COPY.

W. M. STAGGS
U.S.Licensed Indian Trader
Canyon de Chelly
Trading Store

Post Office: Chin Lee,Ariz.
Shipping Point: Gallup,N.M.

Chin Lee,Arizona,Mar.31,1918.

Mr.A.H.Womack,
Albuquerque,N.M.

Friend Womack:

Your letter in regard to wells, springs, etc. received.

While it would be hard to say just how much benefit they have been to the Navajos up to date, for since the wells have been a success they haven't had time to raise much stock. You know it has only been about three years since the wells have become a paying proposition. A good many Indians are buying young ewes and increasing their flock that way but you know most of them will have to raise their ownsheep so it will be some time before they make a noticeable change, but it is evident to any one that it is coming. The Indians are increasing fast and they must increase their holding of stock or they can't live. Five years ago the country was overstocked and a good many stock never got fat in the summer. Now that they have these wells the same stock come through the winter with no loss and are fat in the spring, which will result in a heavier clip of wool, and the price wool is you knew what that means. There is room for more stock now north of Black Mountain. The wells have opened up a big grazing country that was worthless before. As to what extent the flocks have been increased I can't say. I have been familiar with conditions here for 6 years, was Government Farmer and acting stockman for three years and have bought the past three years, and I notice now they all have fat stock where it used to be poor. As to suggestions I can't make any, more than to remind you that the windmill man was laid off the last two summers when it was the driest and hottest, the very time he was needed most. Well that is all except I think that the man that shows the Indian how to raise more sheep and other stock is doing more for him than anyone else no matter what he does.

Hoping to see you soon, I am

Yours truly,

(Signed) W? M. Staggs.