

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

file

February 16, 1926.

My dear Mr. Hayden:

In the absence of Director Mather for a few days, I am quoting for your information an excerpt from a letter addressed to the Director by Mr. Ford Harvey:

"Your letter 8th inst. with enclosures about Bass claims has just come. You will see by the attached copy of letter from Attorney C. B. Wilson, dated Flagstaff February 8th, that Mr. and Mrs. Bass have been paid in full and that title to all their claims in the Grand Canyon National Park has been transferred to the Santa Fe Land Improvement Company.

My recollection is not entirely clear as to the conditions leading up to the acquisition of these Bass properties by the Santa Fe Company, but it is my impression I urged the proposition upon them as a result of some conversation or correspondence between you and me. I believe it was thought Bass had **done** constructive work at Grand Canyon; that there were true mineral showings in his claims; that he had equities of value and that if Fred Harvey or the Company would take control of same and pay him \$25,000, it would be in the public interest and there was a probability of securing Federal legislation which would enable the Park Service to take over the property and make restitution of the moneys advanced as above."

Copy of Attorney Wilson's letter to Mr. Ford Harvey is also inclosed for your information.

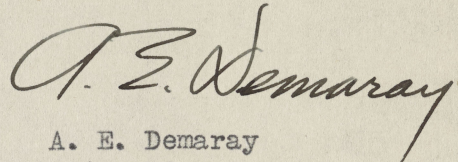
I know Director Mather would be glad to have any expression from you as to the probability of securing Congressional legislation which would enable the Park Service to take over the property

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and repay the Santa Fe Land Improvement Company for the money advanced.

Sincerely yours,

Inclosure 26616.


A. E. Demaray
Acting Director.

Hon. Carl Hayden,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.