

INTERESTING LAUNCHING

CHIEF SEATTLE'S TRIBESMEN SEE HIS GREAT-GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTER PERFORM CEREMONY.



BUILT to serve the ancient capital of the Suquamish and Duwamish nations, the Deisel-powered passenger steamer Suquamish, the most modern vessel of her class ever built on the Pacific coast, was sent down the ways at the yards of John Wilson on the East waterway shortly after 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

The vessel was christened by Miss Blanche Thompson, great-great-granddaughter of Chief Seattle, who ruled over the Suquamish and Duwamish peoples, and a large number of his tribesmen were present to see Princess Blanche break the beribboned bottle of champagne on the vessel's bow.

There were interesting ceremonies at the launching.

W. L. Gazzam, president of the Kitsap County Transportation Company, owner of the Suquamish, presided and after a few remarks introduced the speakers of the afternoon.

Thomas W. Prosch, representing Prof. E. S. Meany of the University of Washington, and S. L. Crawford, a pioneer of the Puget sound country, who were unable to be present, discussed the historical significance of the occasion. He described Chief Seattle as a man of great strength, over six feet tall, brave and fearless of heart, a warrior and a hunter.

Mr. Prosch read a letter from Mr. Crawford, in which he congratulated the Indians of the Squamish tribe for having such a fine steamer named in their honor.

He also congratulated Miss Thompson for having been given the honor of acting as sponsor for the vessel.

"There's a reason why the members of this tribe have been so signally honored on this occasion," said Mr. Crawford in his letter. That reason is because they have shown themselves to be good citizens of the country in which they live, industrious, law-abiding and peaceably disposed toward one another and toward their neighbors.

"They have also become lovers of the Stars and Stripes and quite recently erected a fine flag pole about 100 feet high on the grave of Chief Seattle, who is buried on their reservation.

"From this pole they fly a beautiful American flag, given them by a citizen of Seattle who has always been a friend of the Indians and who had kept a small flag flying over Chief Seattle's grave for many years in order to have the Indians love the national emblem that stands for