Centennial thanks to Walter VanCamp, Greater Seattle director, who wanted to tie in his great program with the Centennial. Queen Jackie will make a number of appearances during Centennial programs. She represented the South Kitsap Chamber of Commerce in the contest and it was hard to tell who was happiest, the Queen or Chamber of Commerce Manager, "Red" Beck.

STOCKADERS OF VANCOUVER,--WHAT A JOB THEY TURNED IN!

Last spring the Stockaders of Vancouver let it be known they were taking over Centennial activities for that city. 'Announcement' can mean one thing and 'performance' something quite different. It was that way this time. If there was anything those Stockaders, headed by Dr. Henry Schumacker, overlooked, it must have been very small. Last spring they started off with a Spring Opening that brought out more people than Vancouver had ever seen. Then an auto show that was a knock-out. And last week they topped it with a full week of activity--"The Washington Story", parade, pioneer pic 1 CENT 1. etc., etc. They gave a perfect demonstration of what can be done by a bunch of folks really in earnest. We don't know at the moment the profit they made from the historical drama but it was a lot. Incidentally, the "Vancouver Columbian" gave the Centennial program some of the finest journalistic cooperation we've ever seen.

THE FAIRS ARE GETTING UNDER WAY

Washington Fairs, almost without exception, have adopted the Centennial as their theme this year and soon it will be Fair Time all over the state. Fairs are always worth attending, especially so when recognition is being paid pioneers.

FERNDALE PIONEER PICNIC A GREAT AFFAIR

Up at Ferndale they put on a two-day pioneer picnic that's a record-breaker. It was a Centennial affair this year and better than ever. They have the smartest 'pioneer' plan we know of. If you've lived there a year and go to the picnic you get a certain colored badge and different degrees of residence up to 50 or more get badges of different colors. It honors the oldest pioneers and ties in the newcomers to the pioneer movement. Great idea and its been working for years. One by-product is a mighty fine little museum.

ANY CLUBS WANT TO MAKE REAL MONEY EASY?

Well, here's as easy a way as we can think of. This Centennial doesn't end until November 11 so there's plenty of time to think Centennial. The manufacturers have a small surplus of those handsome window cards. They sell for a dollar. A club buys them at half price--30 cents while they last. Any aggressive club can sell these easier than hotcakes.

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Washington Territorial Centennial

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TACOMA 3, WASHINGTON



WALTER J. PURDIN
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YAKIMA, WASH.

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