



# NEWS-LETTER

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CHAPIN D. FOSTER, EDITOR

STATE HISTORICAL BUILDING

TACOMA, WASHINGTON

Volume 7, Number 3

August, 1954

## TWO FINE SOCIETIES ORGANIZED IN WALLA WALLA AND LINCOLN COUNTIES: HAVE MUSEUM POSSIBILITIES

The May issue of News-Letter carried a little story indicating interest in the organization of historical societies in Walla Walla and Lincoln Counties.

Sometimes 'indicating interest' doesn't mean much more than a pretty fervent hope on the part of the Director but in this case News-Letter can report that the societies have been organized and are off to a fine start.

A preliminary meeting was held in Davenport late in May. It was an unusual meeting in that among those in attendance were a group of High School students. It was the first time the Director had encountered interest at this level.

A second meeting was held June 7th and at this time Jack McPherson of Wilbur, was elected president, Mrs. Hazel Laughbon of Davenport, secretary, and Ted Anderson of Davenport, treasurer. Vice presidents will be selected from each consolidated school district. The county commissioners are considering budget support and the school board is arranging for temporary museum space. Lincoln County will have a great society.

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Walla Walla County, one of the oldest in Washington, has a wealth of local history and now a splendid county historical society to preserve it.

The Director attended their organization meeting and found enthusiasm just the sort that indicates success in such a project. Officers are as follows:

President	Miss Eloise Thomas
Vice President	Mrs. Alma Blackman
Vice President	Allen Reynolds
Secretary	Miss Ruth Walker
Treasurer	Mrs. Chas. Dement
Trustees	Steve Moxon
	Mrs. Francis Wilhelm
	Mrs. Goldie Rehberg

## STATE FLAG LAW PROPOSED

Washington has a state flag but until the Territorial Centennial last year, very few people knew anything about it and there was no law requiring its use. The State Society took on the project of a State Flag Law and drew up a tentative draft. This was sent to all parts of the state for criticism and suggestions. Support for such a law so far has been unanimous. Some changes have been suggested which will be incorporated in the law to be submitted to the Legislature. Washington has a wonderful flag. It is a pretty safe bet that very soon it will be flying in Washington wherever the national flag is flown.

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## WARSHAWSKY COLLECTION OF OILS ONE OF THE FINEST EXHIBITS EVER BROUGHT TO TACOMA

Art lovers have had a rare treat during July, when the Society gallery has shown a collection of oils by A. G. Warshawsky of Monterey, California. If not the finest, certainly it is one of the finest exhibits ever brought to Tacoma.

July 25th, Mr. Warshawsky flew from his home to be the guest of honor at a reception marking the close of the exhibit. Hostesses for the reception were members of the Pacific Gallery Artists and wives of Tacoma members of the Board of Curators. An additional guest was Mr. C. R. Dolph, director of the Maryhill Museum of Fine Arts, which was showing the exhibit next.

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## More Walla Walla Historical Society--

Walla Walla has two great museum possibilities. The first is the present Hall of Records, which may be abandoned, and the second is the City Hall, which eventually will give way to a new City-County building. Walla Walla should see to it that one of these buildings is saved for museum purposes. A lot of museum artifacts are ready for the new museum when its ready.



## WELCOME TO TWO NEW COUNTY SOCIETIES

The State Society is mighty happy this month to welcome two new county societies. Walla Walla and Lincoln Counties now have fine new societies and in both counties the groups are looking forward to museums. That's all to the good for in both counties there is a wealth of museum material that ought to be on display.

The goal in Washington is an historical society in every county. They have reached that goal in Minnesota where there are nearly 90 counties, and Washington is moving in that direction steadily.

GIVE US TIME  
LAST ISSUE WE URGED  
FOLKS TO SPELL OUT  
WASHINGTON WHENEVER  
USED. A COUPLE OF OUR  
FRIENDS CALLED ATTEN-  
TION TO THE FACT THAT  
OUR OWN ADDRESSOGRAPH  
PLATES USE "WASH." THE  
PLATE PEOPLE DON'T  
LIKE TO SPELL OUT THE  
NAME. GIVE US TIME AND  
THIS SIN WILL BE COR-  
RECTED. GIVE US TIME.

## WASHINGTON LEGISLATURE SHOULD PASS A STATE FLAG LAW NEXT SESSION

This state has the greatest name among all the states of the Union and its state flag is in keeping with the name. We've had a state flag for years but very few people had ever seen one. A lot of them were used during the Centennial last year but only a small start was made.

Now a state flag law is planned and will be submitted to the next Legislature. It will provide for

the flying of the state flag wherever the national flag is flown and something will be said about care of the state flag. This is one of the fine things to come out of the Centennial.

Invite a friend to join the State Society.

## JUST LIKE OLD TIMES

Probably most of our readers are not too familiar with one of the fine old traditions of the newspaper field--that of bringing in something to the Editor. The Editor of News-Letter hardly qualifies for that custom. However, some years back Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Jones of Seattle called on the Director while a real editor in Chehalis and renewed Yakima Valley acquaintance, adding a couple of dozen of their new product "Putts". Putts are just holeless doughnuts, and mighty fine. On a recent Sunday they called at the Museum and Vince was immediately queried on Putts. Sure, he had em in his car and brought in a couple of dozen to prove it. Great stuff. Mrs. Jones is running again for the Legislature. Unfortunately, we don't live in her Seattle district, but thanks for the Putts.

