

July 20th, 1911

Mr. Alfred Henry,

North Yakima, Wash.

Dear Mr. Henry:

I have been meaning for some little time to write you that I feel I cannot under any circumstances go on with the apple project. This decision I am forced to by what I have learned of the government rules covering irrigated land. Some weeks ago a little pamphlet fell into my hands compiled by the U. S. Reclamation Service, and I for the first time discovered that I could not obtain water right for land that I might buy, unless I was an actual resident; that I could not secure a title to water rights without having my deed to the land duly recorded; that I could not put a tenant on the land.

Now from my point of view, the government is entirely right in these requirements. What it is after is the encouragement of actual residents. This side of the matter did not come up at all, as I remember, in my talks with Arthur. I had assumed that I could legally hold the piece of land and have it developed under the scheme which you proposed. I cannot legally do this. I suppose there will be ways of evading the government regulations, but I would not think of trying to do that, certainly not in my present position.

I think I owe you certain taxes. These I, of course, feel that I ought to pay, but it must be understood that I have dropped out entirely from the project. Of course if you can sell my interest, I shall be glad to take whatever I can get for it. I had really intended to go on with the matter when the water came down, as I promised in the first place, but the government regulations have put an entirely new face on the whole matter, and I cannot think of going into it.

Very sincerely yours,