

An early revenue in this country was through a tax on candles. So let's reflect on statehood, 74 still brightly burning birthday candles, and glance ahead.

Perhaps Washingtonians have been too busy with growing into a greater state to give deserved attention to Admission Day, Could be, too, the incidental ending of World War I, also on a November 11, but in 1918, was such a relief statehood lost some of the glitter and public appeal.

Not with Armistice Day absorbed into Veterans Day, an all-comprehensive recognition of veterans of all wars, let us recall the fundamentals of statehood.

Candles have been replaced by electriclights. Values have changed in near three-quarters of a century. But how much? And there is no reason to deviate from one declaration in the State's Constitution:

"All political power is inherent in the people, and governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed..."

Gov. Elisha P. Ferry, in an inaugural message remarked:

"Truly the prospect is encouraging. It is such that the citizen of Washington can look upon his State with pride and anticipation which cannot be too great."

(more)

first ad

He was right. But reflect on the time of statehood achieved when Yakima's population was less than 2,000 and an editor could write:

"There's not a pauper in the county."

Yakima now has a population of 43,600.

The Territorial population of 3,965 had grown to 242,046 in the 36 years before 1889 and is now a bulging 3,000,000.

Dollars were cart wheel in size and you owned them in President Grover Cleveland's time. A meal cost 25 cents. The price is eight to 16 times more now. Rooms cost 30 to 40 times more than they did 74 years ago.

The national debt at the time of President Cleveland was \$1,134,062,258. (B) It was \$83,762,172 when George Washington, namedake of our wonderful state, was President in 1796.

Small punkins compared with our existing national debt of almost unrealizable billions. The State of Washington's deficit is \$26 to \$27 million, the bonded indebtedness \$400x million.

Yakima C_onty's general fund and road budget approximates ~~4xmillionx~~ \$4 million. The city of Yakima requires a budget of \$4 1/4 million.

Seventy-four years ago the cost of a new-born state government was \$590,401, including \$164,339 for liquidating the public debt. Altogether the total was not much larger than proposed salary raises and expense accounts

second ad

of our state's senators and congressmen.

The expense of the state's first legislators was \$86,250, with \$7,000 thrown in for mileage. You can't get much of a school, with furnishings, for that now.

Gov. Ferry 's salary was \$4,666 and he was allowed \$6,000 for incidentals.

Funds to meet the cost of first state government was anticipated from assessments of \$312,500 on a combined taxable value of \$125,165,215 from 34 counties. Yakima County's value of taxable property was \$2,820,261 and the population \$4,480.

The tax on licenses was expected to produce \$30,000. Thus the state was born into a life with ~~expected~~ expectations of increased valuations and increased taxes.

True, values have changed, which is to be expected of Progress.

But progress never has, nor never will demand a change from the fundamentals of good government, of which level-headed common sense spending, is one.

Re:
Admission Day

The seven legislators who represented the Yakima Valley at the first ~~sessi~~ session 74 years ago today, Admission Day, at Olympia, were comparatively young men, in their mid thirties.

North Yakima was young, too, but five years old when statehood of Washington, the 42nd state, was proclaimed by President Benjamin Harrison.

The town's population was less than 2,000, but growing rapidly aided by land promoters, town founders and those who had confidence in the future.

North Yakima was literally shaking off the dust of four years of earth ~~shaken~~ shaken off newly-grubbed sagebrush, building \$250,000 in new business houses, planning a city water works and an electric light plant.

The dust was being laid ~~effectively~~ by plentiful water which was taken by ditch from the Naches River two miles from the heart of the little town. The water flowed through 18 miles of irrigation canals along all the streets, supplying gardens and 12,000 silver poplar, balm, locust and maple trees taking root in ~~semi-arid~~ semi-arid soil.

In North Yakima were seven churches, 72 business houses, 52 residences costing up to \$5,000 or \$6,000 built within the year, and a roller flouring mill with output of 72 barrels daily.

(more)

first ad.

A \$15,000 school was open, ~~another planned~~ and another planned. Each of 26 ~~outlying~~ outlying districts had some kind of a school building.

The county's indebtedness of \$100,000 had been incurred mostly for bridging wandering irrigation ditches.

Indebtedness of the city was \$10,000. City finances were raised by a 7 mill levy. A two-story city hall costing \$10,000 had ~~just~~ been built.

