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Correspondence

Indian Springs Camp Meeting

2021

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P. O. Box " 81
Nashville, Ga.
9/12/57

Mr. W. S. McKibben:
Social Circle, Ga.

Dear Brother McKibben:-

I have your letter of the 9th relative to the P. A. Wright application. I am enclosing copy of my letter to her. I am sorry we did not have anyone on the board at the time who could identify the Wrights. You remember we asked for him to stand one night during camp meeting, and had no response. I wrote and explained the situation to them. Surely hope they understood and were not hurt. Of course we trust that they will go on with the building immediately.

I need some help on the tree cutting question. I called Mr. Haywood Hodges of Jackson, a timber man whom Mr. Luce recommended. Mr. Hodges promised to come down to the camp ground on Monday or Tuesday after camp ~~was~~ closed. I was there Monday and Tuesday until about ten thirty A. M. He had not arrived at the time I left, but I understand that he did come that day and look around at the timber.

I wrote to him a week later and asked him to meet me at the camp ground on Monday Sept. 3rd. I called his house twice during that day, and Tuesday morning of Sept. 4th. He did not come down either day. I am under the impression that he is not interested in the timber that we might have for sale.

I believe the timber men are thinking of the trouble they would have with our wiring on the camp ground, in case they try to cut the timber from that part of the ground, that is, in and around the cottages. I believe if we were to cut all the likely looking trees in those quarters we might as well take our wiring completely down, and re-do it after the cutting.

Mr. Luce is correct I think in saying that the horse shoes and nails do not climb the tree as it grows in height, and so I don't think that would bother them so much. They would have a tough job in cutting many of the trees which were pointed out to me as needing cutting, on account of the wiring.

In the meantime before camp meeting closed, I went to several of the cottage holders and asked for the trees they would want removed. Included among these cottage holders were Mrs. Faith Luce Hutcherson, Mrs. Buddy Luce, and the Killingsworths. There were several others. They would like to have the dead and dying trees cut and removed, but everyone of them is strongly opposed to cutting the live and healthy trees including the pine timber.

They want to preserve the natural beauty of the camp ground as much as possible. Nothing is more beautiful than green trees, and that nice cool shade they provide. Another reason they don't want the trees cut is the danger of erosion. We have a lot of trouble with that already. We had to haul dirt in to fill in the washouts this year. To cut the trees would double this kind of trouble.

Several of the cottage holders are pretty upset too, about the proposed two lane drives down through the camp. This was not board action, but somehow the news got out that the grounds committee was proposing a two lane drive behind the tabernacle, and down Dodge Ave. I think that is the Street down by Dr. Gamble's cottage. They do not want the trees removed in the first place, and they also do not want two lane driving. They have too many children and grand children in that area during camp meeting who need play grounds.

I did not intend writing this much, but had to, to show you why as chairman of this committee I cannot recommend what Brother Luce would like for us to do. If, as chairman of this committee I recommend selling and cutting the timbers of the camp ground proper; and the people do not like it, and we get into trouble, or come under a lot of criticism about it, I am sure I could almost guess who would look back on the minutes and point to me as the one who recommended.

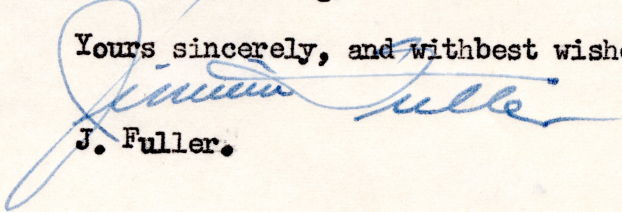
What I would like to recommend is, that we employ some tree experts to come down from Atlanta and remove the dead timbers from the camp ground. That would cost us some money, but it is the cheapest thing to do.

There will no doubt be some who will say that Mr. Edwards can do this work, but I would not recommend him. The camp ground suffered the loss of a good groundskeeper not very many years ago on this same job, in the fatal injury of Mr. Allen, by a falling tree.

I would also like to recommend that we wait patiently for five or ten more years before we offer the timber on the back side of the camp ground for sale. I believe we have about a hundred acres of that timber. Our sale a few years ago brought about forty five hundred dollars. Another five to ten years and we will realize a like amount from another sale. To cut the small timber we have there now, would let us realize about a thousand dollars, and spoil our timber values for twenty years to come.

Perhaps it will be well to wait until the fall meeting to discuss these questions. I am under the impression however, that this committee was appointed with the power to act. Personally, I don't want to act until we all know what we are doing.

Yours sincerely, and with best wishes,


J. Fuller.

Social Circle, Georgia
September 14th, 1957.

Rev J. C. Fuller,
Nashville, Georgia.

Dear Brother Fuller:

I have your letters of the 12th and note that you have run into a problem with the timber deal. Since the people are not willing to part with any of their shade tree's and too, since you met with no success in the sale of the timber, I fully agree with you that the best thing to do is just wait.

If we can keep the fire out of the woods, we will have a very valuable asset in our timber but this will come only after a considerable time of waiting as all timber men know.

Thanking you so much for the time and interest you have shown in this matter.

Very sincerely,

President.