## FINE TRIBUTE FROM FLORIDA

Two years ago a couple from Florida visited the Museum. Last month they were in the Northwest again, visiting in Marysville. They made two trips from Marysville just to visit the Museum. That's a real compliment.

## SNOHOMISH CO. ASSOCIATION BUSY

The Snohomish Co. Museum Association, a very new group, sponsored Pioneer Day in Everett in June -- Queen, Mukilteo Treaty ceremony, Indian dances and parade. The report is that the affair was a big success, certainly a great credit to such a young organization.

Invite a friend to join the State Society.

## IMPORTANT JOB COMPLETED

Several years ago the Governor named a Commission to raise funds for a statue of Dr. Marcus Whitman in Statuary Hall in Washington, D.C. The project was to cost \$30,000. Chairman of the Commission was Mrs. Goldie Rehberg of Walla Walla. What was expected to be very easy, proved one of the most difficult jobs of its kind in recent state history, but Mrs. Rehberg refused to admit defeat. Well, the statue has been placed, the bills all paid. Members of the Commission helped but about 95 per cent of the credit for this great job goes to Mrs. Rehberg.

## From WALLA WALLA UNION-BULLETIN

A recent issue of the Walla Walla Union Bulletin had this to say editorially: "This century old portion of Washington state has priceless heritages from the time of its infancy, which should be assembled and preserved in one depository, suitable for museum purposes" the editorial closes with, "But one thing is certain; the need for the facility is widely recognized and a growing company of individuals and organizations is fervently interested in acquiring the property and means of keeping it in operation at the earliest possible date." They'll have a museum over there one of these days, and soon.

## WE HAVE ONE OF GORING'S UNIFORMS

A lot of Washington boys saw service in Germany in World War II, and most people recall Marshal Herman Goring, Col. Wm. Stewart, just back from Germany, has loaned us one of Goring's uniforms, Worth seeing!



## PACIFIC COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY LOSES TWO VALUABLE LEADERS

Pacific County Historical Society lost two extremely valuable members within a week this Spring.

Lewis D. Williams, Jr., who served the Society as president in 1951, was the first to be called, and on the following day occurred the death of Hon. John T. Welsh of South Bend, Mr. Williams made his home in Raymond.

Mr. Williams was a son of pioneer L. D. Williams of Ilwaco and Eliza Whealdon Williams, whose father, Isaac Whealdon, came to Ilwaco in 1859. Williams was a major in World War I. When the Port of Willapa Harbor was organized 20 years ago, Williams was named manager, a post he filled until his death. To him has been accorded credit for harbor and shipping improvements.

He had served as president of the Pacific Co. Pioneer Association, was a member of Kiwanis and other civic organizations. He is survived by his widow, formerly Miss Elaine King of Ilwaco, two sons, three brothers, one sister and a grandson.

Mr. Welsh was an honorary member of the Society and was 87 at the time of his death. He was the dean of Pacific County schoolmasters, had been a state senator and political leader, had served several terms as prosecuting attorney, was president of the county bar association and one of the founders and long active in the South Bend Chamber of Commerce.

With his brother, Martin Welsh, a legal firm was established which was later joined by his sons.

Both of these men were deeply interested in the preservation of Pacific County and Washington history.

### ----- COME AGAIN, MR. CATER

A short time ago the State Society enjoyed and all-too-brief call from Harold Dean Cater, director of the Minnesota Historical Society. He was here all morning but that was still too brief. He had some very nice things to say about the Society and its museum, something always pleasant to a Director.

## THIS FLAG TELLS A STORY

Many flags have a story back of them but few can match the one behind a flag in the special Flag Day display in the State Society museum. The flag is 12 x 18 and was painted on a piece of canvas during the battle at Seneca Creek, Maryland, in 1862, by Frederick D. Whipple, who lost his life in the engagement. The flag was loaned by Mr. and Mrs. Thos. W. Davis of Tacoma, who also loaned Whipple's uniform for the display. The painting job was very well done. Apparently Whipple's company had no flag and he was given the task of providing one. It's very certain those men appreciated that flag.

## FOUNDER OF MUSEUM IN BELLINGHAM DIES IN SEATTLE AT AGE OF 93

John M. Edson, early day Bellingham newspaperman and founder of the Bellingham Public Museum, died recently at his home in Seattle at the age of 93.

Mr. Edson had lived in Bellingham more than half a century, going there in 1888 and living there until 1945.

He was an outstanding ornithologist and his bird collection gave the museum its start. He carried the title of Curator Emeritus until his death. Every bird native to the Northwest and Puget Sound, is found in the Edson collection, as well as many other specimens.

## CLICK RELANDER, YAKIMA NEWSPAPER EDITOR TO PUBLISH NEW BOOK "DRUMMERS AND DREAMERS"

Washington hasn't too many newspapermen who write books, but there is one over in Yakima. He's Click Relander, city editor of the Yakima Republic. The Robertson papers in Yakima are blessed with a number of staff members deeply interested in history.

Relander has specialized in Indian lore for many years. His new book "Drummers and Dreamers" represents years of intimate research with Northwest Indians, who regard him as a real friend.

The Caxton Press will publish the book. When it comes out we'll have something more to say about it. Washington is indebted to Relander for his forthcoming book. We know it will be good.



## HISTORICAL TOURS FOR TOURISTS IS SOMETHING THAT OUGHT TO BE PLANNED IN EVERY COUNTY

Tours for tourists.

