

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES OF MEETING

BOARD OF CURATORS

May 4, 1968

The Board Meeting of the Washington State Historical Society was held at the Museum in Tacoma on May 4, 1968. Mr. Reno Odlin presided.

Present:

Mrs. Emmons	Mr. Burnham	Mr. McClelland	Mr. Gordon
Mr. Green	Dr. Deutsch	Mrs. Wanamaker	Mr. Dawley
Mr. Long	Mr. Relander	Dr. Carstensen	Mr. Shaub
Mrs. Scott	Dr. Thompson	Mr. Hastings	Mr. Le Roy
Dr. Whitner	Mr. Hitchman	Father Davis	

Minutes of the December 2, 1967 meeting were approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report was submitted by Mr. Gordon and approved as read. A copy of this report is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Library Committee: Mrs. Scott reported that the two Librarians' salaries have been upgraded twice since the December meeting. Since we are required to meet professional standards set by the State Personnel, we have raised their salaries accordingly. Unfortunately, our current budget allotment did not allow funds for these adjustments. Therefore, to meet the situation, we have cut back for the rest of the biennium on purchases of books, supplies and equipment.

New collections include two groups of Civil War letters (Minnesota Volunteers and Wisconsin Infantry); a fine collection of photo albums with pictures of the Alaska gold rush (many in Canadian territory - Yukon and British Columbia) - from 1898 to 1906; with these we received a fine run of "Gold-rush" newspapers - about four years in all.

Until the "cutback" we added books and other items regularly from a \$50 monthly library accessions fund. We plan to resume when possible. A number of otherwise unobtainable reference books have been purchased with memorial gifts or gifts honoring someone. Such were the gifts in honor of Mr. and Mrs. E. K. Murray's 50th Anniversary.

A rare map showing early 1900's "Postal Routes" was received. We have hopes of getting a collection of rare Northwest maps during 1968.

Our first library "Inventory" is just published. It is a checklist of the Ralph Chaplin Labor History Collection. It is free to all institutions requesting it.

Publications Committee: Mr. Hitchman reported that "The Pig War" book is just off the press. 5,000 copies were printed as we anticipate a large and steady sale when the new "San Juan National Historical Park" is opened to the public in 1970.

The next offering in the Northwest Historical Art Series is in preparation. Called "Forts and Trading Posts of the Pacific Northwest", the booklet will be sent around the country to those places where the art exhibit will be shown in 1968-69. As with the earlier titles, Mr. Le Roy is editing the publication.

Our next book, "Letters from Washington Territory", by James G. Swan, has been edited by William A. Katz, State Librarian of New York. The manuscript is expected daily and is being professionally typed.

The Sohon-Ewers book is well underway. This, when published, will be a very prestigious addition to our list. It is, as you know, a joint effort of the Society, the Smithsonian Institution and the University of Washington Press. Sohon was the artist at Stevens' Treaty Councils with the Indians.

Museum Committee: Mr. Shaub reported that several special exhibits held at the museum since the December Board Meeting include:

A display of items related to the contributions of the Negro to Pacific Northwest history. This was in celebration of Negro History Week.

Our rare "Fort Nisqually swivel gun", which has been under repair and reconstruction for three years, has been returned to the "Guns and Uniforms" display. The donated craftsmanship was provided by Mr. Francis Federico, of Tacoma.

Father Prouty has beautifully restored two rare Indian pipe tomahawks for us. They have been added to the "Guns and Uniforms" exhibit, since they illustrate the frontier period and the Indian Wars.

Mr. Ronald Ginther has donated five more watercolors portraying the depression period on Puget Sound. Our Director, Mr. Le Roy, is still looking for a sponsor to repay the \$2,500 advanced to the Society for the purchase of this important collection. You will remember that we were given \$1,000 and advanced the balance.

The ladies of the Early American Glass Club have completely changed their display in McCormick Hall. Board Members were invited to see this beautiful exhibit of colored glass.

To our already large collection of historic bells has been added another gift of 184 bells from the estate of Mrs. Mabel Bond Morrison. Our first bell exhibit is still displayed in McCormick Hall.

The only known portrait of General Matthew Morton McCarver has been loaned for display by Mrs. Virginia Maas. McCarver, the founder of Tacoma, will be featured during the Tacoma Centennial in 1969. Speaking of the Centennial, we have started to gather from all available sources early paintings, photographs, maps and artifacts related to Tacoma's 100th birthday.

In our art gallery we have had a number of very successful exhibits, including the "Depression Paintings of Ronald Ginther" already mentioned; the wood carvings of Christian Larson, of Bremerton. The current display is provided by the Pacific Gallery Artists and titled "Northwest Forts and Trading Posts". This is the fourth in an annual show of northwest historical art. Plans are being drawn for sending this fine show around the state and to other museums around the country. As has been reported, a catalog of this show is in preparation.

Scheduled to begin on May 19th will be the original Currier and Ives lithographs loaned to us by the Travelers Insurance Company. A folder about this exhibit has been mailed to every member of the Board. The originals will be supplemented by a number of reproductions from the Travelers collection.

In June and July the entire collection of Indian portraits by Nancy McLaughlin, a few of which are currently displayed, will be shown in the gallery.

We have not previously reported the assistance from the fine volunteers provided by the Junior League Volunteer Bureau. One lady assists in the library, one serves as a part time receptionist and another has been engaged in transcribing manuscripts. We continue to receive help from the Rock Hounds, who keep their exhibit in good operating condition, and occasionally make changes in the display; and we have had help in our maritime displays from Mr. Fred Rice, of Tacoma, and Mr. Ralph Hitchcock, of Seattle. Mr. Harvey Kyllonen has added to his display of Indian carvings from time to time. Additional help has been suggested as forthcoming from the Tahoma Archeological Society and the Railway Historical Society. We hope to work out special displays with both organizations.

