

Mrs. Thelma Kimmel,

Feb. 25, 1963

Kimmels' Korner,

Route 2, Toppenish

Dear Thelma:

Hope you are feeling better now that the flood waters have subsided. Hope too Elmer is feeling up to par.

About Larry George's picture of Celilo Falls. Anything in connection with the Corps of Army Engineers, like The Dalles Dam, requires, virtually, an act of Congress. Mrs. Alcorn has for years tried to sell her Indian pictures to Chief Joseph Dam, Grand Coulee etc. and several bills have been introduced. Where is his picture now? If it is somewhere where Clifford Dolph of Maryhill could see it, he is a good judge of paintings, he could pass on it for showing there. I gave your name to Mr. Emmet Grouse, a board member of the Klickitat County Historical Society. They are dabbling with the idea of providing a sales outlet at Goldendale in connection with their developing museum, but I don't believe would be in a position for major paintings.

Larry, if he is stationed in the Southwest, would get a good chance to see how the Navaho artists develop sales outlets. Their work is scattering all over the land, but it has good style and is unusual. (cute little Navaho kids in prints, letter note paper etc. sidelines to larger paintings, etc.

The Dalles Dam is under supervision of the Corps of Army Engineers at Portland. I don't even know if they could accept a painting there for vista room display without some kind of government authorization, providing someone bought it and presented it to them. Mrs. Alcorn's difficulties were she placed a certain value on her paintings, but artists who saw them put a much lower value on them. They were never expertly appraised by competent authorities. The Rocky Reach Dam, which has a vista house and displays there (below Wenatchee) might have tied into some of them, I'm not certain. They, however, are under a different financial setup, but are still a "taxing" agency.

The Franklin Press, which published "Strangers" lease the print shop from the Republic Publishing Co. We, the newspaper, went out of the printing business several years ago. They are a top notch printing firm, but publish only as a printing shop, not as Binsford Mort etc. of their kind. They publish the Travel Guides and things for people in many states, but few books. With them, as any print shop, it is a set price and they turn over the books to you. Hence my efforts trying to help the tribe get "Strangers on the Land" on its way. I circulated promotion sheets to libraries, book stores etc. The sales have been very good considering

the circulation, but it takes time, etc. but orders are coming in from libraries etc. dealers too, historical societies etc. It should sell. I know of no book, 63,000 words, full size book, that sells for that. It would have cost \$1.25 to \$1.50 to put it in hard cover. It is a bargain at \$2.25 which is about cost time you figure mailing etc. However it is not out in such a large number. An individual with something strong and capable of financing it, could get 1,000 more copies at small cost (of his work) pay for the production out of the first 1,500 and have the rest for his work. But it is plenty of work.

Although I had an acute coronary, I haven't let them ground me as they would want to, and everything seems to be ok., so far. It's nearly a year now. It didn't hurt me to lose weight and that would be my problem now, to keep it down, although there are two schools of thoughts in the medical profession on that score. I've been too busy on writing etc. to turn out any sculpturing, but plan to get back to it once Strangers gets well enough along.

I think you will hear from Mr. Emmet Clouse about art work etc. your Indian protege does, if not, keep it in mind for future reference and drop him a note. When you write to Larry, get him to look into the way the Navajo artists develop their markets. Like writing, it seems now one has not only to create but make it move. Publishers etc. have to have sure things and a big margin of profit or they're not interested. They have employees with big salaries who are really super salesmen.

I'll keep Larry's work in mind, as I did when I saw Clouse. Cliff Dolph at Maryhill, if he checks his work, would let him have a one-man show there (and museums like that work on a commission basis, small in his case, but artists are permitted to sell their works, and the museum director helps out.) That might be the way for Larry's painting if it is good art. The other art of his I saw was very much copy work. I do hope he has developed a style, technique etc. as you indicate. Artists usually do as they go along.

Still hoping things are going well with you and yours.

Sincerely

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