

Wm. E. Sanderson
Rt. 4, Walla Walla, Wash.
September 24, 1953

Mr. Click Relander
1212 N. 32nd Ave.
Yakima, Washington

Dear Mr. Relander:

Thanks for your letter of the 21st. regarding the Wanapum Indians. In order to be sure that I have the best material available, I will be happy to wait until you think the time is right for an article about them.

By "commercial" photographer, I really meant one of the boys who works in the office and who is better technically and who, in addition has both the interest and the sympathy to do an outstanding job. Since you have already written for publication on the same subject, I would suggest that my article be slanted differently so as to avoid competition, as well as repetition.

The original publication date for HORSES ARE FOR WARRIORS was to have been this October, (next month). However, I am happy to say, Caxtons nominated the book to the Literary Guild as a Junior Book-of-the-month selection, and I have been informed that the Guild has, so far, considered it very favorably. They have asked Caxtons to agree to coordinate their publication date with a month in the spring of '54 in the event they do make it a selection.

HORSES ARE FOR WARRIORS is being published by Caxtons on what they call their regular contract. It is a royalty deal, with a graduated scale, so much for the first five thousand, an increase up to seven-thousand, five-hundred and another increase in the royalty after that. They were the first publishers, - and the only ones, - to whom I sent the manuscript. I understand they are interested in Northwest Americana.

I would like very much to meet you at Celilo some time when you are going there. I have not studied their condition a great deal but would like to know more about them. This winter I am going to do a second book on the Nez Perce, aimed at older teenagers. It will be historically true but with fictionalized fill-in details and the subject will be Aleokot, or Ollicut, Young Chief Joseph's younger brother. He was quite a man, and Joseph's fame has prevented a real appreciation of his abilities and worth, generally.

Incidentally, one of the things I am most interested in about the Wanapums is that I believe they were the "home" people of Smoholla, born of the same branch, or family of the Wanapums as Swopscha, (Schappy) whose influence with the non-treaty Nez Perce General Howard so bitterly opposed. Thus, it seems that at least two members of the same tribe and family gave great impetus to the Dreamer religion.

Thanks again for your offer to keep me advised of an opportunity to complete my article.

Sincerely,

Wm. E. Sanderson.

Wm. E. Sanderson
Rt. 4, Walla Walla, Washington

November 1, 1953

Mr. Click Relander
1212 N. 32nd.Ave.
Yakima, Washington

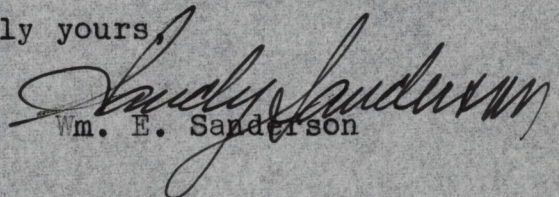
Dear Mr. Relander:

While going through some of my papers this evening I ran across my answer to your letter of September 21, - still unmailed. Please accept my apologies for haveing been so neglectful and discourteous. Am enclosing my first answer to your kind letter as it is apropos now as it was when first written.

You may be interested to know that this last week end I have been busy proof-reading and correcting the galley proofs of the book Caxtons are bringing out; HORSES ARE FOR WARRIORS. There were few corrections or changes. I think they have done a very fine job of setting it up. Will be glad to get settled down to the hard work I know I am going to have to do on the Ollikut story.

Thanks again for your kind letter and please let me know when it will be convenient and most profitable for me to try and look the Wanapums over.

Very truly yours,


Wm. E. Sanderson

March 30, 1954

Mr. Click Relander
1212 N. 32nd. Avenue
Yakima, Washington

Dear Mr. Relander:

Thanks a lot for your interest in my new book. Its publication date is to be April 15th. Please accept this advance copy as a gift from me.

I will try to give you the information ^{as} you requested it.

- (a) I am, and have been since its activation, the Personnel Director of the Walla Walla District of the Corp of Engineers. Have been in government or industrial personnel work for about twenty years, - because I like to work with people.
- (b) Outside of my work, which covers all Corp of Engineer people in the areas you mentioned my only interest is that of an "adopted" son, (I was born in Michigan) in its history, its legends and its former and remaining Indian population. Please note that Pers Crowell, the illustrator, was born in Pasco, attended grammar and high school there, graduating in 1928. He is now one of the country's leading horse artists as well as a very successful commercial artist.
- (c) My only prior publications have been short "horse" articles, rather insignificant.
- (d) I have a completed manuscript for a modern western novel about the northwest now being considered by a large eastern publisher. I plan to continue to write as time allows about northwest subjects, mainly in and around the upper Columbia Basin. I am already working on a serious historical story about Ollikut, Chief Joseph's all-but-forgotten brother.
- (e) About the only tie-in with the area you mentioned, in "HORSES" is in the relationship between the Wallowa band of Nez Perce and those farther down the Snake River at (now) Lewiston and in the Palouse country.
- (f) ~~M~~ I have always been interested in Indians and horses. I was one of the earlier Directors of the Appaloosa Horse Club, which has succeeded in re-establishing the fine strain of spotted Nez Perce war-horses as a separate and distinct breed. I feel that it is safe to say that I am a serious student of the early history of the Inland Empire country, its people and its development.