For our maritime collection we have been given two ancient steam whistles - one from a clipper ship out of Gloucester, Massachusetts, and the other from an early Puget Sound tugboat.

Building Committee: Mr. Dawley reported that the building committee had met on two occasions. At the first meeting, Mr. Charles Pearson, of Lea Pearson & Richards, architects, was present for a good exchange of ideas with the committee. At the second meeting, Thomas Vaughan,

Director of the Oregon Historical Society, who had just successfully opened the new Oregon Heritage Center in Portland, was present. He spoke to the Executive and Building committees about experiences in Oregon, and answered many questions concerning our own problems with planning the new wing.

Mr. Dawley pointed out that 12% increase in building costs could be expected since the plans for the new wing were drawn. He used the architect's schematic drawings to illustrate his points. A Resolution, unanimously approved, named Lea Pearson & Richards, architects, of 240 South Stadium Way, Tacoma, as the official architects to build the new wing for the Washington State Historical Museum. The president was authorized to request General Services Administration in Olympia to draw up a contract.

Special Report: Mr. McClelland reported on the first meeting of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Statuary Hall. Members of this committee were appointed at the Governor's request by President Reno Odlin. A press release following the meeting was sent to news media, requesting all interested groups and individuals to submit their recommendations for nomination to Statuary Hall. It was requested that all individual nominations be accompanied by as much historical documentation as possible. A discussion followed, and a number of names which had been nominated were cited for the Board's information. The committee is expected to meet again in the near future and at regular intervals. Prior to the convening of the next Washington State Legislature it will report its findings and recommendations to the Governor.

Director's Report: Mr. Le Roy reported that this was the 10th Annual Meeting since he assumed directorship of the Society in 1958. His 10th report to the Annual Meeting was to be distributed that evening. Therefore, he summarized only briefly some of the directions the Society is moving in. These included an expanded publications program; stepped up acquisitions of historical manuscript and other research materials; acquisition of a number of major collections of artifacts. In reference to collections, he underlined the obligation of the Society to raise \$50,000 for casting Wehn bronzes and \$2,500 to reimburse the individual who made a grant of \$1,000 for purchase of the Ginther Collection of paintings of the depression. The grantor had advanced the Society \$2,500 as the balance of purchase price of the collection.

It was also reported that NDEA fellowships were being explored with the University of Puget Sound and Pacific Lutheran University, and that it is our plan to re-initiate a grant application for a study project on Indian history in the Pacific Northwest. This application was approved by the Board last year, but was temporarily sidelined by the foundation in question. Because of a change of administration in the foundation, our chances for this new grant, which will be worth between \$250,000 and \$400,000, spaced over a five year period, are once more excellent.



The Director pointed out that there will be special exhibits of new collections on view at the Annual Meeting to be held that evening at the Top of the Ocean.

New Business: Upon motion duly seconded the Board of Curators expressed its appreciation to Mr. Le Roy for his ten years of service to the Society.

Mr. Hastings announced that the newly remodeled museum in Bellingham, maintained by the Whatcom County Historical Society, would be reopening very soon.

Mrs. Wanamaker told the Board that the Washington State Artmobile would be traveling to various points in Pierce County for the next year.

Mr. Hitchman informed the Board about the appointment of Mr. Albert Culverwell to be new director of the Eastern Washington Historical Society, in Spokane. Mr. Culverwell, formerly supervisor of Interpretation for Washington State Park Service, is a long-time friend of several members of the Board and the Director.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

BL/am  
5/4/68

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES OF MEETING

BOARD OF CURATORS

August 3, 1968

The Board Meeting of the Washington State Historical Society was held at the Museum in Tacoma on August 3, 1968. Mr. Reno Odlin presided.

Present:

Mrs. Wanamaker	Mr. Allen	Mr. Long
Dr. Deutsch	Judge Hill	Mr. Dawley
Mrs. Weyerhaeuser	Dr. Thompson	Mr. Gordon
Mrs. Emmons	Mr. McClelland	Mr. Burnham
Mrs. Scott	Mr. Hitchman	Mr. Shaub
Mr. Green	Father Davis	Dr. Carstensen
Mrs. Anderson	Mr. Hastings	Mr. Le Roy
Dr. Mortvedt	Mr. E. K. Murray	

Minutes of the May 4, 1968 meeting were approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report was submitted by Mr. Gordon and approved as read. A copy of this report is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Library Committee: Mrs. Scott reported that new collections in the library since the May meeting include several years' business records of the Mentzer Brothers Lumber Company, of Tacoma. The firm was in business here for nearly 50 years. One interesting aspect of these papers is a series of legal briefs used during a lawsuit when bankruptcy proceedings were filed. Together with these records we received a number of interesting early Tacoma publications - newspapers, brochures and broadsides about the special celebrations in Tacoma. Mr. Le Roy and his son, Philip, spent Father's Day going through the attic of the old Mentzer home at the urgent request of the heirs, who were that day selling off the rest of the family possessions. They retrieved some six boxes of valuable historical material, while running up and down five flights of stairs through crowds of curious customers who were there for the auction.

From Mr. George Long and his sister, Helen Long, the library has received valuable runs of such magazines as Harpers, The Atlantic Monthly, and House Beautiful. The early Harpers magazines begin in the 1850's. They fitted neatly into the gaps in our existing collection. These magazines contain many articles on the opening of the West and the Puget Sound country. The Longs also plan to give us a small, very

good historical reference type book collection some day. We have already indicated to them what books would be important to our library.

