

Feb. 21, 1953

Mr. M. Norment,  
Christian Indian Mission,  
White Swan, Wash.

Dear Mr. Norment:

It was a pleasure to visit with you the other afternoon, and to observe, first hand, your extensive efforts in behalf of the Indians.

The material, concerning Celilo, I mentioned to you, pertains to the Warm Springs Indians, who have reached an agreement for indemnity. Consequently it will be of little use to you, other than for your knowledge of how they were treated, even in those days when land was not so scarce and dams were unheard of.

Regardless, I dashed off a few notes to send to you.

I have about eight or nine volumes of the Commissioner of Indian affairs in my collection, this all fairly common and easily accessible. However, I have some of the old Lewis and Clark Journals and many other references to the extensive fishing on the river, history of the Celilo country, the extent the Indians depended upon Celilo for food, etc. etc. It is generally the type of material that an attorney, I presume, seeking evidence for claims, would refer to and if the Yakimas have a good attorney he will certainly have access to it. I do not know him, but did mention to him, on two occasions when he visited the Yakimas, that if I could be of any help to provide information of that nature I would be most happy to, just to help the Indians.

I never heard any more from him. I made it plain I was not "selling" a service but, because of my extensive archive experience, had the material and would like to help the Yakimas.

Could you send me several copies of the memograph work you are putting out, and let me know how widely you are distributing



it. Perhaps I would work it into one of the stories.

And, don't forget to keep me posted on important developments that you think would be story-wise.

I must certainly make it a point to spend an evening with you; obtain a listing of the various Indian references you use in the Indian mission course referred to in Yakima Boy---because I endeavor to keep an extensive library--as much as my finances permit.

Also, as head of the research committee for the Fort Simcoe at Mool Mool Restoration Society, I think it would be wise for us to interview Mrs. Sam (providing you ~~also~~ did not do so with some thing historically in mind more than your work for the fishery.) Early this spring the committee will meet at Fort Simcoe for a day's inspection. I regret that that must be on a Sunday, but the committee is widespread and that would be the only day possible. We would ask some old people there and go about the grounds with them, refreshing their memories and taking down stories.

Thanks again for the nice visit.

Sincerely

Click Relander

Route 3, box 146

Yakima Wash.