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Sitting Bull Sioux County

North Dakota

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OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

SIoux COUNTY PIONEER-ARROW,
FORT YATES, NO. DAK.

Fort Yates, North Dakota

March 29, 1932

Professor W.S. Campbell,
Norman, Okla.

Yours stating that your Life of Sitting Bull will be out, in June, is gladly received. I send some names of persons who will, I think, be interested in the book. In the last 20 years conditions here have changes, as you say. Though Maj. E. D. Mossman, of the old school, has changes only so far as to now refer to Sitting Bull as one of our most "notorious" men, and to appreciate his value to Fort Yates as an attraction to visitors. And the change has come largely through the indicated desire of Bismarck to remove Sitting Bull's remains to the Capital City and to build him an appropriate monument. Bismarck has always befriended Fort Yates, and so influences in such matters.

Am glad you do not antagonize the Indian Bureau of the present time. This will somewhat disarm criticism. In fact the book is not likely to meet with antagonistic criticism, at the present time, I think. I may say, to you privately, that the reason why I refused the call for a second edition of my drama, at the time I lectured ^{at Chicago 1922} before a group of 400 invited--mostly authors, newspaper men, college men; and a good number of military officers, was that I feared that too much circulation of the book at that time might lead to some stiff criticism. Old frontiersmen were so unanimous in liking the book (and the 1100 sold quick) that there was not much criticism attempted. But that time is now passed. Professor Dr. Libby warned me, on reading the manuscript, that the book was "revolutionary"--and that was just what it was intended to be. Times change, and at a little distance we see more clearly. In Europe I found that the the four Americans well known by about all schoolboys were Washington, Lincoln, Cooper and Sitting Bull. *Franklin was well known by schoolboys, etc.* Sitting Bull is the local hero of this place, and I think this is being more and more realized. We seldom see our own heroes at first glance. A campaign boosting Sittin Bull is now in order, as you say. And I believe that I, for one, will be fully satisfied with the book.

Names: Maj. E. D. Mossman, Judge J. M. Carignan, G. W. Hokanson, J. C. Shields, J. R. Harmon, E. Helen Iorns, Tom McDonald, Vince Keogh, I. T. Krois, D. R. Offley, Joseph Menz, P. J. Jaconson, James Williamson, Frank Fiske; all of Fort Yates.

Sincerely A. McG. Beede
A. McG. Beede

I thought best to wait for times to change a little more. I had the criticism. And when a marine criticise a statement I made, an officer comes and confirmed the statement.

Handwritten notes and a plus sign.

Please don't mind...

Handwritten scribbles and initials.