

August 15, 1956

Director,  
The Southwest Museum,  
Highland Park  
Los Angeles 42, Calif.

Dear Sir:

My publisher has advised me that a review copy of my forthcoming Drummers and Dreamers will be in your hands about September 15, although the book will not be released in the book stores until Oct. 6.

This is the book you may be familiar with to the extent that I was doing research on it several years ago, and that Dr. F.W. Hodge wrote the introduction.

I shall wish to see that Dr. Hodge receives a copy for his personal use and would appreciate it if you could tell me where it should be sent. He was very kind to take the time to do the introduction. His ability to keep producing valuable material, and his keen insight despite his age, amazed me greatly. But then I have known him many years.

Additionally I should be sending in my renewal to membership in the museum. Right now I am knocking myself out with preparations for a book tour, letter writing like this etc. It shall, however, be attended to when I have some breathing time.

The Wanapums and I hope you like our humble effort at attempting to preserve untold history we believe is worth preserving.

The enclosed clippings and other material are for your supplementary information.

Sincerely

Cliff Relander

Mr. Myrlin Spencer,  
2319 Boyer,  
Seattle, Washington.

August 15, 1956

Dear Murlin:

I'm happy to be able to write you at this time that the publisher has advised me that you will receive a "review" copy of Drummers and Dreamers about September 15. The book will be released Oct. 6.

Of course I know that a Bureau Chief of an Associated Press headquarters like Seattle doesn't sit around and "review" books, but it occurred to me you'd like a copy of the book. I don't expect to set the world on fire with it, but it at least is accomplishing a purpose, that of gaining protection and some small security for the Wanapum Band of Indians at Priest Rapids.

In fact, I would suspect that a smart writer, or even someone with a "book in print" sitting in my situation, would be most happy.

The Wanapum material and Priest Rapids isn't publicity. It is news. Quite a few things are popping and will be popping there. We have been invited to participate in the ground breaking ceremonies just after Labor Day, the Grant County PUD is now working out a home site and will move their long house there for them, protect the graveyard etc. and later this fall or winter the work of removing the rock paintings as designated by the Indians, will begin. These are on an island surrounded by rapids situated on the axis of the dam and some of them weigh tons and tons. Some will be set up on the Wanapum home site as monuments, one at least has been picked out by Puck Hyah Toot (my main character) as his tombstone and will be placed in the graveyard, etc.

And it isn't every bedraggled group - five--of Indians that has a dam of the size of Wanapum named for them! Etc. Etc.

Starting Oct. 6, the release date, the Indians have promised me they will go on tour and we'll cover the entire Northwest going to various stores that are having "parties" and making speeches in considerable number. We'll hit Seattle on Friday and Saturday, October 11 and 12 and I'll try to get out an invitation so if you want to see some of these people (and Relander in a buckskin ceremonial jacket with the sacred Wanapum emblems of sun, moon and stars and wide open hands) you are welcome, although children will be more impressed I'm sure. You will note the sample invitation says "children welcome."

Kind regards

Click Relander



August 15, 1956

Dr. Theodore Stearn,  
93 N. Polk St.,  
Eugene, Oregon

Dear Dr. Stearn:

I am happy to write to you the information that the publisher has advised me that a review copy of the forthcoming Drummers and Dreamers will be in your hands by September 15. The book is due for release Oct. 6. It occurred to me that this would give you a little idea about scheduling, if you are interested in reviewing it.

I don't know exactly why I'm submitting it for a review in your especial field, because it does not profess to be an ethnological or anthropological work, but you may find some fragments of information. The type of information in which you would be most interested is still in my filing cabinets and, is still growing.

I've looked back over my notes on the minor prophets and others and references and cross references indicate that the Umatilla prophet you mentioned to me was not pre-horse period. One of my informants on this score was, I guess it would be, a great-great nephew of this man and had some fairly different information, including the man's dream experience. This man, (the informant's) father, was a "Dox P sh" from the John Day and of somewhat mixed blood including Umatilla and "alla Walla".

