

NEWS DEPARTMENT

Nisqually Centennial

The centennial of the first settlement by white men on the shores of Puget Sound was recognized with a pilgrimage to old Fort Nisqually by men particularly interested in the history of the Northwest. These included Judge J. T. Ronald of Seattle, T. C. Elliott, of Walla Walla, well known writer of history; Robert B. Walkinshaw, author of *On Puget Sound*; W. P. Bonney, of Tacoma, Secretary of the Washington State Historical Society; Winlock W. Miller and Winlock W. Miller, Jr., of Seattle; C. B. Babcock, of Tacoma, President of the Washington State Historical Society; Rolland H. Denny, last survivor of the founders of Seattle; Robert Montgomery, editor of the *Puyallup Valley Tribune*; A. H. Denman, of Tacoma; Rollin V. Ankeny, A. H. Albertson, Laurence S. Booth, Francis Frink, Redick H. McKee, Dr. Tom Mesdag, Ward Walker and Edmond S. Meany, of Seattle. Three ladies, passengers in the Denny car, were Mrs. R. H. Denny, Mrs. Florence Denny Heliker and Mrs. E. S. Meany.

The party was made welcome by Roy C. Hull representing E. I. duPont de Nemours & Co., present owners of the property. He was a most effective guide through the changed area of the old Fort and homestead. The company has caused to be erected stone pillars bearing bronze plaques to mark the main historic spots.

As interest naturally centered on the work of Dr. William Fraser Tolmie, begun at Nisqually on May 30, 1833, Mr. Elliott had prepared letters to be sent from the historic spot to the children of that distinguished pioneer. The pilgrims signed the letters and sent them to Hon. Simon Fraser Tolmie, Premier of British Columbia, Mr. Roderick Finlayson Tolmie and to the Misses May Fraser Tolmie, Jane Work Tolmie and Josette Catherine Tolmie, all of whom now live in Victoria, B.C.

Mr. Denman made fine photographs of the remaining old buildings of the Fort and of a group of the pilgrims at its centennial.

On the way from Tacoma to Nisqually, Mr. Bonney guided the party to historic sites in and around Fort Steilacoom, including the spot where had once stood the log cabin home in which he himself was born.

Editor Montgomery gave a fine account of the pilgrimage in the issue of his paper for June 9, 1933. The *Tacoma News Tribune* for May 30 published a well-illustrated article on the centennial and Mr.

Bonney apparently inspired an interesting radio program which was broadcasted over Station KVI, Tacoma, on that same evening.

The Famous Frigate Constitution

The visit of "Old Ironsides" to the Pacific Northwest will constitute an interesting chapter of history when the records are all compiled. The most significant event was while she was in the harbor of Astoria on May 11, 1933, when the ceremonies were combined with the elaborate celebration of Captain Robert Gray's discovery and naming of the Columbia River on May 11, 1792. This celebration was across the river at Chinook. A replica of Captain Gray's ship *Columbia* was made, an Indian village was reconstructed and other exhibits were provided to entertain the guests including the crew of the *Constitution*. A valuable historical address was delivered by George C. Jones, of Ocean Park, Washington.

During the frigate's visit to Seattle, a most worthy old gentleman who asked that his name be not mentioned, offered a gift to be made through the University of Washington to "Old Ironsides" consisting of a cane made from wood from Perry's flagship *St. Lawrence*. Acting President Hugo Winkenwerder agreed to have the University of Washington act as sponsor of the gift but officers of the *Constitution* said the policy of the ship prevented the acceptance of any gift not directly related to the ship. Space on the ship did not permit the acceptance of gifts so generously offered.

Denny Homestead Honored

On Sunday, May 21, 1933, a bronze plaque was placed on the building at the southwest corner of Second Avenue and Union Street, Seattle, to mark the site of the family homestead of Arthur A. Denny and Mary A. Denny. The last surviving child, Rolland H. Denny participated in the program of unveiling. The memorial was placed and dedicated by Voiture 75 of the Forty and Eight of the American Legion.

Professor Bailey at Work

Professor Thomas A. Bailey, of Stanford University, recently a Summer Session visiting Professor of History at the University of Washington, has issued two separates of his research work: "World War Analogue of the Trent Affair," from the *American Historical Review* for January, 1933, and "The West and Radical Legislation, 1890-1930," from the *American Journal of Sociology* for January, 1933.