

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1919



**Date:** March 18th, 1919

**Description:** This is a view of the Provident Block from March of 1919. It was located on Pacific Avenue between South 9th and South 10th Streets. The six-story Provident Building (later renamed Security Building before reverting back to the Provident name in 2006) is in the center of this slice of Tacoma's business district. It is surrounded by smaller establishments including several restaurants, Thomas Billiards, and Bloom & Alexander Money & Loan. The Olympus Hotel is one block up the street on the far left. Of special note is the entrance to a "Ladies Only" comfort station in the middle of 10th Street right outside of Washington Dye Works. The actual bathroom was located under the street; it was the only public restroom for women downtown at that time.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1919



**Date:** July 10th, 1919

**Description:** A visitor to Tacoma in 1919 could stand downtown on Pacific Avenue near 8th St., looking south and view this bustling scene. Pedestrians present a blurred image through the camera as they hustle across Pacific, pictured with its streetcar tracks running down the center of the street. Some automobiles maneuver down the street, while others wait parked for their drivers to return. On the left, front to back, are the Hotel Olympus (815-17 Pacific Ave.), an office building at 819 containing the offices of the Tacoma Times and the Hippodrome (821-23.) On the right, front to back, are the Havana Inn storefront and its delivery vehicle in front, Hotel Waldorf (a rooming house at 728 Pacific), Bowie and Love (electric supplies at 732), Hotel Revere (rooms to let above 732), Moose Candy & Confectionary and the Hotel Donnelly and Donnelly Cafe.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1919



**Date:** August 7th, 1919

**Description:** On a hot summer evening in August of 1919, a visitor to Tacoma could stand at the intersection of Pacific Avenue and 9th, looking north, and see the names of two of the city's hotels and a theater light up the sky in electric signs suspended over the street. On the left is the Hotel Donnelly, 742-50 Pacific Ave. The hotel was built in 1887 and leased to John Donnelly, who gave it his name, ten years later. It was demolished in 1925 to make way for the Motoramp Garage. On the right is the Hippodrome Theater at 821-23 Pacific Ave., an office building at 819 Pacific and the Olympus Hotel at 815-17 Pacific. In 1978, the Olympus was converted to apartments. Pedestrians who became weary from walking could hire a taxi at the corner stand or catch a ride the Pacific Avenue streetcar.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1926



**Date:** March 1926

**Description:** In early March of 1926, Albert C.C. Gamer was being loaded down with Tacoma tourist information as he prepared to depart for Paris for the International Hotelmen's Convention. Mr. Gamer, the manager of the Olympus Hotel at 815 Pacific, was approached by area civic organizations as the proper person to carry Tacoma's invitation to Europe. Surrounding Mr. Gamer, left to right, are Joseph Erpelding, carrying Mr. Gamer's bag; Gladys Mase of the City Light Department, giving him facts and pictures of the Cushman power project; Mrs. R.N. Bergen of the Hotel Winthrop; Ruth Edwards (standing) representing the Rainier National Park Co. and Agnes Hansen, representing the Civic Development Bureau of the Tacoma News Tribune. The International Hotelmen met once every three years and the meeting was attended by hosts from all around the world.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1928



**Date:** April 7th, 1928

**Description:** A cordial invitation for "Hotel-Men" to meet in Tacoma, the "lumber capitol of the world," on May 8-9, 1928, was attached to the rear of a black sedan in early April of 1928. "Al" (Albert C.C. Gamer) was listed as the "official scout" and was preparing to depart for California to invite other hotel executives to the two-day convention at the Winthrop. The 20th annual convention of the Washington State Hotel Association with Oregon State Hotel Association participating, opened on Tuesday, May 8th. Pointing to the vehicle's advertisement are managers: (l-r) Ray Clark of the Winthrop Hotel, A.C.C. Gamer of the Olympus Hotel, and Emerson Wakefield of the Carlton Hotel.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1928



