

May 26, 1956

Dear Nipo Strongheart:

Haven't heard from you for some time, so hesitated to continue sending clippings I'd written about Indian affairs--what with the fact that my mailing list got pretty heavy and my other work too pressing.

Enclosed are a few of recent date. Enclosed too you will find an article about opening bids on our museum building in Yakima; and the carbon copy of a letter sent to Al Culverwell. I introduced you to him at the Mission on your trip the day you were there and we all had lunch.

There's no particular reason for your reference in the letter, only to keep you posted on developments around this area. If the state is interested in inquiring into the possibilities of obtaining any of your services at some future date, they will. Otherwise I wouldn't say anything about it. I put in a good plug the other night. However, I don't know what you are working out, or what it is possible for you to work out with the Yakima Tribe, so am just sending this along, straight forward, and hope that things work out the best for you and others concerned.

Enclosed too you will find an announcement concerning my forthcoming book. It will be on sale Oct. 6 and issued no doubt 30 days before then. I finished up a five-week job of indexing it a couple of weeks ago. It turns out to be around 389 pages and 50 pages of illustrations.

While I don't think the Yakimas or other treaty Indians will appreciate the work nor sacrifice I have put into the book, the years of research etc. it is the story of many reservation Indians looking some 50 years into the future, when government control and supervision is terminated. And it is told through the remnant Wanappum Band, after whom one of the dams of the Priest Rapids Project has been named.

If you know of any film script dept. that a review copy of this should be sent to, let me know and I will ask the publisher to include the name on the review list. Don't know whether the publisher will do this or not, that is up to him. By that I don't mean I think it has any possibilities along that line, but it may have some fragments of "research" material. I did not think that it had any book club possibilities, but the publisher tells me he thought so and has sent three proof sets to the head readers.



I have no "aspirations" along other lines than doing a simple story that gets my story across. It has already done that by gaining protection for the remnant "anapums, a place at Priest Rapids to always live, a place to preserve their culture and the culture of the old days, the preservation of their graveyard etc. That is what I set out to do when the government ignored these poor people. The naming of one of the two big dams, Wanapum, came as a surprise to us, and it is now on the project maps, other maps etc. and that name at least is preserved for all time for the River People.

Hope things have been going well with you.

H. Dean G. is working on proofs of a Fort Simcoe story that he is publishing at the office. It will be around 160 pages, wraps, and will be issued for the Fort Simcoe Centennial, Aug. 12. It will deal largely with the military history of the post. I know Dean will do a top job.

The enclosed "invitation" has been issued by the publisher for the stores where the Indians and I will visit on our book tour starting Oct. 6 in Yakima. We have more stores now to go to and we can swing on my two weeks vacation

Drop me a line when you get a chance and let me know how things go with you.

Sincerely

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