

Newsletter of the Walla Walla County Pioneer and Historical Society
Vol. II, No. 1 City Hall, Walla Walla, Wash. March 30,1962

## CITY HALL MUSEUM MAKES HEADLINES

When Vol. I, No. 1 of the BLUE MOUNTAIN SUN first appeared, this Society's MUSEUM ROOM at City Hall was only in the making, and walls were still unpainted. With the lapse of time has come added assistance from Walla Walla County in the form of an allocation of \$750 for the 1962 Museum operation. The City of Walla Walla furnishes quarters, heat, light; and thoughtful historical-minded friends continue to contribute valuable gifts and artifacts --- all of which add up to HEADLINES for the Museum venture.

The idea that we should <u>not wait</u> until a separate building could be obtained before beginning to tell the STORY OF WALLA WALLA COUNTY via MUSEUM TECHNIQUES has been our constant and driving force. The idea is paying off many times over. A real hunger for the kind of historical food that is being served here is evidenced by the large visitor attendance. Since mid-January, 1962, the Museum guest book records 352 visitors, representing 23 different Camp Fire and Boy Scout groups, two public school classes, plus 77 adults. Out-of-town groups include those from Milton-Freewater, Ore., College Place and Prescott, Wash.

Limited in space to one fairly large room for display, one vault room for storage, and a combined office and work-room on the second floor of City Hall, the Museum is telling the story of Walla Walla by Chapters thru utilizing changing exhibits. The first Chapter exhibit, "Before the White Man Came," is now being replaced by Chapter II, "Log Cabin Days and Ways in the Walla Walla Valley." Groups are now making reservations to see this.

The MUSEUM ROOM is open regularly Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, 1 to 5 PM; by appointment on other week days.

#### RECENT ACCESSIONS:

1909 Walla Walla County Atlas, donated by C. A. Andrews, who also presented Needle Arts Catalogs and Instruction Books of the early 1900's, along with materials used in making the laces and colored silk embroidery.

Set of 5 Rules, Regulations, and Time Books of the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific Railroads: also Indian Rock Tools and Railroad Spikes found in this county were given by D. W. Gibson.

Picture of Ft. Walla Walla Military Cemetery, by Sam Maxson.

Money gift from Prescott Home Ec. Club.

Picture of Governor Wm. Pickering from State Historical Society, Tacoma, Wn.

# Recent Accessions (Continued)

Portland, Oregon, by C. L. Ramp, the donor.

Arthur

Pictures of Senator and Mrs. John B. Allen, given by Mrs. Ralph Emigh-

Prize picture of St. Rose Cemetery on the Clem Bergevin farm, by L. D. Wilson.

Several additions to the <u>1898-99 Philippine Campaign collection</u>, donated by Clyde McFadden.

Ten panels of class work and photographs of rural schools of Walla Walla County, displayed at the 1905 Lewis & Clark Exposition in Portland and in the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition in Seattle -- presented by Carl Shepard.

Philippine water-buffalo horns and complete records of Henry W. Lawton Comp.#10, United Spanish War Veterans, received from Kenneth McDouall and John Chase.

Two branding irons, the gift of Mrs. Ada Kidwell

### ARTIFACTS SOUGHT IN "CENTURY-21" CLEAN-UP WEEK

We wish to remind all who spruce up and clean up their homes in preparation for Century 21 guests, that the old things thus found in the attic, basement or farmyard may be of some real historical worth. Old documents and pictures of churches, schools, people, places and events of yesteryear, as well as household and farm artifacts, and those pertaining to industry, the professions or other local businesses, are sought by the MUSEUM in its effort to tell the STORY OF WALLA WALLA COUNTY, OLD AND NEW to the children, adults and tourists who come our way. For Museumobile Collection, call Margaret Pettyjohn, JA9-1476, or City Hall Museum, JA5-1720, Ext. 47.

#### NATIONAL MUSEUMS DIRECTORY LISTING:

Due to the fact that <u>our Museum</u> and <u>Society are listed</u> in the 1961 Museums Directory of the United States and Canada, inquiries regarding the history of this locality and its people are coming to us increasingly. This is the <u>first COMPREHENSIVE DIRECTORY</u> ever to be published of the ENTIRE MUSEUM FIELD, including: Art, History, Science, and Special Museums: Art Centers, Historic Houses and Historical Societies; Childrens' Museums; Planetariums; Zoos, Aquariums; Botanical Gardens, and Arboretums; and Libraries with collections and exhibitions other than books.

