

Aged Indian Woman Tells of Lewis and Clark Visit.

Honor of Being Only Person Who Can Remember Voyage of Explorers of Oregon Claimed by Wisham Squaw.

THE DALLES, Or., Nov. 13.—(Special.)—The honor of being the only living person, Indian or white, who can remember the voyage of Lewis and Clark down the Columbia river in 1805 is claimed by Spedis Shoo-noo-wa, an ancient Indian squaw living at Wisham village, Wash. She claims to be 120 years old, which would set her age at 5 years at that time.

Spedis Shoo-noo-wa cannot talk "Boston man's talk," the rather attractive young Indian woman who acted as interpreter explained. She talks the Chinook "jargon," however, which is considered almost a dead language at the present time, none of the modernized Indians speaking it.

The first "Boston men" (Lewis and Clark) came down the river in boats, when the present village of Wisham was a "big city," she explained through the woman acting as interpreter. "I only little girl then—just can remember. Next time white men come they bring white women with them. They come in big wagons with white tops, and awful poor. Sometimes no have nothing to eat. They trade with Indian for something to eat."

Shoo-noo-wa evidently referred to the first white settlers who arrived in the neighborhood of The Dalles. Apparently the Wisham Indians did not hold these white visitors in very much respect, as they were so "poor" they had no cheap trinkets to trade, such as Lewis and Clark carried for their dealings with the Indians.

Shoo-noo-wa has lived in Wisham village all of her life, she said, and has seen the tribe gradually grow smaller year by year until its present two dozen members, and the few shacks of today are all that is left of what was once a "big city."

"She just like little baby again, she so old," the interpreter explained. Shoo-noo-wa displayed remarkable agility in spite of her reputed extreme old age, however, when approached with a camera. Asked if she would allow her picture to be taken, she violently shook her head and immediately let loose a stream of invective in "Chinook." The picture was made by literally "poking" the camera at her and snapping the exposure. She immediately arose, without aid, from her sitting posture on the ground and beat a virtuous retreat into her shack, refusing to show herself further.

Although old and senile, called by some of the Indians "crazy," she still persists in doing work of some kind. While sitting in the sun, just before the picture was taken, she was busy engaged in spinning a crude fiber, somewhat resembling hemp, which is used by the Indians in the manufacture of fishnets. She accomplished this by rolling the strands of fiber upon her bare leg with both hands, the strands thus rolled being used by the younger Indians as material for a heavy cord, which was manufactured with the aid of a crude homemade spinning-wheel.

The few remaining members of the tribe are ruled by Chief Spedis, who boasts of being "educated" in that he can both read and write the English language. One result of this superior education is a suit which has been filed by him against the United States government, according to Glenn H. Rank of Vancouver, Wash., who was in The Dalles recently on business in connection with this suit. The suit, according to Rank, is based on the alleged burning of the village and the stampede of horses during the Indian troubles with the Yakimas in 1855. Spedis owns land both in Yakima and at Wisham.

A curious mixture of Indian barbarism and American modernism is to be noted in and about Wisham. For instance, although the porch of their main dwelling is lined with modern cooking utensils, they still persist in carrying water from a stagnant pond, green with slime, for half a mile to their homes for drinking purposes. They wear a curious mixture of "store" clothes and articles of their own manufacture, such as buckskin vests, horsehair hat bands and buckskin gauntlets. One one point they are all agreed, however, and that is that "store" shoes are no good. All wear moccasins, covered with bead work designs and made of buckskin.

About a hundred yards from the village stands a curious shaped arrangement somewhat resembling the modern army "pup" tent. The Indian interpreter explained that this is a "sweat-em house," in which Indians racked with aches and pains could "sweat" them away. She explained that the method of procedure was to heat several round stones in a fire until they were hot, roll them into the "sweat-em house," pour water over them and then sweat in the resultant steam.

These Indian sweat houses date back for centuries, being mentioned by Lewis and Clark upon their return from exploring the northwest.

The Wisham Indians live almost solely by fishing for salmon. They spear the fish as they run upstream, and then dry the halves in the sun upon the rocks. Not a single part of the salmon goes to waste, either, an article much prized by the Indians, known as "salmon sugar," being made of the skin and offal.

VISIT WILL BE NOTABLE

Business Men Throughout State Interested in Lee Campaign.

The interest being shown by business men in all parts of Oregon indicates that the coming of Richard H. Lee, director of the national vigilance committee of the Association of Advertising Clubs of the World, to Portland, on November 23, will not be of local importance only.

Many reservations have been made for the meeting Mr. Lee will address in the evening, when he will explain in detail the working of the national vigilance committee and its 26 associated Better Business bureaus throughout the country.

Mr. Lee for the last two years has been devoting his entire time to directing the work of the national committee, and in many cases not only has been able to break up fake promotion schemes and obtain convictions of the promoters, but has saved to the people of this country millions of dollars for investments in legitimate channels.

Life in Berlin Attracts.

LONDON, Nov. 13.—The youths of Egypt are showing a preference for German and Austrian education, reports Viscount Milner, as high commissioner for that British protectorate. He says that an unusually large number of Egyptian young men are leaving home at present to study in Europe, chiefly in Berlin and Vienna. He attributes this in part to the difficulty of obtaining admission to the overcrowded universities of Great Britain, but also to political motives and to reports of cheapness and gaiety of life in Berlin.

Venezuela Woos European Capital.

THE HAGUE, Nov. 13.—Venezuela is now making serious efforts to interest European capital in its resources. With this object in view, that country has sent Cesar Zumeta, inspector of consulates, to Holland to negotiate with Dutch capitalists.

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