EW

St.Paul Minn. June 1 1929

#1 Culture

Prof. W.S.Campbell
University of Oklahoma
Norman Oklahoma.

Dear sir:

Your pleasant letter gives me much pleasure and to know that you are interested in the north plains tribes. I am not sure however that I can help you much in the particular querries you make. Visiting back and forth by the tribes was common, parties being careful to watch their scalps as soon as out of sight of their guests' homes. It was a common custom for Dakotas from south to visit the Mandan and Hidatsa village (Like-a-fishhook village was a joint tribe village after the tribes were weakened down) in the autumn and barter for vegetables -beans and corn and squash- and for tobacco. There was quite a considerable trade of this kind. I have customs concrete accounts w

The best answer will be my reports when they are all out, and I am hard at work on them now. Was just in New York two weeks since, arranging some details. I presume you have seen the four published. There is quite a considerable amount of matter on the question of the tribes' barter relations in the unpublished ms.

I have really had a rather narrow experience with Indians. I became convinced when writing a series of child's books that there was little material with the Indian feel, the Indian color to use as sources. I undertook the study of just one Indian family in order to get concrete stories to so use. As it developed, no one seems to have hit upon that method of study and the Museum backed me with expense grant while I worked at it. Later as the work seemed valuable enough to suggest it, I abandoned my idea of child's books and devoted the years to getting recorded the life of Maxídiwiac and Tsécamaetsicic in concrete tales and in their own language.

Webb ~~And~~ Publishing Co. of St. Paul has published for me an idealized biography of the life of Maxídiwiac or Buffalobird-woman. Whether it has much material you can use I doubt, but