

Grand Canyon, Arizona, March, 8th. 1918.

Hon. Carl Hayden,

Washington, D. C.

My Dear Mr. Hayden:- From people residing here I have just learned that Ashurst has a bill for a National Park, and that it has been to the conference committee, and to a third reading, and they expect to hear of its passage any old time. This report comes through the Forest Office here. Now if this is true I should be pleased to know of it. I wrote him while in Wickenburg, but did not receive any reply. Now, as I wrote you a few days since, I expect to be absent on a trip of exploration, in a part of the Canyon that is practically unknown. I tried to explain the importance of having a provision in the Park Bill to open up mining here, just as if no park had been created. I also stated that so far as protecting the Tourist interests here I did not think it necessary to go farther west than the 112th. standard and that would exclude the Kaibab Fault, where the valuable mineral zones are located. I now emphasize that part of my letter, and ask your kind consideration, for I tell you if the region ~~were~~ we are now attempting to open up is not handicapped by federal supervision, it will make a world beater in the end.

This part of this letter is for your personal information and not the public. The little clipping I sent was to show how the monopolizing of all the Park Hotel Business in Yosemite worked out. But I do not know that you are aware who were the promoters of the scheme, and that is why I mentioned that if the present Sec. of the Interior was given the say about mining there would be little hopes for us here. From very reliable authority I have it that he is quite as deeply interested in that particular project as any of the others of the San Francisco bunch. Again, Wiley, who was on the outside never did as well before, because he did not rob the visitors. Now, would it not appear that the burning desire of certain Federal representatives to include every possible avenue of entrance here, is to make sure that anything of that kind cannot occur here. Now, so far as I am informed, there is not one of yours, or Ashurst's constituents recommending any park here just now, but if one must be made and it prove a scheme was at the bottom, and the public is worsted as the result, there will be a day of reckoning, and it may come sooner than we expect. The doubtful situation in our State Politics at the present time is more serious than you may think, and it is going to be mighty hard work to elect a Governor next fall on our ticket, especially if Tom Campbell wants the billet. I am not the only one that is kicking, by reason of the Forest Service administration, by a long ways, and the Miners are not all going to vote the Hunt ticket I am here to tell you, and now is the time to think about these matters. Ashurst wrote Wiley Jones, not long since that the Santa Fe came near



getting what they wanted at Grand Canyon, than anyone else, or words about of that purport. That was when we were agitating a State Park some time since, that I saw his letter. I found that the case, long before either of you were representing our State, and Britton & Gray, or Howell Jones were keeping cases on me every time I went to Washington. I have given this matter serious and most earnest consideration ever since the Monument, and National Park Department bills were passed, and here is my candid opinion, take it for what it is worth. Both are Santa Fe, and Corporative measures, although the latter may be more extensive in its results. You are aware that Harveys reputation is far-famed as a Hotel caterer. Now, just suppose that one man, like the Secretary of the Interior, has the power to let contracts for the entire Park system of the United States, to the highest bidder, what would be the result, especially to the general public. Not only Hotels, but every other concession required. Can you think of a Perk Barrell to beat it, outside of some that may have lately been made possible by the war? Now, Carl, just think this over before you allow any park Bill passed, and if you are so busy that you dont have time to go to the bottom of it, the bill will keep until after election, and this alone will send you to the Senate, if I am correct in my diagnosis. I have not forgotten my interview with the Superintendent of Parks, you sent me to, when I was in Washington, nor what sort of reception Graves accorded me. Also, the many incidents that are constantly happening here every day, when the capitalists who are interested in Asbestos, come here to find me, and go to Harveys employes for information they often leave with the impression that Mining will never be allowed in the Canyon, even if there is minerals worth while, but no one has ever found any in paying quantities, as yet. I am enclosing a letter that may explain how they work things here, and when you find it necessary to dig up evidence of the National Park Monopoly, I will gladly give you some names to pestigate with, and you will then know why I am writing this letter. It is my last effort and if it has given you any assistance in proving up the proper course to persue, that is all I ask. Roosevelt gave the Kaiser a hunch, when he told him he could whip the world, and I gave W. A. Clark one when I advised him to buy the Jerome Mine, and later on, when he was in the Senate, and right in the Marble Room, I told him to tunnel under the mountain from the verde side, and build his Smelters down there, and stope his ore, he took the hint. If you doubt it just ask him. Thanking you for this further consideration, and a return of the enclosure,

I am, as ever,

Most truly and cordially yours,

W. W. Bass