

RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 4 - 10, 1961:

THIS WEEK IN
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The flourishing town at the entrance of Duwamish Bay, called New York, is to be known henceforth by the name of "Alki", according to a news item in the Columbian of June 4, 1853. Charles C. Terry had made the announcement to the press while in Olympia. He stated that the borrowed name of New York was inappropriate, but that Alki, meaning "by-and -by", in a "little while," or "hereafter", was approved as its meaning applied significantly to a growing, hopeful place. He also said there was a new steam sawmill and that there were several new business houses being erected. This town later became Seattle. Mr. Terry was interested in a number of merchantile businesses and owned the first cracker mill. He had made the trip around the Horn to California in 1849, proceeded northward to Oregon and traveled with the Denny family to Puget Sound. He died in 1867, when only thirty-seven years of age.

RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 11 - 17, 1961:

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The printers of Oregon and Washington Territories met in convention Saturday evening, June 11, 1853, at Portland, Oregon for the purpose of organizing a typographical society. The association was to be known as the "Oregon and Washington Typographical Society." It was "Resolved ...That ... we as members, of this society will not work at the printing business for less prices than the old established rate of \$1500 per year, or \$5.00 per day... That, as members of the craft known as 'Art preservative of all arts,' we will protect each other in the same, and do all in our power to hinder any innovations among us... Resolved, That the proceedings of the meeting be presented for publication to the publishers of the papers in Oregon and Washington Territories. The meeting adjourned to meet the following Saturday at 7:00 p.m.

RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 18 - 24, 1961:

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The logging industry in Snohomish county was a thriving business, when back in 1870, there were fourteen logging camps. By June 24, 1876, there were nearly twice as many camps, with an increase of men working and the oxen used in proportion, which increased the output to a much greater ratio. A sawmill was built on the Pillchuck about a mile from Snohomish City. The first board sawed was presented to the Snohomish Atheneum for preservation as a souvenir. The first newspaper in the county, the Northern Star, came into existence at this time and during its two and one-half years of publication was responsible for much of the increase in population and business enterprise in the community.

RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 25 - JULY 1, 1961"

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The great railroad strike occurred in 1894 through sympathy with the Pullman Palace Car Company. The tie-up was so far reaching that all land traffic was almost completely blocked throughout the country. On June 28, 1894 the strike hit Ellensburg. Both passenger and freight transportation was brought to a standstill when every train was deserted by its crew. Among the delayed trains was a special of thirteen Pullman tourist sleeping cars, containing Brig. Gen. Curry and staff and eleven companies of state militia en route to attend the state encampment. The general had reported that he had engineers in his ranks capable of bringing in the train if need be. The trainmen were finally released from their obligations and brought the train through and two days later arrived at the Woodland camp in three contingents. Some of them lived west of the mountains and were only too glad to proceed. A costly bridge at Thorp was burned by the strikers, but for the most part the strike was conducted in an orderly manner.

RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 2 - 8, 1961:

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Washington citizens have occasion to celebrate the 4th of July doubly each year, not only as our nation's birthday, but to commemorate the first real movement made in the direction toward a new territory. The Americans at the head of Puget Sound met at Olympia in 1851 to honor this day with J. B. Chapman as orator. In his speech he referred to the "future state of Columbia" which set off a wave of enthusiasm among his hearers. A meeting followed to formulate plans to further the idea. Michael T. Simmons presided as chairman. It was decided to hold a convention in August at Cowlitz landing with representatives from all of the election precincts north of the Columbia river. Twenty-six delegates assembled and drew up a memorial which was sent to Congress. It was seemingly disregarded. A year passed and another convention held, this time at Montecello. Another memorial was sent to Congress which arrived there during the consideration of the first one, thus influencing Congress to create the new Territory of Washington. The name Columbia was changed to that of Washington because of possible confusion with the District of Columbia. Some thought was given to the confusion with Washington, D. C. and an amendment was reported for the bill suggesting the name Washingtonia. As time was short the amendment was withdrawn and the bill was passed by the Senate.

RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 9 - 15, 1961:

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Governor Isaac I. Stevens was elected to congress July 13, 1857, by an almost two to one majority vote. This was considered a complete vindication of the governor, who had been censored, even arrested, by a certain faction which disapproved his martial law proclamation during the Indian War. The supposedly neutral ex-employees of the Hudson's Bay Company who had Indian wives were in communication with the hostile Indians and probably relayed information to them, and thus interfered with the volunteers' scouting expeditons. A mass meeting was held in Olympia at which time a resolution was drawn up and signed endorsing the governor's action, then forwarded to the War department. The opposing faction sent in their resolution, also, but with only a small percentage of signatures compared to those on the resolution endorsing the governor's proclamation. While in congress, Stevens worked incessantly for the good of Washington Territory. He was re-elected in 1859.

RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 16 - 22, 1961:

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This year marks the golden anniversary of building the first unit of the Washington State Historical Society and Ferry Museum. The triangle of land on which it is erected had been purchased from the Tacoma School board July 16, 1910. Funds for this were made possible through the generosity of Col. Clinton P. Ferry who had willed 40 per cent of his estate to the museum. \$6,000 of the purchase price of \$10,000 for the grounds came from his estate, the remaining two fifths from Tacoma citizens. An additional \$3,500 had been retained in the estate account for upkeep of the museum. The 1909 legislature had appropriated \$25,000 for the construction of a State Historical Society building to be erected in Tacoma, provided that a suitable site was furnished without cost to the state, and that such site be deeded to the state of Washington. Five years later the Ferry Museum was completed with money made available through the Tacoma Women's clubs, Henry Hewitt, Jr. and Mrs. R. L. McCormick. The museum was transferred to the Washington State Historical Society early in the 1930's with an estimated worth of more than \$50,000 and its collections worth near \$500,000. Col. Ferry had collected works of art and many treasures in Europe with which the museum was started in 1891, and soon after it was located in the court house, he established free art classes at the museum.

RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 23 - 29, 1961:

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During the Civil War Centennial it is interesting to note that 100 years ago Washington Territory might have been the focal point of war with Great Britain. The idea was conceived in the mind of Gen. W. G. Harney whose plan was a patriotic attempt to divert the issues of civil strife then looming toward war between sections of our own country. When the general saw the American flag flying over the disputed territory of the San Juan Islands, he disembarked from the U. S. S. Massachusetts and learned of the threats of the Hudson's Bay Company men to arrest the American citizens because one of their straying pigs had been shot as it was destroying an American garden. Gen. George B. McClellan was responsible for the statement that the saving of San Juan was not the only motive of Gen. Harney at the time Capt. George Pickett arrived there July 27, 1859, with 60 men. McClelland said: "It is a fact not generally known, that the movements which are referred to here in the occupation of San Juan had their origin in a patriotic attempt on the part of Gen. Harney, Gov. Stevens, of Washington territory and other Democratic federal officers on that coast, with the knowledge and zealous concurrence of Capt. George Pickett to force a war with Great Britain, in the hope that sections of our contry would unite in a foreign war, and so avert the civil strife which they feared and saw approaching."

RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 30 - AUGUST 5, 1961:

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The first income tax law became official just one hundred years ago on August 5, 1861. President Abraham Lincoln approved the act which was levied to aid in financing the Civil war, the centennial of which is now being observed. The tax was 3 percent on incomes exceeding \$800 per year, with the president sharing in the deduction. His warrant for one month was deducted in the amount of \$61.00. By another act provided for an internal revenue tax of 3 percent on incomes in excess of \$600 for the support of the government and payment of interest on the public debt. Lincoln's warrant was then deducted \$101.00. In 1870 the income tax was $2\frac{1}{2}$ percent over an exemption of \$2000 and there was a total of 75,000 persons who paid. In the mid-nineties the United States Supreme Court declared the income tax unconstitutional, which was overcome by the adoption of the 16th amendment in 1913. Along about this time the young state of Washington began to lose its frontier aspect and became fused politically and economically with the nation.

RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 6 - 12, 1961:

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The history of the Provisional Government of Oregon, which included what is now Washington, is one of intense interest and shows the fortitude of the American pioneer. These settlers not only desired to improve their own condition, but to build up a solid foundation on which to establish for the United States a claim to the country. Early in the 1840's they met to form what became known as the Provisional Government of Oregon and which continued in operation until the treaty of 1846 removed every obstacle on the question of title to Oregon. The Provisional Government met in session as a legislative body, conducting such in regulation form. On August 11, 1845, Mr. Applegate evinced great excitement as he entered the hall where the house was proceeding with the orders of the day, and asked that the rules be suspended so he could introduce a bill to prevent dueling. The bill was read three times, passed in less than half an hour and delivered to the governor for his approval and signature. All this haste was due to a challenge to Dr. Elijah White by a young fellow for some real or imagined insult or injury. Dr. White was very grateful for the quick assistance rendered him in his unpleasant dilemma.

RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 13 - 19, 1961:

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It was the frontier movement toward settlement of the Oregon Question that brought the issue to a head. These pioneers were insistant that the federal laws, so essential in securing title to their lands, be extended to the Pacific Northwest territory. They demanded the termination of the joint occupation agreement between Great Britain and the United States which had been made primarily for the trapper and trader, and was not applicable to the settlers. Father Pierre Jean DeSmet, first Catholic bishop in Oregon, summed it up in his report of August 17, 1845: "In the Oregon question, 'John Bull' without much talk, attains his end and secures the most important part of the country; wheras 'Uncle Sam,' displodes a volley of words, inveighs and storms! Many years have passed in debates and useless contenticn, without one single practical effort to secure real or pretend rights." All these debates along with the settlers persistence finally brought the 1846 treaty and the end to the Oregon Question.

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The search for the Northwest Passage, long sought by early navigators, was not completed until August 27, 1905, when the Norwegian explorer, Captain Roald Amundsen successfully navigated the passage in the Gjoa, his little yacht of 47 tons. On that morning the memorable words, "Vessel in sight," were called out to him. Later he wrote: "The Northwest Passage had been accomplished - my dream from childhood. This very moment it is fulfilled . . . I could feel tears coming to my eyes. 'Vessel in sight!' The words were magical . . . 'Vessel in sight!' Juan de Fuca entered the strait which bears his name, and was certain it was the Straits of Anian, the Northwest Passage, which would be the water route from the Pacific to the Atlantic. A century later the Hudson's Bay Company was chartered in the hope of finding the passage through Canada's Hudson Bay. Another century later Captain Cook's instructions included a tempting reward should he find the illusive passage. All the early voyagers to the north Pacific searched in vain. It was in the mid-19th century when the route was discovered and another fifty years before it was navigated.

RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 27 - September 2, 1961;

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