

1212 N/ 32nd Ave.
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Dear Tom:

Oct. 25, 1954

I'm enclosing a couple of clippings you will be interested in, one especially. And more importantly I wanted to write you about the Wanapums.

I suppose "big" things will be brewing up in your country and I will want to keep in close touch with the developments of the dam explorations, locations, etc.

This proviso, referred to included by the Federal Power Commission I really believe is the proper approach. Of course there will be no difficulty with these people like the treaty Indians. And it will provide the means eventually I hope, to retrieve some of the big rocks for you from the island, if such becomes necessary. One or two especial rocks, directly related to the genesis of these people should be left at Priest Rapids, perhaps at a location that will have historic importance in the future, but others will be available for transfer to Vantage, depending upon how the dams come, etc. and if this same proviso can be included when a license is granted.

Then when a site is selected, the way will be open for a direct request for Congressional legislation for these people or for a Presidential proclamation.

So I will anticipate your support, at the proper time for asking for the proviso in the license when and if it comes, (the license that is) it will surely be a practical way to salvage these valuable rocks.

Moreover, I have talked to Johnny Buck again and he is now agreeable to the removal, on ~~long term~~ "long term" loan of the canoe. This may go to Vantage where it should be of some asset to you. It is now located

downstream from the old village site and Johnny says it is weathering rapidly. In the long distance future it may also be on loan to the Yakima Valley Museum. That would be dependant upon the museum building a permanent building.

So I don't know whether you are interested in taking it for a number of years or not, with chances good that it would be for a prolonged time. I mention this because some day some of you people at Vantage may wish to "commission" Johnny and his boys, and another of the Wanapums to build you something there that would be a top tourist attraction. They would do it at "bargain" rates. I am thinking now in terms of a genuine sweat house, made of mud and a mat house or mat lodge. These would go good with the canoe. How that would work out I suppose hinges on the height of the river, if and when the dams come etc. These however could be built so they could be removable. And the sweat house should be sheltered from rain so it would not wash away.

Kinda of a rambling letter but it might show you how I have you in mind, more times than you realize, and also have my Wanapum bros. in mind.

I've been doing quite a bit of speaking around Yakima, some rather large organizations. I think the time is near at hand that I would be agreeable to making a speech dealing with the historic value of these Wanapums, but I know of no one in Ellensburg. Certainly it should have some value because of the dam, when it could be shown how cooperative these people are, the story of their genesis on the island, etc. If you have any ideas in connection with your chamber there, it's okay to pass the word on to them. I don't intend to do any traveling around when the snows come. I've addressed the annual meeting of the Valley Museum, Golden Age Club etc. etc. have speeches coming up at the Woman's Century club, Sunnyside high school history class, a state convention etc. but have turned down many ~~sxxx~~ little groups and have also held off the

Yakima Chamber of Commerce and the Yakima Lions club etc. until the time is more appropriate.

Drummers and Dreamers has been included on the Trade List of the publisher as a book for which publication date, specifications etc. are yet to be announced. I suspect that means it will be listed with publication date, price etc. later this winter or early next spring.

It would also be well for the people around Moses Lake to get a chance to hear about the unusual Wanapums and their willingness to cooperate, in all ways, with the dam.

My correspondence is growing terrific, but I am glad to find a few minutes to dash off some letters to my friends, like you and let you know things are shaping up.

If you have any ideas about the "proviso," don't hesitate to let me know, as you will find us most cooperative, not rather difficult to deal with as the treaty Indians. And let me know about the canoe.

I'm enclosing another clip about the barge company. Suppose you know about it. I recollect how a year ago I narrated how the railways were making it tough for the barges. But I still think they will win out.

Let me know what's happening around Vantage. Seems like there should be a good story there one of these days about new caves and sites up the river.

kind regards

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