Sure, that's something every county should provide for visitors, but why not some Historical Tours?

These would be good for the home folks, too.

A nice job for county historical societies but if there isn't such an organization, its something for Chambers of Commerce.

Map out a historical tour just as the Puget Sounders map out a rhododendron tour.

Tell where to start, how to reach the historical spot, the distance and what there is to see when the spot is reached.

Map out more than one tour if possible, long ones and short ones. Be ready for the visitor who says he only has an hour or half an hour.

Washington should be blanketed with Historical Tours. This is a job the State Society can't undertake but it can suggest in big letters.

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### GRANGERS, MASONS VISIT

Recently state organizations of the Grange and Masons met in Tacoma. The sessions were busy and the schedule full, but many delegates and their families found time to visit the State Society museum. The State Grange News ran a picture and story of the Society and its museum. Thank you, and come again. Incidentally, this looks like a record year for visitors.

### THE VISITING PUBLIC DOESN'T SEE ALL THE IMPROVEMENTS IN MUSEUM BUILDING

When a new display is opened in the State Society building we lay Friend Modesty aside and do some talking.

Just now we'll say something about improvements the public won't see. Storage is always a museum problem. With us it has been a BIG problem.

Two fine airtight storerooms are under construction, one completed. They're fine.

## FLAG DISPLAY IMPRESSIVE

Any display of flags is impressive but in Washington a State Society display will be pretty sure to rank first. Special attention was paid this year to a display for Flag Day. There were five 13-star flags, the first one made in Washington--1853 at Jackson House in Lewis Co. - a Fort Steilacoom flag, a mammoth 30-foot flag from the Battleship Oregon, a little one painted on a Civil War battlefield, and others. By request, it had to be held through a second week end.

### CALIFORNIA NEEDS A GOOD BOAT MODEL AND GOT ONE FROM A WASHINGTON CRAFTSMAN

The Sir Francis Drake Association of San Francisco was planning an exhibit in the Golden Gate Park museum.

Naturally, a model of Drake's "Golden Hind" was needed but it couldn't be found. In some way, word got to the Association that there was a man in Washington who had built a model of Drake's ship.

The man was Fred S. Rice, South 11th Street, former member of the State Society staff. But Rice was in England, even though the model was in the State Society museum.

An airmail letter was sent to England and it finally overtook Rice. He was glad to authorize shipment of the model to San Francisco. We can imagine the sigh of relief in that city for hundreds of queries had been sent out in search of a suitable model.

The Rice model is an excellent piece of workmanship, about two years of Rice's expert modeling. A few years ago he put five years into a model of "Old Ironsides", which was an outstanding piece of work, complete from the keel to top of the highest mast, in the sea language Rice liked to use. San Francisco was fortunate, and so is Washington to have a man of Rice's ability.

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# NEWS = LETTER

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CHAPIN D. FOSTER, EDITOR

STATE HISTORICAL BUILDING

TACOMA, WASHINGTON

Volume 7, Number 4

November, 1954

## NATIONAL HISTORICAL ORGANIZATION SENDS FOUR AWARDS TO WASHINGTON

Recognition in the field of history by the American Association of State and Local History is 'tops' in this country and this state has scored again, with four awards voted by the Board of Awards.

This year's meeting was held at Madison, Wisconsin, on the campus of the University of Wisconsin, home of the Wisconsin State Historical Society, Number One in the nation.

Awards were voted as follows:

Daughters of Pioneers, Yakima, for the development of an area museum and its work in the preservation of Yakima Valley history over a period of years.

Seattle Historical Society, for the completion of its museum and the development of an outstanding Marine exhibit.

Prof. L. A. Kibbe, Bellingham, for unusual and outstanding work in the preservation of historical records at the local level.

Mrs. Eva Anderson, Chelan, for outstanding work over a long period of years, as an author and supporter of history and education.

Only 49 awards were voted this year. Five came to the Pacific Coast and of these four have come to Washington.

It is not necessary to say the awards were well deserved. If they were not, the Board of Awards would never have voted them for the Board is pretty 'hard boiled' in voting awards. There were more than 100 nominations this year.

The Director of the State Society, a regional vice president and member of the Board of Awards, attended this year's session. There were a number of panel discussions as well as set addresses, all of which were very stimulating. An "American Town Meeting of the Air" originated at one of the sessions.

The Wisconsin Historical Society is housed in the University Library building and will now occupy the entire building. The state is spending \$500,000 in remodeling the building. The Society has a staff of 77 and is thus able to carry on a great statewide program. The entire session was devoted to Association business.

## YAKIMA MUSEUM DRIVE PROVING GREAT SUCCESS, \$145,000 GOAL WILL BE REACHED

When Yakima museum supporters started out to raise \$80,000 to match a gift of \$65,000, there was no doubt the goal would be reached by 1956, the dead-line. But Yakima doesn't waste time and already \$63,000 has been raised. A great organization was set out, a big-league plan worked out. Congratulations.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

That's a lot of 'Thank Yous' but when you read the paragraph from the Tacoma Guide, you'll agree some applause is in order:

