

Mr. Chapin Foster,
Director, Washington State Historical Society,

1212 N. 32nd Ave.
Yakima, Wash
Nov. 4, 1954

Dear Chapin:

Enclosed, a clipping you no doubt will be mighty interested in. Guess Walter was pretty lucky.

Re: The change in bylaws. These have been submitted and our annual election etc. has been deferred the legal ~~date~~ time specified (Nov. 29) for formal vote of approval, so I suspect the inclusion of the extra word (three in fact) might delay it still further and in any respect would entail another membership meeting. However, it seems a worthy suggestion which will be presented to the legal members of our board for expediency, if it is possible at this time. (N.K. Buck, George Martin and Dick Smith)

The changes I guess I omitted to detail. The present board membership is 11, of which 7 must be Daughters of Pioneers, 2, members of the Pioneer Association, 1 member of the Historical Society (which has not met for annual meeting now in many years, etc. etc.)

The change raises the number to 15, and the number of members from individual organizations etc. is not specified. It was done with the intent of making the organization community-wide.

Re: Watson Totus. Saw him at the Toppenish Agency yesterday where he came in by appointment. (I had a conference there with agent and some other councilmen relative to the Priest Rapids Dam situation and burial sites. He is to make contact with the person he has in mind, through another member of the tribal council. He does not know this woman but Tom Yallup, a notorious "Dollar Chief" does and later they or Watson will contact me. I told him I would take care of the "interpreter's fees, which is the way Tom works situations like this--hence "dollar chief." It's the only way to get results in certain situations, and that will be among my contributions.

I have Saturday off and plan a trip to Maryhill and to the Wishram area with a photog who also has the day off. ~~xxxxx~~ I have written Cliff Dolph and told him I'd be down. If he's not checked out he will come along with Lewis and Clark Medal and we'll round up cute Indian kid at The Dalles for picture, also picture of Tommy Thompson, the old chief, who has Lewis and Clark stories. I'll pose little kid on his knee for grandfather day story effect.

Tommy will talk to me, being one of the few he will talk to. In fact he's one of last two old chiefs in Eastern Washington. He has given me his name, Chief La Wot and is using his family name of Kuni. I have used Tommy little in stories since he is a source of my friend, the author, Martha Ferguson McKeown of Hood River. The Seattle Times of some three or four weeks ago carried several pages of pictures of Tommy and his people.

I'm rather tired out now with the election work etc. but will get going again one of these days, ere long.

Kind regards

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P.S. Dunno what you've heard from the Daughters. But they asked me about major events for their award presentation and none of us could think of anything other than next spring's Pioneer Association picnic. But maybe there are some other ideas come to them since I saw them at last board meeting.