**Date:** April 7th, 1928

**Description:** Gesturing toward an oval advertisement on the back of a parked sedan in April of 1928 are three well known hotel managers: (l-r) Emerson Wakefield of the Carlton Hotel, A.C.C. ("Al") Gamer of the Olympus and Ray Clark of the Winthrop. The sign invites "Hotel-men" to convene in Tacoma, the "Lumber Capitol of the World," May 8-9th. "Al" is the "official scout." He would be making a tour throughout California in the vehicle to invite other hotel managers to the convention. The gathering will take place at the Winthrop Hotel.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1929



**Date:** March 11th, 1929

**Description:** This is a slice of Pacific Avenue south from 7th St. as it appeared on March 11, 1929. Among the many businesses on the near right are the Ajax Electric Co., the Keystone Hotel and the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. Across the streetcar tracks on the left are the Olympus Hotel, Provident Building, and Brotherhood Bank in the Washington Building. Photograph ordered by the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1933



**Date:** 1933

**Description:** Photograph of the Olympus Hotel, circa 1933. The Olympus Hotel was built in 1909 by Dan Gamer and Leopold Schmidt. It was designed by architects Darmer & Cutting. The hotel closed in 1974 and was remodeled in 1978 into apartments.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1934



**Date:** September 3rd, 1934

**Description:** Fort Nisqually Dedication parade Labor Day 1934. Parade group marching north on Pacific Avenue past the Hotel Olympus and other buildings in the 800 block. Signs on 823 Pacific Avenue building: Tacoma Marine Market, Tacoma Golf Studio, The Fern.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1935



**Date:** July 18th, 1935

**Description:** On July 18, 1935, sailors and other military men were photographed marching in the Fleet Week Parade. They marched down Pacific Ave., passing (right to left) the Hippodrome at 821-23 Pacific, an office building at 819 and the Olympus Hotel, 815-17 Pacific Ave. The parade was one of the longest military parades to date. Over 1700 sailors and marines marched, including two combined bands from the five battleships docked in Tacoma, as well as the cruiser Omaha. Also taking part were 2500 Ft. Lewis soldiers, ROTC and CMTC troops. (T. Times 7/18/1935, pg. 1)



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1936



**Date:** December 1936

**Description:** Children's Benevolent League Banquet in basement of Olympus Hotel. Serving staff are standing around long tables set for a banquet. A decorative tile floor and distinctive light fixtures are also shown.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1937



**Date:** August 1937

**Description:** When the retail clerks at the Tacoma Peoples Department Store went out on strike during the summer of 1937, the other department stores took the unprecedented step of locking out their employees in an attempt to crush the union. The Tacoma clerks received strong support from many local businesses and unions. A "soup kitchen" was set up in the Olympus Hotel, 815 Pacific Avenue, to help feed union pickets. In September, a satisfactory agreement was reached which included a 40 hour work week with time and one-half for overtime and an increase in wages for unclassified saleswomen from \$15 per week to \$17.25.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1938



**Date:** February 16th, 1938

**Description:** Mike Shea marathon. 1937's winner of the Cooks & Waiters annual "bunion derby" -a 4.6 mile high-paced walk from Tacoma to Fife's Century Ballroom- covered the distance in 57 minutes. Mike Shea (left in photograph) felt that the distance was too short to test a man's walking ability. Whitey Flemish disagreed and bet that Mike could not walk the same distance in an hour. Whitey felt confident as the Cooks & Waiters winner was a younger man and presumably fitter. The bet was on and Mike started his heeling-and-toeing from the Olympus Hotel at 12:30 a.m. on February 16, 1938. 20 carloads of fans followed Mike who was paced by policeman Bill Turner (believed to be at right above). Mike won the \$10 bet as he completed the feat in 59 minutes, 38 seconds.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1939



**Date:** June 7th, 1939

**Description:** Tacoma Railway & Power workers using a special lever to pry-up streetcar rails along Pacific Avenue. A crowd, full of "sidewalk superintendents," gathers to watch the activity. Hotel Olympus in the background. The last streetcar in Tacoma was removed from service in April of 1938; replaced by city buses.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1939