Several fine collections of early photography have been received. These include the photographs and negatives of R. L. Boren, a pioneer Alaskan photographer. In this collection were also a number of excellent Darius Kinsey original photographs of the timber industry. From another source we received an album of E. A. Hegg pictures. He was the Alaskan photographer about whom Murray Morgan wrote in his recent book "One Man's Gold Rush". From the Great Northern Railway we were presented 39 rare large photographs of the construction of the railway over the Cascades. From Mr. Edward Young, of Steilacoom, we received two fine scrapbooks and photograph albums pertaining to the Philippine insurrection. This will supplement our great General James F. Smith Collection for the same historical period. Mr. Young also donated a bound copy of the 1902 edition of the "Dawson News".

From Donald Jansen we acquired his father's collection of original hand drawn linen topographical maps of the first government surveys in North Dakota - 576 of these plus 147 blueprints. Mr. Jansen also donated an interesting quilt upon which the earliest homesteaders embroidered their names at a farewell party.

From the library of Western State Hospital we were permitted to photocopy rare maps and pictures showing the history of Fort Steilacoom and later of the State Hospital.

The library has been able to assist one publisher with what will become 60 pages of illustrations for "Green Timber", the autobiography of Thomas Ripley, which contains much early history of Tacoma. Mrs. Ottilie Markholt, a labor historian, is completing a massive two volume history of maritime labor in the Pacific Northwest, and has received much help from our library. Dr. Clifford Drury continues his research on a new edition of his biography of Marcus Whitman. He has given us a number of interesting items gathered in his researches, which pertain to the Whitman Massacre, including a copy of an hitherto unknown letter by Joe Meek, fur trader and frontier marshall, when he reported the massacre to Narcissa Whitman's parents, Judge and Mrs. Prentiss.

As reported at our last meeting, we have carried out our plan to distribute copies of the inventory of the Ralph Chaplin papers to the leading historical depositories in the country. We still have copies for distribution upon request.

Publications Committee: Mr. Hitchman announced that "Forts and Trading Posts of the Pacific Northwest" was just off the press, and that a copy was available for each member present at the Board Meeting. This is the fourth in the northwest historical art series. The current booklet is illustrated by pictures which were exhibited in our gallery this spring. A number of museums around the country will exhibit these special Pacific Gallery Artists shows, and it is expected that copies of the booklet will be sold wherever the exhibit is presented.

We are reading the manuscript of the letters and reports of James G. Swan, which were edited for publication by Dr. William Katz, Assistant State Librarian of New York. We have an interesting possibility for publishing this book at small cost to the Society.

"Green Timber", the autobiography of Thomas Ripley, lumber company pioneer from Tacoma, is being published by The American West. They offered our Society an opportunity to share the publication as a co-imprint with our name on the title page. Rather than sharing the costs of publication, we are committed to the purchase of 500 copies of the book. We will receive a 52% discount through the kindness of the Ripley family, which has waived its royalties for the 500 copies we purchase. If this is a successful venture, The American West is prepared to make a similar agreement on our forthcoming publication, the Swan book. This is an excellent technique for broadening our list of publications, making scarce historical materials available, and at small cost to the Washington State Historical Society.

Mr. Hitchman reported that "The Pig War", edited by Dr. Keith Murray, has received several excellent reviews. The book is beginning to sell well, and when the new San Juan National Historic Park is opened next year, the book should become a best seller. The National Park Service has asked permission to reproduce three of the illustrations from our book in a brochure now being prepared for distribution at the new park. The credits will help to publicize "The Pig War" booklet.

We have just received the manuscript of the McLoughlin letters from William Sampson. Dr. John Ewers, of the Smithsonian Institution, is hard at work on our Sohon publication. He expects to deliver the manuscript in September.

The Board unanimously approved the report of the publications chairman. The cooperative agreement with The American West Publishing Company, with which our Society will co-sponsor the publication of "Green Timber", was approved. This special arrangement will serve as a test for publishing some of our books cooperatively with this company in the future.

Museum Committee: Mr. Roe Shaub, chairman of the museums committee, asked committee member Mrs. Pearl Wanamaker to make the report. Mrs. Wanamaker reported that the Maritime Wing on the second floor of the museum has been completely remodeled. The gift of six new cases saved us about \$2,000 and provided modern display facilities. Several collections of non-northwest ship models and artifacts were returned to people who had loaned them many years ago. Now displayed instead are the beautiful Hitchcock models "S.S. Flyer" and "S.S. North Pacific", etc.; sailmakers' tools and equipment from the Larsen Brothers, whose business just closed after 65 years in Tacoma; whistles from an early clipper ship and a tugboat; Hewitt Jackson's paintings of historic ships; a large mural type map of Puget Sound painted by our staff artist, Kenn Johnson. We plan to reproduce blown up copies of early artists' pictures of exploring expeditions to the Northwest Coast,



and to display from our early photograph collections pictures of some of the ships that once plied these waters. The Tacoma News Tribune had a fine picture story in last Sunday's paper (July 28th). Some collections have been offered since the story appeared.

Three new sculptures from the Wehn Collection have been received or are enroute. Two are Indian themes - "The Chant" and "The Interpreter"; the other is "The Lazy Clam Digger". The Clam Digger was cast in bronze with funds for the purpose provided by the Altruia Club of Tacoma. Casting of the Wehn bronzes continues as money becomes available for the project. Any organization or individual can help with contributions of \$100 for casting smaller pieces, up to \$500 for the major items in the collection.

