

2504 West Hood Place,
Kennewick, Washington,
December 15, 1955.

Dear Mr. Relander:

Thank you very much for the clippings and picture just received, also those you gave me with the centennial book, which we both have read with a great deal of interest.

You may be interested in knowing that I did not accede to Mrs. Whitefoot's request to telephone Mrs. Wright after the election. I decided that as a disinterested observer it was not right to call her before our report was in the Commissioner's hands. I wrote her later and imagine she thinks me not much of an asset to her side, for I told her there were too many complications for one to be able to judge fairly as to which side is right, with only superficial knowledge.

It was a wonderful experience which will never be forgotten. Thank you for all the help you gave me.

With best wishes for your holiday season, I am

Sincerely,

Marian H. Robbins.
Mrs. Norman E. Robbins.

MRS. NORMAN E. ROBBINS
2504 WEST HOOD PLACE
KENNEWICK, WASHINGTON

January 20, 1956.

Bear Mr. Relander:

The various clippings are greatly appreciated and I thank you for your thoughtfulness. With opposition to Mr. D'Ewart and the Commissioner's plan for the secretarial ballot, things still seem confused and puzzling.

The Methodist Churches and I believe some of the Congregational Churches are studying "Our Indian Americans" and when I was asked to take the first program, I asked if they would like to have an Indian woman speak to them. So last Wednesday Minnie Whitefoot came up and gave the program. She gave me a copy of a letter from the Commissioner in which he stated that it would be fair and just to repeal Sec. 7 of the Act of 1946, regarding inheritance rights. To me, an outsider with no experience in tribal affairs, this section seems unfair and wrong. I do not know enough about the whole problem to know whether either side is wholly wrong or wholly right; I am willing to learn.

Minnie expressed surprise that we had no snow; perhaps tonight's rain will turn to snow later, but then, THIS is the banana belt!

Sincerely,

Marian H. Robbins

MRS. NORMAN E. ROBBINS
2504 WEST HOOD PLACE
KENNEWICK, WASHINGTON

April 7, 1956.

Dear Mr. Relander:

What an intriguing title for a book, "Drummers and Dreamers". I am looking forward to reading it with real pleasure. We recently read Francis Haines' "The Nez Perce" which we found interesting.

I have had no news of the outcome of the hearings in Yakima and elsewhere and thought the meeting most interesting. I left about 11:15 as my husband was waiting for me and we still had the drive home after that. If he would only have gone in with me, I know he would have found it of interest.

One young part-Indian, George Pitts, told me one time he could have some sort of deed to his property, since he is competent to manage his own affairs, but that was not what he wanted. He also remarked that would mean he would pay taxes as other Americans do, and could not hunt at any ~~xx~~season as at present if he wishes. I remember Mrs. Wright's saying something about "fee patents" and wonder if that is the same.

The men who conducted the hearing in Yakima I thought handled the situation very well and so far as I could see, very fairly. I could not understand why the opposition did not put up a better presentation of their stand. One Indian woman who came to sit by me told me that Minnie had been in some sort of trouble. Poor Minnie!

Would you be interested in making an appearance at the Pasco Woman's Club meeting on October 18th if it could be arranged? They sometimes make

a field trip on their October meeting date, and I do not know what the plans will be for this fall. I should be most happy to arrange it if possible.

The few times we have been in Yakima I have wished it were possible to see you and get some information about Indian affairs. I certainly do not want to do anything out of order or against the will of the majority. The whole problem is fascinating and I should like to be better informed.

Thank you again for clippings. My file is growing and is often re-read for more information.

Sincerely,

Marian N. Robbins

Mrs. Norman E. Robbins.

MRS. NORMAN E. ROBBINS
2504 WEST HOOD PLACE
KENNEWICK, WASHINGTON

July 8, 1956.

My dear Mr. Relander:

Having prepared a list of Kennewick women for Mrs. Kuempel, and hearing from her that you are to be in this area on October 18th, we would like to ask if you could talk at a meeting of the Pasco Woman's Club that afternoon? It would be a different group from the noon group you are addressing, and I do hope you can arrange to do this. Your modeling in clay sounds most interesting. Meeting at 2 PM; your time arranged to suit you.

I was in Yakima the afternoon of the 21st and tried to call you, but was told you had left for the day. I should like to hear more of that is going on in Indian Affairs.

Again, all best wishes for the success of your book.

Sincerely,

Marian H. Robbins.
Mrs. Norman E. Robbins.

MRS. NORMAN E. ROBBINS
2504 WEST HOOD PLACE
KENNEWICK, WASHINGTON

August 17, 1956.

My dear Mr. Relander:

The Pasco Women's Club is looking forward to your being our speaker on Thursday, October 18th, and will arrange the time to suit your schedule. The meeting opens at 2 PM and if necessary you can speak soon after that or after the business has been conducted, and 30 to 40 minutes will be about right.

Politics is a new departure for us, but we are interested in Mr. Doumit's campaign for attorney general. We have known the Doumit family for over 12 years and they are splendid citizens. He has legal experience on the local level in his community, has been county prosecutor for several years, and is now in the Attorney General's office, giving him experience on the state level, which no other candidate has (on the 3 levels). People of both political parties are supporting and endorsing him.

Tomorrow we leave for Ashland, Oregon, to attend the Shakespearean Festival, thus getting a bit of culture into the summer.

Again all best wishes with the book.

Sincerely,

Marian H. Robbins

Mrs. Norman E. Robbins.

N. E. ROBBINS
2504 WEST HOOD PLACE
KENNEWICK, WASHINGTON

October 29, 1956.

My dear Mr. Relander:

Time has slipped by so fast since you were here; if there is not one thing going on each day, there are two or three. The club members still are talking about your fine program, and some of us are enjoying your excellent book "Drummers and Dreamers". It certainly carries one into the past and makes him feel he is actually living the history he is reading. I am delighted to ^{be} learning so much of this historic area. Needless to say, I am not proud of the treatment the Indians have received.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Shawaway were charming; it was a real honor to meet them. I am enclosing two clippings from the "Tri-City Herald", and one is for the Shawaways. As yet my film is not all used; I will send snapshots later if they are good.

Nothing would please me more than to do something worth while to atone is a small way for the wrongs the Indians have suffered at the hands of "the Greedy Ones". Please give the Shawaways my warmest greetings when you see them.

You have solved one Christmas problem for me; last year we sent my brother in Boston a copy of Francis Haines' book "The Nez Perce". He liked it very much, and I know that he will find your new book even more interesting, since he has been here and knows a bit about this area.

Thanking you again for so generously sharing your busy days with our club, I am

Sincerely,

Marion H. Robbins

Mrs. Norman E. Robbins.

MRS. NORMAN E. ROBBINS
2504 WEST HOOD PLACE
KENNEWICK, WASHINGTON

Dec. 3, 1956.

Dear Mr. Relander:

The man at the newspaper office finally sent me a glossy print of the picture taken when you were here, and I am wondering whether you still wish it sent to you for presentation to the Shawaways. There is one, although I asked for two so you would also have one. Perhaps you could "requisition" one through your office.

We enjoyed the Shawaways when they were here November 19th. They outdid themselves in bringing beautiful clothing and accessories. Even Mrs. Shawaway made a short speech, the first she ever gave. Everyone liked them very much.

I hope the book is having the success it merits. It has increased my desire to learn more of the past and present-day Indians. What a situation they are in, with millions of dollars they can not spend!

Sincerely,

Marian H. Robbins