

1309 Hains Avenue
Richland, Washington
May 15, 1955

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

Dear Mr. Relander:

Thank you for your letter of May 3. We did make it to the Wanapum's first foods feast but we were rather late. As soon as we arrived we inquired of a young Indian girl if you were there. She replied that Click had just left. We recalled that we had met a group of cars a few miles back. Apparently we arrived just between the first feeding and the second feeding.

After we had looked about for a while the group in the reed shelter filed out and formed the two large circles about the place and held the brief concluding ceremony. When that was all over and a group of women entered to wash dishes we asked permission to enter and look about. This we did and it was there I was able to make myself known to Puck Hyak Toot. I suspect he felt a bit suspicious toward me. He asked the same Indian girl whom we had asked about you to interpret for him. Later on, however, after we had been visiting with one of the Indian visitors (actually a Warm Springs lady) who was washing dishes, he did approach me, tap me on the shoulder, and inquire about Ralph Gilbert.

The inside of the reed enclosure was very interesting to us. There were many foods left. We were entreated to sample them. We had eaten not long before, but we did sample a few things. After visiting a bit more we left and explored upstream a bit before heading home. As we returned past the reed enclosure, however, it was apparent that some new activity was about to begin. We asked the same young Indian girl if we might be permitted to enter and she replied, "I guess so", and we did enter. And then began a wonderful series of songs with dancing of a restrained sort. It was quite different from that of the Colvilles and Blackfeet and others that I have seen. When it began to be late (for us) we slipped out and reluctantly headed home. This was a real treat for us. I do hope we can visit the group again.

I can't help you too much on book store outlets here, for we are rather new in town. That is I do not personally know the operators. The one which is a straight book store is the COLUMBIA BOOK STORE, 1335 George Washington Way. This is run by two ladies who everyone says do a very good job of it. They

Correction: One of the ladies sold out to the other and it is now run by Miss Ann Peck.

operated from the home of one of them for a number of years before opening their present quarters a couple of years ago. The other store is SHIELDS BOOK & STATIONERY, 1360 Jadwin. The operator lives in Pasco and conducts another store by the same name there. So far as I know these are the only book sellers in Richland. I would imagine that interest in Indians might run a bit higher here than is usual in the Pacific Northwest.

Here's wishing you and the Yakimas good fortune in your book and pamphlet. Perhaps we may yet meet.

Sincerely,

James M Berkey
James M. Berkey

It's not always easy for us to pick up and go just anytime, but we would appreciate your telling us when similar Indian celebrations may be scheduled, if you think about it.

1309 Hains Ave.
Richland, Wash.
March 21, 1960

Mr. Click Rielauder
Yakima Herald
Yakima, Washington

Dear Mr. Rielauder—

Have you heard when the Wanapumms plan to hold their First Foods Feast this year?

In several years past you have been good enough to let us know the date and my family has so enjoyed visiting Priest Rapids and the Indians on that date. It makes your book just that much more a personal treasure to us.

This year, one of our Scout Explorer Posts which specializes in Indian lore and Indian dancing would like to make the trip, too, if they would be welcome.

We would very much appreciate what you can tell us. Hope we haven't missed it.

Sincerely,
Jim Berkey