

Dear Don

Thankyou for your phone call to my grandmother. My lack of communication I apologize for. In part it is due to knowing the steady stack of mail you recieve and not wanting to add my trivia to it. Believe me it isn't out of disrespect. As a final apology, I am typing this because two days ago I played basketball instead of running to give my knees a rest, and when I went up for a rebound someone took my legs out from underneath me and I fell to the floor on my right hand.

You mentioned about a young man who wanted to go to the Yukon. Here is what I know. Dr. Irving has gone through the final review of his five year million and half dollar interdisciplinary study of the Middle Porcupine area in the Northern Yukon. Besides palynologist, geomorphologists, paleontologists, and so on he will be in charge of archaeological surveys and excavations along the Middle Porcupine River from below Old Crow flats to the Alaskan border. Dr. Irving's main interest lies in doing an ethnography on the Kutchin Athapaskans. He has mentioned to me the possibility of working with old Kutchin informants to reconstruct their aboriginal material culture and working part time probably with Jaque Saint-Meyers in archaeological field work. His plans and personnal appropriations depends on how much money he gets. This is rather vague but the whole thing is up in the air right now.

In relation to this young man who is interested in going to the Yukon the best approach would probably be for him to send a letter directly to Irving with a resume and the availability of your recommendation that I know means a lot to him. If he wants he can write directly to me and I will do whatever he wants and give it immediate attention. The main barrier would probably be the recent Canadian laws requiring that first qualified Canadians are hired. Time is getting short so he should give it immediate attention. As a final caution there is a mail strike that is presently rotating around the country - my grandmother's letter that precipitated this reply took two weeks to get to me. My phone number is 416 463-6898 if needed - if he phones me I'll do what I can as quickly as I can. This is rather presumptuous on my part but I believe due to the mail strike and the lateness of the year that I will mention to Irving that you have mentioned a young man that is interested in going to the Yukon.

At a personal level this has been an extremely frustrating year due to my financial hassels with the government - G.I. veterens' benefits. They presently owe me over two thousand dollars and if it wasn't for my dear Grandmother and Aunt I wouldn't be in school. On the other side of the coin I believe I have met the women that I want to marry - the idea is descreasingly scaring the hell out of me. My weight is down thirty pounds from your class and fifty-five from this time last year. I have been maintaining a status quo by running five days a week. My flint-knapping practice has been exercised on 580 pounds of obsidian I brought back with me. If possible I would like to ask you many questions partially arising from my frustrations, and observe some of your work again. I am not progressing as fast as I thought I would or want to, in part regular practice would expediate the process. I ~~am~~ am finding the attainment of executing good pressure flaking a harder and more elusive future attainment. Your course last year has opened up new doors and given me insight into new and meaningful horizons in archaeology - thankyou.

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