

I am delighted to hear that Mr. Wilson Duff, Curator of Anthropology at the Provincial Museum, Victoria, B.C., is planning the project he has outlined to you.

I have known Mr. Duff's work from the beginnings which he made in this field, and I do not think I could name any other person who has achieved so much in the same amount of time. He is now a first-class scholar, with a number of substantial publications to his credit, and with a record of responsible and imaginative work in the Museum and its related endeavours.

From time to time various anthropologists have discussed the problem of the Tsimshian and Dr. Barbeau's researches. It has been the conclusion of everyone I have talked with, and is my own, that the Tsimshian and surrounding cultures are a treasure house for the anthropologist, and that Dr. Barbeau's own materials on them must be explored before any detailed work is begun by anyone else. The difficulties in the way of this exploration are considerable. I am glad that Mr. Duff, who knows them well, has the courage to face them, and I am confident that he is the best person to undertake the task.

He has good relations with some people in Tsimshian communities, and has undertaken various preliminary explorations of his own. I think he is in a good position to help bring some order to what I imagine are a rather disarrayed and voluminous set of notes. And I think that the science will be a considerable beneficiary if he is able to carry this task out.