

1212 N. 32nd Ave.
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Oct. 31, 1954

Mr. Chapin Foster, director,
Washington State Historical Society,
Tacoma, Washington.

Dear Chapin:

I've been snowed under with the Indian situation, relative to the preliminary permit for the Priest Rapids Dam. And now that is under control, I've a chance to write.

First: Regarding your question about the Yakima Valley Museum, Inc., it is an incorporation. It consisted of 11 directors of whom seven were Daughters of the Pioneers, the original sponsors. But as it grew and the move spread to encompass the entire area, ~~ask~~ authorization was granted to amend the bylaws, limiting various groups like the Daughters to directorship.

The necessary waiting period for change in the bylaws is now being undergone. The election was postponed from a week ago until Nov. 29.

The Daughters themselves requested such a change, confidentially, for "the good of the cause," and because they realize it was too large.

About the Lewis and Clark deal. I've yet to hear from Watson Totus, who runs true to form of all Yakimas. Wednesday I visit the agency on a courtesy visit to explain the burial situation at Priest Rapids Dam and how it has been worked out. While the treaty Indians have no interest in this, this is done to eliminate the natural suspicion that the Yakimas yet retain and which is much to their disadvantage.

I have received a letter from Clifford Dolph, curator and director of the Maryhill Museum of Fine Arts relative to Lewis and Clark. He has a Lewis and Clark medal and brought it to Yakima to be photographed etc. on the day I was at Priest Rapids, being called there by the contractors before they could embark on a \$207,050 core drilling contract under a Federal Power Commission proviso. My idea about the medal was to get it and use it with a cute little Indian child, but Watson so far has given no help so I'll use someone down around the Dalles.

Also, he writes: "Your suggestion for a L & C exhibition next year hits the mark. I'll work out something and let you know details as soon as possible."

This suggestion was made "in your name," and I will ask Cliff to keep you posted to it can become a part of your report. I will see that it receives proper publicity around here. I hope that is satisfactory. Hope this meets with your approval.

Sincerely

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