I would like to tell you about my interest in the Wanapums. First, in spite of much history to the contrary, I think there may be something very significant to them about the exact wording of the treaty of 1855, and particularly as it concerns the treaty allegedly signed by the Yakimas. Second, the Wanapums appear to be the "River People" among whose members were both Smoholla and the more ancient Prophet, Swopscha or Schwapsh. Both subjects interest me deeply from the

WM. E. SANDERSON
ROUTE 4
WALLA WALLA, WASH.

historical as well as the anthropological viewpoint. I would like to learn as much about them as possible. I have reason to believe that the (now) So-Happy family are descendents of the same family stock, but its tough going unless some of the older members of the band will talk. I have, unfortunately, come to the belief, that if our remaining Indians want thier history preserved for them, they will have to turn it over to we aliens who have over-run thier country in one generation, but are beginning to cherish thier memories in another.

I take it that Drummers and Dreamers is your own manuscript. It makes a wonderful title and I wish you all the good luck in the world with it. Perhaps you have already covered some of the questions that I am so interested in. If there is any way I can be of assistance please let me know.

If I were to do an article on the Wanapums it would necessarily have to do with the effect of our own (Corp of Engineer) activities. Naturally I would prefer to be guided in that by your ideas of what was good for the tribe and for thier interests. But I am much more interested in thier history, and the enormous influence thier prophets wielded with the other northwest Indians than I am in doing a story on thier present situation.

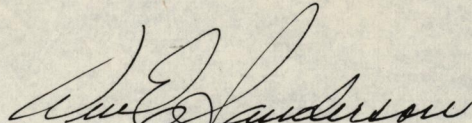
Yes, I would be very interested in making the trip with you when you go to get pictures for the magazine story. If you will let me know the date a few days in advance I will welcome the opportunity to meet you as well as to see these interesting people.

I would like to ask that any review you may have in mind for HORSES ARE FOR WARRIORS be timed for Sunday, April 11th. if possible. If that date is not convenient, then later, rather than earlier than the 11th. Caxtons have specifically requested that other reviewers make the 11th. thier opening date for publicity.

Thanks again for your interest and I hope that you will enjoy my little story about how a "new thing" came to our Indians.

With best personal regards,

Sincerely,


Wm. E. Sanderson

WM. E. SANDERSON
ROUTE 4
WALLA WALLA, WASH.

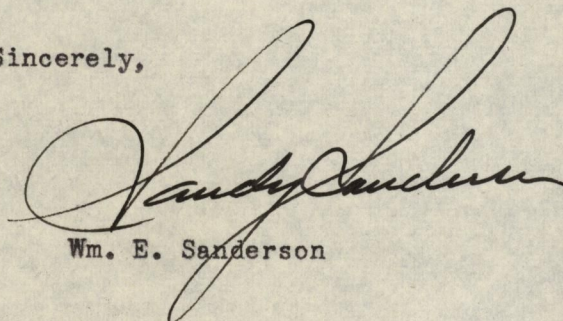
April 2, 1954

Mr. Click Relander
1212 N. 32nd Avenue
Yakima, Washington

Dear Mr. Relander:

Inclosed is a picture which I neglected to send
with the book.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Wm. E. Sanderson", with a large, looping flourish at the end.

Wm. E. Sanderson

Wm. E. Sanderson
Route #4
Walla Walla, Washington

Mr. Click Relander
Route #3, Box 149
Yakima, Washington

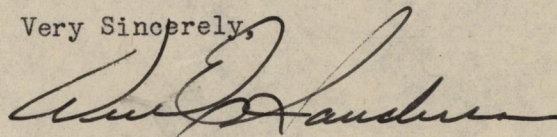
Dear Mr. Relander:

I am taking the liberty of writing to you in hopes that you may feel able to advise me on a matter pertaining to the Wanapum Indian situation at Priest Rapids. As Civilian Personnel Officer of the Walla Walla District, Corps of Engineers, I have access to the file of correspondence maintained in this office on these Indians and noted your sincere interest in the affairs of this tribal remnant.

Since long before I was transferred to the Walla Walla District of the Corps of Engineers, I have had a deep and abiding interest in the history of our Northwest Indians and have devoted a considerable amount of my "free" time to a continuous study of these matters. As a result, you may be interested to know that my book on the acquisition of horses by the upper Nez Perce bands is being published by the Caxton Printers, Ltd. of Caldwell, Idaho. The title of the books is HORSES ARE FOR WARRIORS. I mention this because it is a direct by-product of my interest in the Northwest Indians and because I chose the subject matter of this book for the reason that it did not appear to me that any other writer had covered that particular point excepting for the short articles published by Francis Haines in "American Anthropology."

I would like very much to be able to do an article, preferably one suitable for publication in a national periodical, on the historical background, present condition, and projected future of the Wanapum Indians. Your own article published in the Yakima Daily Republican, August 21, 1951, and another article by H. Dean Guie, Associate Editor, which appeared April 11, 1951, is about all that I can find on these Indians from local sources. In view of your knowledge of, and interest in the Wanapum Indians, I wonder if it would be possible for me to come to Yakima and talk to you about them and enlist your aid in developing an article such as I mentioned previously. I would like to bring an excellent commercial photographer and, if possible, secure an interpreter for the purpose of interviewing Puk-hia-tooh (Johnny Buck) and any other of the older members of the band. I assure you that my interest in this matter is not commercial at all, and that the main result which I would hope for from an article to be published in a national periodical would be to the advantage of the Indians rather than my own. Would you please write me at the above address giving me your ideas on this matter? If it is convenient, it would be possible for me to come to Yakima and talk with you as a preliminary to any other action, preferably on a Saturday or Sunday, if convenient to you.

Very Sincerely,



WM. E. SANDERSON