

1212 N. 32nd Ave.

Dr. Herman J. Deutsch,  
The State College of Washington,

Jan. 8, 1955 [1955]

Dear Herman:

Thanks for your "Christmas reminder" which gave a graphic account of your meanderings.

Enclosed: Carbon copy of a letter to Mr. Chapin Oster, which shows that while the Treaty Centennial is made a special order of business, it, like Lewis and Clark and other historical projects, are a day in and day out affair with me.

The "master clip" packet I am sending to Chapin contains somewhere around 100 or more major stories in a historical vein as outlined. It does not include numerous other smaller stories.

I will have two or three of these packets to send to you for proper disposition. Don't think clippings amount to much, unless carried on in sequence, and are properly dated, and sometimes documented like I do some of my major stories: List references at the end of the story. I know of no other newspaper writer that does that.

Enclosed too is a proof of a story we will run one of these days when we have the space. This gets into a previously little-known subject, Stockett-ly. I also have much material on him, only in note form, concerning his service as a guide to a Catholic father who "fled" from the Indian country. This was sometime in the late '40s or early 50s. Stockett-ly and some other Indians guided the priest all the way down to Mexico. The Shastas and some of the other tribes made them prisoners but released them. When I get all the pieces together, it will or should be something new, too.

Don't suppose it will do any good, but I turned in a slug of clippings to the Sidney Hillman Foundation for its journalism writing awards. The Hillman Foundation is a little out of my class, but it may spread the word of my Wanapum project around the big city of New York.

I've rung off a series of some 17 speeches in about two months time, and covered women's clubs, a state convention, the Ellensburg Chamber of Commerce etc. Turned down the Yakima Chamber till an appropriate time. Didn't get into the book but dealt only with the Wanapum project and the Indian termination situation. Was borne out in my belief that people do want to hear about "the poor Indian" contrary to the mistaken belief of many publishers who "pooh pooh pah" the idea.

I'll help out as I can regarding the Treaty Centennial. Can't say that I have much admiration for the citation you listed from Splawn. It, like nearly every page of his book can be disproven by documentary evidence. Of course any local writing is good writing, but wished he had stuck to the field which he knew and told it. Mrs. Splawn died last month. She would change nothing in his book, not even well-known ~~speaking~~



names which were misspelled.

The Yakima Valley Museum and Historical Association, referred to in Chapin's letter is Walt Purdin's project. I was elected (re-elected) one of the three year term directors last month.

The museum was promised \$65,000 matching money for a building fund if \$65,000 was raised by Dec., 1956. This was a result of the co-trustee, the bank, backing down after John Miller wanted to appropriate funds from the Miller Trust Fund for a building. He sued them and got no where. Things got so hot the bank came up with this, thinking it could never be met because drives all over had been falling down.

We have now around \$40,000 cash and \$35,000 in pledges toward the actual \$65,000 cash and should make it in another year, leaving a full year's lee way. I turned on the publicity a little during the height of the campaign. The things started to roll when we reorganized the board and the Daughters of Pioneers took their proper place in the scheme of things. They are good gals, but not too efficient when it comes to working up a museum. In fact one of them really bungle the original "grant" and got them mixed up in the suit. But that's all water under the bridge.

I'm looking forward to another profitable World Pacific Northwest History Conference at Spokane and surely will find you there this year.

Seems to me that Joel Harris should be getting his friend, the Managing Editor of the Spokesman Review to rolling some publicity on a state-wide basis so it would have a higher standing. I know you can't start out a short time before an event like that and build up a good attendance and draw in a lot of new people. It should be spelled out in stories now, what it is, its purpose etc. so many who are interested in history, research, writing etc. will start planning now to attend.

Your packets of clippings, representing my major stories during the year, should be getting out in the mail before many days. Do what you want with them. I have managed to save up some thirty or more such packets.

Hope things are going well with your own projects of research.

Sincere regards to you and your efficient wife,

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