

January 17, 1956

Memorandum to: Members of
Publications Committee
Washington State Historical Society

Herman J. Deutsch
Della Gould Emmons
L. A. Kibbe
Howard Burnham
Click Relander

Robert Hitchman
Donald A. McDonald
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cc: Chapin Foster

At the last meeting of the Board of Curators we were given permission to proceed with a long range publication program, and to spend up to \$4,500 on the publication of an initial volume.

This presents us with quite a responsibility, and our resolve now should be to make our first venture so successful that we can be sure the program can continue from year to year.

What we face now is a task of selection. This is a three-fold matter--selection of subject matter, selection of publisher and selection of the best method of sale and distribution.

Number one must be the selection of material.

Because we want our first book to sell well, in order to get the publication program on a self-sustaining basis, it seems to me that we should make the initial selection with these considerations in mind:

1. Subject matter should be reasonably familiar to a large number of persons interested in Northwest history.
2. It should be illustrated.
3. The raw material, if we are to avoid long delays, should be in a form that will require a minimum amount of editing.

Looking over the list that Mr. Hitchman has prepared, one item stands out as suitable in all three of these respects. It is John Hussey's "Preliminary Survey of the History and Physical Structure of Fort Vancouver." Dr. Hussey is regional historian of the National Park Service and prepared this report, after extensive research, in the course of his official duties. It was published in mimeographed form, in an issue of 50, about the time the extensive archaeological digs were started at the fort under the direction of Louis Gaywood.

2. Publications Committee

The text runs to about 91,000 words. It contains also an excellent bibliography of Fort Vancouver material, and some 25 photographs, charts and drawings, most of which should be included in a printed volume. The quality of these illustrations are such that a Vancouver book might well be published in quarto size.

Hussey's writing is not copyrighted, but we should, of course, get his permission to undertake such a work, and give him a chance to make revisions.

Will each of you please send me your thoughts on this suggestion, and if you prefer some other material as our first publication effort, please feel free to express your opinion. Also I earnestly solicit your opinions and suggestions on the matter of design, sales and promotion efforts which will have to follow the publication.

Let us keep in mind that we are charged with the task of carrying on a long range publication program. We should plan far ahead, and be working on more than one manuscript at a time. The task of editing is time consuming and often tedious. Whoever undertakes an editing assignment would need many months for the completion of his work. Therefore, whatever may be our choice for an initial publication, let us think ahead to subsequent volumes. Then let us find competent people who will agree to undertake the editing.

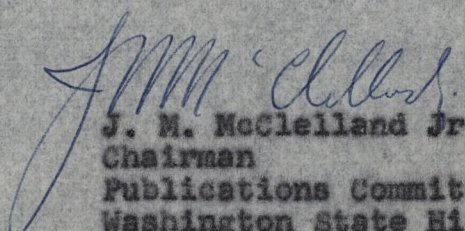
I am going to the East Coast next month and if I can work it in I plan to visit Yale Library and look over some of the items in the Coe collection and to confer with Librarian Babb about the possibility of our making use of some of this material.

The editing of Yale Library material would have to be handled from this distance through the use of microfilm. Thus it would be far preferable if we could find someone in or around Cambridge who would undertake such a task so that he might work with original manuscripts.

To the list of potential material which Mr. Hitchman has compiled, I would like to add the papers of George McClellan, pertaining to his surveys and travels in the State of Washington in the 1850s. These are in the Library of Congress and were displayed at the Library in connection with the observance of the Territorial Centennial.

May I hear from each of you soon.

JMMjr.
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J. M. McClelland Jr.
Chairman
Publications Committee
Washington State Historical
Society

SOME MATERIAL TO BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION

BY THE WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

COLLECTED PAPERS OF DR. CEYLON S. KINGSTON

Dr. Kingston was professor of history at Eastern Washington College. Soon after his death, an effort was made to publish a memorial volume of his papers on Pacific Northwest history. Because of lack of cooperation from the College Alumni, this project was not completed. The papers are scholarly and in most instances were printed in quarterlies with limited circulation or in newspapers. ✓

LETTERS OF EDWARD J. ALLEN, 1852-1853

Allen was a man of many interests: surveyor, roadbuilder, artist, author and a member of the Monticello Convention. In 1852 and 1853, he wrote a series of letters on this region that were published in the Pittsburgh Dispatch. These have been collected by Blanche Billings Mahlberg, Bellingham, whose article on Allen was published in the October 1953 issue of Pacific Northwest Quarterly.

