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Dear Dick:

From fragmentary reports intercepted in the newspapers, I assume you are on an out-of-the area assignment, but I trust this will be forwarded to you. I have followed, also in the news reports, accounts of the Palouse region excavations. I am looking forward to publication of your monograph.

I know you are familiar with the Commissioner of Indian Affairs annual report with Message of the President for 1854. But just in case your other work has interfered with such fundamental or rather elementary research, the recent newspaper stories re: medal discovery were of interest.

Page 224 of the report states:

"...At the crossing of Snake River, at the mouth of the Palouse, the several parties of the expedition met with an interesting relic. The chief of that band, Wattai-wattai-how-lis, exhibited with great pride the medal presented to his father, Ke-pow-han, by Captains Lewis and Clarke. It is of silver, double and hollow, having on the obverse a medallion bust with the legend, "Thomas Jefferson, President U.S. A., 1801," and on the reverse the clasped hands, pipe and battle-axe crossed, with the legend, "Peace and Friendship."

(Same book contains much material re: Nez Perce, the Palouse, Yakimas, Spokanes etc.).

Of course it is "theory" only that medal found in the graveyard there is the same.

Also, I seem to recall that in my files is an account of a medal found lower on the Columbia and possessed by someone around Yakima, can't recall who, now, and that Clifford Dolph has such a medal at the Maryhill Museum of Fine Arts (Goldendale), Maryhill, Wash. When I see him I'll ask. Or it may be one of the "pot hunters" found one around that area and tried to sell it there. I don't recall.

And later, when you are "home" and checking through your Palouse files, see if you have some photos there with my name on them you were going to have copies made of a few years ago, also some typed msct. Not important but I try and keep my files, and now, in a larger location, have to develop this winter somewhat of an "amateur archives." When I get all the material filed, sorted etc. I should have negs. of the old graveyard there about 1954, and earlier picture of the last Palouse village (portrayed in Drummers and Dreamers), and such immaterial material. All of which might

be copied for your Palouse files. But it would be of small value. Think I turned over most of the info. I had, on loan about three years ago.

I've wondered about the Nez Perce "classification" on that region. Realize you've made a real study of it but in what little rummaging around I did there the linguistics did not indicate Nez Perce or even a branch of the Nez Perce. Hence I'm interested in seeing the artifacts after the excavation work, classification etc. is completed. Sometime, perhaps we'll be at some gathering and may have a chance for a little talk to clarify my thinking.

Also, perhaps you may not be through this territory in heck knows when, but if you ever have a trip scheduled through here, for heaven's sakes let me know in advance. I'm sure some luncheon club would like to have you present one of your interesting talks. Just something to remember. Only think I don't think the luncheon clubs of Yakima are geared for fee talks.

One of these days when we get rolling (at the newspaper) we'll be the largest in the U.S. running offset. Wonderful photographic reproductions, almost unbelievable. We have "converted" to offset but so many problems have arisen it will be weeks, perhaps months before things are whipped. The publisher went out on a limb for \$900,000 and I suspect he would have changed back in the first week had he known all the problems etc. But we had sold our old press to Sacramento and our other intertypes etc. which occupied 4,116 square feet of floor space elsewhere and there was no turning back. The point is, sometime we can do some real photographic work of areas of interest within striking distance. (We hope).

Only real occasion for writing was regarding the little bit on the medal, but suspect you had or have encountered that many times by now.

The best of luck on your new digs.

Sincerely

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