"Recently a national magazine carried a story titled 'Museums Don't Have to be Stuffy'. Unfortunately, too many people think of museums as being just that -- stuffy. But not the Washington State Historical Society building. Nothing stuffy about this place. You'll like it and so will your guests. Last month's visitors were from 31 states and nine foreign countries. They liked it. Many said, 'This is wonderful, I didn't realize you had such a place out here; it's so fresh and inviting, displays so interesting.' Largest historical museum in the West, and right in Tacoma. Bring your imagination with you to get the most from your visit. Look at nation's most interesting historical mural hall and you'll be proud of Washington. Look at the Ezra Meeker wagon and oxen--nation's most famous--and see ruts, mud, rain, snow, sickness, death, births and you'll know what makes Washington. Look at that old wagon and think of one of the West's finest bits of nerve. See more than age in the old wagon, see a young man wrecking his life to save lives. Visit Bowles Hall and see a display ranking with the best. One collection nearing 100 unique in U. S. Nothing static here. New exhibits every month. Five floors, each different, each full of interest--India, Orient, Alaska, Africa, South Pacific. It's a 'must' for Tacomans and their guests."

Marjorie Hardy is Editor. Thanks, again.



## CHATS WITH THE EDITOR

### WE HAVE A SESQUICENTENNIAL IN THE OFFING

There might be a tendency to say "So What" when attention is called to the fact that the Northwest is getting ready to observe the 150th anniversary of the coming of Lewis & Clark to this area.

If they hadn't come out here -- all the way -- the portion of the Northwest not included in the Louisiana Purchase might not be a part of the United States today.

There are committees at work in all the Northwest states through which the noted explorers passed. No committee has money with which to work, but with cooperation suggested by these committees, the event will be very well observed. Washington will be no exception.

### AND WASHINGTON HAS A CENTENNIAL

A century ago some very important business was transacted in Washington. Gov. Isaac Stevens negotiated treaties by which land in the Northwest could be owned by the whites. A mighty important anniversary. Important, also, is the fact that the Indians of Washington are very anxious to participate in the celebrations.

### HISTORY AWARDS TO WASHINGTON INDICATE NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Awards from the American Association for State and Local History are tops in that field. This year five came to the Pacific Coast and of these, four to Washington. Four out of 47 for the entire country is an excellent record. Congratulations to those who have gained this national honor.

### THANKS, DR. CORLISS

Dr. J. H. Corliss of Sumner, is the young man who has headed the Puyallup Fair so many years. He has a sideline we salute. It is writing up the story of Puyallup Valley pioneers. The stories appear in Sumner and Puyallup papers and he sends us a copy. A very valuable service, to say the least, and our thanks.

### ANOTHER YOUNGSTER STILL AT WORK

Rev. W. A. Moore, member of the State Society many years, active at 85. Sends birthday greetings to folks he knows over 80. That's a wonderful hobby. Has built a little chapel in his yard.

### HISTORY IN CLUB PROGRAMS

We don't see all the printed club programs used over the state but we're still willing to hazard a guess that they could all use more Washington history--state and local. Very interesting programs would result, too. Particularly, programs based upon local history.

### SPOKANE GETTING READY FOR 1955 HISTORY CONFERENCE

Ross Toole and the Montana Historical Society set a mighty fast pace for the Northwest History Conference this year and our sincere thanks for such outstanding service. Spokane will be host in 1955 and already the Eastern Washington Historical Society is busy with its planning and advance work.

### THEY'RE BUSY IN WALLA WALLA

That new Walla Walla Historical Society is more than busy and with a mighty valuable 'assist' from the Walla Walla Union-Bulletin. More than a page of history in a recent issue, with Vance Orchard responsible for most of it. A picture of Miss Thomas and Miss Pettyjohn working on material for the museum--when they get it. They'll get it and it will be good.

### FINE NEWS FROM YAKIMA

A banquet with more than 300 folks present, just to get to work on a museum project. We know those Yakima folks pretty well and can't see a thing in the crystal ball but success. They've a county full of history. Soon they'll have a place to show it.

### DITTO FROM KITSAP COUNTY

They're at work on a museum project in Kitsap County and with a splendid start. Can't see a thing but success for them, either. It's fine to see these museum projects popping up over the state. They'll be fine fireproof buildings.

### WE DO SOME DREAMING, TOO

We've just had a couple of paintings framed and hung on our office wall. The State Society building was erected through donations of public spirited citizens. Those early builders didn't stop. They were dreaming of a completed Historical Society building, at least eight times the size of the present building. The two pictures depict their 'dream'. This Director probably would restrain his dreaming, but don't let anyone think he doesn't visualize more space and what could be done with it.



# OFFICERS ELECTED BY NEW HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN LINCOLN COUNTY

Last spring the Lincoln County Historical Society got under way most auspiciously and in October the organization was completed.

Officers were elected as follows:

President--Jack McPherson, Jr., Wilbur  
 Vice Pres.--John Hulvey, Davenport  
 Secretary--Mrs. Hazel Laughon, Davenport  
 Treasurer--Sara Clinton, Davenport  
 Vice Presidents for each Consolidated

School District:

Odessa--B. L. Lyons  
 Davenport--Miss Dixie Bennett  
 Sprague--Fred Kirschofer  
 Harrington--Mrs. Adelia Scott  
 Almira--Wm. Kreitz  
 Edwall--John Hampton  
 Reardon--Fred Michael  
 Wilbur--Walter Hitchcock

By-Laws were adopted and steps taken toward incorporation.

The Society is looking for a 'home' for historical relics being collected. It's a safe prediction that one will be found. Meetings will be held the first Monday of each month.

