

INLAND EMPIRE WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION

P. O. BOX 98 TELEPHONE JACKSON 5-5620

WALLA WALLA, WASHINGTON

March 10, 1958

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Mr. W. H. Robertson,
Publisher,
Yakima Republic-Herald,
Yakima, Washington

Dear Mr. Robertson,

I am enclosing herewith some mimeographed material regarding the Whitman National Monument, most of which you will find familiar to you. As you probably know, the people of Walla Walla, for quite some time, have been attempting to secure additional land for the Monument in order that the Shrine may be properly developed.

As explained in the enclosed material, a Bill is now before Congress which would make it possible for us to acquire this land. You will find this information self-explanatory; however, I wanted to drop you a personal note respectfully urging your personal support. This is most important to us and we are arousing the people throughout the Pacific Northwest to write Congresswoman Gracie Pfof, Chairman, and other members of the Committee considering this Legislation in our behalf.

If you would kindly send me copies of any communications you direct to the Congress, it would be greatly appreciated. The Committee would like to have copies as evidence of support which has been given us.

Also, we would, of course, be most grateful for any publicity you can give to us which would help encourage various organizations to join with us in this movement.

Sincerely,

HG West

HERBERT G. WEST

First Vice President

MARCUS WHITMAN FOUNDATION

HGW:ih
Enc.

Our 24th Year

STORY OF WAILLATPU

On September 1, 1836, Marcus Whitman, M.D., and his wife Narcissa Prentiss Whitman; Reverend Henry Harmon Spalding and his wife, Elisa Hart Spalding; and a young man, William H. Gray, their helper, arrived in the Walla Walla Valley and soon made their way to the Hudson's Bay Company's little fort on the Columbia River. The little group of white people, all of pure American stock, were from Western New York State and were unusual in their character and attainments.

FIRST MEDICAL MISSIONARY ON THE PACIFIC COAST

Dr. Whitman, the first medical missionary on the Pacific Coast, and the first M.D., to practice west of the Rocky Mountains, was a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of the Western District of New York at Fairfield, New York. He was thirty-four years of age. Mr. Spalding, thirty-three years old, was a graduate of Western Reserve College at Hudson, Ohio, and had studied for two years at Lane Theological Seminary at Cincinnati.

FIRST WHITE WOMAN TO CROSS THE CONTINENT

The two women were equally remarkable. They were not coarse and unlettered plainwomen but gently bred and well-educated. Mrs. Whitman who studied at Miss Willard's famous School for Girls at Troy, New York, was the first schoolmistress in the Oregon Country. She was 28 years old. Mrs. Spalding, who was 29 years of age, was perhaps even better educated, having studied with her husband at Lane Theological Seminary.

FIRST AMERICAN HOMES ON PACIFIC COAST

A crude cabin of cottonwood logs on the right bank of the Walla Walla River where Dr. and Mrs. Whitman began their housekeeping on December 10, 1836, and the equally crude log cabin on the Clearwater among the Nez Perce Indians where about the same time Mr. and Mrs. Spalding began their home were the first American homes between the Cascades and the Rocky Mountains, the real beginning of American civilization in the West. The little party was composed of Presbyterian missionaries sent by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, then the joint organization of the Presbyterian and Congregational denominations with headquarters in Boston.

FIRST CHILD OF AMERICAN WHITE PARENTS

In the crude log cabin with its earth floor, rough fireplace and openings for door and window, there was born, March 14, 1837, to Dr. and Mrs. Whitman, a daughter, Alice Clarissa, the first child of American white parents to be born west of the Rocky Mountains.

FIRST GREAT WAGON TRAIN MOVES WEST

A great wagon train of immigrants had been assembled in Missouri during the early spring of 1843 and the train was already on the march across the prairies when it was overtaken by Dr. Whitman, of whom the immigrants had heard. He was the only man who knew the Oregon Trail. He was immediately elected as guide and during the summer of 1843 successfully led the wagon train across the prairies, through the mountains, and across the desert of Southern Idaho.

NORTHWEST BOUNDARY LINE ESTABLISHED

Though Dr. Whitman's responsibility for the gathering of that wagon train has been disputed, there can be no doubt that he rendered an inestimable service to it in crossing the continent, nor can there be doubt that the arrival of the company with approximately 1000 patriotic Americans, 200 wagons, and 2,000 horses and oxen, marked a turning point in the destiny of Oregon. From that time forward, Americans were in an overwhelming majority, and when finally by treaty with Great Britain the northwest boundary line was determined, June 15, 1846, the line was drawn at the 49th parallel, and the vast region north of California to British Columbia passed into the permanent and undisputed possession of the United States.

EPIDEMIC BREAKS OUT

Measles broke out at Waiilatpu in the fall of 1847 and spread rapidly among the Indians and the whites, of whom at the time there were sixty or more at the mission. When some of the Indians died, despite Dr. Whitman's treatment, Indian custom dictated revenge upon the medicine man.