One of the more interesting, from the "story teller viewpoint" is ~~xx~~ a woman, now scarcely middle aged and the only one now living I can find who has experienced the dream venture and was "sent back" until the time came to die. Not all of the ones who had the dream experience were prophets, but apparently any could have become so had they "worked at it."

I'm happy to report that the Grant County PUD sent out some of their men with the Indians, let the Indians pick a site for their new home close to the dam and are now attempting to acquire that with their other land acquisitions. They will move the old long house to that location and fix it up and provide other housing. The Wanapums always put up their big mat lodge next to this old wooden long house and until a year ago had a smaller mat lodge they lived in, even during the winter. But the mats are getting in pretty bad shape and the "old man" is subject to rheumatism so I "talked them" into the wooden building.

I enjoyed the experience of meeting you and your family at the Pacific Northwest History Conference and listening to your panel presentation. My only regret is that we did not have the opportunity to hash over more things and my hope is that the experience may be repeated.

I hope you've had a pleasurable and profitable summer and are ready to embark upon a good winter course.

I'd still appreciate it if you'd keep your eyes open for an ethnography that I could study with the view of someday turning one on the Priest Rapids people. I don't mean it as a pattern, because those I have vary considerably and fall far short of my opinion of what they should convey in that line. But I mean one that would have practical purposes.

I've been picking up some good notes from the Priest Rapids people recently on "naming" ~~name~~ name giving or name taking, marriage customs, family name origins: And in spite of the fact that I have access to some good informants among the Yakima either they fall flat on their faces or have adapted their similiar customs so much by now that their original form is obscure, at least to an amateur.

Besides writing a flock of letters to potential reviewers, I'm wrapped up with helping promote the Fort Simcoe centennial, Aug. 12, working up some speech material, working out a book tour when some of the Wanapams will accompany me, etc. Additionally, a few weeks ago we broke ground for our \$140,000 Yakima Valley Museum and Historical Society Building, and I've been trying to get the board, of which I am a member, convinced that a building doesn't make a museum.

Sincere Regards

Click Relander



August 15, 1956

Mr. K. Ross Toole, director,  
Historical Society of Montana,  
Montana Magazine of History,  
Helena, Montana.

Dear Ross:

Just a note to let you know that the publisher has advised me you should have in your hands, by September 15, a copy of Drummers and Dreamers for review purposes.

The book will be released October 6, and I'm writing to alert you to the approaching delivery date of the book, with the hope you are not snowed under so much but that you can get a review through on your next publication schedule, if D and D rates one.

As you will recall, this is not a vanity publication. You might recall my conversation to that effect at the Montana Club whensome of us were your guests after one of the History Conference sessions at Helena.

And I hope you will not consider it too localized, for it is not, no more than is Priest Rapids, where the Wanapums live localized (now that even some of the power to be produced by Priest Rapids and Wanapum Dams will come into your own state.

The working out of the big hydroelectric project, keeping protection for the Wanapums, was always in my mind and that held up rushing the book along last year or the year before. But now everything is fine and dandy, I think. If it isn't, it's too bad for the few remaining Indians who live at Priest Rapids, but they have been promised sanctuary there, and preservation of their graveyard, etc.

And if you should think it too localized, remember I was one of those "talking" about Indians several years ago before the present well known economic and legislative situation prevailed. In reality, the story of the "last Wanapums" is the story of a certain class of Indians, all over the country, when the government no longer has any responsibility, and you know that time is surely coming to pass.

Wish we had some of your cool Montana weather here. Hope you like Drummers and Dreamers for what it is, a simple story of a plain people. But they are real Indians.

Kind regards

Click

August 15, 1956

Mr. Ray Tucker,  
7008 Hillcrest Place,  
Chevy Chase, Maryland

Dear Sir:

Reading some of your materials appearing in the paper on which I am the city editor suggested to me the possibility that you would care for a copy of my forthcoming Drummers and Dreamers.

I am happy to advise you that the publishers have accepted my recommendation and informed me that a review copy will be in your hands about September 15. The book is not for general release until October 6.

