

1212 N. 32nd Ave.
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Sept. 9, 1954

Mr. John R. White,
623 E. Patit St.,
Dayton, Wash.

Dear friend:

Your letter of Aug. 23 was waiting at home when I returned, earlier this week, from vacation.

Thanks for your comments about the article. I did not get to spend much time on it, to prepare it before I left on vacation and really prepared only notes, telling the Union Bulletin they could re-write it etc. But the fact that you were kind in making no unfavorable criticism is encouraging. And many thanks for your addendum remarks concerning your friend, Peter. Your letter shall be preserved in my Palouse files and no doubt will aid in substantiating the various claims that the Palouse are long extinct.

You must realize, and I am most appreciative, of the kind help you have given in the past in my historical research to provide leads etc/

The publication date and other information on the book has not yet been determined. However, Saxtons, the publishers, I see have included it under books to be published at no specified time, in their Trade List just issued. That is a catalogue sent to book dealers to inform them of developments. I shall be most happy to keep you informed. And I wish that books would like this make money, so I could send them out all over to my friends, but they do not. One is fortunate, indeed plain lucky, to get a book published now days in times of such high publication costs. My main Indian source has been made a third partner in the venture. Our royalties, if they run true to form, will be small, unless it catches on, which is highly unlikely. It's title is Drummers and Dreamer of Priest Rapids. And since it does explain the dams and the Priest Rapids Dam, which may be a growing issue, it may gain some attention, but I do not anticipate it will be published before 66 next spring.

If you would be kind enough, you might when you have opportunity, give me the names of a few book stores throughout the cities in your region. I plan to make personal contacts by writing to the book stores, offering large-- 18 x 20 or so photos of some of the illustrations, in an attempt to get a good coverage on the publication. It is, I feel, good Eastern and Central Washington history and covers not only the Palouse but Chief Moses, and of course is mainly about the Priest Rapids Indians. It is footnoted. Another big job faces me. When they start sending proofs I will have to index it.

I hope I am on the right track at hinting at a historic site for the Palouse graveyard, especially if it is endangered by Ice Harbor Dam. I am sure it is worthy of it and will exert my newspaper writing

etc. to help the cause along. I will also mention it to Al Culverwell, state historian who is working with the State Parks Commission on development of sites, and others on the commission, so in time it may pay dividends.

I don't know who owns the graveyard site, but it would be well to find out and see if it could not be proclaimed, by proper county officials, a cemetery. I would send a pattern for an ordinance to that effect. That would help insure protection. And if moving became necessary because of dam construction, it could be done, without vandalism ~~if~~ where university people come in and dig up relics. That graveyard is too young for that sort of thing and I'm agin it. Pete told me he wanted to be buried there as ~~no~~ no doubt he told you. It would be ~~undoubtedly~~ interesting to know why his family buried him elsewhere.

In sending the names of the book stores, just send the name and address and I would write to them in due time. Maybe there are not too many, but you could, if convenient, mention them by cities in your region.

I have been writing some stories on The Dalles country as well as Priest Rapids, and when I get straightened around in several weeks, will attempt to send you clippings.

Thanks again for your very kind letter. Hope things are going well with you.

Oh yes, when the book comes out, I might visit the area, or at least would like contact with some live historical societies, historical leaders etc. who could provide me with names of some persons who really appreciate history, and I could see that they were provided with advertising literature.

I don't have to promote the book like this, but feel that the Priest Rapids Indians and others have it coming to them. It is a good story for all Indians.

You have indeed been a good friend of Pete and no doubt are to others like him. They need our friendship, although some of them are rather out of bounds with their unreasonable demands against the government. In other cases, the government is wrong in resisting the just claims.

Sincere regards