

NEWS DEPARTMENT

Historic Tablet in Olympic Hotel

The Daughters of Pioneers (prior to 1870) have placed a beautiful bronze tablet at the main entrance of Seattle's new Olympic Hotel. The inscription on the tablet is as follows:

"This is the original site of the University of Washington, A.D. 1861-A.D. 1895. Placed by the Daughters of the Pioneers."

The people of Seattle had combined their efforts to build the great hotel. They took pride in the ceremonies that dedicated their accomplishment. The *Seattle Times* of December 9 thus announced the ceremonies attending the dedication of the historic tablet:

"Following closely the lavish dedication of the new Olympic Hotel Saturday evening came another event yesterday—one less elaborate, much more limited in participants, but none the less important from an epoch-making standpoint, especially to its sponsors, members of pioneer families whose courage and faith in the city's future brought about this great civic achievement."

About three hundred representatives of the pioneer families assembled for luncheon in the ornate Spanish ballroom. Mrs. Helen Polson Gibson, President of the Daughters of Pioneers, presided and made the introductory address touching on the importance of the occasion. With her at the speaker's table sat six of the seven known survivors of the first University students of 1861. These were called to their feet for introduction as follows: Mr. and Mrs. Clarence B. Bagley, Mrs. Susie Mercer Graham, Mr. Rolland H. Denny, Mrs. Gardner Kellogg and Mrs. M. S. Drew. At the same table were Mrs. O. C. Shorey, who kept the first University Boarding House, Mrs. Clara McCarty Wilt, who was the sole member of the first graduating class in 1876 and Judge W. P. Bell, President of the Pioneer Association of Washington. These were the guests of honor of the occasion. Other participants in the program who occupied seats at the same table were Miss Alice Calhoun, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, Mrs. Este Avery, soloist, and her accompanist, Mrs. George B. Lamping and Doris Lamping, daughter and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rolland H. Denny.

Before little Doris Lamping, great granddaughter of Arthur A. Denny, principal donor of the land, unveiled the tablet, Prof. Edmond S. Meany gave an address on the history of the land and the University leading up to the building of the great hotel. He complimented the Daughters of Pioneers on their service to the future in thus marking a site of such historic importance.

An Honor for Vancouver

The memory of Captain George Vancouver has been honored in the place of his birth by the naming of a new road.

In this *Quarterly* for October, 1924, there was published a review of *Vancouver and His Great Voyage* by G. H. Anderson. In acknowledging a copy of the review the author, who is Borough Accountant, writes from Town Hall, King's Lynn, England: "I am pleased to say that the suggestion I made as to naming the new road has been adopted and every day I now have the gratification of walking through 'Vancouver Avenue'."

Two Washington Centennials

The year 1925 should be interesting to the citizens of the State of Washington on account of two centennials. Mr. Oliphant mentions one of them in his article on Fort Colville in this issue. The other is Vancouver. Chief Factor John McLoughlin moved the Columbia River headquarters of the Hudson's Bay Company from Fort George (Astoria) to what he called Fort Vancouver in the spring of 1825. The village, now city, of Vancouver grew up alongside the Fort. It is the oldest continuous home of white men in the State of Washington. Its centennial ought to be marked by some ceremony or celebration.

The Pacific Wilderness Olympiad

Fifteen cities in view of the Olympic Mountains are working up interest in a great pageant as a tourist attraction for 1925. It is planned to weave some pioneer history and later progress into a story that will be successful in pageant form. The cities as listed in the advance literature are Olympia, Hoquiam, Aberdeen, Montesano, Elma, Chehalis, Centralia, Bremerton, Shelton, Port Angeles, Port Townsend, Port Orchard, Quilcene, Seattle, Tacoma.