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You should not find it difficult to interest church members and officials in such a field. Perhaps where materials are scanty you could get some of those fine modern Oklahoma artists to make some colorful paintings of old time ceremonials. I recall a wonderful one of the Cheyenne sun dance which I believe was reproduced in the National Geographic. A picture of a young man on a vision quest, objects such as umbilical cord pendants, and other personal medicines, as well as ones relating to organized cults including peyote could be introduced if located.

This may not meet your ideas of the purpose of the museum. I do think it would fit in well with the purpose and program of the sponsoring institution - a lot better than an exhibit of Indian crafts or a general exhibit of ethnological materials or on Indian history.

It isn't the easiest subject. But I think it would be something uniquely significant and useful, and that should you decide upon this subject items will turn up that you had not expected once you start actively searching for them.

What do you think?

Sincerely,



John C. Ewers.

P.S. I expect to be in Washington all summer - close to the exhibits work going on. Hope you will stop by.