Drummers and Dreamers is a footnoted and indexed story of the Wanapum band of Indians at Priest Rapids who contrary to many Indians and whites do not believe the world owes them a living, and deals extensively with the hydroelectric development along the Columbia River.

In this specific case it deals with the Priest Rapids and Wanapum dams project, the first Partnership Power Project in the nation, and spells out to a small extent the halt in the ~~long~~ established trend of the socialistic dominated "build and operate" ideology.

Of course I realize that you are not in the "review" business, but it is possible that material contained in Drummers and Dreamers will provide information for you. The Wanapums and I hope you like our humble contribution in that line.

The enclosed clippings and other material are sent as supplementary information.

I will be glad to answer anything specifically or provide more complete development of anything you might have in mind.

Sincerely Yours

Click Relander



August 15, 1956

United Press Association,  
News Building,  
220 E 42nd Street,  
New York, New York

Attn: Red Letter Book Editor

Dear Sir:

As city editor of The Yakima Daily Republic I recalled my days on the telegraph desk and handling at odd moments the Red Letter, parcelling out various features therein, including the book material.

I am writing now to tell you that my book publisher, The Caxton Printers Ltd. of Caldwell, Idaho, have advised me that a review copy of my forthcoming Drummers and Dreamers will be in your hands about September 15. The book is for general release Oct. 6.

The Wanapum Band of Indians from Priest Rapids on the Columbia River and I are hopeful you will find something of a bit of interest in this book which will speak for itself.

For your information, a New York firm that has some 18 subsidies including steel mills, paint firms etc. has the \$91,000,000 contract for the initial work, various New York, Chicago, San Francisco etc. bonding houses merged to issue \$166,000,000 in revenue bonds for the Priest Rapids Dam on which construction is now starting. This process will be repeated later for Wanapum Dam for which the companion installation of the project is named.

Clippings and other material included in this letter are for your general information.

Sincerely Yours

Click Relander

August 15, 1956

Mr. Thomas Vaughn,  
Oregon Historical Quarterly,  
235 Market Street,  
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Tom:

My publishers, The Caxton Printers, Ltd., Caldwell, Idaho, have advised me that a review copy of Drummers and Dreamers will be in your hands by September 15. The book is to be issued for release October 6.

I am glad that the publisher granted my request that the Quarterly be provided with a review copy, and I trust it to your tender mercies.

After a period of time, undergoing the multi-projects that I have been engaged in, fighting for a small security for the Wanapums at the Priest Rapids home of their ancestors etc., five weeks of indexing 389 pps. etc. etc. I must admit that I'm badly lost in the well known forest and can't even tell whether the trees have leaves on them, let alone see that a forest exists. But I guess the book will speak for itself.

Additionally I'm quite wrapped up in working out plans for the second coming of Buffalo Bill, complete with Relander in a Wanapum ceremonial jacket on which the sacred emblems of the band, the sun, moon and stars and outspread hands, are beaded over fine buckskin and set off with fringe and deer hooves. (That the Wanapums thought it looked nice to add a "dickie" to the jacket that they had apparently seen on some Blackfoot jacket hasn't tripped me up yet although it might confuse some serious minded anthro or ethno.

The second coming of Buffalo Bill starts in Yakima Oct. 6, proceeds to Maryhill Museum of Fine arts the next day, a Sunday, and then invades your city of Portland. We expect to be there Monday and Tuesday. Miss Edith Bristol at Gills told me at one time Gills would be glad to have a "book party" but she's not confirmed yet. Usually we have had to turn down requests. I'm holding the Portland date open a bit longer. On top of that we've quite a few speaking engagements, but nothing at Portland yet. I'm not well acquainted there as you may know from my infrequent visits.

Hope you like the humble contribution to Northwest history that the Wanapums have been so generous by providing.