**Date:** June 21st, 1939

**Description:** On June 20, 1939, the company contracted to remove the streetcar tracks on Pacific Avenue between South 7th and South 17th Streets was already pouring concrete to replace old street surface. It had taken Coluccio & Frasca, the general contractors, just two weeks to pull up the old tracks and resurface the road bed. The businesses in the 700 block of Pacific, on the side of the street where the men are working included: the Puget Sound Battery Company, the State Hotel, Daniel G. Yates' Lubritorium, and the Western Auto Supply Company. The Hotel Olympus is in the 800 block, down the street.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1939



**Date:** July 15th, 1939

**Description:** Group of Rainbow Girls from Lynden, Washington. Several young women standing in front of and sitting on top of a bus parked in front of the Olympus Hotel. They are dressed in uniform dresses appliqued with tulips.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1939



**Date:** July 17th, 1939

**Description:** Barber at Olympus Hotel, likely Olaf T. Grunden, wearing toupee and Golden Jubilee costume. Woman wearing waitress uniform is seated in barber chair and pinching the barber's chin. Bottles on tonic on shelf below mirror in background.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1939



**Date:** December 1939

**Description:** Sidewalk view from 800 block of Pacific Avenue showing underneath of bay on Johnson-Cox building and fire escapes projecting above sidewalk. Olympus Hotel to Washington Building on left. View of street light standards, automobiles and pedestrians.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1940



**Date:** February 10th. 1940

**Description:** Moving day at the Tacoma Times. Eight men sitting at bar/beer parlor celebrating the paper's move from its old location at 819 Pacific Ave. to their larger new digs at 919 Market Street on February 10, 1940. Bartender standing behind elaborate bar with stained glass windows, perhaps The Olympus.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1940



**Date:** March 9th. 1940

**Description:** Hotel Greeters. Group at party at Olympus Hotel. Comical portrait of group holding a variety of objects including a rabbit, chicken, piglet, bag of onions.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1944



**Date:** August 5th, 1944

**Description:** The entrance to the Olympus Cafe at the Olympus Hotel showing the stairway down from Pacific Avenue and the lobby. The newly opened "Olympus Cafe" and Supper Club, located in the Olympus Hotel, is celebrating their grand opening. Bert Sundegren, owner, stated it is "Tacoma's newest and Washington's finest" restaurant. The location had large columns, a tile floor and ornate chandeliers.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1944



**Date:** August 5th, 1944

**Description:** The newly opened "Olympus Cafe" and Supper Club, located in the Olympus Hotel, is celebrating their grand opening. Lettering on the column at the back of the room reads, "Activian Room". Draperies are open showing another room beyond.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1944



**Date:** August 5th, 1944

**Description:** Pianist Bert Kool (far right) led the distinctive quartet of musicians who provided dance music at the grand opening of the Olympus Cafe and Supper Club in August of 1944. The new club opened on August 12, 1944, and was located directly below the Olympus Hotel, 815 Pacific Avenue, in what was then the heart of Tacoma's civic center. Bert Sundgren, the new owner, stated it was "Tacoma's newest and Washington's finest" restaurant and pledged dance music nightly with no cover charge. The saxophone player has been identified as Gus DeBock, a lifetime member of the Musicians Union. The last dance he played was with his band, Gus DeBock and the Fabulous 4, on August 9, 1991, two months before his death.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1944



**Date:** November 7th, 1944

**Description:** Tacoma Council of Churches exterior of building. Tacoma Council of Churches helps maintain the United Churches Service Center, which helps provide for the needs of servicemen. View of United Churches Service Center, located above Moderne Portrait Studio and next to Hotel Olympus. Fire escape can be seen on building side.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1945



**Date:** December 1945

**Description:** J.C. Penney Christmas party at the Olympus Hotel. A large group of people attended this celebration. They are seated at tables and stopped for a moment to look at the camera. Santa made a stop for this party, too.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1946



