

Leman - Waldron
U-6



44 California Ave.
Ossipee, N.H.
January 14, 1953.

Professor W. S. Campbell,
University of Oklahoma,
Norman, Okla.

Smith

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your kind letter in answer to my inquiry about your biography of Sitting Bull.

I have many books of fiction and history dealing with the Indians, both the Eastern woods Indians and the Plains tribes. Some of these books are more than 100 years old. Also many magazine stories and articles about them.

The titles of your four books about the Indians sound very interesting to me. Some day when I get more money I will get them all, as I know they will be a worthy addition to my little library.

I will gladly send you a copy of my novel IF I ever get it out.

Your study courses in writing look interesting, and are unquestionably a great help to your students and graduates. I, however, have to write in my own way. I put in everything. When it comes to the private love affairs of the fictional characters - well the way I describe them doesn't help get the book published even in this modern day and age. And I am very critical of the religious beliefs of extremely powerful groups. That doesn't help either. It probably will have to be privately published.

It will run about 900 pages like this, double spaced, with 35 full-page illustrations. All is written out, but only one third corrected and typed, half the pictures drawn. Have done no work on it since last March, so busy doing other things. Trying to start a part time mail order business to earn money while I finish the book, and my house must be painted inside and out, and I do all my own cooking and other work, as I live alone. So it will be some time yet. I believe, though, that I have here a great Western novel.

I note that you used quotation marks in referring to the Ghost Dance "uprising." Probably I shouldn't have used that word. There would have been no Ghost Dance if the Government had not cut down the Indians' rations that year, in violation of its pledge to them, and left them to starve. Sitting Bull was murdered by Sioux traitors in the Indian police sent out by the Agent, Gen. Miles, and President Harrison to bring him in dead, not alive. And the Indian women and children were massacred at Wounded Knee by Seventh Cavalrymen in revenge for the defeat and death of Custer on the Little Bighorn.

Sincerely yours,

Grant Leman-Waldron

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