

Statehood

A Walla Walla student in local history has collected the following regarding the constitutional convention of 18⁶~~89~~ and the reception of its work by the voters:

The proposition for calling a convention to frame a state constitution , preliminary to asking for the admission of Washington territory to the Union, was first submitted to the voters of the territory by an act of the legislature, session of 1868-69, providing for a ballot upon the question at the June election of 1869. Failing to meet the favorable consideration of the people at that time, it was again submitted at the general elections of 1872 and 1874 and each time defeated. In 1876 the question was again submitted and the people declaring in favor of such action, delegates were chosen at the convention convened at Walla Walla the second Tuesday in June 1878. After a session of forty days a constitution was framed, receiving the endorsement of the people at the general election of that year-- the vote being 6462 for and 3231 against --a total of nearly 300 less than the vote cast for delegate to congress. The records indicate that Walla Walla never lost an opportunity to take a stand against the measure. In 1869 she gave 24 votes for and 286 against , her total vote for delegate being 1124. In 1872 it was 57 for and 808 against; total vote for delegate 1555; in 1874 her vote for ~~600~~ delegate was 1549 and of this number only 200 were sufficiently interested to vote on the question of constitutional ~~goodness~~ convention. Not satisfied with this record, Walla Walla refused to ratify the constitution by a vote of 847 to 89 in the 1876 election-- Yakima Herald, March 21, 1889

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The Twenty-five districts. An approximate outline of the coming apportionment. A circulation of the territory's population on the basis of the vote cast last November; allowance for new Population.

There will be seventyfive delegates in the constitutional convention. The territory must be divided into twenty-five districts in each of which three delegates will be elected. The work of districting the territory will be performed by the governor, chief justice of the supreme court, and secretary of the territory or a majority of them. The apportionment will be according to population as near as may be, to be ascertained for the best information obtainable.

Probably the best information at hand was the election returns of November last. The total vote was 43,348. It is probably a fair estimate to say that 10 per cent of the voters did not vote or 4635. Then there have come into the territory since November or in four months, at less than 10,000 men entitled to vote. These swell the total voting population to 60,983. On the basis upon which population at this time is usually calculated, four and one half persons to each vote, the total population at this time cannot be far from 274,424.

Of course it is impossible, within the time allowed for the work, to determine how the increase of population is distributed. The only way is to distribute the estimated increase pro rata among the counties. Assuming the population last November to have been on the basis of the vote cast, plus the percentage who did not vote, 229,424, there will be a surplus of 45,000 to distribute among the counties.

Assuming the population of the territory to be 274,424 each of the twenty five districts, as nearly as may be, must have a population of 10,977. This would give King county a total of nine delegates with 3,840 population to spare or the equivalent of one-third of an additional delegate. It appears there cannot be a joint delegate

elected in order to adjust such inequalities as the number of districts are fixed and also the number of delegates to be elected in each one. To be sure, county lines might be disregarded, but then the difficulty of ascertaining the population of the particular section of a county thrown into another district will possibly prevent this plan being adopted.

According to the same basis of calculation, the districts with the respective population, will be defined as follows:

WALLA, first district--Walla Walla, 14,631; second--Columbia, 7997 and Garfield 500 5814; third and fourth--Asotin 1993 and Whitman 22,526; fifth and sixth--Spokane, 26423; seventh--Lincoln 9703; eighth--Stevens 3440; Okanogan 3343 and Douglas 2749; ninth Adams 2196; Franklin 839 and Yakima 5414; tenth--Kittitas, 8632; eleventh, Klickitat, 6593, and Skamania 579; twelfth--Clarke, 10193; thirteenth, Cowlitz, 5690; and Lewis 9316; fourteenth--Wahkiakum 1836, Pacific 3784 and Chehalis 8380; Fifteenth--Thurston 8433; sixteenth--Masan 3393 and Kitsap 4446; seventeenth--Jefferson 6432 and ODDO Clallam 2099; eighteenth--Island 1624, San Juan 2285 and Whatcom 7408; nineteenth--Snohomish, first, twenty-second and twenty-third--King 36771; twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth, Pierce 24,04.

