NEWS DEPARTMENT

Centennial of Oregon Trail

The Oregon Trail Memorial Association, 95 Madison Avenue, New York City, is carrying on the work of marking the famous Oregon Trail from the place where the late Ezra Meeker left. An attractive pamphlet is being sent broadcast to stir interest. President Hoover has helped by a proclamation announcing the centennial to be from April 10 to December 29, 1930. The first date refers to the wagon train of Smith, Jackson and Sublette, fur traders, which left Saint Louis for South Pass on April 10, 1830. The second date refers to the birth of Ezra Meeker.

Communities along the Trail are arranging for appropriate celebrations. A debate has developed between Seaside, Oregon, and Olympia, Washington, as to which can rightfully proclaim itself the western terminus of the Trail. It may be that both cities will go forward and let their participants rejoice in a feeling of certainty. There was a ceremony in Olympia on February 22, 1913, in which Ezra Meeker took part. Sacajawea Chaper, Daughters of the American Revolution, presented a bronze tablet on a granite boulder. It proclaims: "Marking the End of the Oregon Trail." The gift was accepted for the State by Governor Lister. The people of Olympia feel that their claim is secure. Editor E. E. Beard, of the Olympia News, declares that President Hoover has been invited to take part in the ceremonies at Olympia as the western terminus. The Olympia Chamber of Commerce is active along similar lines.

A Mason Document Recovered

The Mason County Journal, Shelton, for March 10, 1930, rejoices over the discovery in the State archives of a report by Charles H. Mason, Secretary and Acting Governor and Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Washington Territory. It bears the date of May 2, 1854. Governor Isaac I. Stevens was absent from Olympia making treaties with the Indian tribes and Secretary Mason had to assume the added duties. The Governors of Territories were then required to send quarterly reports to the Federal Government.

Harry L. Tibbals, Pioneer

"Pioneers of the Peninsula" is the title of a series of articles running in the *Port Townsend Leader*. In the issue of March 24,