

1212 N. 32nd Ave.

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Feb. 17, 1954

Mr. J.M. McClelland Jr.,  
Editor, Longview Daily News,  
Longview, Washington.

Dear John:

Regarding publication of the photo of the life study of Tommy Thompson, Wyam chief at Celilo, I don't believe it could serve any useful purpose, at least not now.

I've made a couple of preliminary sketches of Concomly, but so far can't reconcile myself to the flattened skull. I've also spent several late afternoons at the agency at Toppenish, just looking at men who come in, but so far, none have struck me as being the one that would lend himself to getting some character into the piece I want to do. Things like that jell around in my mind considerably and then suddenly shape up. You've got to see very definitely in your mind what you are making and then it comes out. Otherwise, you might as well not start it.

Perhaps the Tommy Thompson picture, at a later time would work out and would give more of an idea of "authenticity" to one of Concomly, but that would be nearer the time the other is shaping up. I'll keep you posted.

Thanks much for the Cowlitz item. You do nobly to preserve it that way as well as in the Centennial edition.

Sincerely

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