This gives a total of twenty-five districts. There are ten east of the mountains and fifteen west--Seattle Budget, March, 1889.

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The state of Washington owes its name to a Kentucky member of congress named Stanton.

The petition to be set off as a separate territory from Oregon was before congress as early as 1852. The name proposed was Columbia , but Stanton said:

"We already have a territory of Columbia. This district is called Columbia but we never yet have dignified a territory with the name of Washington. I desire to see if I should live so long , at some future time day a sovereign state bearing the name of the father of his country.

I therefore move to strike out the word Columbia, wherever it occurs in this bill and insert in lieu thereof the word, "Washington,"

The motion prevailed and if Mr. Stanton had lived till now he would have seen his desire of a sovereign state with the name of Washington fulfilled--Yakima Herald, July 2, 1891.

Admission:

The omnibus admission bill, as passed the two houses of congress on February 20, provides for admission as states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana and Washington. Dakota is to be divided on the line of the seventh standard parallel, produced due west to the west boundry of the territory. The delegates selected to a constitutional convention north of this parallel shall assemble at Bismark and those elected south of this parallel at Sioux Falls.

Delegates to a convention in each of the proposed new states shall be elected on the Tuesday after the first Monday of next May and shall meet on the fourth of July and declare that they adopt the constitution of the United States. They are authorized thereupon to form constitutions and state governments.

Section 1 provides that at the election of the delegates to the convention in South Dakota the electors shall vote for or against the Sioux Falls constitution. If a majority of the votes shall be for the constitution, the convention shall resubmit to the people of South Dakota for ratification or rejection, the constitution framed at Sioux Falls and also articles and propositions separately submitted, including the question of locating the temporary seat of government, with such change only as relate to the name and boundry of the proposed state; to the reappointment of judicial and legislative districts; and such amendments as may be necessary in order to comply with the provisions of this act, and if a majority of the votes cast on ratification or rejection of the constitution shall be for the constitution, irrespective of the articles, separately submitted, the state of South Dakota shall be admitted as a state in the union under said constitution as herein provided; but the archives, records and books of the territory of Dakota shall remain at Bismark, the capital of North Dakota, until an agreement is reached thereto is reached by said states. But if at the election of delegates to a constitutional convention in South Dakota a majority of all the votes cast shall be against the Sioux Falls

constitution, it shall be the duty of the convention to form a constitution as if that question had not been submitted to the people.

It is made the duty of the president to admit the new states by proclamation after the constitutions formed are ratified at an election to be held the first Tuesday in October.

Each of the new states shall be entitled to one representative in congress, except SouthDakota, which shall be entitled to two representatives.

Section II provides that all lands herein granted for educational purposes shall be disposed of only at public sale, and at a price not less than \$10 per acre, the proceeds to constitute a permanent school fund, the interest of which only shall be expended in support of said schools but such lands may be under such regulation as the legislature may prescribe, be leased for periods of not less than five years, in quantities not exceeding one section to any one person or company; and such lands shall not be subject to pre-emption, homestead entry, or any other entry under the land laws of the United States, whether surveyed or unsurveyed, but shall be reserved for school purposes only.

All mineral lands are exempted from the grants made by the act.

The two Dakotas are to be added to Justice Miller's circuit--the eight--and Montana and Washington to Justice Field's --the ninth.

Until the time of voting, the name of Washington was changed in the bill to Tacoma, but it was then stricken out. The Herald, February 28, 1889.

The United States senatorial lottery was inaugurated Wednesday. Six senators from the two Dakotas and Washington drew for the order of admission into the Union and terms of office. Allen was the most successful of the senators. He got Washington admitted as the thirty-ninth state and drew the four year term, leaving the two-year term to Squire--Yakima Herald, December 5, 1889.

Statehood

If Idaho succeeds in getting admitted to the Union as a state, it will then be possible for the first time to go from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean without passing through a territory--
Yakima Herald, August 1, 1889.

History

State of Washington. A Brief History of Its Discovery and Progress. A Wonderful Country That has Made Gigantic Strides and Forced The Notice of the World.

