

1212 N. 32nd Ave.  
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June 25, 1954

Dear Virgil:

Enclosed you will find copies of a letter I received from the State Division (Department) of fisheries, and a copy of my reply.

If the pending legislation they refer to is that of Yakima fishing rights, that case has been tied up now for a year and more and I see no change for an early settlement. That involves the rights of the Yakimas, according to their Treaty, to fish on the left bank of the Yakima River. The right bank is on the Reservation. They (the Dept.) picked up some Indians there over a year ago and the case is now under test with the Federal Attorney apparently defending the Indians rights. So I shall learn more about that.

Meanwhile, I have written to Eastvold, asking for a microfilm of the action killing your father's bill that gave these Indians, the Wanapums, state security. And I am assembling other material.

I have communicated with the Governor's office, placing these Wanapums on record as being possessors by moral right, of the Priest Rapids Dam site, and requested that now that the governor has suggested the state investigate all feasibilities of constructing a dam there, the state, if it does, take the Wanapums possessory rights into consideration from the word go. In other words, not wait until a dam is built before starting to look into the matter.

I am sure that things would be much easier in this quest, were Oaxton's under way on the book, but they are marking time yet on a publication date. I plan to use that of course to gain a good strong backing in proper places for the Wanapums.

Sincerely

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