

August 10, 1956

Mr. Vance Orchard,  
The Walla Walla Union Bulletin,  
Walla Walla, Washington.

Dear Vance:

Haven't been able to make it down to Walla Walla recently, because of our tight vacation schedule and a tighter or tightening work schedule for Drummers and Dreamers.

However, think I should drop you a line as to the schedule, etc.

I'm dropping Rollie M. a letter to the effect that the publisher has notified me that review copies will be out next month, and that he should have a copy on hand by September 15. I thought perhaps the review copy recommendation should go that way, and asked Rollie to "loan" it to you for a quick scanning.

The Wanapums and I expect to have a book for you that we will deliver on our visit to Walla Walla.

The book will be released for general distribution on Oct. 6. Some of the wanapums have promised they'll accompany me on a tour starting in Yakima that date and progressing first to Portland, Tacoma, Seattle etc.

We will be at Pullman (WSC) probably for a night reception by some of the professors on October 16, a Tuesday, and at Moscow, Idaho, a book store, that afternoon. That means we'll get up early next morning and pull out for Walla Walla where Al McV has suggested me for a Kiwanis luncheon talk. We'll be at the Walla Walla book store for the "invitational" party 2 to 4 p.m.

We are possibly due for an appearance at the Mid-Columbia Writers Club meeting at Pasco or Kennewick that evening, I don't know for sure yet.

We will try and stop in at Walla Walla to say hello to the Houghtons. Don't know what you can do for us besides talking it up some or distributing a few of the invitations to likely prospects, which sounds rather traitorous as far as the Houghtons are concerned but since they don't deal in new books and will have only a few copies of D and D, you can figure out what is best or proper.

The PUD has invited the Indians and I to participate in ground breaking ceremonies for Priest Rapids Dam "just after Labor Day" but no date has been set for it yet.



They are acquiring land within a mile of the dam, if possible, to which they will move the "anapum Long House, fix it up, and will provide other housing. They'll string a powerline there so it will have lights, the first time in the known history since 1811 of Priest Rapids. Importantly, the graveyard on the hill will be protected, and rock paintings on the island, lying in the axis of the lower dam, will be removed, probably this winter. Some of these will be placed at the "anapum home site. One, designated by Puck Hyah Toot, the descendant of Smowhala, will be put in the graveyard where it will become his monument when he dies.

The PUD has been extremely cooperative in this whole procedure and so have the "anapums, although the PUD doesn't owe them anything but that they have a moral right there, there last home.

The "anapums have made me up a fine buckskin jacket with the sacred emblems of their religion, the sun, moon and star beaded on the back and the outspread hands in front. I'm to wear it "on occasion" on the tour.

If you do get into any mention of them, I think it wise to refer to them as the Wanapum band or the Priest Rapids Indians. Of course they are the only Indians--and there are only five of them left--for whom a major dam has been named. Chief Joseph Dam is far out of Chief Joseph territory, and some of the Chief Joseph descendants didn't relish that idea.

And as you no doubt know, Wana is river and Pum pépple --River People. So "anapum in reality is in remembrance of all the River People whose homes are undergoing a change as progress comes along the river.

Only \$166,000,000 of the financing has been provided by revenue bonds. However, the power purchasers who have contracted for power, have "optioned" power from "anapum Dam on which construction would not begin for two years. Then the PUD would issue more revenue bonds or they would be put up for sale as the last time, bonding companies will merge to handle the exceptionally large issue, and they would go on the New York Stock exchange. The \$166,000,000 issue lasted for only a few hours.

Don't know what else I can tell you, only give you some good advice. Never write a historical book. If you must write one, write one of the paper pulp blood and thunder kind, or one of the pulp kind that is loaded with sex etc. You'll save yourself three times the amount of work getting the other established, and then probably end up as I no doubt will when it falls flat on its face.

Anyway, my best to you and the Houghtons. Hope you've had some good book hunting and that your wide field of newspaper efforts is continuing productive.

Sincerely

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