**Date:** February 14th, 1946

**Description:** A.W. (Bill) Olson, food expert for the Milwaukee Railroad, prepared a very special old-fashioned Swedish smorgasbord for the First International Caterers' and Stewards' Association Banquet held at the Olympus Cafe on February 14, 1946. Mr. Olson and his assistants prepared 65 separate traditional dishes. The menu also included imported Swedish Glogg. Waitresses in Swedish costumes helped serve the food, and Swedish music was provided by Al Gruetter. The Olympus Cafe, opened in 1944, was in the basement of the Olympus Hotel at 815 Pacific Avenue.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1946



**Date:** July 5th, 1946

**Description:** The Tacoma Navy Mother's Club gathered together on July 5, 1946, to wish their Commander Helen S. Wood good luck, as she gets ready to attend the 11th Annual Navy Mother's Club National Convention. Helen was honored as the Tacoma representative at a luncheon held at the Olympus Cafe. View of club women at the Olympus Café

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1947



**Date:** September 16th, 1947

**Description:** New crash car at Police Garage, Times, Paul Lantz. The City of Tacoma Police Department purchased a new accident prevention car which was placed in service September 17, 1947, by Safety Commissioner, Robert S. Temme. Sgt. Bob Marshall shows the batteries for the electric flares that are part of the special equipment on the car. Other special equipment included: a first aid kit, drawing board, steel measuring line and a \$300 camera and loud speaker. Dammeier Printing (811 Pacific Ave.) and Hotel Olympus (815 Pacific Ave.) can be seen further down the street.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1948



**Date:** August 26th, 1948

**Description:** Appearing on stage at the Olympus Hotel in August of 1948 was noted African American organist Selika Pettiford. Ms. Pettiford is seated at an electric organ equipped with two keyboards. At her side is a piano which she also used during her performances. Two mirrors, set at an angle to each other, show Ms. Pettiford's reflected image. Selika Pettiford, according to an article in the March 18, 1944, issue of *Billboard Magazine*, studied piano with Paderewski and organ with Jesse Crawford. Her work was devoted principally to the organ. She was a talented linguist who was able to sing in Latin, French, Hawaiian, Russian, Spanish and German. Besides appearing in several motion pictures, she also was a former accompanist to Marian Anderson. (*Billboard*, March 18, 1944, p. 31-article)

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1948



**Date:** August 26th, 1948

**Description:** Approximately two different interior shots of stage, also Mrs. Selika Pettiford, Stores Recreation Association, Harry McGuigan. A view of the stage where Selika Pettiford performs at the Olympus Hotel. The stage is nearly filled with the piano, electric organ, and chimes for Ms. Pettiford's performance. A microphone stands ready. Mirrors are placed on the three closed sides of the stage to reflect Ms. Pettiford when she is playing. The dance floor can be seen in front of the stage.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1948



**Date:** August 26th, 1948

**Description:** In August 1948, Selika Pettiford, wearing a floor-length lace gown, stood between the piano and the electric organ that she played at the Olympus Hotel. There were two mirrors set up on the stage behind Mrs. Pettiford so that the audience could watch her hands as she played. In August of 1944, a new supper club and cafe had opened in the basement of the hotel, which was at 815 Pacific Avenue.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1949



**Date:** February 25th, 1949

**Description:** Ted Grunden, Tacoma's singing barber, locks the door of his barber shop in the Olympus Hotel with the tools of his trade held under his arm. After working 19 years at the same spot he relocated to the Riviera Barber Shop down the street at 908 Pacific Avenue. The Olympus Hotel was expanding their present tavern into a cocktail lounge. Ted Gunden had been the unofficial barber for the Tacoma Times employees for many of those 19 years. Taken for Prescott, Tacoma Times. (T.Times, 2/27/1949, p.36)

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1949



**Date:** June 22nd, 1949

**Description:** Floor of Olympus Hotel Lobby, Stebner's, Inc., Ed Keenan. A workman is applying an adhesive on top of a tile floor, preparing to lay asphalt tile. Three arcade machines are seen at the end of the hall. Stebner's dealt in floor coverings, wall coverings, linoleum, rugs, carpets, asphalt tile, rubber tile, and household appliances. They were located at 3010 Sixth Ave.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1949