Dr. Cory has written, offering to send more stamps to add to the Cory Collection which he gave us earlier. He sends best wishes to his former colleagues on the Board.

The current art exhibit in our gallery is Indian portraits of Crow, Blackfoot, Piegan and Blood Indians of the Pacific Northwest. These were done by Nancy McLaughlin, who illustrated the book "Piegan" which was published not long ago by Doubleday. It's a great show. It comes down next week, and we call it to your attention while you are here. The next exhibit in our gallery will be a group of famous western artists, paintings by Paxson, Ralston and Ziegler. The show was arranged with the help of Mr. Fred Giessel, a Tacoma collector.

As preparation for our move to the new wing, we have launched a new inventory of our entire collections. The grant from the Soroptimist Club, supplemented by a gift from Miss Helen Long, enabled us to give a working scholarship to a University of Washington student this summer. Mr. Le Roy has the inventory as far as it has been completed, and we will be happy to show it to any interested Board Member. In this way, rather than using the obsolete card files, we can evaluate items and collections to determine what should be featured in the new wing, or what should be returned to storage. Already we have weeded out quite a few things which were here on renewable loans, and returned them to the lenders. The Director says that we are trying to avoid taking items on a loan basis for a long time. They are expensive in terms of personnel time, preservation and bookkeeping. The same inventory has also resulted in the offer of new, more relevant collections of northwest history.

The NDEA fellowships discussed in the May meeting will commence in the fall school term. We expect to expand greatly the use of students performing in-service training programs here at the museum, in the future. They will work under careful supervision of the staff. Mr. Le Roy will report on the new outdoor museum exhibit which is now underway.

New Wing Drive: President Reno Odlin reported on progress toward funds for the new wing. He stated that the Society had passed its required goal of \$339,000 and was well along on its way toward achieving the goal of \$500,000 set by the Board. The additional funds would be required to meet increased building costs and to help to furnish the new wing.

Mr. Murray suggested that the State be asked to match the \$500,000 when raised finally by the Society. Discussion followed. Mr. Dawley stated that he thought it would be difficult to get additional funds for this purpose from the Legislature. It was pointed out that we had committed the Society, and the State had approved, to a \$339,000 matching program. It was suggested that the matter be considered and some decision reached before the December meeting. Mr. Le Roy commented that all requests for capital budget improvements through the Central Budget Agency had to be made to that agency by July 1st, a date now past. There is always a possibility, however, of asking the Governor to include an additional \$161,000 in his request to the Legislature. President Odlin informed the Board that he and Mr. Le Roy expected to see the Governor before the final budget decisions are made in Olympia.

Director's Report: Mr. Le Roy recommended that the Society establish a special recognition to major donors to the new wing building fund. As a long time member of the New-York Historical Society, he had received information about "The Pintard Fellows" established by that organization. These "fellows" receive a beautiful certificate from the New-York Historical Society recognizing "a distinguished contribution to scholarly research and the preservation of New York state history". The Washington State Historical Society could honor large contributors in a similar way, calling the class of donors "The \_\_\_\_\_ Fellows". The Board unanimously approved the establishment of a category with a certificate to be given to any individual contributing \$500 or more to the building program of the Washington State Historical Society. Mr. Hitchman suggested three names as possibilities for the new "fellows". (Secretary's note: the "David Douglas Fellows" was adopted in discussions following the meeting.)

The Director showed the working sketch for the new Indian Village and Pioneer Transportation Exhibit to be erected on the grounds of the museum. The Indian totems and lodge will be in a natural setting of trees. The early transportation, i. e. stagecoach, hansom cab, wagons, etc., will be displayed with the Stadium wall as background. Kenn Johnson will paint a mural on the wall to complement the exhibit. The Boy Scouts (Order of the Silver Arrow) and their fathers will assist in the construction of the rustic type sheds to protect the exhibits. A ramp leading from the Japanese Garden will make access easy for the public. The entire area is enclosed by a woven wire fence constructed for us several years ago by the City of Tacoma. We will ask them to move the fence back and extend it behind the trees to furnish adequate protection for the outdoor exhibit.

Christian Larson, whose carvings we showed sometime ago, is working on a large wooden basrelief depicting the Lewis & Clark Expedition. He will present this to the Washington State Historical Society, perhaps at our next Annual Meeting. It will be a marvelous addition to our displays.

Mr. Le Roy spoke about the forthcoming budget and the request for four new staff positions: assistant director, librarian, assistant custodian and one position combining educational tours and acquisitions.

Mrs. Scott and the Director showed the Board the large reproduction of "The Protestant Ladder". The original is in the collections of the Oregon Historical Society, who gave permission for us to copy it and use it for display purposes. Kenn Johnson made the copy.

As a token of his appreciation for loyal support during ten years of directorship, Mr. Le Roy on behalf of himself and Mrs. Le Roy, presented a painting of early Tacoma by Mr. O. H. Coughlan. Based upon original lithograph, the painting was commissioned to mark also the forthcoming Centennial of Tacoma history.

We are still trying to raise funds to purchase the Ginther Collection of paintings of the depression period. Our obligation is \$2,500. We are also trying to add to the Wehn "casting in bronze" fund so that these valuable pieces of sculpture can be displayed as soon as possible.

The Director briefed the Board on the fellowship program for students, which was touched upon in Mrs. Wanamaker's report. The prospect for expanding this program is very good, since the Society is being considered for a major grant from a national foundation, which will help partially to supplement the NDEA program and grants from private organizations.

