

*W. S. Campbell*

April 4, 1935.

Pres. H. C. Gossard,  
New Mexico Normal University,  
Las Vegas, New Mexico.

Dear President Gossard:

I have your letter about the Centennial celebration next July 18, 19, 20. You say you want Indians who played a part in the Fort Union councils. As to Indians of this type, dancers, it is my opinion that your best hope is to write to Mr. E.W. Callaher, Riverside Indian School, Anadarko, Oklahoma. He manages the Riverside Indian School dancers-- a company of about twenty Indian young men and women. They gave a program here last night--I send you their program herewith. They are of various tribes--mostly Kiowa--whose headquarters are at the old Comanche-Kiowa agency. They have the date open, and would come if your inducements are satisfactory.

I talked with Callaher last night. He says he can bring some old-timers too, but that not many of the Comanches dance, and that old people sometimes fail to carry through or arrive in time, whereas you may count on his young folks delivering the goods. However, he can bring some older people, if you like.

I told him I thought that you would not care for the modern(white) part of his program, and that you might want the dances outdoors. He agreed. I think he would like to take that trip.

His best male dancers were men named Turkey, Palmer, and Edmonds. Perhaps you could get Jack Hokeah from the Santa Fe Indian School to dance also. He is a fine dancer, and a Kiowa himself.

I would also advise that you offer small prizes (medal and five dollars, say) for the best dancers in the War Dance, or some others where males perform solo, or together. You will be surprised to see how the fellows can perform when incited by a desire for individual distinction and reward. The contest can be decided by the volume of applause, or ~~by~~ some other way.

Of course, there are other Indian troupes-- such as the Bacone College troupe from Muskogee. They give a smoother performance on the stage, but are from tribes all over the country, and are college singers, primarily. If you want me to see them for you, let ~~make~~ me hear from you at once--as they appear here April 14. The Riverside troupe is Southwestern, and no doubt contains people whose fathers sat in ~~executive~~ council at Fort Union.

As to a buffalo for the barbecue. The manager of the Waite Phillips ranch at Cimarron, New Mexico is the nearest man who has a herd, so far as I know. Perhaps Uncle Sam can let you have one from one of his herds. There must be one of these in your State. Probably Omar Barker's brother--the game warden-- could enlighten you about that.

If I can aid you farther, please let me know. Yours cordially,

*W. S. Campbell*  
WSCampbell