

September 15, 1956

Mr. William J. White Jr.,  
The New York News,  
220 East Forty-Second St.,  
New York, 17, New York.

Dear Mr. White:

You may recall that last year, while corresponding with you regarding the Lincoln picture I provided for The News, I told you of my forthcoming book, Drummers and Dreamers and that I would see you received a copy.

I have been advised by my publisher that a "review" copy will be sent you and you should receive it about Sept. 15, although the book will not be released until Oct. 6. I realize of course The News has no especial interest in this, but I thought you might wish to learn of some of the Indian material I had mentioned, and I suspect by now you might have noted that the Indian situation all over the country has developed by leaps and bounds.

I told you too, of the Priest Rapids or Wanapum Indians I was working to safeguard. They have been "safeguarded," by the Grant County PUD which is building the Priest Rapids and Wanapum Dams, the cost of which will run around \$340,000,000.

A New York firm that has some 18 subsidiaries in steel mills, manufacturing concerns, paint companies etc. received the contract for the initial construction, a \$91,000,000 contract. The firm is Merritt-Chapman and Scott, Inc. Ground breaking ceremonies are to be held after Labor Day and first major work outside of the \$500,000 access road now being built will be a coffer dam to cost \$8,000,000.

The five remaining Wanapums, whose home is at Priest Rapids, have been given a new home site about a mile from the dam.

The Wanapums and I hope you enjoy our humble contribution to what I believe to be an unusual story, even though I'm mighty tired of it after wrestling with it and "Indian problems" for so long and holding down my regular job as city editor here.

The clips and other material are sent as supplementary information.

Sincere Regards

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