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WALLA WALLA \_\_\_\_\_ Ever seen an Indian tepee pitched under competitive conditions? It will be done as one of several "request" events during the ceremonials and games featuring Indians from the Yakima, Nez Perce and Umatilla reservations in connection with the Stevens Treaty council centennial observance in Walla Walla Saturday and Sunday, June 11 and 12.

A two-hour program of Indian events at Borleske stadium on Saturday afternoon, 2 o'clock, will include a "request" championship event for reservation teams from each of the three groups. It's a "suyapo" (white man) suggestion and will provide spectators with an opportunity to see a tepee going up.

Each of the reservations will also furnish groups to perform ceremonial Indian dances, many of which have not been seen off the reservations in recent years. The entire centennial is built around a presentation of the story and activities of the Indian tribes and most of the presentations and performances will be by tribal members.

The Saturday afternoon schedule will also include another "request" ceremonial, but it will be a true-to-life presentation. The Yakima tribe will present a portion of the ceremonies which go into the formal designation of a chief. It is one of a number of customs fast disappearing even from the Indian scene.

Most of the several hundred Indians expected here for their anniversary activities are expected to take part in some phase of the Saturday afternoon ceremonials. An entry parade against the background of the tepee village erected on the stadium field used for baseball and football, among other activities, is expected to be one of the centennial's most colorful events.

## Stevens Centennial

Feature attraction for the public will probably be the pageant PE-WA-OO-YIT (first treaty council) at the fairgrounds on Saturday evening. Written by Bill Gulick and directed by Rod Alexander, the pageant will present in detail the proceedings of the treaty council held in the Walla Walla valley in 1855. It will feature a cast of Indian chiefs, several hundred tribal representatives, and a number of "suyapos" including "Governor" Isaacs Stevens.

Two other events open to the public are a commemorative program at 10 a.m., Saturday, Whitman amphitheatre, and a non-denominational religious service Sunday at 9 a.m. at the stadium.

A committee from the Walla Walla Chamber of Commerce with Charles Luce as chairman, has been assisting the tribal representatives in planning the centennial observance.

TO EDITORS: Subject - Possible Editorial Material

Several have written in raising the question as to a possible editorial approach in connection with the Stevens Treaty Council Centennial Observance.

When the council was on in 1855 the great question then was the formation of reservations for the Indians.

Today, 1000 years later, the major question developing is whether or not the reservations should be abolished and the Indians allowed to dispose of their property. The question is not ready for settlement but it is receiving increasing attention.

Charles Luce, Centennial arrangements chairman, has written the following for use in the souvenir program. It may have a further suggestion for you.

"One hundred years ago there was held on the present site of the City of Walla Walla the greatest Indian council of the West. Present were the powerful and wealthy tribes who then owned and occupied what we now call the Inland Empire of the Pacific Northwest - the Yakima Nation, the Nez Perce Confederation, and the Cayuse, Walla Wallas, and Umatillas. They came at the request of Governor Isaac Stevens of the Territory of Washington, and General Joel Palmer of the Territory of Oregon, whose mission was to purchase all of their lands except relatively small tracts which they would be permitted to reserve as "Reservations." The Tribes did not want to sell - why should they? But the pressure of inpouring settlers with superior weapons, transportation, and communications, convinced the tribal chiefs that the only recourse for their people was to accept the promises of the United States to protect them if they would sell their vast territories and move onto reservations. And so they signed the Treaties proposed by Governor Stevens and General Palmer, and



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sold their native lands --- for less than 5¢ an acre.

"Today, in 1955, the descendants of these proud tribes are gathering on the same council grounds, now the heart of a modern city, to commemorate the historic and difficult decision of their forefathers. They come as Americans - the first Americans - full fledged citizens of the United States, taking their rightful places in our Nation. The record of the achievements of their people during the past century is outstanding. Their promise for the future is even greater.

"We welcome them, and wish them well in the next hundred years that lie ahead."

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"During the 100 years since the Treaties, the three great tribes each have altered their basic forms of government. Gradually the old system of chieftans and headmen has faded away. In its place, the Tribes have adopted Anglo-Saxon forms of representative government. Annual elections are held on the three reservations at which members are chosen to govern tribal affairs. Two of the Tribes, the Nez Perce and the Umatillas, have adopted tribal constitutions which define the powers of the elected tribal officers. In general, these powers are similar to those possessed by a city council, or a board of county commissioners. The Yakimas, as yet, have not adopted a constitution. The elected officials of the Yakimas, therefore, have only such powers as the tribal members from time to time delegate to them."

Private pilots and special guests making the Lewis and Clark Sesqui-Centennial flight over the "Route of the Pioneers" from Missoula to Astoria Saturday and Sunday, June 11 and 12, will have several treats during their overnight stay in Walla Walla in connection with the Stevens Treaty Council Centennial Observance. Participation in a "ta-makt" or feast is expected to be a highlight.

The sesqui-centennial flyers and their tour guests have been invited by the Yakima, Nez Perce and Umatilla reservation tribal representatives to join the Indians late Saturday afternoon in the feast at the campsite in Borleske stadium. All Indians in Walla Walla for the centennial observance will be at the "ta-makt".

After checking back on the "menu" of several of the feasting occasions during the original treaty negotiations in 1855, the Indians concluded a 1955 agreement with C. W. "Bill" Martin, long-time Whitman College coach and well known for handling arrangements for large group feeds, to work with them on the "ta-makt". Arrangements also were made for another "suyapo", Jack Morrison of Spokane, pit barbecue expert, to lend a hand with fixing the beef.

To add the proper touch to the menu, Louis MacFarland of the Umatilla reservation took charge of getting salmon from Celilo Falls, much in the news these days as part of the claims made by the Indians with the federal government. The fish will be on the menu and will be cooked over open fires by some of the womenfolk from the reservations.

The "ta-makt" is not open to the general public, but even so it is expected that by the time the Indians, the flyers and the invited suyapos (white men) have feasted, more than 1,000 will have given Borleske stadium quite an event. A special recognition ceremonial will conclude the feasting before everyone leaves for PE-WA-OO-YIT, centennial pageant at the fairgrounds, with most of the Indians having parts in the spectacle.