It was reported that negotiations are underway with the daughter of Tyler Hobucket, famed Indian dancer. She had deposited three rare Wolfhead masks and was threatening to withdraw them because four Olympic Peninsula tribes were disturbed (Quinault, Queets, Makah and Quilleute). It is likely she will decide to leave the masks here permanently, but at this point no decision has been received from the lady, who lives in New Jersey. (The finest one of the three masks was displayed in the library for this meeting.)

One of the joys of being a historical director comes with such controversies as this about the Indian masks. Almost simultaneously in the mail came an offer to purchase any surplus scalps we had in our collection. We are not sure if there was a connection, or if the scalp sought for was the Director's!

Mr. Le Roy reported that he had written in May to every active presidential candidate, asking him to make a contribution for posterity to our Presidential Collection. The purpose was clearly stated in the letter to the candidates. Very interesting replies have been received from President Johnson (written at the time of his withdrawal), Vice President Hymphrey, Senator McCarthy and Governor Rockefeller. Nixon Headquarters sent several printed speeches and a covering letter; Wallace Headquarters sent speeches without a letter. Governor Reagan's office replied that "the Governor is not an active candidate for president". The death of Senator Kennedy precluded any answer from him. We are asking James Whittaker, Washington campaign manager for Robert Kennedy, to give us a signed copy of the eulogy he delivered at the state Democratic Convention.

In our inventory we discovered a rare movie film of Ezra Meeker and his famous ox team just prior to World War I, in 1915. We are having the film checked by experts to determine whether or not it can be shown, or should be reproduced, in order to preserve it for future showings. It was a great find! Meeker's letter about the film itself was located in the Meeker inventory now underway in our library, as was a beautiful letter concerning his collecting activities for the Society. At one point Mr. Meeker thought he had secured the entire James G. Swan collection of historical manuscripts. We don't know what happened to that deal, but the collection is now at the University of Washington. The connection of Professor Meany with the Society, and the Society collections he transferred without permission (?) to the University of Washington Library is one that is being explored in depth.

The date of the meeting of the Western History Association, October 17th through 19th at Tucson, Arizona, was announced. Robert Hitchman and George Tweney, of the Society, will participate in a national panel on geographic place names and their importance in historical research.

New stationery containing the changes of membership on the Board is now in process and will be distributed before long.

New Business: Mr. McClelland, chairman of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Statuary Hall, reported on the activities of the committee. The next meeting would be scheduled in September. A list of current nominations was read to the Board. President Odlin stated that he hoped that the committee would not "foreclose the future" by ruling out forever the prospect of some eminent figure in Northwestern history who might even be living now, from eligibility for nomination to Statuary Hall. Mr. Murray said that he considered it was necessary for this committee to take action now, and that he did not see any need for postponing such an important decision to some distant date. Discussion followed. It was pointed out that Washington is a "new state", comparatively speaking. Mr. McClelland stated that more nominations would be solicited from the people of the state, and that the committee would bring its recommendations to the Board for consideration in December.

If the Board approves the nominations or action of the committee, the Governor will be informed. He may then, at his discretion, make recommendations to the 1969 Washington State Legislature.

Mr. Murray reported that he had examined the architect's contract as submitted by General Services Administration for the design of the new wing. He mentioned that the original contract was an engineering contract sent in error by that department, but that this had been corrected and the contract approved. Lea Pearson and Richards, Architects, of Tacoma, were selected as the official architects for the new wing.

President Reno Odlin called the attention of the Board to the fact that Bruce Le Roy had just completed ten years of service as Director of the Washington State Historical Society. The Board asked that its unanimous thanks be expressed to Mr. Le Roy, and directed that President Odlin write a letter of commendation to be attached to the minutes of the August, 1968 meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

BL/am



WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES OF MEETING

BOARD OF CURATORS

November 30, 1968

The Board Meeting of the Washington State Historical Society was held at the Museum in Tacoma on November 30, 1968. Mr. Reno Odlin presided.

Present:

Mrs. Anderson	Dr. Mortvedt	Dr. Burke
Dr. Keith Murray	Mr. Relander	Mr. Hastings
Mr. Allen	Dr. Thompson	Mr. Sherwood
Mrs. Emmons	Mr. McClelland	Mr. Dawley
Mrs. Scott	Mr. Hitchman	Mr. Gordon
Mr. E. K. Murray	Dr. Carstensen	Mr. Le Roy
Mr. Burnham	Mrs. Wanamaker	

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report was submitted by Mr. Gordon and approved as read. A copy of this report is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Library Committee: Mrs. Scott reported that since September the library has had the help of several students from the University of Puget Sound who are on work-study projects. This, as you know, is partially financed by NDEA grants. The students have been helpful in sorting early photograph negatives, organizing the scrapbook collection, and working on the historical clippings files.

Mrs. Mary Kaufman, who has been a fine volunteer assistant for about three years, has been joined by Mrs. Laura May. Mrs. May is a trained librarian with a Master's Degree and some experience in historical society libraries. She is interested in joining our staff at such time as the new budget makes it possible. Mrs. Kaufman has just completed the written inventory of the C. P. Ferry papers. This collection contained several items of extreme importance to Tacoma's Centennial Celebration in 1969. They were: (1) The original plat for Tacoma in which the name "Commencement City" was scratched and the name "Tacoma" inserted. It is signed by Matthew M. McCarver, the "father of Tacoma". (2) Plans drawn by Frederick Law Olmstead, a famous eastern architect, which would have laid out Tacoma on a completely different plan from that which was finally adopted. Tacoma would have been a city of broad boulevards, parks and few hills, under the Olmstead plan. These plats and plans were here for the examination of the Board on the morning of the meeting.

