NEWS DEPARTMENT

Cowlitz Mission

With an elaborate program, a beautiful tablet was erected on Cowlitz Prairie on May 11, 1926, to mark the site of the Cowlitz Mission of 1838 and the first Catholic Church in what is now the State of Washington. The tablet was erected by the Washington State Historical Society and the Knights of Columbus.

M. B. McBride, of Chehalis, was chairman of the Knights of Columbus committee; Judge John Arthur, of Seattle, President, and W. P. Bonney, of Tacoma, Secretary, led in the work for the Washington State Historical Society. Edward P. Ryan, of Spokane, presided at the ceremonies. There was music by the children of the Mission School and addresses were made by Judge Arthur; Hon. John I. O'Phelan, of Raymond; Rev. J. M. Canse, of Centralia; Rev. Father Roman, Pastor of the Cowlitz Mission.

Fort Henness

Near the center of Grand Mound Prairie, Thurston County, a blockhouse fort was erected during the Indian War of 1855-1856 which gave shelter to men, women and children to the number of two hundred and twenty-seven. The Washington State Historical Society erected a marker there which was dedicated on Saturday, June 12, 1926, with the following program, Judge John Arthur presiding:

Music, singing by the audience, led by Mrs. Abbie Eperson of Centralia.

Invocation, by Rev. J. M. Canse, D.D:

"Events Leading to Indian Outbreaks," by Prof. L. H. Baker of Portland.

"Building Fort Henness," by John James, of Grand Mound, only surviving builder.

"Inception of the Memorial," by George E. Smith, Centralia.

"Our Debt to the Pioneers," by Mayor George Barner, of Centralia.

"Our Schools and the Years to Come," by Prof. J. E. Mc-Cleary of Rochester.

Presentation of the marker, by W. P. Bonney, of Tacoma, Secretary of the Washington State Historical Society.

Unveiling of the marker by Miss Irene James and others.