THE DEATH OF DR. MARCUS WHITMAN AND HIS WIFE NARCISSA PRENTISS WHITMAN

The cause for what happened will perhaps never be fully known. The Indians were by no means unanimous in their action, for many of them were loyal to Dr. and Mrs. Whitman, but on the 29th of November, 1847, a sudden uprising of the hostile and disaffected element among them killed Dr. and Mrs. Whitman in cold blood and all the men and boys connected with the mission, fourteen persons in all. Dr. Whitman was 45 years old at the time of his death and Narcissa Whitman 39. They died as became good soldiers of the cross - at their post of duty. Their mission had been an outpost which rendered invaluable service to the American immigrants and American civilization on the Pacific Coast.

To preserve the memory of the martyred Whitmans and the principles for which they stood, Whitman National Monument was established in 1940 through the efforts of many individuals and groups. At the present time it is forty-six acres in size. The people of the City and County of Walla Walla and the citizens of the Pacific Northwest, in general, contributed private funds for the purchase of the forty-six acres and it was presented to the United States Government as a gift. The value of the Whitman National Monument as a National Shrine is beyond debate and is an accepted fact.

S. 1118, is an Act to facilitate the administration and development of the Whitman National Monument in the State of Washington by authorizing the acquisition of additional land for the Monument. It is essential to proper restoration and preservation of this National, Historical Shrine.

Careful studies by the National Park Service have shown that there is need for additional land to administer the Monument. To construct needed facilities on the present area would seriously infringe on the historical scene. The acquisition of this additional land presents a major problem, as the Congressional act which created Whitman National Monument stated that land to be added to the Monument would have to be donated. S. 1118 is designed for the express purpose of amending the unwarranted and unjustified restriction. The present program is to acquire approximately forty-five acres of land adjacent to the Monument.

Detailed explanation of these plans and a permit has been given to the Committee.

In the spring of 1957, the Walla Walla Realty Board was asked to appraise the property in question and the original appraisal took into consideration only approximately thirty acres. The value of the land is appraised at \$12,600; severance at \$8,975; value of improvements in buildings and out-buildings, \$11,000; well, \$1,500; or a total valuation of \$34,075.

Subsequently, the Realty Board was asked to submit an additional appraisal covering the fourteen and one-half acres of land which lies north of the land that was included in the previous purchase proposal. For this additional fourteen and one-half acres, the Realty Board submitted an additional appraisal of \$2,000; thus making the total appraisal by the Realty Board of \$36,075.

Taking the acreage, after subtracting the costs of the well, severance, and the value of improvements, would leave a per-acre cost of approximately \$325.00. I believe that you will find this an extremely fair figure for the value of comparable farm lands in Walla Walla Valley; and, taking into consideration that this is dividing up the tenant's farm, I believe you will agree that this is an extremely conservative appraisal.

S. 1118 was passed unanimously by the United States Senate in the First Session of the 85th Congress. Hearings were held during the last Session by the House Sub-Committee on Public Lands of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee of which Congresswoman Gracie Pfof of Idaho is Chairman. No action has been taken on the Bill. We are advised that additional testimony and Hearings will be considered by the Sub-Committee on March 20 and 21, 1958. At that time, we are asking that Executive action be taken, submitting favorably the Bill S. 1118 for consideration of the full Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives of which the Honorable Clair Engle of California is Chairman.

We are attaching a list of the members of the Sub-Committee for your

consideration. We would respectfully request that you, as an individual, and any organizations for which you can speak, call to their attention this important Legislation.

Please wire or write these Legislators, setting forth in your own words the reasons for the enactment of S.1118 which in essence states "The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to procure not to exceed fifty acres of land adjacent to the existing Monument and a right-of-way thereto from the United States Highway 410, using therefore any land acquisition funds available for purposes of the National Park System, such property to be acquired in such manner as the Secretary shall consider to be in the public interest". This Legislation has been reported favorably by the Department of the Interior with no opposition by the Bureau of the Budget.

March 23 will be too late. Therefore, will you please give this matter your immediate attention and take such steps as you deem necessary to place you, as an individual, and the organizations that you might be able to contact on record with the Honorable Mrs. Gracie Pfof, Chairman, Sub-Committee on Public Lands, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, Washington 25, D.C.

Your cooperation and assistance will be sincerely appreciated.

* * * * *

Sub-Committee on Public Lands of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee

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Honorable Lee Metcalf

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Honorable Jack Westland

Honorable John R. Pillion

Honorable John J. Rhodes

Honorable J. Edgar Chenoweth

Honorable Keith Thomson

Honorable Phil Weaver

Honorable Harold R. Collier

All are addressed to: House of Representatives, Washington 25, D.C.



