

Wickenburg, Ariz. Feb, 12th. 1917.

Hon. Carl Hayden,

Washington, D. C.

My Dear Hayden:-

Your letter and the Park Bill and Map was forwarded to me here a few days since and I will tell you plainly what I think. I am opposed to any Park Bill at this time and until the region is made the subject of a thorough investigation and feasible lines established. Your proposed lines would include the Santa Fe property and that must be excluded of course, as they would not be subject to any Park regulations but would have exclusive right to the Rim of the Canyon, which would be a monopoly. I am also opposed to including the Indian Reservation by reason of the fact that there would be a conflict of authority in future between the Interior and the Indian Departments. These Indians have acquired rights, and have constructed fences and water holes, and the department has furnished them cattle, and they have hundreds of horses as well, and if included it will be a difficult problem to harmonize their interests with any white mans permit to graze, as is proposed. Your black line from the head of Tapeats Creek to the bottom is also objectional as it is absolutely inaccessible, and where it reaches the Colorado River is 5,000 feet from the top. It then takes to the River and follows down a long distance where no one could go without a boat, and they would have to continue on down to Diamond Creek before they could escape. If your lines on the west were confined to the Indian Pasture Fence on the ^{East} ~~West~~ and hence across to the west rim of Powells Plateau as far as the head of Tapeats Creek, and thence east on the lines you have indicated I do not think there would be any serious objection and you would have included all the available scenic part and also cut out a large area that ^{is} absolutely useless for the purpose of your bill. Most of the western region would never be developed, as it is the most inaccessible country to be found in Coconino County. I do hope you will not urge the consideration of your bill at this session and then do not fail to look it over for yourself and see if I am not correct in my deductions. Thanking you for your kind consideration, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

W. W. Bass