

"MY PLANS REQUIRE TIME AND DISTANCE"

THE STATUE OF MARCUS WHITMAN

Pioneer Medical Missionary



*A project sponsored by the people of the
State of Washington and other friends of
MARCUS AND NARCISSA WHITMAN*

THE 1949 session of the Washington State Legislature by almost unanimous votes in both the Senate and House passed a bill designating Dr. Marcus Whitman as the first official representative of the State in Statuary Hall, Washington, D. C. Action was the result of a program initiated by the Washington State Business and Professional Women's clubs.

Each state is entitled to two statues in Statuary Hall, the choice to be made by the respective state legislatures. By Act of Congress, distinguished American citizens "illustrious for their historic renown or distinguished civic or military service" are eligible to be so commemorated.

In authorizing the placing of the statue of Marcus Whitman in Statuary Hall, the legislature recognized the "historic renown" that has come to be associated with "The Story of Marcus Whitman" in the more than 100 years since the tragic Whitman massacre at Wailatpu, "the place of rye grass."

The legislation carried no appropriation, but provided for the appointment of a commission to select a sculptor, approve a statue and design (there are no pictures of Dr. Whitman), and raise the necessary funds (\$30,000).

Governor Arthur B. Langlie named a twelve-person commission and this group, after considering proposals from ten different sculptors, selected the statue design offered by Dr. Avar Fairbanks, dean of the College of Fine Arts, University of Utah.

People familiar with "The Whitman Story" have widely endorsed Dr. Fairbanks' interpretation of the man who did so much to assure the growth and development of the Pacific Northwest as a vital part of the United States.

The first objective of the Foundation is to better acquaint people of the State of Washington and the Pacific Northwest with "The Whitman Story," and to secure thirty thousand dollars in popular subscriptions for the statue. Unveiling of the statue is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, April 29, 1951.

Other objectives of the Foundation are to provide a duplicate of the statue for location on the mission site and to provide other assistance in developing the Whitman National Monument, one of the Pacific Northwest's great historic shrines.

The Foundation is a non-profit corporation with Governor Langlie as the Honorary Chairman. Members of the Foundation board are: chairman, Mrs. Goldie Rehberg, Walla Walla, representing the Business and Professional Women of the State; vice-chairmen, Chapin Foster of Tacoma, director of the Washington State Historical Society, and Ashley Holden of Spokane, columnist for the Spokesman-Review; treasurer, Clinton S. Harley, Seattle businessman and former state senator; secretary, Alfred McVay, Walla Walla Chamber of Commerce manager and member of the Washington State Advertising Commission; Mrs. Ida Burford of Olympia, curator, State Capitol Museum; State Senator Henry Copeland of Walla Walla; Dr. Willard F. Goff, Seattle doctor and historian; E. V. Kuykendall of Pomeroy, retired superior court judge; Dr. Chester C. Maxey of Walla Walla, president of Whitman College; Cameron Sherwood, Walla Walla attorney and Whitman College alumnus, and Herbert G. West of Walla Walla, president of the Whitman Centennial Corporation.

Those interested in aiding the project may send subscriptions made payable to the **MARCUS WHITMAN FOUNDATION**, P. O. Box 357, Walla Walla. Additional information regarding the Whitmans and the work of the Foundation may be secured at the same address.

OF HISTORIC RENOWN

IN the dramatic history of the colonization and development of the Pacific Northwest, few individuals have a record of achievement as extensive or as significant as that of Dr. Marcus Whitman.

In achieving a record that made him "illustrious for [his] historic renown," Dr. Whitman's urge to action and adventure resulted in a dynamic career in the period from 1834 to 1847 that makes "The Story of Marcus Whitman" a colorful and dramatic chapter in Western history.

It is the story of . . .

. . . an active and ambitious man who was the first graduate doctor of a medical school to practice west of the Rocky Mountains.

. . . a strong and stalwart man who with Mrs. Whitman established the first American home on the Pacific Coast. They were the parents of the first American white girl born west of the Rocky Mountains.

. . . a determined and adventurous man who made one of the great rides of American history when he went 4,000 miles

in the middle of winter from Wailatpu to Washington, D. C., and Boston to plead for his mission and to tell the story of the greatness and potentialities of the Oregon Territory.

. . . a versatile and aggressive man who brought the first wagon over the Rocky Mountains and who, in 1843, provided the leadership and guidance for the first great wagon train to come to the Oregon Territory.

