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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS • WASHINGTON, D.C.

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I N D I A N S A T W O R K

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FRED LOOKOUT, PRINCIPAL CHIEF OF THE OSAGE TRIBE, OKLAHOMA



Photograph by Andrew T. Kelley



• INDIANS • AT • WORK •

A News Sheet for Indians
and the Indian Service

VOLUME V

MAY 1938

NUMBER 9

The Lost Apaches of Mexico are not a myth. Dr. Helge Ingstad, Norwegian ethnologist, formerly Governor of Greenland and Spitzbergen, who sought them last year, brings news. There is a vast mountain, a hundred and fifty miles below Douglass, Arizona, in Mexico. It rises to thirteen thousand feet and is cleft with huge canyons. There, on ledges such as mountain-lions or eagles might occupy, or constantly moving from place to place, sometimes afoot, sometimes on stolen horses; and weaponless except for bows and arrows; and living on desert wild plants: there, he states, are the Lost Apaches. Most of the survivors are women, with a few children. Dr. Ingstad never talked with them face to face, but saw them at distances of a hundred yards, clad in buckskins, fleeing on The ancient Apache-Mexican feud carries down, and "Kill them on sight" is the rule toward Apaches, he says. Their extinction could be prevented if they could be reached and led back into the United

States. Possibly Dr. Ingstad will try again, next year. He is returning to Norway now, leaving this strange and sad account with the Indian Office.

* * * * *

Indians in New Mexico do not vote. They are disfranchised under the State's constitution.

But the Taylor Grazing Act is a federal law, and the public domain is federal land. The Taylor Grazing Act draws no distinction against Indians.

The Grazing Advisory Board of District 2-A is local to New Mexico. Its opinions are reviewed by the Department of the Interior.

That Board summarily, sweepingly, as now reported, has rejected every application of every Pueblo for grazing rights on the public domain. The Indians, of course, will appeal.

* * * * *

In making this denial of right to the Pueblos, the Grazing Advisory Board through its chairman, as quoted, supplied an obiter dicta. No Pueblo land, it stated, was overgrazed. Not the land of any Pueblo.

Reading this news today, I allowed my mind to go back to Acoma - to its valley of the Enchanted Mesa. I remembered how, four years ago, noting the spread (one could measure it from year

to year) of those fatal gullies through Acoma land, I saw but little hope for Acoma - little hope, and brief, for the "finish" would be a matter of a decade. Knowing that Acoma was nearly four hundred per cent overstocked, I felt hopeless, four years ago.

But the Acomas did not take a view like that of the Grazing Advisory Board, quoted above. Wisely and patiently helped, the Acomas studied their own problem. They elected not to dwell in dreams - the dreams in which much of the live-stock industry of the Southwest still dwells. They fixed their goal, and year by year - across three years, now - they reduced their live-stock overload. That is only a part of the story, of course. There are soil conservation works, there is range management, there is breeding-up of foundation stock, there are improved marketing practices. But reduction was primary, basic, it must be, the Acomas knew it must be; and without any coercion, they have gone forward with their sacrifices. The process is not finished yet, for range rehabilitation takes nearly as long as range destruction takes, but Acoma's outlook on the future has been revolutionized.

Acoma is among the Pueblos whose grazing applications were rejected by the Advisory Board.

* * * * *

Important in its bearing upon Indian equal rights to federal benefits is the following wire which reached the Social

Security Board April 11. It reports the decision of the Montana court in the suit against Big Horn County to compel the grant of Social Security benefits to ward Indians:

"All Indians entitled to all forms of relief, and it must be paid from State funds."

* * * * *

The Interior Appropriation Bill is still in conference, hence its final contents cannot be reported as yet. One fact, however, is already known. There will be no new money for land purchases for Indians under the Reorganization Act, in the year ahead, beyond a one-half million to meet contractual obligations already incurred. The new contractual authorization will not exceed one quarter-million. This is grim news for many tribes. But let us keep our perspective. In the forty-five years before 1933, Indian land losses averaged two million acres a year. In the years since 1933, Indian land gains have totaled nearly a million and a half acres a year. None the less, the slowing-down of gains, coming now, will distress and depress many Indians. The federal land acquisition operation in its totality has shrunken, temporarily; the shrinkage of the Indians' part of that program is proportionately the lesser shrinkage.

* * * * *

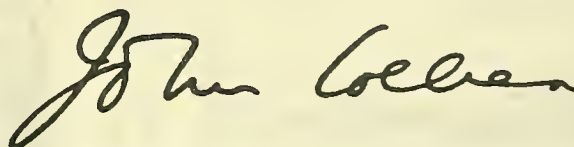
However, let us remember two facts, one dark and one bright.

Indian land acquisition does not solve the problems which multiply endlessly down from allotment. Through the non-solution of the allotted heirship land problem, more land is being lost to effective use than even a generous purchase program would compensate for. That is the dark fact.