**Date:** September 1949

**Description:** The exterior of the newly remodeled Olympus Cafe featuring the Mirror Room at the Hotel Olympus.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1949



**Date:** September 3rd, 1949

**Description:** Olympus Hotel was owned by Paul Sceva and managed by Virgil West. West had initiated the remodeling project just after he became manager, two years ago. The Frontier Room was accessible through the back entrance and through the main lobby; it was decorated like a 19th century inn, with amber glass and darkened wood rafters, historic murals of Washington State and could accommodate 100 people. Interior view of the Frontier Room, located in the Olympus Hotel; view of bar and restaurant area.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1949



**Date:** September 3rd, 1949

**Description:** The Olympus hotel had just finished a two year remodeling project, initiated by the hotel manager, Virgil West. The new Mirror Room would offer dinner and dancing, and would feature the popular organist, Edith Stern with Ray Edwards. Interior view of the Mirror Room restaurant and night club, located in the recently remodeled Olympus Hotel.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1949



**Date:** September 6th, 1949

**Description:** Olympus Hotel was owned by Paul Sceva and managed by Virgil West. West had initiated the remodeling project just after he became manager, two years ago. The Frontier Room was accessible through the back entrance and through the main lobby; it was decorated like a 19th century inn, with amber glass and darkened wood rafters, historic murals of Washington State and could accommodate 100 people. Interior view of the Frontier Room, located in the Olympus Hotel; view of bar and restaurant area.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1950



**Date:** January 14th, 1950

**Description:** A major snow storm hit Tacoma January 13, 1950. Tacoma received almost nine inches of snow, and the wind which reached over 25 miles per hour created drifts up to five feet high. It was the worst storm in years and caused major damage throughout the area. 20 foot waves washed away part of Ruston Way, and ten boats were sunk in the yacht club basin. This view of the front of the Olympus Hotel, 815 -17 Pacific Avenue, from January 14th, shows the snow heaped along the sidewalks where it was left by the plows trying to clear Pacific Avenue.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1950



**Date:** March 11th, 1950

**Description:** Neon highlights the Mirror Room at the Olympus Hotel, 815 Pacific Ave. The newly remodeled Mirror Room was very modern with its gleaming bandstand reflected at every turn in mirrored pillars. The evening began with dinner music from 6 - 8 p.m., followed by dancing nightly at 9p.m. The dining room remained open until 2 a.m. for the late night crowd and reopened the next day for the businessman's lunch group. The Olympus Hotel was one of the most luxurious hotels in Tacoma.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1950



**Date:** November 13th, 1950

**Description:** The Edward B. Rhodes Post No. 2 of the American Legion held their annual Last Man Club banquet at the Mirror Room at the Olympus Hotel November 18, 1950. Twenty men pose with seven empty chairs draped with American flags representing the deceased members of the group. The Club was formed in December of 1938 by WW I veterans who were also past Commanders of the Edward B. Rhodes Post of the American Legion. There were 38 members in all. Ordered by R. Goldberg.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1950



**Date:** December 6th, 1950

**Description:** Street scenes on Pacific Avenue. Looking south from the Motoramp Garage to the 1100 Block of Pacific Avenue. Signs visible: Trailways Bus, Tacoma Seed, Hotel Olympus, Rust building.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1950



**Date:** December 17th, 1950

**Description:** A group of fifty-two men and women have gathered for a Christmas party at the Mirror Room in the Olympus Hotel. Many of them hold packages, possibly presents from the company. Ordered by Mrs. Brown.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1951



**Date:** May 15th, 1951

**Description:** An open house was held at the Olympus Hotel in May 1951 to celebrate the completion of modernization that had been underway for four years. The hotel had been built in 1908. Paul Sceva purchased the hotel in 1944. This "after" photograph shows a twin bed guest room. Former double rooms were rebuilt into one with private baths and showers. New furniture, new beds, new bathroom fixtures and new plumbing as well as new harmonizing carpeting and door locks were all provided. Ordered by Paul Sceva, owner of the hotel.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1951