The first white man who probably saw what is now Washington territory was Juan de Fuca, a Greek avigator, who in the year 1592 sailed in a Spanish vessel from San Blas, Mexico, to fortify the supposed straits of Anian, an imaginary channel connecting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans so as to prevent the English from passing through the channel from one ocean to another. The Northwest passage having turned out to be a myth, the country ceased to attract further attention and it was nearly two hundred years before the eye of a white man rested upon these shores. In July, 1776, Captain Cook made Point Flattery and in June 1788 Captain Mears of the British navy made a limited reconnoissance of the straits of Fuca, and from that time until 1805 a number of exploring expeditions by sea were made by celebrated navigators including Vancouver, although nothing was seen of the interior. In the latter year the American exploring expedition followed the Columbia river to its headwaters in the American Rocky mountains arriving at its mouth at Cape Disappointment in November, 1805, after a hazardous journey of 3,000 miles through an unknown hostile Indian country. The country being thus visited and reported on by English and American explorers, both countries claimed sovereignty over the great northwestern domain, the conflict being temporarily adjusted in 1818 by a treaty between the United States and Great Britain permitting a joint occupation by citizens of both nations. Up to 1834 the missionary settlements from the United States commenced: in 1841 Captain Wilkes surveyed the coast, a work which was completed by Fremont's land reconnoissance in 1843, and almost coincidental with this came the train of immigration over the Rocky mountains. Notwithstanding this the British government had so managed it that the United States

was ready to cede it what is now Oregon and Washington territory, when Dr. Whitman, a settler and missionary. made a forced journey to Washington and induced the government to reconsider its plan of cession and to decide that the vast domain drained by the Columbia was a part of the legitimate field of the American pioneer. A provisional government was established over the territory under the name of the District of Vancouver, and in August, 1848, congress finally passed the long delayed act, organizing the territory of Oregon, comprising the settlements of northern and southern Oregon. This continued until March, 1853, when, at the petition of the people of northern Oregon, a bill was passed, separating the settlements into Oregon and Washington territories. The boundaries of the new territory were Oregon on the south, the Pacific ocean on the west, British Columbia on the north and Nebraska territory on the east. As will be seen by these boundaries the Washington territory of that day was by no means the Washington territory of today. At that time it comprised all of western Montana, the whole of the territory of Idaho and the inland empire of eastern Washington. The entire white population of this enormous country, according to the United States marshal a year later was 2053. Today, Washington territory stands clearly next to the Dakotas to statehood, its claim being supported not only by the size and character of its population but by the rapidity of its development. The reports of the governors of the different territories recently made to the interior department give the following estimates as to population.

Dakota	700,000
Utah	210,000
Washington	186,000(393)
New Mexico	175,000
Montana	140,000
Wyoming	105,000
Arizona(82)	82,976.

There need be no argument as to the exclusion of Utah for some years to come at least. Putting the Mormon province aside, Washington ranks next. Its progress has not been so marvelous as that of Dakota, but it has nevertheless been both rapid and sure. The population has doubled in five years and the growth of prosperity is shown by the taking up of vacant lands, the increase of taxable property and the development of lumber, mining and other industries is equally striking. During the year ending June 30th, last, 696,384 acres of government lands were taken by preemption, homestead and desert land entries, which are those usually resorted to by actual settlers. The Northern Pacific railroad sold during the same period 268,700 acres to 1694 purchasers, being an average of 173 acres for each. This gives a total of 965,084 acres disposed of to actual settlers, the greater part of which will doubtless be used for agriculture. This is an area equal to two-fifths of the new land opened in Dakota during the same period. Besides these there are other entries under the land laws bringing the total sales to 1,292,473 acres.

There are 1197 miles of railroad in the territory and by the assessment rolls its taxable property has increased from \$18,922,922 in 1878 to \$84,621,182 in 1888,

The greatest development of the territory has been since 1880. During this tie it has made gigantic strides, and the world has been forced to take notice of it. It has secured a place among the great business communities of the union. The chief thing lacking and the thing next to come is statehood. ...

Six years ago there was but one transcontinental railroad and that was 1,000 miles to the south. Now there are three trading in Washington territory--The Northern, Canadian and Union Pacific.