Mrs. Roberta Mattison has donated diaries and books which belonged to her father, Mr. Enoch R. Holland. The 30 diaries were written from 1861-1916. Unfortunately, Mr. Holland said little of historical importance. But he certainly covered a span of American history.

From Dick Roberts the library received some very valuable reference books on arms, armor and military equipment. Miss Helen Long contributed an additional large number of magazines (some bound sets) and booklets. In the materials given us by the Longs is a fascinating article by George Long, Sr., telling about the activities of the "Spruce Division" for the United States Air Corps in World War I. Mr. Long coordinated the program for the lumber industry of the Pacific Northwest. We hope to see the article in our PACIFIC NORTHWEST QUARTERLY, as it is beautifully written and tells a much neglected story of one contribution from this area to the war effort.

Mrs. Jpnes donated papers from the collection of the late Dr. Leon K. Jones, former Board Member. From Bert Kellogg, of Port Angeles, we have received the beginning of a collection of historical photographs. Mr. Kellogg, who has been nearly blind for 40 years, is an expert photographer. He intends to donate the balance of his collection of photographs of the towns, industries and Indians of the Olympic Peninsula to the Society. In his collection were two originals from S. F. Morse, Indian Agent at Neah Bay for many years. The Society already owns nearly 700 original Morse early photographs of the Neah Bay Indians. It is one of our many important photograph collections.

We have added to our WPA archives the "control papers" of Mrs. Elizabeth Covey, who was coordinator for the program of the Pierce County Branch. Mr. Frank Green, our librarian, has completed the inventory of the Ezra Meeker Collection, which is ready for publication. Mr. Hitchman, our publications chairman, had more to say about that in his report.

As part of our exchange program, the South Dakota Historical Society has given us 21 pictures of the building of the Diablo Dam. Mrs. May has completed the inventory of the Edwin Fuller papers. We plan to organize his extensive scrapbook collection next. Mr. Fuller was an early Secretary of the Society. Some of the rare colonial and revolutionary newspapers in our collections were gathered by Mr. Fuller. His scrapbooks are marvels of source material, inasmuch as he indexed them all.

Publications Committee: Mr. Hitchman reported that the Western History Conference at Tucson gave us an opportunity for a conference with the publisher, Mr. George Pfeiffer, and the editor, Mr. Roger Olmsted, of The American West Publishing Company. We expressed pleasure with the arrangement which produced GREEN TIMBER as a cooperative venture between the publishing company and the Washington State Historical Society. (Copies of the book are on sale at our book counter.) We discussed the possibility of future cooperative publications. The manuscript of James Swan reports, edited by Dr. W. A. Katz, will be sent to The

American West for consideration shortly. This has been deferred until additional material could be added to the book. We have sold 182 copies of GREEN TIMBER to date. We expect to sell the rest of our copies without any problem. Orders continue to come in and Tacoma's 1969 Centennial will undoubtedly present the question of whether or not a Centennial Edition should be published.

Dr. Ewers, of the Smithsonian Institution, told us at Tucson that he expects to place the manuscript on Gustavus Sohon in our hands by September, 1969. This is our joint publishing venture with the University of Washington Press and the Smithsonian Institution.

Frank Green, our Librarian, has completed an inventory of the Ezra Meeker Collection. This will be published similarly to the Ralph Chaplin Inventory. The manuscript runs to 54 pages. It will be in booklet form and distributed to libraries and scholars.

Our Society has been well represented in stories published about our collections in THE AMERICAN WEST the past few months. Articles include features about Ralph Chaplin and Ezra Meeker.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer and The Tacoma News Tribune have also published several articles about our collections.

Mr. Hitchman also cited sales figures for all in-print, publications to date.

Museum Committee: Mr. Poe Shaub, chairman of the museums committee, asked committee member Mrs. Pearl Wanamaker to report for the committee. Mrs. Wanamaker announced that the missionary history exhibit in McCormick Hall has been revised. Cases have been moved to form an island, opening up the exhibit for better viewing. Reproductions of the famous "Protestant and Catholic Ladders" which were used by the missionaries to instruct the Indians have been hung in the exhibit. The Catholic Ladder is a facsimile of one which was used by Father Blanchet at Fort Nisqually. This was found by Edward Huggins, the last Factor at the Fort. The Protestant Ladder was reproduced from the original at the Oregon Historical Society. That was created by Eliza Spalding for use at the Lapwai Mission on the Clearwater River in present Idaho. The cases contain original artifacts from early missionaries - the Whitmans, the Spaldings, Jason Lee and the early Catholic Fathers. The painting by W. H. Gilstrap, showing Cushing Bells ministering to the Indians, has been cleaned.

Three newly cast pieces of James Wehn sculpture have been placed on display. They are "The Interpreter", "The Lazy Clam Digger", and "The Chant". Some are displayed in the Stevens Exhibit in McCormick Hall. The others are with the Indian exhibits on the fourth floor. The project of raising funds for casting the Wehn Collection continues. Small grants have been made by the Altrua Study Club of Tacoma and several individuals.

During the fall political campaign, original manuscripts from or pertaining to all the leading presidential candidates were displayed on the main floor. In addition, a fine collection of presidential songs, beginning with James Garfield and running through the Eisenhower administration, have been on display in an adjacent case.

A large oil painting of a public market place in Vietnam has been displayed in Washington Hall. The artist is Robert Rittenhouse, a young but very talented artist from Tacoma.

A special display of the pictures which were used in our new book GREEN TIMBER was set up in the cases leading to the library. In the adjoining case is a display of photographs received as a gift from the Great Northern Railway. They were taken in 1892 during the construction of the "switchback" on Stevens Pass.