**Date:** May 15th, 1951

**Description:** A "before" photograph used to show the modernization at the Olympus Hotel. Former double rooms were rebuilt into one with private baths and showers. Massive beamed ceilings were covered with a modern, fireproof layer (three quarters of an inch thick) of sheetrock. Wiring was changed completely and new lighting fixtures were added. New and larger windows were provided in most rooms. Work was completed in 1951. Ordered by Paul Sceva.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1951



**Date:** June 22nd, 1951

**Description:** Mirror Room in the basement of the Olympus Hotel. Dining room with dance floor and stage with band equipment, surrounded by tables. Ordered by Mr. Turril. Original building by Carl August Darmer and Otis Cutting, Architects, 1909.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1951



**Date:** August 24th, 1951

**Description:** In August of 1951, the "Hac" Hanna Trio played in the Mirror Room at the Olympus Hotel, 815-17 Pacific Avenue. At that time both Mr. Hanna and his drummer, Gerald R. Frank, were soldiers stationed at Fort Lewis. The bass player in his group is unidentified. The Mirror Room opened in August of 1944, and many talented musicians played there through the 1950s. Sepia photograph commissioned by Gerald R. Frank, Fort Lewis.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1952



**Date:** May 1st, 1952

**Description:** The "Corral Room" at the Olympus Hotel. Wood siding, a rough beam ceiling and pastoral paintings give this banquet room a rustic feel. The impression of being in a barn is assisted by the painting of a horse peeking out a stall door. The table, chairs and flooring are very simple. The Corral Room was also used as a coffee shop and served cocktails.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1952



**Date:** May 17th, 1952

**Description:** The Olympus Hotel at 815-17 Pacific Ave. was originally built in 1909. In May of 1951 it re-opened after much needed modernization that included new wiring, new furniture, new plumbing and new lighting. This photograph of Becky Barker in a cowgirl outfit, lasso in hand, was taken to help advertise the hotel's dining rooms. The Corral Room and Frontier Room had a western theme that offered a "Bit of the Old West" to Tacoma and hotel guests.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1953



**Date:** June 29th, 1953

**Description:** Exterior of the Olympus Hotel. The hotel was built in 1909 at a cost of \$65,000. It was designed by Darmer & Cutting, Architects. In 1951, it was considered one of the Northwest's best hotels. It was the home of the supper club The Mirror Room and the cafe Frontier Room. The hotel closed its doors in 1974. It was remodeled and opened as apartments in 1978.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1955



**Date:** July 22nd, 1955

**Description:** Group boarding bus at the Olympus Hotel, photograph ordered by the Young Calvinist. Members of the group appear to be of many different ages. Based on the ordering newspaper, the group must be followers of Calvinism. According to the Webster's Dictionary, the theological system of John Calvin and his followers is marked by a strong emphasis on the sovereignty of God, the depravity of mankind and the doctrine of predestination.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1955



**Date:** November 11th, 1955

**Description:** Each year in November the Last Man Club of the American Legion Edward B. Rhodes Post No. 2 met for a reunion banquet. Fifteen members were photographed on November 11, 1955; in front of them are flags draped over ten chairs, to honor deceased commanders. The 1955 reunion, the 18th, was held at the Olympus Hotel.



## *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1957



**Date:** June 21st, 1957

**Description:** The Northern Pacific Railway travel tour of 40 individuals posed in front of the Olympus Hotel on June 21, 1957. They may have been part of a Methodist congregation. Photograph ordered by Northern Pacific Railway.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1958



**Date:** November 10th, 1958

**Description:** Annual photograph of the Last Man Club. The 21st reunion of the American Legion Edward B. Rhodes Post No. 2's Last Man Club occurred in the Peter Puget room of the Olympus Hotel on November 10, 1958. Each year the club met at varying locations in Tacoma for a reunion banquet. View of members posing with flags; flags draped over empty seats signify respect for deceased commanders. There would be one more flag-draped chair in memory of A. Walter Olson who died earlier in 1958.

