

Miss Martha Wiley,  
532 W. 6th,  
Claremont, Calif.

June 5 1965

Dear Miss Wiley:

Thank you for your recent letter. Lots of letter writing and work have combined to prevent my answering it until now.

You asked about stamps, Chinese ones, found in your material. You mentioned your Pilgrim Fair. I don't exactly know details of the fair. By that I mean I don't know whether they are desired for display, "auction," or what.

I am no stamp authority myself. But I know your letters and other material here should be kept together it seems to me as much as possible. And it does seem that from time to time such material should be displayed in one display. The potency is stronger.

Mr. Purdin, while still energetic and active, is getting on in years. He knows something of stamps. He was re-elected president of the Pioneer Association a few weeks ago. Then one of our board members, George M. Martin is a real authority on stamps, has written a small book about them, and has won many awards for his coherent and well arranged displays. More importantly he knows how they should be mounted for proper preservation, and has plenty of research material for classifying them by date, historical importance, etc. The envelope you refer to with the "inflation" influence is certainly a rarity. And at the rate we are progressing, seems like something should be done or the U.S. will be in the same situation.

So I would say about the stamps, to do with them as seems proper to you, devoting them to the Pilgrim Fair if they can be of real value there; or the museum if we can be of our purpose, preserving links with the past of our Yakima Valley and our Northwest links in history, which in your case, extended to distant lands.

After some warmer weather here it is now cooler and windy. About mid-April you will be interested in knowing I was through Wiley City early one morning. The apple growers were fixing sandage pots then and the orchards glowed like thousands of fires on hillsides in the early, frosty morning. Temperatures were down around 20-21 but the frost danger is now past. It was an awesome and beautiful sight.

You will be interested too in knowing that the Mission Covenant Church has built a beautiful new trend architecture church on the hilltop just west of Wiley City (where the road continues up Antanum Creek toward the mission. It was dedicated a week ago.