

Miss Annie R. Mitchell, secretary,  
Tulare County Historical Society,  
701 Watson Ave., Visalia, Calif.

January 9, 1956

Dear Annie:

I hope by this time that effects of the flood have been at least partially removed, and that damage to all my friends has not been considerable. As remote as here, and with so many floods throughout the state, no really clear picture of the flood in the area has been obtained.

I hope this does not catch you at a disadvantage, but I am writing to see if I may obtain a copy of the articles and by laws of the Tulare County Historical Society, that would show such details as officers, dues, meeting specifications, purpose of organization etc.

Reason: While I am equipped with considerable material from the state level down--you will note I am a curator of the State Society--I am always on the lookout for something in which there is a gem of an idea.

Besides, I am to attend, as speaker, at the organizational meeting of a county society in the new Columbia Basin, some 150 miles from here. The Woman's Club there is sponsoring such an organization, and I wish to be able to advise them as to the best practical course of organization to follow that will fit their needs. This speech and assistance is a few weeks in the future.

I would make a copy of the constitution sent and assure its prompt return. It might be well to stick in my random back copies of Los Tulares. A publisher in the town is interested in the society and I should be prepared to give them a "cost estimate" of a bulletin such as the fine one the Tulare County Historical Society issues.

Otherwise, I have been up to my ears in Indian matters. I was asked to head a committee of observers of a tribal election at which Commissioner Lamons sent out a representative from Washington as his own observer. I was chairman of the observers who included a state senator, a past president of the State Federation of Woman's clubs, some mighty important businessmen and a couple of ministers. The Yakimas are getting to be a very rich nation, having negotiated a \$15,000,000 settlement on one claim alone, developed timber cutting to a million dollar a year return to the tribe on a sustained yield basis etc. Meanwhile my preparations for my own book, Drummers and Dreamers have finally been cleared that a construction permit for a dam has been issued by the Federal Power Commission. Dealers, rather than wanting the book in the spring encouraged the publisher to wait until late this summer so it could be well established by Christmas trade and the publisher, who

sending galley proofs of cover, title page etc. for my approval, has set Oct. 6 as publication date. The book will be out about 30 days in advance.

I have already lined up over 25 book parties at Seattle, Portland, Spokane, besides smaller cities, and one dealer, who has outlet in 200 stores, including book dept. of biggest stores in Spokane, Seattle and Portland, just now writes that he wants in . .

I don't have to do the promotion, but it is best that way as the publisher is fairly restricted in his promotion dept. I did some sampling on my own to get it moving and it is.

Lorraine is preparing for another trip to Europe, her third, and will take her niece. This won't be until about May.

I enjoy reading the Los Tulares and see that things have really come along under the active and energetic push of those concerned.

At the State Society level--in connection with my "curatorship" I am in association with the best, mostly professors and professional men, a couple of women authors, all much older than I. I am on the publication committee, newly created and we are embarking on annual reprint of rare or out of print book, figuring it will carry itself although it has a \$25,000 backup.

At the local level I'm on board of Museum and Historical Society that has banked \$65,000 to earn matching grant of \$65,000 from an old estate and we have engaged architect and are busy now looking over plans.

So, I manage to keep fairly busy, what with my regular work.

Again, I hope the flood caused no particular damage to the museum at "The Grove", nor to personal collections or personal homes of my friends in California.

Lorraine joins in sending her regards

Sincerely

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