Twenty years ago there were five miles of railroad in Washington territory, now there are over 1400 miles. Previous to 1875 no ocean steamers were employed in the territory's trade, now they

make up a fleet. The sawmills have increased their cut from 30,000 to 40,000 board feet a day twenty years ago to from 100,000 to 250,000 feet at present. The one coal mine of 1868, with a yield of fifty tons a day, has now been succeeded by a dozen mines with an aggregate average output a day of 3,000 tons. It is now known that Washington territory is a land of great possibilities, its soil yielding generously in potatoes, oats, wheat, hops and almost every other agricultural products; its timber unsurpassed; its iron deposits among the finest in the world; its waters abound with fish and the life-sustaining elements are abundant on every hand.

Washington territory is fifty times greater than the area of Rhode Island and can sustain a dense population and it is only a question of time when this territory, in common with all the Pacific coast states, will be peopled like Ohio, New York and Massachusetts--
The Yakima Herald, North Yakima, Washington Territory, March 14, 1889.

Washington-Territory

The following question was asked "the Oregonian of Portland by Col. L.S. Howlett of this city and the answer includes a bit of interesting history concerning the state:

"At whose suggestion or how did it come about that this state, then a territory, was named "ashington?"

Joseph Lane, delegate from Oregon, acting on petition introduced a bill for the creation of the Territory of Columbia north of the Columbia river in February, 1853. It passed the house of representatives February 10, but just before its passage Richard H. Stanton, a representative from Kentucky moved that the name of the new territory be changed from Columbia to Washington and the motion prevailed. The bill was ^{sent} passed to the senate and passed that body March 2, 1853 and was immediately signed by President Fillmore.

Richard Stanton who caused the name of "ashington be substituted for Columbia which the people of the new territory had selected was a native of the city of Washington. He was a representative in congress from Kentucky from 1848 to 1855. He was one of Kentucky's democratic presidential electors in 1856 and a delegate to the celebrated arm in arm convention at Philadelphia in 1866. This convention was an effort to Johnsonize the Republican party and Mr. Stanton was a member of the southern part of that undertaking.

...The Yakima Herald, Dec. 13, 1905.

Eastern investors have only begun fairly to appreciate the value of realty in Washington territory as compared with that of neighboring commonwealths. Those who were deluded by pen pictures of the scenic grandeur of California have wisely sought recompense in a region whose unsurpassed beauty of landscape constitutes only a micum of its attractions in general. They discover a most happily agreeable combination of climate, scenery, fertility of soil, unvarying regularity of seasons and facilities for reaching the hungry marts of civilization enjoyed in an equal measure of freedom by few sections in the world of commerce.

Without these redeeming qualities the sublimity of our mountain heights, the grandeur of our sylvan hills and the quiet loveliness of our labyrinth of valleys would serve only to excite the wonderment and inspire the awe of leisurely tourists. The sturdy visitor in quest of a home, surfeited with a view of picturesque landscape, would turn away to prosecute his search of a locality whose inhabitants could boast of something more than climate, something in addition to scenery where the soil and the seasons entered largely into the condition that promised a home of comfort and plenty in return for reasonable effort and moderate economy. The chief charm of the greater portion of this Northwest country is the happy blending of these qualities. The climate is equable, the seasons regular, the soil remarkably productive, the scenery grand beyond description.

Those who have suffered loss in the booms of those regions whose sunny climate constituted the sum of their boast, where the resources of the country were too limited to support civilization, to which great ships came laden with necessaries of life, have returned only with cargoes of sand, whence capital flowed out with the swift channel of commerce to bring back only such things as were requisite for the sustenance of life--those upon whom devolved the burden of this artificial

development were soon forced to flee and seek requittal for fortune lost in an effort to reach the dancing mirage of speculative boom. Upon our books of public record today their names are legion. They have found the home seekers Meca. Their recent experience in California has prompted them to investigate carefully and intelligently. This misfortune has been turned into profit. They discover more. Fortune awaits them if present opportunities are seized. Our advantages are multiform. The present needful thing to do is to induce investors to examine them carefully. But one conclusion is possible--Orting Oracle--February 1889.