Sincerely

Click Relander



August 15, 1956

Mr. William S. Wallace,  
Rodgers Library,  
New Mexico Highlands University,  
Las Vegas, New Mexico

Dear Bill:

Thanks for your note of some time ago. I suggested to Caxtons that you be included on their review list. Now I have been advised that a review copy should be in your hands by September 15 although the book will not be generally released until Oct. 6.

While this area, and your field are far removed, there is some overlap, persons who believe that no history is local and that history is not limited by boundaries, geographical; or barriers, geological.

A few clippings and other material are sent as supplementary information.

I've wondered, now and then, in what special field you were working and if I'd see something come out with your name on the dust jacket. You've been persisting along that line and it should surely pay off beyond the very fine Quarterly articles you have turned.

Incidentally, in regard to your old friend, the Yakima Regional Library, things have progressed to the point where the city and county is being geared for an \$800,000 bond election this fall as a regional undertaking. So far this has escaped the destructive and wilting blight of criticism or rather controversy that usually kills off such projects. A library consultant, an Horne, has about completed his plans etc. I know that public sentiment is strong for a new library and we most certainly need one.

The Wanapums and I hope you like our humble offering and efforts to preserve unwritten history that we believe worth preserving.

Caxtons did a top job on topography according to my observation several months ago when going over the page proofs for a five week indexing job. If my writing can only stand part way up to that, it will be a book I am proud of. Right now, with the long seige of preparation, letter writing etc. I frankly haven't as much interest in seeing it come off the press, in fact not as much, as one of the daily editions of The Yakima Daily Republic.

My kindest regards to you Bill      Click Relander

August 15, 1956

Western Folklore Quarterly,  
University of California Press,  
Berkeley, Calif.

Dear Sir:

I am happy to report that the publisher has informed me that your review copy of my forthcoming Drummers and Dreamers will be in your hands about September 15. The book is for release Oct. 6, and I thought you would desire to know the timing.

Drummers and Dreamers, although it does contain some ethnic "tales" is a book I believe many of your members will be interested in

The few surviving Indians of the remnant Wanapum Band of Shahaptian stock and I hope you will like our humble offering which we have attempted to present honestly and conscientiously. And we have attempted to include in it much previously untold history well worth preserving.

The enclosed clippings and other material are sent to provide fragments of other information in which you may be interested in gaining a quick appraisal of Drummers and Dreamers.

At a later long house meeting I hope to present names of our friends who list to us, by letter, qualifications that would entitle them to be members "in absentia" of the Wanapum Long House at Priest Rapids. This does not entail a fee or solicitation of any kind, but it based upon qualifications of friendship after reading Drummers and Dreamers.

Sincerely Yours

Click Relander



August 15, 1956

Westerners, New York Posse,  
Room 1012  
51 East 42 Street  
New York 17, New York.

Dear Sir:

A member of your New York Posse is happy to inform you that the publisher, The Caxton Printers Ltd. of Caldwell, Idaho has advised me you should receive a copy of the forthcoming Drummers and Dreamers about September 15. The book is for release October 6.

I also recommended to the publisher that he include your Posse publication on his advertising budget, and although the budget I believe was set up by the publisher many months ago, I believe this has been done. (The book of course is not a vanity publication and those matters are left to the publisher).

The enclosed clippings and other material are sent only to provide you with fragments of other information.

The remnant band of Wanapums and I sincerely hope you like our humble offering in which we have attempted to preserve previously unwritten history. The book will speak for itself.

Please let me know if I can provide any further information.

At a later long house meeting at Priest Rapids, I hope to present the names of those who write and list their qualifications as to why they should be members "in absentia" of the Wanapum Long House. This does not entail a fee or solicitation, but is given on the basis of qualifications as to friendship for the Wanapums. That can be determined best after you see Drummers and Dreamers.

Sincerely Yours

Click Relander

August 15, 1956

Mr. Pete Wick, news editor,  
Radio Station KIT,  
Yakima, Washington.

Dear Pete:

I'm happy to advise you that my publisher, The Caxton Printers, Ltd. of Caldwell, Idaho have informed me that you should have a "feview" copy of my forthcoming Drummers and Dreamers about Sept. 15. The book is for general release Oct. 6.

