

St. Mary's Mission

Omak, Washington

August 29th, 1965.

Mr. Click Relander
3701 Commonwealth Rd.
Yakima, Wash.

Dear Mr. Relander:

When I years ago was reading your Drummers and Dreamers I had no idea that one day you would subscribe to my book. Thank you very much. Your name is on the book list; an autographed copy will be yours. Advance sales are very much appreciated; it helps me to pay the bill in a reasonable time, as sisters may not make debts. I am including a circular letter that will tell you a bit of what is in the book. I have inquired by many publishers; they all wanted to have it, but the costs are enormous. So far Bruce Publishing Company, Milwaukee, seemed to me the best, but they have no Westcoast office; so I have to pay the production price plus 25% and freight and sell the books myself and through friends, in order to keep the price as low as possible. I had about 820 double-spaced typed pages, 40 pages bibliography-- a very big book that covers quite an area.

Two graduate students, one is working for his doctors, from Pullman, were interviewing me and now wait until they can read my book. There seems to be more interest in regional history now.

May I express a wish? I am so isolated here between the hills -- 6 miles from Omak. As influential newspaperman, would it be possible for you, to have something about the expected book in the Yakima newspaper? We are still saving for the book fund. General Mills has promised to pay for each Betty Crocker Coupon $\frac{1}{2}$ cent, that means for every 200 coupons \$ 1.00. If I could have all the coupons people throw away, we could save quite some money to have a good book printed, something worthwhile for generations to come. A big book does not sell that fast, otherwise I would not worry. We would need advance sales, contributions, and as I said, Betty Crocker Coupons. I need some good boosters who tell others about this book.

32 pages of the book will be filled with about 130 photos.

I am grateful for any help you could give to make Blackrobes And Indians On The Last Frontier a wanted book.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Sister Maria Lina, O.P.

Sister Maria Ilma, O.P.
St. Mary's Mission
Omak, Washington 98841



Mr. Click Relander
3701 Commonwealth Rd.
Yakima, Washington

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St. Mary's Mission, Omak, Washington
July 22nd, 1966.

Mr. Click Relander
3701 Commonwealth
Yakima, Washington

Dear Mr. Relander:

I have returned to St. Mary's Mission where much work was waiting to be done. We were very successful in Yakima due to your very good article in the "Yakima Herald." People contacted received me with: "I read about you." This way the introduction was made for me; all that was left was seeing and buying the book. We made 73 sales there in a few days; the most I ever had made in any place. Mrs. Teresa Kohlman and Mrs. Otis Baltzell and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Arthur Morrier, have copies for anybody who wishes to have them. The books might serve as welcome Christmas presents. Due to the season many people we wanted to see were out of town.

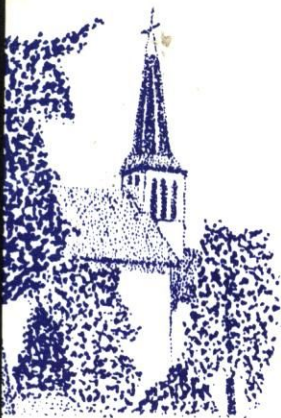
Today now arrived your copies of the article and the photos. I find this courtesy extremely precious, knowing full-well how your time is limited. Thank you so much.

During August I hope to be in Spokane for some days. I will see what I can find out about Chief Kamiakain. I have some recollections of matters read that he was not baptized, but I could not pin down the exact source. I wonder where the old Baptismal Records of the old St. Joseph's Mission, that was at the Athanum, are kept. I will see in the Oregon Province Archives in Crosby Library, Gonzaga.

Thank you again, dear Mr. Relander, for the much needed publicity of my book.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Sister Maria Ilma, O. P.



Saint Mary's Mission
Omak, Washington

Dear Friends:

We are happy to announce that our great historical work is now available in book form. It was the result of nearly six years of intense research.

Blackrobes and Indians on the Last Frontier: A Story of Heroism, contains the first complete history of the Colville Confederated Tribes. It studies the history of the early Forts; Okanogan and Colville, and the fur trade; it tells about the calls for "Blackrobes" (as the Jesuit Fathers were called by the Indians); it traces the development of Christian education and civilization from earliest times in a great part of our Pacific Northwest. The story is about our early mission centers: St. Pauls at the Kettle Falls of the Columbia River, early beginnings in our Canadian Northwest; St. Francis Regis Mission in the Colville Valley; and the birth and development of St. Mary's Mission near Omak, Washington, whose parish territory once reached up into British Columbia and down to Yakima.

Speeches of Indian chiefs, original letters of early missionaries, interviews of pioneers, etc. are some of the prime material used. Sketches of influential Indian Chiefs will help us to catch a glimpse of a wonderful past. Stories of the medicine men, their hate of the "Blackrobes", tell of the great courage and heroism of the men who planted Christianity in spite of hardships. The history of St. Mary's Mission is especially interesting. If any place had a glorious past, this is it. St. Mary's was the greatest educational mission center on the entire West Coast. Many original letters of its saintly founder, Count Etienne de Rouge, S.J., make history come to life.

A chapter has been added to acquaint us with the gradual development of more democratic freedoms for the Indians. Government politics and policies throughout the years towards the Indians are studied. About 100 photos and maps are included. The book is thoroughly documented.

The book is available as a private publication, as long as the supply lasts from the author, Sister Maria Ilma, O.P., St. Mary's Mission, Omak, Washington. List price for the big book is \$12.50.

Yours in Christ,

Sister Maria Ilma, O.P.

Sister Maria Ilma, O.P.



St. Mary's Mission, Omak, Washington

Dear Friends:

Maybe you have often expressed the wish to know more about our Western history. I am happy to announce that a great historical work has been completed that is entitled: Blackrobes And Indians On The Last Frontier. It is the result of five years of research work.

The manuscript contains the first complete history of the tribes, now known as the Colville Confederated Tribes. It studies the history of the early Forts: Okanogan and Colville and the fur trade; it tells about the calls for "Blackrobes" (as the Jesuit Fathers were named by the Indians); it traces the development of Christian civilization from earliest times in a great part of our Pacific Northwest. The story is told about our early mission centers: St. Paul's at the Kettle Falls of the Columbia River; early beginnings in our Canadian Northwest; St. Francis Regis Mission in the Colville Valley, and finally the birth and development of St. Mary's Mission near Omak, Washington, whose parish territory once reached up into British Columbia and down to Yakima. The manuscript is fully documented.

Original letters of early missionaries, speeches of Indian chiefs, interviews of pioneers, etc., are some of the prime material used. Sketches of influential Indian chiefs will help us to catch a glimpse of a wonderful past. Stories of medicine men, their hatred of the Blackrobes, tell of the great courage and heroism of the men who planted Christianity in spite of hardships. The history of St. Mary's Mission, Omak, is especially interesting. If any place had a glorious past; this is it. St. Mary's was for many years the greatest educational mission center on the entire Westcoast. Many original letters of its saintly founder, Count Etienne de Rouge, S.J., make history come to life.

Many people have expressed the desire to see this great work in print. I, as a sister, was able to do the research and write the book. For the rest I depend on good people, who would help by their contributions and by spreading the news about this manuscript, that it one day could be printed. The printing costs are about \$11,000.

Would you be able to contribute something towards meeting the publication costs in order that the extraordinary historic values may be preserved for generations to come?

Yours in Christ,

Sister Maria Ilma, O.P.

Sister Maria Ilma, O.P.