CHARLES BAKER, President

HERBERT G. WEST, Executive Vice President

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INLAND EMPIRE WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION

TELEPHONE—AREA CODE 509 - JA 5-5620

P. O. BOX 1098

312-314 JONES BUILDING

WALLA WALLA, WASHINGTON 99362

September 8, 1964

Mr. Charles Massey,
Editor,
DAILY REPUBLIC,
Yakima, Washington

Dear Mr. Massey,

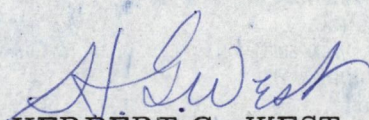
Enclosed herewith is an advance news release concerning the Thirty-First Annual Convention of Inland Empire Waterways Association which will be held in Wenatchee, Washington, on October 18, 19 and 20, 1964.

Enclosed, also, is a questionnaire we would greatly appreciate your completing, indicating whether or not you can use glossy print photos or mats of our principal Nationally and Internationally known speakers and also the name of the person to handle our news releases. If you will kindly return this questionnaire at your earliest possible convenience, it will be most sincerely appreciated, and will insure your receiving the proper information.

Press kits will reach you in the very near future for your advance information and you are cordially invited, as indicated therein, to have a representative of your organization attend our meetings. One guest registration will be offered each news media and every effort will be made in furnishing information to him of news value.

With kindest regards and best wishes.

Sincerely,


HERBERT G. WEST
Executive Vice President

HGW:ld

Our 31st Year

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NEWS RELEASE

INLAND EMPIRE WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION, INC.

P. O. Box 1098, Phone JACKSON 5-5620, Walla Walla, Washington 99362

[Enclosure, 1964, Sep. 8]

September 8, 1964

INLAND EMPIRE WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION TO HOLD 31ST ANNUAL MEETING IN WENATCHEE

Representatives from every phase of the economy of the Pacific Northwest will gather in Wenatchee, Washington, October 18, 19 and 20 to participate in the Thirty-First Annual Convention of Inland Empire Waterways Association, an organization well-known to the area which has spearheaded the development of all the water resources of the region since 1934.

Delegates from the states of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Alaska and Western Montana will meet at the Cascadian Hotel to hear speakers of national prominence from Canada and the United States and to consider matters of policy for the coming year.

Highlighting this year's annual meeting will be two panel discussions. On Monday, October 19, top-ranking representatives from Canada and the United States will hold a panel discussion on the recently adopted Canadian Treaty. Tuesday will find a similarly interested group from the Pacific Northwest and the Pacific Southwest discussing the Pacific Northwest-Pacific Southwest Intertie. Following introductory remarks by official members of both panels, questions will be proposed by well-informed members of prominent newspaper organizations from all over the area. Delegates, likewise, will be given an opportunity to query the panel members by means of written questions.

In addition to the two panel discussions, the panel members of which will be announced shortly, several other speakers of national prominence will appear on the program.

Two all-important committees to elect officers and formulate policy for the coming year will meet at breakfast sessions on Monday morning, prior to the general session. Mr. Archie R. Rolfs, Chairman, Port of Douglas County and Vice President for Washington, I. E. W. A., Wenatchee, Washington, will head the Nominations and Organization Committee, and Mr. Wilbur Elder, President, Port of Chelan County, and Regional County Vice President of Chelan County for I. E. W. A., Wenatchee, Washington, will chairman the Resolutions Committee.

Charles Baker, President of I. E. W. A., Walla Walla, Washington, who will be the presiding officer over all sessions, reports that this will be one of the most interesting and important annual meetings ever held by I. E. W. A. "The two panel discussions," he said, "will give all those in attendance an opportunity to answer to any questions on the two subject matters from experts in both fields. Members, likewise, through the two important committee meetings, will have the opportunity to voice their opinions in matters of policy governing our Association for the coming year. Non-members will be welcome to sit in on the meetings and advance registrations are being accepted in our office in Walla Walla, Washington. Invitations will be going out shortly, giving details on the completed program and information, prior to this time, can be obtained, likewise, from headquarters in Walla Walla".

Executive Vice President of the organization, in charge of arrangements, is Herbert G. West. W. D. Ray of Walla Walla is treasurer, Marchall N. Dana, Portland, Oregon, is regional director, and state vice presidents are Baker Ferguson, Portland, Oregon; A. R. Rolfs, Wenatchee, Washington; E. V. Lorenz, Lewiston, Idaho; and C. W. Snedden, Fairbanks, Alaska.

Nine representatives serve on the Board of Directors of I. E. W. A. from the states of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, with four from the recently affiliated state of Alaska. Regional county vice presidents coordinate local activities with the national program from every county in the Columbia-Snake river basin and from Washington and Oregon coastal areas.