I've also dropped Mr. Burroughs H. Prince, Monitor's managing editor a note to the effect he is to receive one, and that the ground breaking ceremonies for Priest Rapids Dam will be held shortly after Labor Day. The Grant County PUD has invited the Indians and I to participate in the ceremony.

It may be that that is the time for the tape for Monitor. Herb Jenkins, public relations man for the Grant County PUD will be happy to cooperate with you in any way you wish.

I hope you like our humble contribution to the preservation of previously untold Northwest history as related in drummers and Dreamers. We'll be glad to work with you as to the genesis rocks on the Island at Priest Rapids. This lies on the axis of the Priest Rapids Dam and it may be that the contractor will have proper boat equipment that would permit a trip there just before the dedication and that such a thing could be the tape for Monitor. I'll leave that to your judgment. Call on us when we can be of any assistance to you. I'll assure you that we won't put any Indian hex on you as the ancient prophets put on those who threatened the way of life at Priest Rapids or tampered with things there. And that was done before the coming of the white man!

Sincerely

Click Relander



August, 15, 1956

Mr. Bruce Wilson,  
Ritzville Journal Times,  
Ritzville, Washington.

Dear Bruce:

Just a note to let you know that I've been advised by the publisher of Drummers and Dreamers, The Caxton Printers, Ltd. of Caldwell, Idaho, that has accepted my recommendations for various "review copies."

He informs me that a review copy will be in your hands about September 15. The book will be released in the stores on Oct. 6.

The enclosed clips and other material is sent merely as supplementary information.

The Wanapums and I hope you like our humble efforts to preserved historical material that we think worthy of preserving. And we also hope that in many means, the construction of Priest Rapids and Wanapum dams will aid Ritzville like other cities in the Northwest and especially in Eastern Washington.

Hope things are going well for you on the Ritzville Journal-Times.

The Wanapums and I embark here on fast moving book tour that takes us to Spokane on October 15, Pullman and Moscow, Idaho the next day, Pasco, Richland and to Ephrata, Oct. 19 and Moses Lake October 20.

Sincerely

Click Relander

Mr. Irving Petite,  
Box 5284,  
Isaquah, Washington.

August 15, 1956

Dear Irving:

I've seen some of your stories in the Times, but haven't bumped into you at any of the Indian festivities, so thought I should drop you a line and post you on Drummers and Dreamers developments.

I've heard from the publisher that review copies will be in the hands of reviewers about September 15. That would indicate that everything is working out with the publisher for adherence to the publication date of Oct. 6. Caxtons is notorious for skipping up on dates once in a while, under the pressure of business.

I've been working a little getting a book tour lined out. We set out from Yakima Oct. 6 for the Portland, Tacoma areas and hit Seattle on Thursday and Friday, October 10 and 12. Frederick and Nelson had me lined out earlier but their promotion department doesn't fit in with the plans now, although they are handling and advertising the book.

Bon March wanted exclusive and I couldn't give it to them of course. One reason was that the Carl K. Wilson Co. which has numerous store outlets wanted to take on the book and I was lined up with Rhodes at Seattle, a Carl Wilson outlet. Of course that's not the best, but the widespread outlet is what counts. Anyway, we didn't think that the tour would set the world on fire, but would only help establish the book for the Christmastrade. And I suspect another of the visits of Relander and the Wanapums will be at Shorey's. I've not talked to them for some time about it, but they are counting on a big window display.

The enclosed specimen of an invitation is or will be sent out by me to some 200 to 300 Seattle addresses. The store has their own list. So if you would want some of these to distribute to those you know might be interested, really interested, let me know how many, half a dozen or a dozen, and I will send them to you a short time before.

The attached clips will help bring you up on the Yakima situation.

I'm dropping Lucile McDonald a letter about my plans and the book.

If you have any ideas, feel free to sound off. The Wanapums will need all the help, besides mine, they can get, to get the book moving.

sincere regards  
Clyck Relander