### OTHER SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

<u>VETERANS ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM</u>. Letters of appreciation have again been received from Dr. Justin E. Gaines, Director of the Veterans Administration Hospital, for the "Civil War" program and display given there on Veterans Day. This was our sixth such annual program for the patients.

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### FORT WALLA WALLA PARK

For the benefit of members and others who were unable to attend our June '61 annual meeting (and in the light of the fact that the City has since acquired the additional tracts of Ft. Walla Walla land for park purposes, and has named the park by its correct historical name of Ft. Walla Walla), we herewith publish the Resolutions which were passed at our June meeting, and soon thereafter were presented to the City, urging that they be adopted: (see Waitsburg Times, June 3, 1961)

"RESOLUTIONS: (The Walla Walla County Historical Society .....)

- l. Urges the Walla Walla City Council to request a stay on the public sale by General Services Administration of the 42-acre tract south of the Military Cemetery at Fort Walla Walla until possibilities of the city obtaining it can be thoroughly explored.
- 2. Recommends to the Walla Walla City Park Department that the name "Fort Walla Walla Park" be given to the city Park Grounds to the north of and including the Military Cemetery."

At a later City Park Board meeting, we further recommended that the trails, bridle paths, and camp sites of Fort Walla Walla Park be named and marked for the military men and events that made Ft. Walla Walla history. The presence of such trail name markers, in addition to the interpretative marker placed at the entrance to the military cemetery by this Society during the Northwest History Conference last April, could, we believe, add much to the understanding and appreciation of the things for which Fort Walla Walla stands.

#### EUREKA FLAT NAME REESTABLISHED

From Val Hoffman, a member of this Society and a native of Eureka Flat now living in New Mexico, comes the good news that as a result of his efforts, the Domestic Names Committee of the Board of Geographic Names of the U.S. Dept. of the Interior, has approved for Federal usage the <u>singular</u> form of the name "Eureka Flat." Hoffman notes that previously, on official Bureau Maps, the plural Eureka Flats was used to designate that region, which in turn caused Western newspapers to print the plural form.

#### ATTENDS DEDICATION

Representing this Society, the writer attended the dedicatory program of the new Visitor Center at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site in the Columbia city March 18th, and spent several days at the Portland, Oregon Historical Society Library and Museum, engaged in early day Walla Walla newspaper research. Presently on display at the Portland Museum is the exhibit of Indian Stone sculpture of the Columbia Valley, which will become a part of the American Art Exhibit at the Century 21 World's Fair in Seattle. These particular pieces of prehistoric art represent an artistic development rarely surpassed or equalled in Indian art north of Mexico.

### CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS:

April 7 (Saturday), Annual Meeting of the Members of the Washington State Historical Society will be held at the Tacoma Museum, at 2:00 P.M. Prior to the Meeting a catered luncheon will be served at the Museum, beginning at 12:30. Reservations are \$1.75 per person, and should be mailed to Tacoma Museum. Director Bruce LeRoy will report on his trip to England for the State Society.

April 9 - Portland Genealogical Society will hold an all-day meeting at the Portland Public Library.

April 12-14 -- The Fifteenth Annual Pacific Northwest History Conference and First Annual Pacific Northwest Museums Conference will be held at Boise, with Idaho Historical Society the host. The program includes a "Museum Work Shop," April 12, followed by the History Conference with themes featuring "Western Gold Rushes and the Civil War," "Forestry History in the Northwest," and various research studies. For more complete information call the writer, JA9-1476. Direct reservations to Idaho Historical Society, 610 Parkway, Boise, Idaho.

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## STATE MUSEUM WEEK: May 1-7

In connection with Washington State Museum Week -- the first week of May -- we urge all members to call in if you have time to give to the Society in preparation of this event. With the World's Fair attracting more tourists to the State of Washington than ever before, there can be no better time to focus the attention of Americans on the history of this state and the part its citizens played in the growth and history of the United States.

MARGARET PETTYJOHN, Editor

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