

July 25, 1956

Mr. Joel E. Ferris,
Spokane and Eastern
Branch of Seattle First National Bank,
Spokane 10, Washington.

Dear Friend Joel:

I had been alerted by Mr. Bob Hardy Jr. that you were considering a trip to Port Simcoe and had intended writing to you, but you, as usual, beat me to it.

I'd be most happy to meet the 9:30 a.m. plane that day and most happy to see that you get back from Simcoe in time to make connections home.

I'm not too tied up with Simcoe activities, since Roscoe, George Martin, and the others, on the Simcoe Board, have been responsible for developing the centennial program. I've been helping as I can and where I can which is not too extensively.

Gov. Langlie and State Commission members I understand are coming in Saturday.

I've been concentrating on working out the book tour, etc. etc.

My itinerary, and I don't believe it will be changed, calls for a swing inland after the release, Oct. 6 and trips to coast. We'll be in Wenatchee Oct. 13, a Saturday and then move on to Spokane, tentatively the Crescent in the morning of Monday, Oct. 16 and the John W. Graham Co. that afternoon. Tuesday we are due in Pullman.

That doesn't permit much opportunity for you to give your usual helping hand to a person in distress. I'll be sending out scores of invitations for the stores from the list I've compiled over such a long period of time. I am enclosing one of the "blank" invitations. The store name, hours etc. will be printed on the blank space.

I've got quite a few speeches strung out here and there and they are gradually filling in. Looks like -'ll have to spend a couple of weeks preparing material for suitable presentation in various areas.

I see you had quite a flurry of story writing from my persistent reading of the "Spokesman Review". I enjoyed them, very much.

You can count on me on the Aug. 12 date. The arrival time you had in mind is early enough. No one seems to know just how many to expect. Estimates, on the committee's part, have been running from 5,000 to 15,000. My guess is that it will be around 7,000 with cooler weather. With weather like the present, -'d say 4,000. It has been hitting 103, 100, 99 etc. pretty consistently, so it should be tapering off.

I'm going to be in Tacoma Aug. 4 for the board meeting.

Hope your trip to Vancouver etc. was pleasant and satisfactory.

Sincerely Yours

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