H.C. Humphrey, Northern Pacific agent, figured that 2,200 bales of hops, 260 carloads of hay and 298 carloads of cattle, 19 of horses and 8 of sheep had been sent east. Other shipments were 62 carloads of vegetables, 2 carloads of wool, 21 carloads of melons and 7 cases of leaf tobacco.

Hotel Yakima, at the southwest corner of Yakima Ave and 3rd St., a two-story structure with side entrance for social conscious ladies, had been completed at a cost of \$30,000.

All this and more had been accomplished only 36 years after Washington Territory had been created.

When Congress finally approved an Enabling Act, Feb. 22, 1889, the next step toward statehood was a constitutional election, May 14,

Twenty-five legislative districts existed throughout the territory.

The Constitutional Convention was held at Olympia July 4. Adoption of the State Constitution followed, Oct. 1, 1889.

(more)

second ad. Admission Day

Republican,
Constitutional delegates were: R.O. Dunbar, Goldendale; Rev. J.T. Eshelman,
~~North Yakima, Democrat~~ Democrat, North Yakima; W.B. Gray, Pasco stockman,
who was a Democrat; J.T. McDonald, Democrat, Ellensburg (the town
spelling then), a miner; Austin Mires, Republican, also of Ellensburg;
William F. Prosser, North Yakima, Republican; and J.A. Shoudy, Ellensburg,
Republican, whose wife was named Ellen, providing a name for Ellensburg.

Dunbar was elected one of the first six State Supreme Court judges
at the Oct. 1 election. He had been educated at Willamette University,
Ore., and taught there two years. He came to Yakima in 1871, practicing
law until he went to The Dalles in 1875 to open law offices. He
went to Goldendale in 1877 to practice law and was prosecuting attorney
for Yakima, ^{Cq} Clarke (later spelled ~~withxxxxxx~~ Clark) Klickitat and
Skamania counties, and was also city attorney at Goldendale.

Rev. Eshelman came to the Coast in 1876, taught two years in
California and came to Washington Territory in 1878, living in Klickitat
County until he came to North Yakima in November, 1887 to take charge
of the Christian Church. He was 35 then and his salary as minister was
\$600 a year. He was also chief clerk of the U.S. Land Office.

Gray, besides being a stockman, was formerly sheriff of Franklin County
and was a Union veteran.

3rd ad Admission Day

Mires, a former teacher and printer was elected Ellensburg 's first mayor in 1885 and was vice president of the First National Bank in that city.

Prosser, for whom the town of Prosser was named, was a Union veteran. He had been elected to the Tennessee Legislature in 1867 and to Congress from Nashville. He came to Washington Territory when he was appointed special agent for the general land office and located a homestead in 1882, part of the location now being a part of the city of Prosser. He was elected Yakima County auditor in 1886.

Shoudy opened one of the earliest wagon roads across the Cascades from Seattle into the Kittitas Valley.

Of the ~~first~~ legislators ~~xxxxxxx~~ from the Valley at the first session, six were Republicans and one was a Democrat.

Jacob H Hunsaker, ~~joint senator from Yakima and Douglas~~ from Klickitat and Skamania counties, living at White Salmon; and Joseph M. Snow, ~~joint senator~~ from Yakima and Douglas counties, a civil engineer and probate judge in Douglas County were the senators.

Eugene T. ~~W~~ Wilson, Ellensburg was a former newspaper publisher. He was in the mercantile business at Ellensburg when the fire of July 4, 1889 ~~b000~~ destroyed practically the entire town, including his place. He was also a city councilman.

(more)

4th ad Admission Day

John Cleman had lived in the Wenas Valley since 1865, ~~raisingxxxxxx~~
~~and~~ farming and raising stock. He was a county commissioner. Mt. Cleman,
near Naches, was named for him.

C.H.Flummerfelt, youngest member from the house , was the only Democrat
from the area. He was from ~~near~~ Eltopia , 17 miles east of Pasco.

Dr. Isaac N.Power, who had settled at Ellensburgh in 1883,was born
at Olympia. ~~Hexxxxxxx~~

Bruce F. Purdy was a Klickitat county farmer and cattleman, coming from
Oregonwhere he had been born in 1854.

John P.Sharp, a former Idaho miner and rancher near The Dalles came
to Yakima County in 1874. He was elected a county ~~xxxxxx~~ commissioner in
1874,~~andxx~~ was a school district officer and road supervisor.

