

## NEWS DEPARTMENT

### *Old Indian Report*

Mr. T. C. Van Epps, now of Los Angeles, California, while a citizen of Olympia some thirty years ago purchased an old cabinet and in it found the manuscript report by W. B. Gaswell, Indian Agent in the year 1856. The report is dated at Olympia, Washington Territory, December 31, 1856, and is directed to Hon. Isaac I. Stevens, Governor and Superintendent of Indian Affairs. The first two paragraphs are as follows:

"Having received an appointment from you on the 1st inst., of Special Indian Agent to take charge of the Indians parties to the Treaty of Medicine Creek, negotiated Dec. 26, 1854, I deem it proper at this time to submit the following report of the action I have taken in pursuance of my instructions to carry into effect the stipulations of said Treaty, the condition of the Indians, and the state of affairs generally in my special agency.

"The Indians under my charge are those belonging to the head of Puget Sound, and are collected upon the Squoxain, Puyallup and Nisqually reservations. The number of Indians belonging to each may be set down as follows: Squoxain 375, Puyallup 550, and Nisqually 240."

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### *Indian Block Houses*

Rev. William J. Rule, of Coupeville, Island County, writes an earnest letter asking if there is not some society or agency within the State able and willing to preserve from ruin the Indian block house forts remaining from the time of the Indian war of 1856. He was grieved to find one of them being used as a pig sty. For the sake of history and for the sake of sentiment attached to the struggles of the pioneers so rapidly passing away, some agency should be found to save those evidences of a crisis in the beginning of this Commonwealth.

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### *Sixty-two Years on Puget Sound*

The Bremerton *News-Searchlight* for June 19, 1925, records the death of Joseph Cavanaugh who had sixty-two years of active life on Puget Sound. He is best remembered from long association with road making in Kitsap County.