"CAPTAIN GEORGE VANCOUVER," REAR ADMIRAL BERN ANDERSON

Recently Admiral Anderson received the degree of Ph.D. from Harvard. His thesis -- a biography of George Vancouver -- gives an excellent description of the state of the British Navy at the time of Vancouver's work, and a detailed account of Vancouver's explorations. Admiral Anderson used a large amount of unpublished material in the preparation of this study.

"PRELIMINARY SURVEY OF THE HISTORY AND STRUCTURE OF FORT VANCOUVER," DR. JOHN A. HUSSEY

Dr. Hussey is Regional Historian for the National Park Service. This study was issued several years ago in a mimeographed edition of some 50 copies: a book of 235 pages and 29 plates. It is of definite value to students of Northwest history, the fur trade and early commerce in this region.

"REMARKS ON BOARD THE SHIP VANCOUVER, 1804-1806," EBENEZER CLINTON

The Vancouver was sent to the Northwest Coast to meet Lewis and Clark, with orders from Jefferson to bring at least part of the company back to the East Coast. Clinton's account of the voyage is in Yale Library's Western Americana Collection (item 92, Withington Catalogue).

LETTERS OF GEORGE SUCKLEY

Suckley was naturalist of the Stevens Railroad Survey Expedition. His letters are in Yale Library's Western Americana Collection (item 461, Withington Catalogue). They describe the organization of the expedition and the transcontinental journey of 1853; life and adventures on the coast, 1854-1856; Indian Wars of the Northwest, 1854-1858; and Suckley's controversy with Stevens regarding the publication of the railroad reports. ✓

HENRY BRIDGMAN BREWER LETTERS

The collection of unpublished material recently acquired by the Society. Brewer was a member of the Methodist Mission in Oregon Territory and for several years was in charge of the station at The Dalles. Of great interest, but would require a good deal of editorial work to prepare for publication.

LETTERS FROM THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST, 1853-1858, DAVID AND CATHERINE P. BLAINE

Blaine was minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Seattle, from 1853 to 1856. After the Indian troubles, the Blaines moved to Oregon City. Their letters present an excellent picture of Seattle and the Pacific Northwest, with intimate details of life in a frontier settlement. Copies are in the collections of University of Washington Library, Seattle Historical Society and Yale Library (item 34, Withington Catalogue).

JOURNALS KEPT ABOARD U. S. SLOOP OF WAR PEACOCK, GEORGE FOSTER EMMONS

Emmons was acting lieutenant aboard the Peacock during her cruise with the Wilkes Expedition. He was a competent artist and his sketches of this region are of particular value. His account of the Expedition's visit to the Pacific Northwest would make an interesting volume. Emmons' papers are in Yale Library's Western Americana Collection (items 166-169, Withington Catalogue).

THE CORRESPONDENCE, JOURNALS AND PAPERS OF ELWOOD EVANS

The Winlock Miller, Jr. Collection of Elwood Evans' papers at Yale Library is a vast lot of material on early days in Washington. Because Evans was the region's foremost pioneer historian and one of the founders of the Society, it would be fitting to publish some of his papers. The principal problem would be to screen the collection and select the items of most interest and value. 6

JOURNAL OF THE VOYAGE OF H.M.S. DISCOVERY AND CHATHAM, 1791-1793, THOMAS MANBY

Manby sailed with Vancouver as mate on the Discovery and served later as master of the Chatham. The journal is in Yale Library's Western Americana Collection (item 325, Withington Catalogue). A copy of the log of the Chatham, 1792-1794, is in the British Columbia Provincial Archives.

LOG OF THE BRIGANTINE HOPE FROM BOSTON TO THE NORTHWEST COAST, JOSEPH INGRAHAM

The original is in the Library of Congress; a photostat copy is in the University of Washington Library. A brief account of the voyage, edited by Judge F. W. Howay, was published in the Washington Historical Quarterly, January 1920.

NARRATIVE OF AN OVERLAND JOURNEY TO FORT VANCOUVER AND LAPWAI IN 1836, HENRY HARMON SPALDING

A typewritten copy of this account (107 pp.) is in Yale Library's Western Americana Collection (item 436), Withington Catalogue). Apparently it was prepared for publication and would require a minimum of editing.