Yakima County 's opulation was 4,408, Franklin C_ounty 435, Kittitas
County 7,530 and Klickitat County 5,390.

Klickitat County included ~~postoffices~~ post offices forgotten or little
remembered now, with such names as Block House, Canyon, Columbus, Crimea,
Dot (Hardison); Fulda, Hartland or Wildcat; Haulwater, Luna and Oto.

Brown, Cowiche, Tampico, Fort Simcoe, Kiona, Moxie, Tehe and Webb all
had post offices in the larger Yakima C_ounty in statehood year.

5th ad

There were two banks in North Yakima with a capital and surplus of \$185,000. Edward Whitson, North Yakima's first mayor was president of the First National Bank.

Two-hundred thousand fruit trees were set out during the ~~1888-89~~ 1888-89 season within a five-mile radius of town. Businessmen of the city formed a stock company to open the first fruit cannery with a 12,000 a day capacity.

Land, now well within the city limits, which had been purchased for \$3.50 an acre, was being resold for \$18 and officers of \$40 were being declined by the time the first ~~Senate Executive Mansion~~ State Senate met at 12 o'clock noon Nov. 6. The session was adjourned March 28, 1890.

Although the Senate Journal shows sessions were held five days before Admission Day, the meeting ~~was not notified~~ was not notified of admission until Nov. 11. ~~The~~ A telegram was received and read.

"Executive Mansion, Wash. D.C.

"To Hon Miles C. Moore, governor, Olympia.

"The President signed the proclamation declaring Washington to be a state in the Union at 5 05 o'clock and 20 minutes this afternoon."

(more)

6th ad.

The body adjourned at 4:30 p.m. ~~xxxxxx~~ (the time at Olympia) and did not reconvene until the afternoon session at 1:30 p.m. Nov. 12. The late hour the following day was unexplained in the journal.

The journal for Nov. 6, the week previous noted that all Senators
Snow to take oath of office. His daily absence was
were present except ~~and was absent~~
recorded until ~~Nov 18~~, Dec. 18, 1890 when he was sworn into office and
~~and was absent~~
submitted a mileage claim for ~~\$26~~ 526 miles.

On Wednesday, Nov. 13, Randolph B. Scott, vice president of the John A. Logan Colored Club, Spokane Falls, provided a communication which was accepted and spread on the journal records.

It thanked the senators for electing John Conna assistant
sergeants at arms and closed :

"...We were with you in the Empire State with 22,000 colored votes which gave the Republican party 36 electoral votes which made Benjamin Harrison president of the United States without which Washington would not today have been a state of the Union."

Sessions were adjourned until Nov. 18, when Watson C. Squire, a New Yorker and 12th territorial governor (1884-1887) was elected to the U.S. Senate.

Eighteen chairs were purchased for the senators, a telephone was ordered installed. @@@@10en (more)

7th ad.

In a finance report, Nov. 27, cash on hand was shown to be
~~\$13,67~~ \$13,687.62.

One of the first bills to reach the Senate was House Bill No. 13
which was passed and provided that purchase, ~~x~~gift or gift of tobacco,
cigars, or cigarettes, by any person under 18 or for a person so
young was unlawful and provided a penalty.

By Dec. 9 Senate Bill 47, ~~an~~ an Act to establish state normal
schools was introduced.

Senate Bill 32, an Act to establish a general uniform system of common
schools was passed Dec. 3 and by Dec. 9 Senate Bill 47, to establish State
Normal Schools, was introduced. Another bill provided for appointment of
a committee to recommend ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ the location of an agricultural
college, registration of voters, miners' wages and allowing school
districts to issue bonds for building school houses.

By session adjournment the Senate approved 174 laws, adding
748 more in the next five sessions.

Gov. Elisha P. Ferry, 10th territorial governor and first state
governor retired in 1893, living at Olympia and Seattle until he died, Oct.
14, 1895.

(more)

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VALLEY MEMORIES SCRAPBOOK--Seventy -five years ago ~~in~~ town of North Yakima had been born and moving of buildings from Yakima C,ty, Union Gap, was well under way to present Yakima. The Northern Pacific Rail way line had reached Yakima C,ty and was continuing north. Picture from Northern Pacific archives shows work train and co struction crew building the first bridge over the Naches River in 1885. ~~While~~ The connecting link was not ~~edded~~ completed until 1887 to provide to the Northern Pacific service from the Great Lakes to Puget Sound on its own tracks.