

1212 N. 32nd Ave.  
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June 1, 1954

Dear friend and brother, Tomalawash:

I am enclosing some clippings, all the same story, for you. That was the reason I had the picture taken. It mentions no name, but it shows all of the readers of the two newspapers, over 50,000 people in the Yakima Valley, that you and other Wanapums have a sacred place like their cemeteries. They all went to their cemeteries on Memorial Day. You and Puck Hyahoot and I went up to Wanapum Stratza.

It tells too about the Wanapum house at Priest Rapids.

I send that clipping to some senators who are arguing about Priest Rapids Dam. If they build it eventually, it is more proof to them that they have to set aside land for you all, along the river in your home.

The fisheries man called me up. He read the story too. He is coming in to talk to me tomorrow before I start writing letters to Olympia.

As I understand it. The state has a new law. No one can fish like they used to, even though it is the old Wanapum place. The state is trying to take charge of all the Indians. It shows how they will try and do on the reservations later if the government bills pass and they close down the reservations slowly. It is a warning to the Yakimas what will happen to them. But they can register and vote and elect their own state law makers and make their laws if they will do it, and will have no trouble. But they won't do that.

I told the state man that we might have to try and get a law passed for us if they insisted on enforcing the law. And they can enforce it. It isn't like when McWhorter was alive. There are more laws now, different people. But, by having lots of friends, writing our stories, the book, etc. we will be able to maybe get one passed. It will mean lots of letters, time, work etc. and I am busy now checking on the information in the book so it is right, the words are right.

There is so little time left this season for the fishing. I will tell the man tomorrow that now the state will have to provide you people with fish you couldn't get, so you will have food this winter.

And I will explain to him that your religion means you have to have salmon from the waters of the land that was the Wanapum land, to continue your worship. They are denying you that. That is not right. According to the laws of this country, the Constitution, which permits everyone the right to worship in his own way. That is why this country was founded. Now they stop you from catching fish. I will make them understand by explaining to them how it is necessary for you to have fish, and tell them you should have deer too.

There is one thing I do not understand. Is Harry



Jim entitled to fish at Wanawish. The Umatilla Tribal attorney wrote to the court at Presser, telling them that Harry's treaty permitted him to fish there. Yet I understood this was Wanapum fishery.

Besides that, the Yakimas, in their claim, claim that as Yakima land. How can the Yakimas and Umatillas both claim it? There must be something wrong, when it belonged to your people, and to neither of them.

That is why I don't want to do much talking or writing about this now until I find out. I do not want to hurt any Yakima or Umatilla who is honest, if that is his place. I am honest myself and everyone must be honest with me. I will fight dishonesty. So, this is between you and I. You find but so I can talk to you about it when I come down in a few days, some evening. I don't know what evening. I will be there when I can before the end of this week, maybe Thursday or Friday evening.

The artist, Quigley who was with me, got a good sketch I think for the cover of the book. It was only a sketch. Now he will go home and make it three or four times as large. He will work on it several days, not just an hour like he did up in the mountains. The horses will look so much like horses you can see their eyeballs, their mouth open, foam dripping out of their mouths. I couldn't afford to hire him to do that. But he is a friend of mine and is doing it for me. He is so good that people in big cities pay him \$300 to \$500 or even \$800 a painting. Let he came all the way to do that for us. That shows that we have good, strong friends, and now we will start asking them to talk for us all over, and it will all be timed so that their talk will be heard when the book comes out.

If you see Puck Hyah Toot, tell him this. Explain to him I am writing you because I have this gasoline money to send you. And I am so busy I can't write both of you. Thank you for coming up.

Don't forget that later, and before the snow comes, he is to help me get Wanapum things together to go in the windows. If he is crippled & up, you can help him by making a drum, another fan, some of the fish traps, small ones that will go in a window. Then when the book comes out, the stores that will have them will have these things in the window so people will get interested and want to get the book. Make anything you want that was the kind of a thing the Wanapums had. We don't want Yakima things, just old Wanapum things. Everyone will have to help some on that. That is why one of the things I ask of you people, because I work hard to make this a success. Besides, when it comes out, Puck Hyah Toot, you and I will go to Seattle, Portland etc. where I will talk to people, and make them interested in the book.

That is all my friend. I hope this isn't too hard to read. I will be seeing you, my brother.

Now Tow Look