

CHOUINARD

ART INSTITUTE

September 30, 1958

Miss Laura Gilpin
Box 1173
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Laura:

Delighted to have your note with the information of the doings of the laboratory and the interest which Mr. Wertz is taking in the future of the museum. I think it perfectly all right for you to give any information to Mr. Wertz which you have about myself. I feel that his efforts in behalf of the museum are somewhat misdirected, but I do believe he is sincere. However, he seems to have thrown the fear of God into the regents and it is just possible that he may undo any good that he might otherwise accomplish by his somewhat belligerent attitude toward the museum.

My impression of Mr. Wertz was that he is a doer and an interested and active citizen, but unfortunately he does not provide any constructive suggestions to go along with his criticism.

I believe that the move on the part of Fred Wendorf is exactly what I had anticipated in an effort to draw out the Fund group before my report gets in. Naturally, it would be to their advantage to be able to announce that a cooperative arrangement had been established between the Museum of New Mexico and the Indian Arts Fund, and thus take the legs out from under any proposal which I might have. Actually, I do not think that Fred is a vicious or scheming person, but I do know that he is extremely ambitious and very anxious to make good with his boss. Having become deeply obligated to him for having made the necessary arrangements to put him as head of the laboratory. Actually, he is an employee of the Museum of New Mexico and not of the Laboratory of Anthropology, Inc. This is a distinction which must be made always in any consideration of the interests of the Indian Arts Fund.

I expect to return to Santa Fe the week-end of November 8 to deliver the report on the tenth. If there is any information in the meantime that seems pertinent, please do not hesitate to let me know. Please give my best to Betsy and any of the others on

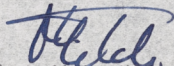
Miss Gilpin

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the Indian Arts Fund board. I am glad to learn that Sally has changed her mind about the purpose of the project.

Yours,



Mitchell A. Wilder
Director

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