

Aug. 6, 1955

Mary Avery,
State College of Washington,
The Library.

Dear Mrs. Avery:

Thanks for your letter of July 26, regarding Drummers and Dreamers. But--I guess I have only myself to blame.

I should have written, instead of sending out the advance circulars issued and now being distributed by the publisher.

D and D won't be off the press until next spring--you know how difficult it is for a small firm like Caxton to issue the amount of books they do. (And here I think it would be well to emphasize that D and D is strictly and in no way a vanity publication.)

I'm moving in and helping on promotion because Caxtons are limited in that field. And, well, I still have a personal interest in putting my Indian story across. Getting a dam named for the Wanapums, which finally came without solicitation on our part was one step. Getting the story across to people generally, students, libraries etc. is another.

Saw Dr. D in Yakima last week--here for the advisory sites meeting, and en route to Tacoma. Suppose you, Dr. L and others will soon be back at your duties.

I do appreciate your kind words and best wishes. They help me plug along at promotion--at which I'm no expert. Now I need a friend to intercede at the Student Bookstore at Pullman and see if they are interested in placing an advance order. I can relay it to the publisher or it can go in

direct. Having it go through me permits me to line out a possible book tour next spring on which I would circle the state (and Portland) with some of the Indians including the old man who is a nephew ~~xx~~ of Smowhala. I'm going to have to instruct him in making his "X" mark in a book. At places within striking distance ~~xxxxxx~~ of ethnology students and others interested, like WSC, they'd be invited to meet him, ask questions etc.

Knowing that advance orders have been placed helps me work out an itinerary and of course Caxtons requires no payment. Things seem to be lining out well on the basis of a spot check I've put out and I guess they are doing as well. I think I have forwarded some 250 orders within four weeks, most of them being from dealers in lots of 5 or 20, but of course many dealers might prefer to stay clear of an individual, feeling he was selling his own books. As for me, I'm still fighting the Indian battle and need all the help I can get like one Mary Avery at Pullman.

So much for that. Do find time later to drop me a note about your own continuing research activities and writings. And here again I must say how comprehensive and scholarly I found your presentation in Yakima last winter.

I suppose Caxtons will get an actual publication date in their next periodic~~xxx~~ catalogue.

Sincerely

Click Relander