. . . a fearless and compassionate man who was massacred by an Indian's tomahawk while he was

giving medical aid to those whom he came to befriend.

. . . a dogmatic and religious man who stubbornly tried but fell short in his objective of being a missionary to the Indians and to bring them to a realization of the white man's God.

Marcus Whitman was no ordinary man, but he was instead a man of personality and varied human characteristics. While not totally successful as a missionary to the Indians, he succeeded in so many other of his efforts as physician, agriculturist, explorer and patriot, that he shares fully with other illustrious citizens of the nation the respect and admiration of those who appreciate outstanding service to God and country.

"The Story of Marcus Whitman" is indeed the story of a distinguished and important American.



THE GOOD DOCTOR

MARCUS WHITMAN, "The Good Doctor," is the fourth physician and surgeon to be honored with a statue in the nation's Statuary Hall.

Kentucky recognized *Dr. Ephraim McDowell* (1771-1830) who performed the first ovariectomy in 1809.

Florida presented a statue of *Dr. John Gorrie* (1803-1855), the inventor of the ice machine and mechanical refrigerator, which, at the time, he thought would only be used for fever patients.

Georgia erected a statue to *Dr. Crawford W. Long* (1815-1878), the discoverer of ether anesthesia (1842).

THE MISSIONARY

Marcus Whitman is the seventh nationally known individual who achieved fame at least in part through religious activities, to be designated for commemoration through a statue in Statuary Hall.

California designated churchmen for both choices. One was *Junipero Serra* (1713-84), missionary of the Franciscan Order who founded nine missions. The other was *Thomas Starr King* (1824-64), like Whitman, born in New York. An ordained minister, he is credited with being "the man whose matchless oratory saved California to the Union."

Pennsylvania chose *J. P. G. Muhlenberg* (1746-1807). He was a distinguished minister of the gospel, a colonel in the Revolutionary War, and a member of the House of Representatives in the First, Third, and Sixth Congresses.

Rhode Island selected *Roger Williams* (1599-1683), an early Puritan pioneer minister of the gospel in the Colonies and among the Indians. He was famed for his zeal and ability, especially in the cause of liberty.

Utah, for its first choice, recently placed a statue of *Brigham Young* in commemoration of his leading the great Mormon migration to Utah and the establishment of Salt Lake City.

Wisconsin recognized *James Marquette* (1637-75), a French Jesuit priest. He was a missionary among the wild tribes of Indians of the Northern country, a discoverer and explorer.

Quoted above are excerpts from two of the "chapters" in "The Story of Marcus Whitman," a 20-page illustrated booklet published by the Marcus Whitman Foundation and for sale at a cost of 50 cents per copy or 30c each in lots of 10 or more. The inside page "Of Historic Renown" is also reproduced from the booklet.

Students of Pacific Northwest history and residents of the "Old Oregon Territory" will find the booklet of considerable interest. Orders may be addressed to the Foundation at Box 357, Walla Walla.

Contributions for the statue fund (\$30,000) are solicited from all who are interested in commemorating the work of the pioneers. Contributions can be in any amount. Checks should be made payable to the **MARCUS WHITMAN FOUNDATION.**

Funds received from contributors in the State of Washington will be credited to county quotas assigned as part of the statewide program.

For additional information, write to

MARCUS WHITMAN FOUNDATION, Inc.

P. O. Box 357, Walla Walla, Washington

You Are Invited...

to join citizens of the State of Washington and other friends of Dr. Marcus Whitman in making a donation to the Whitman Statue Fund. The statue, authorized by the 1949 State Legislature, is to be the gift of the people and is to be unveiled in Statuary Hall, Washington, D. C., Sunday, April 29, 1951. You can share by filling in the subscription form at the right and sending your gift in at once and by encouraging others to do the same. You will also enjoy reading a copy of "The Story of Marcus Whitman."

...Thank You

MARCUS WHITMAN FOUNDATION, Inc.

Date.....19.....

P. O. Box 357, Walla Walla, Washington

Enclosed is check ☐, money order ☐, cash ☐, for \$.....
to cover the following:

.....copies of THE STORY OF MARCUS WHITMAN at 50c
each (30c in lots of 10 or more).

A donation to the Whitman Statue Fund to help pay for placing a statue
of Dr. Marcus Whitman in Statuary Hall, Washington, D. C.

Amount of subscription is \$.....
(\$1 to \$10, general donation. Foundation Memberships are \$10, \$25, \$100, over \$100.)

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