## NEW EXHIBIT SPACE IN SEATTLE MUSEUM

The outstanding Maritime Exhibit arranged by the Seattle Museum of History and Industry proved so popular during its six months of showing that space has been arranged on the lower floor for a permanent exhibit. This will include part of the exhibit given by H. W. McCurdy.

## OLYMPIA MUSEUM RENDERING VALUABLE SERVICE THROUGH EXHIBITS AND MEETINGS

All days at the Olympia home of the Capitol Historical Society are busy days. Mrs. Ida Burford, director, arranges special exhibits and makes special meetings in the building possible.

Olympia Writers held a meeting recently. A number of poets and writers were guests of the club, including visitors from Chehalis and Centralia.

The Olympia Rose Society met in the building for its October meeting. Dr. Paul Smith of Tacoma was the speaker and a colored film on rose culture was shown.

The Olympia Art League sponsored a display of ceramics in the museum during October, attracting a great deal of attention.

Mrs. Burford reports that the public is very appreciative of this service.

# GET READY FOR MORE CENTENNIALS IN 1955; INDIAN TREATIES SIGNED CENTURY AGO

We may be too busy to think about it, but no harm will come from wondering what would have happened to Washington had not treaties been signed with the Indians 100 years ago, making possible white ownership of land in the Northwest.

The centennial of this treaty-signing, so important to our state, will be observed next year. The State Society is deeply interested in these centennials and is assisting with the planning.

It is notable that the Indians are taking a leading part in these plans. Joe Hillaire of the Lummi tribe, has been selected by the Peninsula tribes to head up their participation.

Olympia is planning a Centennial Treaty program, with the Nisqually Indians assisting.

It is expected that programs will be staged either in Everett or Mukilteo, and at least once on the Peninsula.

Another treaty was signed at Walla Walla and there will undoubtedly be an observance there.

The Peninsula Indians are anxious to build a Long House at Mukilteo and it is very probable this will be done. Mr. Hillaire spent half a day at the State Society office last month, discussing plans.

Incidentally, he was really thrilled by the new Indian Department, which he saw for the first time.

## VISITORS CERTAINLY LIKE HISTORY

Fort Simcoe State Park drew 23,819 visitors during the summer, reports Matthew John, caretaker. That's a lot of visitors, and the work of fort restoration is not yet completed. Washington tourist leaders should realize that visitors are interested in history.

## NICE JOB FOR SANTA CLAUS

Friends of the State Society have done some very nice things for it. Here's a suggestion that would make us mighty happy--if it came to pass. We could make excellent use of a slide projector and screen. Both should be good for they will be used a long time. Sure, gifts to this Society are deductible. Letters on this will be welcome, also phone calls or telegrams. Best of all, a personal visit if possible.



ROCK-HOUNDS OF NORTHWEST BACK OF EXHIBIT  
SPONSORED BY WASHINGTON POW WOW

It won't be the largest exhibit of its kind but the project planned for the State Society building will be historical as well as following their interesting hobby. The Pow Wow is raising a fund for the project, "A Buck a Member", and the response has been excellent. C. H. Robinson, Jr., of Puyallup, Chief Pow Wow, is heading the drive. The idea is unique and the results will be outstanding. Work on the first unit of the display starts very soon.

STATE SOCIETY NAMES LIBRARIAN

Miss Ruth M. Babcock, for many years associated with Washington library work, has been named Librarian of the State Society. Miss Alta West continues as Reference Librarian.

BELLINGHAM LOSES A FAITHFUL WORKER

Miss Hallie Campbell, for a number of years in charge of Pickett House in Bellingham, and an active pioneer, passed away last month. At the time of her death she was connected with the Bellingham City Museum.

MRS. PERCY CREATH SMITH RETIRES

One of Tacoma's most faithful and energetic civic workers, Mrs. Percy Creath Smith, is going to take it a little easier. Over a long span of years, name the civic project and Mrs. Smith would have had a part in it. Her last big job was heading the Pierce County drive for the Whitman Statue fund. During her years of work in Tacoma she accumulated a large number of scrap books and clippings, which she has given to the State Society library. A good mine of local history.

DR. AVARD FAIRBANKS, NOTED SCULPTOR, VISITOR

Dr. Avard Fairbanks of the University of Utah, the man who created the Marcus Whitman statue for the Hall of Statuary, paid the State Society a visit in October, also calling on Mrs. Della Gould Emmons, author.

YOU WON'T SEE THIS BUT IT'S GOOD

For some time work has been in progress on storage rooms for State Society museum artifacts. The public won't see these improvements but they are among the most important improvements made in the building in the past 10 years.

NEW NORTHWEST BOOKS WILL BE POPULAR

A new color book, 24 Washington-Oregon pictures in color, by Binfords & Mort, will be popular. Also "The Trail to Oregon" by Frederica B. Coons, same publishers. Also "Untamed Olympics" by Ruby E. Hult.

COLLECTION OF FAMOUS WILD LIFE PAINTINGS  
EXHIBITED IN STATE SOCIETY GALLERY

The November exhibit in the gallery of the State Society is one of the most unique and outstanding in the history of the gallery--original paintings used in the national advertising campaign of the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company.

The campaign series which features the paintings has won national awards and recognition. The paintings are by Fred Lukekens and Stan Galli, outstanding artists in the magazine and commercial art fields. The exhibit has won wide attention, the first time shown in Tacoma.