On the Indian floor we have placed two winsome Indian girls beside the Yakima teepee. They are dressed in Yakima and Shoshone deerskin clothing. (The Shoshoni is visiting her Yakima cousin. The Yakima squaw is crouching.)

The family of Tyler Hobucket has agreed to place the three rare Indian masks on permanent deposit. They are displayed in an upper glass case on the Indian floor. You will recall the tribal controversy concerning these masks, which was reported earlier. Fortunately, the problem has been peacefully settled.

The Nancy McLaughlin portraits of Blackfoot, Crow and Piegan Indians were displayed through August. In October and November our gallery exhibited the watercolors and sketches of Ralph Bishop, Spokane architect. Mr. Bishop created a number of the early sketches some 30 years ago when he was a student in Tacoma. The later landscapes are primarily eastern Washington scenes, though there are some interesting paintings of Puget Sound ferry boats. His brother is a ferry boat captain.

The new show in the gallery, which will remain during December and January, has as a theme "The Folk Art of the Pacific Northwest". More than half of the show is from the private collection of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Le Roy. The others are from permanent collections of the Society. The primitive artists represented in the exhibit are mostly unknowns. The subject matter of the paintings displayed is primarily Northwest history.

Statuary Hall Committee: Mr. McClelland reported that the Governor's Advisory Committee on Statuary Hall had received 17 nominations of individuals to be considered. From this group the committee selected five names. They were: Ezra Meeker, Chief Joseph, Isaac Stevens, James Swan and William Boeing. It was determined later, however, that William Boeing is clearly ineligible, inasmuch as he has not been dead for 25 years, which is a requirement for Statuary Hall.

Chairman McClelland recommended that the briefs (which were submitted for the four names - some of which had been prepared by the committee members) be reproduced and sent to members of the Board. A ballot would accompany the brief, with room for comments or statements should none of the nominees be selected. A resolution to this effect was unanimously approved, and the Director advised to circulate the briefs.

Building Committee: Mr. Dawley reported for the building committee concerning the meetings which have been held. Arrangements are being made for a survey of the property whereon the new wing will be constructed. These arrangements are being handled by General Services Administration. One thing that Mr. Dawley noted was that an elevation be provided so that if the original museum is replaced in the future, it can be done with allowance for this future expansion. He also stated that the original plans would be modified to provide for installation of a second elevator shaft in the new wing. This would make it possible for an elevator to be added later.

Following Mr. Dawley's report, Mr. E. K. Murray stated his opinion that the Board should have requested matching funds from the State for all the funds raised from local sources. A lengthy discussion of the problems involving the new wing ensued. President Odlin pointed out that grants and gifts would be sought from corporations, foundations and individuals to provide specific items for furnishing the new wing.

Director's Report: Mr. Le Roy reported that in October the museum went on a new hourly schedule and continued through November. The museum was open every Wednesday evening. The schedule will probably be resumed in January. The purpose was to be more accessible to working people who find it difficult to visit the museum by day. As part of the new program, the Northwest History Lecture Series began in October. In the Board Members' folders were copies of the news stories about the October and November programs. Both were highly successful. The Lewis & Clark lecture attracted nearly 200 people, and we had to turn away a number of late comers, for lack of room. The lectures will be scheduled once a month on Wednesday evening. Mr. Le Roy announced that a notice of the lectures from January to June of 1969 will be mailed to all the membership and an interested mailing list, in January.

The work-study program carried on in cooperation with the University of Puget Sound is proceeding successfully. Six students have been of great assistance in various phases of the Society program. Several students have assisted in the library with various much needed chores. One student has assisted Mrs. Williams with school tours. One student is assisting in the museum inventory, etc. All have been helpful at the Wednesday night openings. This program is partially financed by a grant from the National Defense Act, administered through the University of Puget Sound. Students are receiving valuable training in museum professional techniques.



The inventory of artifacts in the museum collections and displays has advanced to the point where it fills 227 pages. Everything on display is inventoried. We are now working on the artifacts in storage. This is being performed in an effort to help in planning for the projected move to the new wing. A grant is forthcoming from the Soroptimist Club of Tacoma to assist in grants to students working on the inventory.

Two new county historical societies have been formed in the state concurrent with a visit from the Director. They are Franklin County (Pasco) and Lincoln County (Davenport). This brings to 39 the number of local and county historical societies organized with the help of the Washington State Historical Society. As our new budget permits, our assistance to these societies will be increased through visits and professional consultation and workshops.

The Governor's Council on Historic Sites met at Shelbanks in October. Representatives from many of the county historical societies were present. The speaker was Dr. William Murtagh, Keeper of the National Register, from Washington, D. C. He briefed the conference on the procedures for implementing the national Historic Sites Program. Our Society arranged for the appointment of representatives from all local and county historical societies to channel information for compiling an inventory of historic sites in the state of Washington. Shelbanks will be scheduled for additional conferences and workshops during the coming year.

The first presentation of our Captain Robert Gray medal to Dr. Clifford M. Drury was cited by the Arthur Clark Publishing Company in a biographical brochure about Dr. Drury, which was mailed around the country. Copies were mailed to all members of the Board recently. The news release concerning the award to Dr. Drury and Father Davis at the last Annual Meeting was widely published. Gonzaga University also sent out a release concerning Father Davis and the award.

As probably most of you know, Mr. Joshua Green, our distinguished Board Member, has been named "Man of the Century" by the City of Seattle. We would like to express our warm congratulations to Mr. Green at the beginning of his 100th year, and to say what a privilege it has been to serve with him for the good of the Washington State Historical Society.

