

1212 N. 32nd ave.
XXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXX

March 2, 1954

Mr. Lee L. Yost,
Room 2129 Dept. of Justice building,
Washington, 25, D.C.

Dear Lee:

Decided to drop you a note containing a few general information items.

1-I've been plugging along on the microfilm and have expanded the field considerably, finding numerous Paouse and "war causes" [Yakima] in a series obtained from a private source in Washington. The source is a friend of my co-newspaper worker, a Maj. Lerwell, himself a former Yakima newspaper man. My friend, H. Dean Guie has long been interested in Fort Simcoe restoration. Maj. Lerwell has been doing army historical research. In his spare time and days off, he has been rounding up unclassified material pertaining to the Yakima country and obtaining direct film (positives ?) for the project and I've been doing the transcribing. This material as I understand it comes from loose material stored in boxes etc. Some is very good I think.

2-I received a letter from the author, Mrs. McKeown at Hood River, the "champion" of the mid-Columbias. I don't know the details but I believe she is lined up with a Portland attorney, Masley, on some type of Mix-Columbia suit. Her letter informs that material she has gathered from her very large and old library, photostats, photos etc. have been presented to Insular Affairs Committee for "their investigation." she mentioned too, "I also included the Wan-a-pums in the problem and suggested they ask you about them."

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She knew, several years ago of my interest in the "anapums and I assume she mentions all the river people (non-treaty) in her material, whatever it is. I have never discussed my situation with her more than twice I met her nearly a year ago . I can't possibly see any complications, but mention this.

I was told at the Yakima Agency the other day that the Piute attorney has been anxious to acquire material they have on the Piutes. However, it is so scattered and extensive, they could not provide it I am sure, were they in a position to. It is simply a matter for pegging along and digging it out, a page here and there. And, you saw the material. But, if you think you have use for the material back, which you have returned, please let me know.

I have now, through my microfilm and agency check, narrowed down the entire picture of the reservation records and find there is one missing gap. That is from July 21, 1874, to Sometime in 78-79.

I mention this because in years past, from those I have talked to, a letter record book existed . I don't know what happened to it, apparently no one does, and certainly, the present agency people are NOT responsible, because they have saved much material that would have been lost. I suspect that this material may not be on file in the Archives. The source I mentioned I believe will make a check of all loose, miscellaneous records etc. and attempt to get material covering that period to fill in our Fort Simcoe records. The point to remember is that if any documentary material is ever introduced relative to that period, its repository etc. should certainly bear a look see. I am making a special attempt to round this up, unobtrusively without knowledge of those concerned as to its purpose, because there is the possibility that some material is included therein that has been construed as "damaging" etc. Those now dead had access to such material here.

4-Mr. Skarra mentioned to me the other day that much old material from some of the Northwest Agencies is being sent to Seattle into storage. Perry (Skarra) is a very good friend and has been most helpful in my Fort Simcoe research which has resulted in uncovering other material.

5-Caxtons (the publishers) has resumed negotiations with me about "Drummers and Dreamers." It has been "dormant" while I held out for a price under \$5 and they thought it would cost \$7 to \$8. I would go for months without replying to letters. Now I find they have an advertising agency lining out a proposed advertising program etc. but, they have yet not returned or submitted a contract. If it goes this time I am sure it will not be published before next Christmas. It has been rechecked and won the re-approval of their readers, editorial board etc., but it was a publishing cost problem that stumped them.

6-I haven't heard from Marc in some time but will be dropping him a note. There's considerable in the new microfilm I have on the Nez Perce, references to councils held in 55, 56 etc. at which they said the "treaty was broken," etc. I presume it's okay for him to scan the material if he's interested.

I have more microfilm coming up that will pretty well clean up Washington. There was a big overlap from Oregon, when Washington operated under the superintendent there, that I will have to get into later, and may need some help from you on that score...such as obtaining a loan, in sequence, of some \$90 worth of Oregon films. Don't know whether this could be worked out or not or whether you are interested.

Hope things are going well with you and the Department.

Kind regards

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P.S. (Stay out of the house gallery please. Heard the Yakima