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AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN PLAN
RATES MODERATE

Los Angeles, Cal. July 16, 1917

Hon. Carl Hayden,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

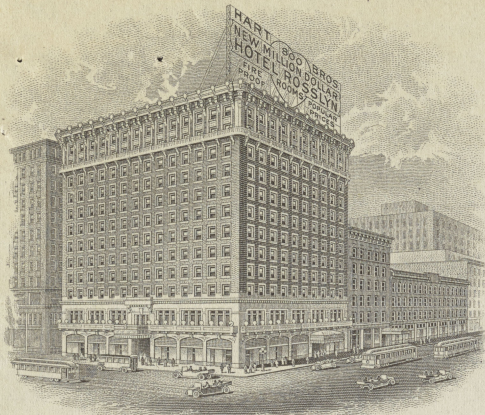
Regarding your letter in relation to the National Park, at Grand Canyon, I find that there is considerable objection as to the tying up of the entire region so that there will be no chance in the future of segregating any portion of it for the people of Arizona.

As it now is, we have no stores or any provision whatever made for the automobile tourist, and as you know, the majority who come there in their machines, expect to camp and find some provision made to obtain supplies.

There is a strong feeling that a certain portion not now occupied or utilized in any manner should be set apart for this class of visitors as a State Park where provisions could be made for all their wants and where cistern could be built and if necessary cottages that could be leased for a period of time. The present camp, as provided, by the Forrester Service is situated in the midst of large pine trees, and during the rainy season the danger of heavy storms and fierce lightning and dashing rains make it not only dangerous but very undesirable. Then too, the policy of the Harvey System is to not sell anything that campers usually require; and hence they are driven into the hotels and compelled to outlay more than many of them can well afford to do.

There is an extensive region to the west along the banks of the Canyon that will never be developed as a National Park and made accessible to this class of visitors, and if set apart as I have indicated, there will be no trouble in securing the necessary funds to develop it for this purpose.

Mr. Wilder, our present forest officer, will no doubt write you regarding a proposition now under consideration by his department to confine the lines in the proposed National Park



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to about two miles from the rim of the Canyon, as was designated in President Rosevelt's proclamation setting it apart as a National monument.

It would seem as though our citizens should have some consideration before this matchless wonder is entirely placed under Federal control. We have plenty of state land that has not yet been selected, and a section or two could easily be appropriated for this purpose. You well know that thousands of our citizens would avail themselves of the opportunity to visit the Canyon every summer from the southern portions, instead of going to the Coast as they now do, to escape the rigor of a heated term.

There is a movement on foot at the present time to petition our delegation to give us this consideration. The enclosed clipping will suggest to your mind something of the nature of this petition.

I would very much like to have you write me fully as to what you think about this matter, and if possible, come to the Canyon during the recess of Congress, if such there may be, and I will gladly take you over the proposed region, so that you can thoroughly investigate it before the December term.

Thanking you for this consideration, and with great respect,

Cordially yours,

W. W. Bass

OPPOSES PLAN TO MAKE CANYON NATIONAL PARK

Wickenburg Paper Says Wonderful Playground Belongs to the People of Arizona.

Considerable interest is being taken by Arizonans in the proposal to make the Grand Canyon of the Colorado a national park. W. W. Bass, geologist, miner and trail builder, of Grand Canyon, Ariz., who operates the Bass Independent livery and automobile service, writes the Daily Miner that there is a great deal of both favorable and unfavorable discussion by visitors there.

The Hassayampa Miner of Wickenburg has the following to say against placing the canyon under government control:

"Some weeks ago we made mention of the proposed Grand Canyon National Park, and at that time expressed our views as to the scope that should be embraced in that tract, if established. The sentiment of the majority of those interested, as sounded by those taking active interest in the matter, is against the establishment of the park at the present time. The Miner believes that the Grand Canyon, in part, should be erected into a national park, but we vigorously protest against the whole surrounding country being included with it; also we protest against the wholesale preservation of the Canyon by the Federal Government. This action would politically segregate the area from the State of Arizona, and the greatest charm of the American continent, which we are so fortunate as to have

within our borders, would become practically alien to us. The Canyon is part of the State of Arizona, and should, at least in part, be preserved to the people of the State for their use and enjoyment. The great State of New York, years ago, set aside some millions of acres in the Adirondack Mountains for a public playground, where the citizens of the cities and country could spend the heated term of the year in the cool fastnesses of same privilege should be allowed the people of Arizona to enjoy this great natural wonder, and it should not be taken from them by Federal enactment. The Grand Canyon National Park is a good idea to preserve to the people of the nation at large this great scenic beauty, but it is ours, and as such we should have the prior claim on its attractions. We suggest that, if this scheme of a park reserve is carried out, a certain area be set aside where the people of the state will have the right to go, to buy tracts of ground and erect homes where they may seek refuge from the heat of the southern deserts at their pleasure, and have a recreation ground where they may have an opportunity to enjoy the climate and scenic benefits of this great natural wonder without the hampering restrictions that the government seems to think necessary to impose on those areas called national parks.