At this point a unanimous resolution of the Board expressed congratulations to Mr. Joshua Green, Sr. on his approaching 100th birthday. It was further resolved that Mr. Green be named the first David Douglas Fellow of the Washington State Historical Society in recognition of his many contributions.

The Committee on Statuary Hall met at the museum in October. Nominees were narrowed to five. Subsequent research indicates that one nominee, William Boeing, was ineligible because the national

regulation requires that a nominee be dead for at least 25 years. Mr. Boeing died in 1954, and would not, therefore, become eligible for nomination until 1979.

The Rubie Pedersen Johnson sketches of early Tacoma and vicinity which were displayed here a few months ago and are now part of our permanent collections will be reproduced, in part, by the Junior League of Tacoma on stationery honoring the Tacoma Centennial. Full credit will be given to our Society. Also in regard to the Tacoma Centennial in 1969, plans have been made for placing exhibits in various places around the city. A special city-wide program lasting a week has been projected by the Tacoma Centennial Committee. Our Society is involved with the planning. Among other things, special television and radio programs will feature certain of the Society's collections pertaining to the Centennial.

As you know, Mr. James A. Wehn will be honored at the luncheon following the Board Meeting. He was nominated and unanimously elected by the American Association For State And Local History for national recognition of his contributions to Pacific Northwest history through his great collection of sculpture. Our Society, the permanent home for the Wehn Collection, is likewise honored through this recognition of Mr. Wehn.

Mr. Le Roy informed the Board that the historic painting of Tacoma which he and Mrs. Le Roy commissioned and presented to the Society in August was a token of appreciation for the fine support he had received for the ten years of his directorship.

New Business: President Odlin told the Board about the visit that he and Mr. Le Roy made to the office of Governor Evans. The Governor promised to help the Society with a \$5,600 grant from emergency funds before June, 1969. The grant will fund the salary increases determined at the beginning of the current biennium by the State Department of Personnel, which were inadequately financed, and help to pay inflationary costs for museum maintenance.

Governor Evans also hopes to allocate at least \$100,000 from State surplus funds at the end of the current biennium to assist in meeting the expanded costs of constructing the new wing. The Governor also fully understands the need for additional staff members to be employed to assist in the period of transition to the new wing. These requests were incorporated into our budget, together with the increased costs which will result from the expanded program of the Society when the new wing is opened for business.

Dr. Burke presented the first publication from the Emil Sick lecture series at the University of Washington. This was based on lectures on historical geography presented by Donald Meinig. The gift was accepted with thanks.

President Odlin informed the Board that each member would receive a copy of the beautiful new "Port of Tacoma" booklet just being distributed by the Puget Sound National Bank. This booklet traces the history of the port and its contributions to Tacoma.

Mrs. Eva Anderson distributed gift copies of her latest publication concerning a recent world trip. Copies were left for mailing to absent members of the Board, and these have now been distributed by mail.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The Board met for luncheon in honor of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Wehn. Mr. Wehn was presented with the second David Douglas Fellowship and a Certificate of Commendation from the Association For State And Local History.

BL/am

To fill the place vacated by Mrs. Elizabeth Taplin, who resigned because of illness, Mrs. Olga Williams has been employed. She comes to us highly recommended after 15 years of teaching in Tacoma schools. She will be in charge of school tours and the accessions program. Since early Spring, we have had the welcome services of Mrs. Marilyn Hardage, who will be leaving us when her husband is discharged from the Air Corps next month. Mr. Frank Green is being considered for the position of Librarian. Mr. Green has a Master's Degree in Librarianship and several years of professional experience. Our program will be much helped by these new people.

New Business: President Odlin called on Mr. Murray to explain to the Board about his correspondence and interviews with Miss Ruth Entz concerning the proposed gift of the property "Shelbanks" near Bremerton. Mr. Murray explained that he had assisted and advised in the preparation of a deed of gift. If the Board accepts this gift, half will be presented on September 1st, the other half January 1, 1967.

Mr. Le Roy explained the significance to the Society, its value as a historical conference and seminar site. Here the local societies, amateur and professional historians can meet occasionally under Society sponsorship. Several members of the Board have already visited this site and agree as to its historical and natural beauty value. The property includes a large, well preserved cabin, approximately 3 acres of timber on a beautiful stretch of level waterfront on Ostrich Bay. Acquisition of this site is in keeping with the expanded program of the preservation of historic sites throughout the country. It is probable that foundation grants will be available to assist in the preparation of special programs at Shelbanks in future.

President Odlin, upon motion duly seconded, received unanimous approval from the Board that the gift of "Shelbanks" be accepted by the Board of Curators on behalf of the Washington State Historical Society. Mr. Murray was instructed, as Attorney for the Board, to complete the negotiations with Miss Ruth Entz.

Mr. Dawley briefed the Board on his meetings with the State Committee for Proposition 15. This group is publicizing the proposition which calls for a bond issue which will provide funds to various state institutions for capital improvements. The Society will receive \$339,000 which must be matched by private contributions to provide for the building of a new wing. Considerable discussion followed and the Board members agreed to help publicize Proposition 15.

Mr. McClelland recommended that the Society initiate and sponsor some historic excursions during the summer months. He recommended that an excursion to historic ports on Puget Sound be considered as a beginning next summer. Mr. Hitchman mentioned that the Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society already has this excursion as an annual event. He suggested that the two societies might co-sponsor such a program.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

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Red maple & painting:

Hewitt Jackson.

Ser. Arthur Bernay - (Hudson By 6)  
 Ser. Russell Chatter - (Spain)  
 Irving Robbins - New York (Spain)  
 Lewis Tucker - (Albany)

Shell banks =

$\frac{100}{95} \times 100 = 105.26\%$