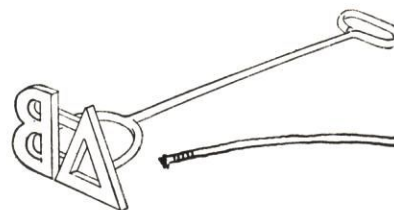




HELMSMODE 1st

L. D. Bax
ROUTE 1, BOX 708



TRI B RANCH
MORRISON, COLO

[#2]

February 24, 1967

Mr. Click Relander
3701 Commonwealth
Yakima, Washington 98901

Friend Click:

Nice to receive your letter of November 23 and of course the prints by Quigley were especially appreciated.

You know, I was wondering had you ever thought of selling that picture and if so, what did you ask for it? While I have about all the pictures my walls will hold, I do have a number of friends that are always interested in the old western pictures, so I thought that I might be able to turn it for you if you are interested. That, of course, is entirely up to you, but if you are, do let me know the size of it and what you are asking for it and I will go to work on it for you.

I have shown a few pictures of some of your modeling. While everybody, of course, admires the pieces, there are so many more people looking for pictures than castings, although I am sure in the finish the castings usually bring considerably more money than the paintings unless, of course, it is somebody like Russell or Remington.

My wife and I just got back from a short trip through the Southwest and across the border. Had intended to go into Mexico City and Acapulco this spring, but other things that have come up, doesn't look like we will make it this year. For one reason, I want to go into the Keys of Florida as there is a big Indian museum there that is owned by some very good friends of ours and they are thinking about moving it out of the country as they say people in Florida are just not interested in the Indians. I am trying to get them to move it all up near the Custer battlefield at what we call the Crows Nest as there isn't a good museum of Plains material in Wyoming or Montana.

The Yakima general council meeting that you speak of must have been very interesting. Did you see the nephew of Nipo Strongheart that you say has the big Indian collection in California? If he has been trying to give it to the Yakima, you should encourage them Click to get on the ball and accept it as really I don't know of a good display or collection of old Yakima material in that part of the country. I have never cared too much for the Coeur d' Alene or the Spokane material, but I have seen some nice Yakima pieces, but not too much of it. They could put a nice museum in Yakima or even Pendleton, Oregon

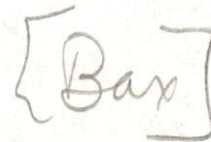
would be a good place where they have the big round-up or where they have the tribal offices. There are lot's of nice places for it and I hate to think of the thing getting broken up and being spread over the country as often happens to a large collection.

Would be glad to hear more about this subject if you have any late information and of course if we get into Yakima next year will be sure to look you up, although I am hoping to go into Alaska via Seattle, so havn't studied my map yet to know just how close we will be to you. In the meantime, you and your good wife better come down to Denver and pay us a visit. We would enjoy having you and reminiscing on some of the interests we have in common.

W hy, your wife wouldn't even recognize Boulder anymore as it has gotten to be quite a town, believe me.

Anyway, keep in touch Click as I always enjoy hearing from you and with kindest personal regards to yourself and Mrs. Relander. I am

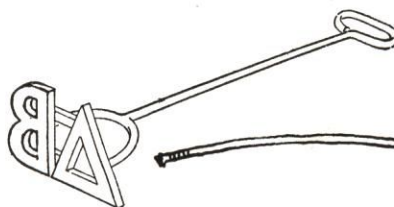
Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that appears to read "Drew". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.A handwritten signature in blue ink that appears to read "Bax", enclosed within square brackets. The signature is also cursive and fluid.



HELMSMODE 1st

L. D. Bax
ROUTE 1, BOX 708



TRIB RANCH
MORRISON, COLO

80465

September 5, 1968

Mr. Click Melander
3701 Commonwealth
Yakima, Washington

Dear Click:

It has been a long time since we have had any correspondence. Think about you often and, of course, was hoping that we might get up your way this summer where I would be able to visit with you in person, but that didn't happen. We didn't take our usual trip into northern Montana and Canada, but wound up going up to the Crow Fair at Crow Agency, Montana and then taking a trip over through the Black Hills into the Dakotas and Nebraska.

Of course I went fishing as usual--for old Indian material and was successful in getting a few very fine old rare pieces.

Always hoping that you and your good wife will come down to see how Denver and Boulder has grown one of these times and I can show you some of this junk. Had thought some of going into Pendleton, but I think that is out for now, but you can depend on it if I ever get within shooting distance of Yakima, you will hear from me.

If you have the time drop me a note and let's hear how things are going for you folks personally and business wise as I still like Yakima and the Plateau country and only wish that it wasn't so far from Denver. Is there anything new on collections and how is the Yakima museum working out?

Take care of yourself and with best regards to you both. I am

Yours very truly,

L. D. Bax

LDB/bw
Airmail



HELMSMODE 1st

L. D. Bax
ROUTE 1, BOX 708



September 27, 1968

Mr. Click Relander
3701 Commonwealth
Yakima, Washington 98901

Dear Click:

I received lots of nice letters in my years, but I think one of the nicest, longest and newsiest letters I ever got was the last one I received from you. Guess that is the newspaper man in you. Anyway, I enjoyed it very much.

I will not try to cover all the subjects and the information you have given me, but will only say that the big collection that is coming to Yakima must be a dandy and I would like to have a chance to get into some of the old pieces or duplicate items that you say there is a possibility that they might be selling. I don't have your old correspondence with me today, but do have it in my file, but isn't this the collection that you mentioned belonged to Strongheart or a name similiar to that who lived in California?

I was discussing your letter the other day with the curator of the Denver Art Museum and he mentioned that he knew of this collection and believe that was the name he gave me at the time. He, too, agreed it was a fine old collection, so if we can come up with something on it, I will make a flying trip into Yakima.

Yes, I saw and heard Cassius Clay on Johnny Carson's show and him mentioning that he expected to fight on an Indian reservation, but he didn't say when and what reservation. I think the Yakima are very foolish not to let him fight there. After all, we have got a lot less important guys than Cassius Clay that are resisting the draft and they are not paying taxes either where if Cassius Clay fights there is no question about it, the Government would get an awful chunk out of his return and it might be better for them to use some of that money to meet some of their expenses rather than making the tax payer foot the bill.

Too bad you can't come through Denver while your wife goes into Ft. Riley, although we would like to have her here too. Anyway, Click, I would enjoy showing you my collection, what is left of the ranch and discussing the many subjects with you further as covered in your correspondence. Of course if your wife should stop over in Denver, by all means have her call us and we will get in touch with her and see if we can't make a pleasant addition to her trip.

Write when you feel like it, Click, as I certainly enjoy hearing from you and if anything new comes up on the Indian material keep me advised, won't you. With very best wishes to you both. I am

Yours very truly,

Drew