## *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1968



**Date:** June 28th, 1968

**Description:** On June 28, 1968, Secretary of State A. Ludlow "Lud" Kramer, at the piano, was invited to speak to the Young Men's Business Club at their meeting held at the Olympus Hotel. As the sign on the piano indicates, Mr. Kramer was running for re-election on the Republican ticket. At age 32, Mr. Kramer became the youngest Secretary of State in Washington State history. He would go on to win the 1968 election and serve a total of three terms. Lud Kramer would pass away on April 9, 2004, after a bout of lung cancer. He was 71 years old. Photograph ordered by the Young Men's Business Club.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1972



**Date:** April 8th, 1972

**Description:** 1972 Daffodil Parade. View of Sweepstakes winner as it passes by Dammeier Printing, the Olympus Hotel and Robblee's Safe & Lock Co. on Pacific Ave. This entry from the Olympia Brewing Co. won the coveted FTD Sweepstakes Award for best overall float in the 1972 Grand Floral parade. It used 45,000 daffodils and an array of greenery to promote the festival's theme, "Proudly We Hail." The Olympia Brewing Co. further extended the theme to include "Proudly We Hail the Great Northwest," with deer, rabbits, mice and a skunk sharing the landscape. Water from the float's own tank provided the liquid needed for the float's waterfall. Waving to the crowds were Jane Adams and Pat Strahl, who stood within lavender blossoms that opened and closed to the delight of spectators.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1972



**Date:** November 22nd, 1972

**Description:** View of downtown Tacoma's business district on Pacific Ave. In 1972, businesses on one side of Pacific Ave. included Dammeier Printing (Print NW), the Olympus Hotel, the Security (Provident) Building, the Washington Building with the giant neon Bank of California sign on its roof, and Puget Sound National Bank. In the foreground of this November 22, 1972, picture is the Olympus Hotel: it offered free television in every room and entertainment in the Frontier and Mirror Rooms. Built in 1909, the Olympus would close its doors as a hotel in November of 1974, later undergoing several changes in use of the property. Photograph ordered by Western Union, Seattle.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1972



**Date:** November 22nd, 1972

**Description:** Lobby and registration desk area of unnamed hotel. Sign above the registration counter points to the hotel's restaurant. The unusual heavy ceiling and nearby pillar plus the proximity of a set of stairs presents a tight, closed-in appearance. Photograph was taken on November 22, 1972, on behalf of Western Union, Seattle. There is a possibility that this lobby and registration desk may have been part of the Olympus Hotel, as the hotel was also featured in another photograph in the same series.

# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

1972



**Date:** November 22nd, 1972

**Description:** This is how the 800 block of Pacific Avenue looked like in November of 1972. In the foreground is the Hotel Olympus which was originally constructed in 1909. A free TV in every room was advertised and food and entertainment available in the coffee shop and the Mirror Room. The hotel was flanked by Dammeier Printing (Print NW) and the Tacoma Beauty Supply. Robblee's Safe & Lock Co. was next to the beauty supply store. Further down Pacific was Ghilarducci's Florists, the Trailways Bus Station and at the end of the street, the old Northern Pacific Headquarters building. Photograph ordered by Western Union, Seattle.



# *The Historic Olympus Hotel*

# 1976



**Date:** April 10th, 1976

**Description:** 1976 Daffodil Festival Parade. "East Meets West," the entry from the Orting-Fife-Milton communities, was decorated in 92,000 daffodils for the 43rd annual Puyallup Valley Daffodil Festival Parade in April of 1976. At 120-feet, the longest float to ever enter the parade depicted the May 10, 1869, meeting of the Central Pacific and Union Pacific locomotives at Promontory Summit, Utah, to complete the country's first transcontinental railroad. The three-part float and its costumed passengers (students from the communities) are photographed on Pacific Avenue near the Olympus Hotel. The float would be honored with the FTD Sweepstakes award for best overall float.