WANTED -- FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

The State Society has had a lot of help in the past from "Friends of the Library", folks who have bought books as gifts to the library. A library always needs books, so "Friends" are needed, also.

MANY GIFTS RECEIVED BY STATE SOCIETY

Among the gifts received recently by the State Society are the following:  
1500 glass negatives of old land claims, from the Weyerhaeuser Timber Co. An unusual collection and a valuable acquisition.

Pioneer days doll clothes given by Miss Elsa Nessonson of Wesley Gardens.

John Brygger of Seattle has given pamphlets, booklets, cards, posters, maps of early days in Tacoma and Washington.

Mrs. R. H. Hopkins, Tacoma, has given a beautiful beaded cape worn on opening night of Tacoma theatre by her sister, Lillian Hillbery.

From Mrs. J. A. Lindstrom, Burton, Indian artifacts, pioneer relics and clothing.

Mr. and Mrs. Robt. B. Anderson, Buckley, have given an unusual collection of pioneer relics, including early surgical instruments and clothing.

MR. CLICK RELANDER,  
YAKIMA REPUBLIC,  
YAKIMA, WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
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CHAPIN D. FOSTER, EDITOR

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TACOMA, WASHINGTON

Volume 8, Number 1

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## WASHINGTON JOINS IN LEWIS-CLARK SESQUI-CENTENNIAL

A century and a half ago, on April 7, 1805, the most important land expedition in history, headed West from Fort Mandan, North Dakota.

At the head of the expedition were Lewis and Clark and back of the explorers was President Jefferson, who for years had been dreaming of an expedition that would tell the story of the Northwest.

The Pacific Ocean was the goal and that goal was reached in Washington when the exploring party stood on the bank on the north shore of the Columbia and gazed across the Pacific.

While the party had left St. Louis on May 14, 1804, the current year will be observed in the Northwest as the Sesqui-Centennial Year. The Governors of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, North and South Dakota have named special committees to direct observances in the different states.

The special committees are joining forces to co-ordinate observance so far as possible. Members of the Washington committee are: Chapin D. Foster, Chairman; C. E. Johns, Olympia, Secretary; Ray L. Bachman, Vancouver; Mrs. E. H. Kidwell, Pasco; Lester Huntington, Kelso; Miss Dorothy Elliott, Walla Walla; Judge Tomas Jordan, Clarkston; Mitchell Doumit, Cathlamet; Frank Turner, Ilwaco; Watson Totus, Yakima. Mr. Foster is also chairman of the Northwest group.

Schools, newspapers, magazines, radio, television, organization programs and civic events will direct attention to the great expedition. At least one motion picture, to be released very soon, will be out. This is based on the book "Sacajawea" by Della Gould Emmons of Tacoma.

Special events already are planned at Vancouver, Pasco, Walla Walla, Clarkston.

## NEW MURAL HONORS WASHINGTON AND STATE THAT BEARS HIS NAME

Opening the observance of Washington Week in Tacoma, a new Mural was dedicated Feb. 20 in the State Society building. It was made possible through gifts by L. T. Murray, Artist Kenn E. Johnson, and Edwin V. Paul. The project owes its inception to a generous gift by Mr. Murray, prominent Tacoma lumberman. The principal mural is 8x16 feet, depicting three scenes. Three additional scenes are presented on other walls of the corridor in which the mural has been placed.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY 'DIFFERENT'

For many years the annual meeting of the State Historical Society has centered around a luncheon but this year a 'different' plan is to be followed.

The date will be the 5th Saturday in April and the meeting will be an Open House in the Society's building.

It will be held in the afternoon, for members and their guests. Refreshments, of course but without charge.

Lewis and Clark will be the theme, with Mrs. Della Gould Emmons as chairman of

the program committee. She promises some very pleasant surprises. Lewis and Clark descendents (the entire party) will be special guests and there will be a very important display of L-C relics, relics brought to Washington this year for the first time.

Many improvements are being made in the building, and an Open House meeting will give members an opportunity to see what has been done. This will be a meeting no member should miss.

## ANOTHER CENTENNIAL -- A CENTURY AGO TREATIES WERE SIGNED WITH NORTHWEST INDIAN TRIBES

Washington will be observing another Centennial this year, the anniversary of the signing of the treaties with the Indians, which made it possible for whites to own land in the Northwest.

Anniversary events are being planned, with the Indian tribes taking the lead. The principal event will probably be held at Mukilteo, with others at Olympia, Walla Walla, Bellingham, Peninsula, Tacoma and Seattle.

Without the signing of these treaties white ownership of land would have been long delayed.



## CHATS WITH THE EDITOR

SESQUI-CENTENNIAL NOT A  
SO-WHAT OBSERVANCE

In the last issue of News-Letter we were wondering if Washington would do much about the Lewis and Clark Sesqui-Centennial. No need to worry, it won't be that. Governor Langlie has named a committee and the group is working with similar groups in other Northwest States. No group has adequate funds with which to work but there is a fine spirit of cooperation and that is often worth more than money.

Schools, newspapers, radio, television, civic events, organization programs will direct a lot of attention to the expedition which gave the U. S. her best claim to the Northwest.

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WASHINGTON ROCK HOUNDS A  
BUSY, BUSY BUNCH

'Busy' is too mild a word for the Washington Rock Hounds. For months, under C. H. Robinson, Jr. of Puyallup, they've been working toward a great rock-mineral display in the State building. The 'green light' has been flashed. A great display.

