

PHOENIX, ARIZONA,  
February 17, 1917.

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

My dear Congressman:

I beg to thank you for your letter of February 10th enclosing a copy of your bill H. R. 20447, to Establish the Grand Canyon National Park. Having lived at the Canyon for a number of years I am naturally interested in any legislation affecting that area and appreciate your courtesy in giving me an opportunity to be heard.

Aside from the mineral deposits in and about the Canyon, which, no doubt, you will endeavor to safeguard, there are vast possibilities along the line of electrical power, the development of which would perhaps be precluded through the establishment of a national park. In my opinion this is an item of considerable importance and some provision should be made to enable the development of this water power in coming years, so long as it does not interfere with governmental administration or the scenic beauty of the Canyon.

While I am not familiar with the Act of August 25th, 1916, establishing a National Park Service, you no doubt are acquainted with the fact that the Santa Fe Railway Company is practically the sole beneficiary from the enormous tourist travel to the Grand Canyon and has enjoyed this monopoly for a good many years past. It appears to me that some provision should be made enabling competition, thus assuring better service and cheaper rates



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to the traveling public. In making this suggestion I am not losing sight of the fact that the Santa Fe Company is entitled to due consideration inasmuch as it is the pioneer railway company in that section and has spent vast sums of money in making the Canyon attractive and accessible.

Nevertheless some provision should be made for the establishment of a townsite at the Canyon, which would be a benefit to the tourist as well as to the permanent resident of that locality. It is my understanding that a number of applications have been received by the Forest Service from persons desiring to construct summer homes at the Canyon, but for some reason favorable action on these applications has so far been withheld. There are great possibilities along this line at the Canyon and I feel that the matter should be thoroughly investigated before legislation is enacted that would prevent future development.

Very sincerely yours,

*Bernie Zackay*