

Feb. 8, 1963

Mr. Michael Harrison,
7440 Alexander Court,
Fair Oaks, California.

Dear Mike:

One of the nicest things about the hours and hours that go into writing and research, it brings me into touch with my friends again.

I suspected you were about retiring, but sounds like you have an ideal place, and are entitled to enjoy life in the mountains. You were about my only acquaintance of note among the California personnel. Your "memoirs" of life with the nomads in the "Ishi" country would be remarkable. And the Russian River remarks remind me of the various War of the Rebellion series of the early Northern California and Oregon expeditions among the Klamaths and southward. I'm pretty sure you are familiar with the set. I've long used them for research, some 140 vols of the Civil War records, army officers' correspondence etc. Of these mass are three volumes dealing with the Pacific. If you've not encountered them, have the librarian chase down on inter-library loan Series I, Vol I, Part I, reports covers reports Jan 1, 1861 through 65 etc., Series I, Vol I, Pt. II (the third I don't have at hand. They're packed with letters of the Indian campaigns, just letters, but right from the source.

Have you been doing any writing? I suspect you have. My regular job is newspapering; this is "night activities." Last April I whipped an acute coronary, my own carelessness in eating habits etc.

I'd like to hear your very frank and honest opinion after "Strangers," since I value it very highly. The Yakimas, before many years I suspect will go the way of the Klamaths; the villages before then. Very interesting to be in on the ground floor of history! And I'm

very fortunate to have such friends among the Yakimas . But it is nothing like the various observations from the more distant viewpoint.

So by all means, write your observations.

The Treaty booklet was issued some 7-8 years ago, and is about 30,000 words long. I had about two weeks at night to get it in shape and had to write most of the "signed" material. Had more time on Strangers and there's lots of research packed into it. Hope to get an index out for it. As you know, 63,000 words, which it contains, equals the ordinary sized regular book, but the cost of thicker paper, bigger type than standard newspaper type, hard cover etc. would have put it out of sight of consideration. The yakimas are determined to make it pay printing cost, and to get some distribution throughout the U.S. on it. Hence the rock bottom price of \$2.25. Hope it appeals to you, but you won't polish it off in one night.

So don't let this be the last letter, Mike. The Yakima tribal leaders will enjoy your remarks. I'm gathering such for a perusal by the tribal leaders and publication committee. I'm hoping, in spite of all the work it entails, it can lead into other publications, just for the sake of getting history preserved. Books of this type as you must know represent no profit for the writer and take much longer to write, more technical digging etc.

So glad you took time to drop a line and were interested in the book. Wish I had dozens of copies to send out.

My very best (and if we do get down to California, you can bet we'll make a short call ...)

Click Relander

2 N. 32nd Ave.