

Mr. Roscoe Sheller,

April 16, 1953

Sunnyside,

Wash.

Dear Roscoe:

I hear you are leaving for the middlewest this week-end. I hasten to bid you "bon voyage," and a profitable, pleasant trip.

I'm writing this hurriedly in the hope you can turn the request over to a responsible fellow worker at Sunnyside.

Our friends want some support in their fight to retain their Treaty Rights. I am enclosing a self-explanatory petition, with the hopes you can have someone pick us up several names on it--every few will help--and return it by mail to me in the self-enclosed envelope within a week or 10 days.

I think most of us realize by now the Indian friends are fighting a losing battle to stop the dam, by bringing their treaty rights home at this time it should have good effects for them. When they go to Washington, soon, they wish to take petitions of this nature from all over the state. I have told them I would help them and have given up some of my other activities for the present to get these in circulation.

Meanwhile I shall shortly resume the research on Fort Sincos and will have much progress to report when you return. I will also have considerable material for you then on Ben Snipes, including his early-day activities on the reservation when he paid grazing fees for his stock and the Rev. James H. Wilbur, the agent, was frequently compelled to petition him for payment of his rentals.

Sincerely  
Click Relander