

June 28, 1917.

Mr. W. W. Bass,

Grand Canyon, Arizona.

My dear Mr. Bass:

I received your letter some time ago relative to the proposed National Park at the Grand Canyon, and beg to say that one of two things is certain. Either the Canyon must remain a National <sup>monument</sup>, or a bill must be passed changing it to a National Park.

It is a condition and not a theory which confronts us, and it is needless to say that I am as anxious as any one in Arizona to see the conditions at the Canyon made as favorable as possible to the people of our State. It was with the idea of improving the present conditions that I favored the passage of a National Park Bill. The <sup>bill</sup> provides for mining under certain conditions. Nobody can now locate a mine within the Monument. The bill provides for water power development. Nobody can now locate a water power site within the Monument. It is because I am anxious to improve the present situation that I have introduced the bill, and I hope to perfect it so that it will be generally satisfactory.

I shall be greatly obliged if you will suggest specific amendments to the enclosed bill if you believe that any legislation of this kind should be passed.



There is a strong sentiment in Congress in favor of the creation of a National Park at the Grand Canyon, and it is useless for me to appear before the Public Lands Committee with vague and general objections.

It has been generally agreed that nothing but legislation relating to the war with Germany will be passed at this session of Congress, so that no action will be taken on this bill until December. If I have an opportunity to visit the Canyon I shall be glad to talk with you on this subject but the chances are that Congress will remain continuously in session, so that I may not be able to see you.

With kindest regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

P. S.

I shall be glad to talk with Mr. L. F. Nobles, of the Geological Survey, in regard to this matter at an early date. I enclose herewith an extract from a report by an official of the Indian Service relative to the desire of the Supai Indians to obtain the use of certain agricultural lands within the proposed Park. I understand that the Indians are now cultivating small areas under permits from the Department of Agriculture.