

1212 N. 32nd Ave.

Oct. 31, 1954

Dr. Herman Deutsch,
State College of Wash.

Dear Dr. Deutsch:

Thank you for your kind words in your letter of Oct. 26, the writing of which I even regard as a personal favor.

However, my foremost aim in the work has been the preservation of history, an attempt to preserve what should be preserved of the leader, Smowhala, before it is too late. My writing is incomplete, but perhaps my notes will some day, in some way, serve the purpose.

That I am at long last making some progress is shown in the enclosed clips. I don't know why I always get mixed up in situations that for their personal connections prohibits my writing. However I believe you can deduce from the clippings such facts as these:

The unrecognized, non-treaty Wanapums, without benefit of tribal attorneys, tribal councilmen and lobby delegations dispatched to Washington have gained a point.

Re: Priest Rapids when the State and PUD arrived at a peaceful settlement, they found that the Federal Power Commission had included a proviso in the permit. (I wonder how that happened?)

Then before a shovel of dirt was turned, Relander received telephone calls from distant points to gather the Wanapums. Most were out picking potatoes and unavailable but Relander and 1 Wanapum "gathered."

It was made plain to us that the proviso was all-important to the contractors. So in some three hours we cleared more Indian problems than have been cleared by the tribal attorneys and the Bureau of Indian Affairs

since the advent of Bureaucracy and the human element of brotherhood and understanding was forgotten. Now I hope everyone is happy. The Wanapums show themselves, indeed, to be unusual people. When the dam site is selected and if and when a license to build is granted, and the Wanapums do not secure a home along the river to perpetuate their nearly dead culture, then you may hear loud Indian wails and see evidences of plain and fancy writing, but I think not.

The Wanapums can be trusted. They believe they can trust and have a full appreciation of understanding in others. So we will wait and see and meanwhile there may be other surprises pop up (and we will wonder how they got there ?) Strong medicine this Wanapum medicine.

So, thanks again for your kind words. I thought you would be interested in the clippings.

Sincerely

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