

1212 N. 32nd Ave.  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Oct. 30, 1954

Mr. Nipo Strongheart,  
Box 211, Hollywood, Calif.

Dear Sir:

Some things have come up that I thought would be of interest to you. The entire matter has not yet unfolded but you can see how it is working out as the manuscript Drummers and Dreamers outlined and of which I previously informed you.

The clipping tells of exploratory work for the Priest Rapids Dam, which will be the first of the "partnership" dams in the new period of power development--an estimated 364 to 400 million dollar project.

The setting is the last home of the Last Wanapums, the historic place where the Prophet, Snowhala, led his people in their ancient faith.

The characters are eight survivors of that band, and one suyapo, myself.

The clipping tells the story.

The proviso granted at the request of the Wanapums--- who have no attorney and believe they will eventually be treated with fairly-- resulted in our being called to Priest Rapids before any work was started on the preliminary sub-surface exploration.

Every possible precaution is to be taken in regard to the graves.

And, through the subsequent "ashat and root feasts, next spring, we hope to show the people that the ancient culture of the Wanapums should be preserved and they should be granted a home, close to their beloved Priest Rapids. This we believe will be done.

If this is done, no people will have earned it more through their honesty, adherence to their beliefs and their faith in their fellow man.

I am always so rushed on such trips that I neglect something I always intend to do. Hand my camera over to someone and have them take a picture in which I am shown with one of the Indians. So if you have the opportunity, the loan of such a negative would be highly appreciated. [I don't believe I have more than two such pictures among the hundreds of Indian photos I have]

I shall also try and work out some simple "historic" story concerning these people to send for whatever use you care to make of it. I am rather rushed for the next several days, however.

While I am addressing this letter to you, I presume that some of it will be of interest to others, so I must ask your forgiveness for attending to business in this matter. But I got called out on another trip today and I seldom break away from the office so often. I trust you and the others will understand.

I found out this afternoon that one of our photogs who came to us from Portland was employed by the Corps of U.S. Army Engineers two or three years. He was telling me about being lowered into a core and taking a strip photo of the sides for the use of their engineers and geologists. He is going on a field trip with some Rock Hounds out of Vantage and along the left bank Sunday and I am asking him to take me some scenics from that side.

I am communicating with Frank Buck, who is living at P.R. and who was absent yesterday, asking him to make himself known to your people.

If there are any particular news breaks, your call to us at the office will be appreciated, and please keep me in mind when sending out story and other material. As you get deeper into the work, we will need "back up material." I will be able to give you much on the Indian slant that will extend even into your own Ephrata [Cottonwoods place, spelled something like Haupt Happt .. I've not checked my files on this one]

Thanks again for your help, and please forgive such a disjointed and rambling letter...something like the field trip...but it covers a lot of ground and I guess that is what you people are seeking to do.

Sincere regards

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