

NEWS DEPARTMENT

Dedication of Fort Rains

The Skamania County Historical Society on May 30, 1927, dedicated a replica of Fort Rains with elaborate ceremonies. The original fort on the peninsula in the Columbia, known as "Sheridan's Point" did good service during the siege of March 26, 27, and 28, 1856, in the Indian War of that time. Twenty years later it was washed away by high water in the Columbia. With painstaking effort the reconstruction was made as nearly perfect as possible.

A company of troops from Vancouver Barracks and citizens from the neighboring cities of Oregon and Washington assembled to witness the program. Descendants of Chief Chenoweth and other Indians present shook hands with Lieutenant Seeley commanding the United States troops to emphasize the peace that has followed the old days of war.

Memorial Day exercises were conducted by Rev. J. C. Lawrence of Stevenson. At the dedication speeches were made by Rev. J. Neilson Barry, George H. Himes, Captain Murton and Captain Colburn, all of Portland, Oregon; C. C. Colburn, of White Salmon; C. D. Tooley, of Vancouver; Mrs. Lulu D. Crandall and Judge F. W. Wilson, of The Dalles. Other participants included Boy Scouts, and representatives of patriotic and military societies. The master of ceremonies was D. A. Brown, Historian of Skamania County.

New Oregon Island Named

At the meeting on April 6, 1927, the United States Geographic Board rendered a decision approving the name of Tomahawk Island, Multnomah County, Oregon. It is in Friendly Reach, Columbia River between Hayden Island, Oregon, and Ryan Point, two miles above Vancouver, Washington. Interesting history is included in the reason for the decision as follows: "November 4, 1805, the Lewis and Clark Expedition was in this vicinity and Captain Clark's pipe tomahawk was stolen by some Indians. In consequence an island in the river, which has since disappeared, was named Tomahawk Island. The island here described is a newly formed island in the same vicinity, and is now so named on recommendation of the pupils of Miss Catlin's school, Portland, Oregon."