AMERICAN HERITAGE--A GREAT  
NEW MAGAZINE IS LAUNCHED

It's impossible to say too much for that new history magazine--American Heritage. It's alone in its field.

Hard to tell whether to call it a magazine or book, it's both. It took a lot of faith to launch such a magazine-book but the response so far has exceeded expectations. News-Letter can recommend this publication in the highest terms. A little on the expensive side but worth every nickel it costs.

WHAT IF THE TREATIES HAD  
NOT BEEN SIGNED?

Ever think of what would have happened if the first treaty with the Indians had not been signed at Medicine Creek? Pretty doubtful if the second would have been signed. Eventually, no doubt, but when? That makes the Treaty Centennial this year very important.

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## ANOTHER DREAM NEARS COMPLETION

For a long time the staff has been dreaming of pioneer rooms. Three will be completed soon on the second floor. See them.

SPOKANE ALWAYS A FINE HOST;  
HISTORY CONFERENCE COMING SOON

Spokane folks have been working for months on the 1955 Northwest History Conference. It's set for May 6-7 and invitations have gone to Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and British Columbia. A great conference is planned, every minute of it worth while.

Prof. Babbof Yake principal speaker. Lewis and Clark to be featured.

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## WASHINGTON MURAL SETS HIGH MARK

It's doubtful if there is anything in the state just like it, possibly the area is much larger but at any rate the new Washington mural dedicated Feb. 20th in the State Society building sets a high mark. A substantial gift from L. T. Murray set the project in motion. Artist Kenn Johnson enlarged original plans. Built around the theme featured on Society stationery "A Great State Honors a Great American". Donors can be justly proud of the results, and certainly the Society is very happy with this fine new mural.

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## MORE MEMBERS NEEDED

Every historical society needs more members. Ours no exception. As a starter, if every member will suggest a name, it will help.

## YAKIMA EDITOR--HISTORIAN HONORED

One of the busiest newspaper men in Washington is Click Relander, city editor of the Yakima Republic. When he isn't at his newspaper desk Relander will be somewhere in Washington digging up Indian history. He has been taken into an Indian tribe and bears the name Now Tow Look. At its last meeting the Spokane Press Club gave him an Award, and the K of P lodge of Yakima gave him the Paythian Award for Brotherhood Week. Both honors are well deserved.

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It's now the Yakima Valley Museum and Historical Association. Broader name for a great Society.

## OLD TYPEWRITER PROVES TIMES CHANGE

Not that proof was needed, but W. S. Walter of Tacoma has given more proof to the State Society. This time it's an old typewriter. It's an Odell, patented in 1889, queerest looking typewriter we've seen. It's a 'hunt and peck' job. You do one letter at a time when you find the letter. Mr. Walter has also given the Society a spike from the famous Baker Rawhide railroad, first west of the Mississippi. Only a few miles, between Walla Walla and Wallula, but mighty important during the few years it was operated. What a lot of progress in a very few years.



## RESTORATION OF OLD FORT OKANOGAN TAKES IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD

A group of Okanogan men and women, dreaming for years of restoration of old Fort Okanogan, have been hoping that out of the current legislative session would come realization of their dream.

They want to see the lore-rich area preserved as a state park, with a museum to house artifacts from that area. The fort was an Astor post, started Sept. 11, 1811, and here the American flag was first flown in what is now Washington.

The Triangle Club of Brewster has been very active in working for the project.

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## BIG MOBILE RELIEF MAP WILL GIVE SCHOOL CLASSES IDEA OF PIONEER HARDSHIPS

For many weeks work has been in progress in something quite unique in the field of visual historical education--a relief map showing historical trails.

The map was made by Kenn E. Johnson, State Society artist-preparator, with John Gipple doing the construction work.

Featured on the map will be the Lewis & Clark, Oregon and Mormon Trails. The map begins at St. Louis and ends, of course, at the Pacific. The State Society entertains several hundred bus loads of school pupils each year, with Mrs. Edith Taplin acting as guide. She will find this invaluable in impressing young Washington with the hardships of the pioneer trails.

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## KITSAP ASSOCIATION INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS

Chas. G. Strong continues as president of the active Kitsap Co. Historical Society. The annual meeting was held at the Sheridan Park Lounge.

Other officers are: Gideon Hermanson, vice president; W. O. Lewis, recording secretary; Leola Anderson, corres. secretary; Elgie Hoffman, museum director; Mrs. H. H. Keith, publicity; Mrs. Elgia Hoffman, registrar; Miss Chloe Sutton, historical director. For her long loyal service Miss Sutton was presented a gift. \*\*\*\*\*

## MISS LONG HAS UNIQUE EXHIBIT, STATE BUILDING

One of the most interesting and certainly the most unique exhibit seen in the State Society building is that of Miss Beatrice Long of Tacoma. She calls it "Beach Nuts". From the beaches Miss Long has collected bits of shell, bark, fungus, etc. and has a museum "Must". See it.

## SNOHOMISH COUNTY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION WILL REPORT PROGRESS AT FIRST ANNUAL MEETING

The Snohomish County Museum Association, founded for the purpose of establishing a Museum for the preservation of historical objects, education and advancement of the arts, will report remarkable progress at the annual meeting April 4.

A large site overlooking Port Gardiner and near the grounds of the new Junior College has been given the Association by the Everett Park Department. A substantial sum is already in the building fund and a drive for members is under way.

