

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.

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*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.

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*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,

1930, Charles G. Campbell furnishes an extended biography of Harry L. Tibbals who was born in Port Townsend on March 8, 1859, and has lived there continuously excepting two years spent in Victoria. He is the son of Captain H. L. Tibbals who was of the California gold rush of 1849 and moved to Port Townsend in 1856. Harry Tibbals has served two terms as Mayor of his home town.

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*Honor for Eldridge Wheeler*

Former students of the Montesano schools presented a like-like bust of their former teacher Eldridge Wheeler to the School Board. The ceremony took place on December 17, 1929. The bust was made by Victor Alonzo Lewis, sculptor, of Seattle. Mr. Wheeler is highly esteemed. He began teaching in Chehalis (now Grays Harbor) County in 1891. He is now Superintendent of Montesano's schools and has been for thirty-four years. He has also served as County Superintendent and for eight years was a Regent of the University of Washington. He is one of the few men who have received such a memorial tribute while still alive.

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*Frederic G. Young Honored*

A fine memorial tribute to an excellent citizen and scholar is compiled in *The Commonwealth Review of the University of Oregon* for October, 1929. The publication was founded and edited by Professor Young whose colleagues have here assembled a biography, articles about his career as teacher, Dean of the Graduate School, work for the State and for the Oregon Historical Society. There is a bibliography of his many publications. A series of five studies by colleagues in the University of Oregon on topics of history, economics and sociology round out the important issue of a periodical dear to the heart of Professor Young.

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*Rocky Mountains and Railroads*

The National Association of Railroad and Utilities Commissioners, at their Forty-first Annual Convention, Glacier Park, Montana, August 28, 1929, received an address on "Significance of the Rocky Mountains to Transcontinental Railways," by Ralph Budd, President of the Great Northern Railway Company. The address has now appeared in pamphlet form and like other utterances by Mr. Budd it is found to be filled with valuable thoughts and facts.