In the meantime the museum committee has exhibits in the corridor of the courthouse and in the bank windows.

The Art exhibit committee has had a succession of excellent shows in the Library auditorium. Shows are booked through June already.

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## SEATTLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOLDS GALA BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FEBRUARY 13

The Seattle Historical Society held a birthday celebration Feb. 13th in its Museum. Stephen F. Chadwick was master of ceremonies.

Participating in a round-table discussion on the development of Seattle were: John D. Spaet, Director of Planning; John S. Detlie, President Allied Arts Council; J. Henry Geller, Industrialist; F. R. McAbee, Builder. A feature was a Planning Committee model of the metropolitan center in the year 2000.

Mrs. Frederick Dent Hammons has presented the Society a twelfth scale model of a Southern Colonial House, exquisitely furnished. A program for the blind was set for March 10.

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## ROCK HOUNDS WORKING ON GREAT EXHIBIT

When Washington Rock Hounds go to work on a project there is no such thing as Failure. At least not with Charlie Robinson cracking the whip. The 'Hounds' have given the green light on the first unit of an outstanding display in the State Society building.

Included in the first unit will be a large map of Washington on which can be displayed in each county the ore produced there, and some of the products coming from the ore. A 'black light' display will feature the second unit.

Membership in this unique Rock Hound club comes at \$1. They're after 1000 members, and they'll get 'em. It will be a great display.

\*\*\*\*\*

Washington lost an enthusiastic historian in the passing of E. T. Short, Tacoma and Washington newspaperman for many years.



## AMERICAN HERITAGE SETS NEW HIGH IN FIELD OF CURRENT HISTORIAL PUBLICATIONS

This country never has seen anything just like the new American Heritage and evidently likes what it is seeing for printing so far has exceeded expectations.

This is both magazine and book. It's larger than the usual magazine and has hard covers like a book.

The second issue is out and maintains the fast pace of the first issue. Subject titles include "An Eye Witness Describes the Hanging of John Brown", "To the Farthest Point of the Rich East", "Chateau Builder to Fifth Avenue", "People of the Long House", "James Gordon Bennett, Beneficent Rascal", "The Cult of the Primitives", "Riding the Circuit with Lincoln", "Yankee Gunner of Louisbourg", "New York Greeted King Ludwig's Girl Friend", "A Nosegay of Valentines", "Aide to Four Presidents", "The Ancient Game of Tongue Twisters". Plus book reviews and "History News".

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## HOWARD BURNHAM HEADS VANCOUVER SOCIETY

Howard Burnham, a leader in the field of history in Clark County, member of the State Society Board of Curators, is the new president of the Fort Vancouver Society.

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## IDAHO LEWIS & CLARK BOOSTERS SEEK COMPLETION OF LOLO PASS HIGHWAY

With less than 25 miles remaining unfinished, the Idaho Lewis & Clark boosters are working for a completion of the highway immediately. A feature of this campaign was the Lolo Pass Caravan which originated at Prosser and made the trek to Lewiston, Idaho, where a big meeting was held.

In the party from Washington were Mrs. Margaret Thompson, Kennewick, and members of the Walla Walla Historical Association; Miss Eloise Thomas, president; W. D. Church, Mrs. C. F. Dement, Miss Margaret Pettyjohn, Mrs. W. D. Church.

The party drove 125 miles east from Lewiston. When it came to 'roughing it' for the night, Miss Pettyjohn was the only one to do the necessary pioneering, the others returning to motel accommodations at Grangeville.

An effort is also being made to designate a Lewis and Clark highway route through Southwestern Washington. Legislative approval seems assured.

## THREE PIONEER ROOMS TO PROVE VALUABLE INNOVATION IN STATE SOCIETY BUILDING

Another State Society staff dream is coming true--three pioneer rooms on the second floor. The three rooms will be sitting room, kitchen and tool room. The first will include a fireplace. John Gipple is handling construction and Kenn Johnson, artist-preparator, planning the exhibits, with the Director doing the back-seat driving. The rooms will be ready for the annual meeting April 30th.

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## ORCAS ISLAND SOCIETY PROGRAM CONSTRUCTIVE

Interesting and regular meetings have featured the Orcas Island Historical Society's year. High point was the annual parade in August, followed by large museum attendance.

Orcas Island geology has featured two meetings this year, speaker being Harry U. Gagg. Rev. W. A. Allen, 40 years a resident of China, has shown colored slides of Kunming and scenery along the Burma Road. He was in China two years under Communist rule. He helped establish nine churches in West China. Indian relics found on Orcas Island have been shown at meetings.

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## COWLITZ MUSEUM ALLOCATED ADDITIONAL SPACE

Growth of the Cowlitz County Historical Society museum reads like a fairy tale. Five years ago a case in the courthouse corridor, today the entire upper floor of courthouse annex. A fine museum, planning open house very soon.

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## CLALLAM COUNTY SOCIETY NEARS MUSEUM GOAL

A unique museum plan developed by the Clallam County Society is approaching its museum goal. The 129 society members are raising money for the museum and the High school manual arts class is doing the work. The building is just outside the city limits, inside the National Park, accessible on the Port Angeles road to Hurricane Ridge. Rustic design, sheathed and roofed with cedar shakes. Fine museum from a smart plan.

MR. CLICK RELANDER,  
1212 NORTH 32nd AVE.,  
YAKIMA, WASHINGTON.

## WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

15 N. Stadium Way, Tacoma, Washington  
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