The bright fact is, that in every Indian area but one (where the outcome is trembling in the balance now) the destruction of Indian land through soil erosion has been brought under control. Soil erosion has stripped the Western range of approximately half its vegetative soil in fifty years. Soil erosion on Indian lands is being stopped.

And of the land which they do possess, Indians are themselves utilizing a larger proportion with every year.

The net picture, in terms of Indian wealth saved and more happily, productively used, is a good and an encouraging picture. It is one of the best chapters of conservation being written in these years.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John Colver".

Commissioner of Indian Affairs

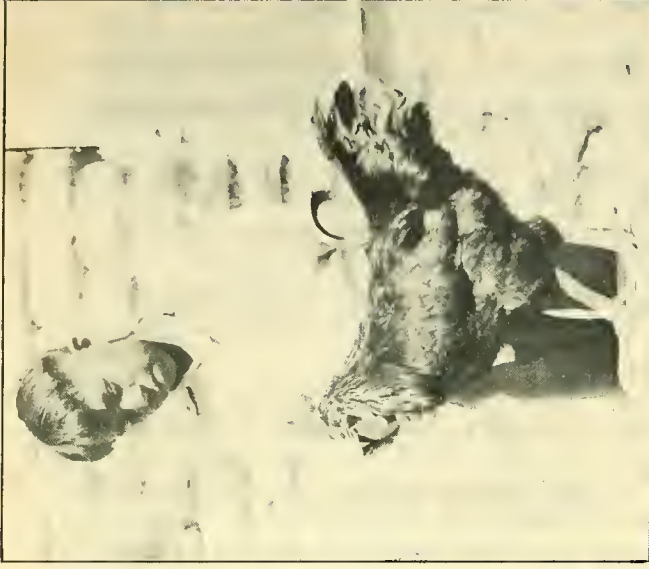
FOUR-H CLUBS GIVE INDIAN YOUNG PEOPLE TRAINING IN FARM
TECHNIQUES AND HOME PROBLEMS



Northern Idaho - Nez Perce 4-H Club Boys
Made Screens For Their Homes



Crow, Montana - A Group Of 4-H Club Girls
Wearing Dresses And Aprons Made As Part
Of Their Club Work.



Pima, Arizona - Leonard Hayes And
His Prize-Winning 4-H Rooster



Colville, Washington - Some Members Of
The 4-H Club En Route To A Meeting.

TRIBAL AND FEDERAL PLANNING AND FUNDS UNITE IN
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AT BLACKFEET



Blackfeet Council Members in Washington. Left to right standing: Samson Bird, Wright Hagerty, William Buffalo Hide, Eddie Big Beaver and Stuart Hazlett (Chairman). Seated: John Collier, Commissioner and William Zimmerman, Assistant Commissioner.

A unique example of tribal-federal planning for economic advancement is being displayed on the Blackfeet Reservation in northwestern Montana. Both tribal and federal funds are involved; both tribal councilmen and Indian Service workers are sharing in the responsibility and the carrying out of the program.

The economic outlook of the Blackfeet, largest tribe in Montana, has been for many years a bleak one. Their reservation, just east of Glacier National Park, is subject to high winds and bitter winters. Under the present system of use, its 1,207,000 acres are insufficient for the 4,200 Indians who look to it for livelihood and only a minor portion of it is irrigated. In recent years the Indians have owned a comparatively small number of livestock and a large part of the reservation's grass is leased to

outsiders. A few Indians have run their own cattle and sheep; most of them, however, have been eking out a living on grazing rentals and work relief, unable to obtain the credit with which to launch enterprises of their own.

In the main, the answer to this group's economic problem is live-stock. To build up a live-stock industry of their own, the Blackfeet need first, credit, and second, irrigated land on which hay for winter feed can be raised. It is around these two needs that a large part of the program adopted by the tribal delegation which visited Washington in March will center.

This is the plan in brief:

Money for credit will come from the tribe and from the government. The tribe will set up a \$50,000 revolving loan fund



Blackfeet Range At The Head Of Milk River
Near The Canadian Line.

for loans to individuals and cooperative groups for live-stock, agricultural equipment, and similar needs. This sum will be supplemented by \$50,000 which the Indian Service will lend the Blackfeet Tribe from the Indian Reorganization Act's revolving credit fund. In addition, the tribe will reserve \$25,000 of its own money for the development of supplementary credit sources.

The land situation at Blackfeet has become increasingly complicated through the operation of allotment of tracts to individual Indians and the splitting up of these tracts through inheritance.

The Indians feel that the acquisition of certain tracts within irrigation areas - formerly Indian-owned - and perhaps also certain heirship tracts in complicated multiple ownership, will round out the holdings of the tribe and make possible the rehabilitation of a number of landless families. The tribe is putting aside \$50,000 for this purpose and the Government, through the Indian Reorganization Act land purchase fund, is contributing \$79,000. The land so purchased will be assigned or leased to members of the tribe. Receipts from the land transactions made with tribal money will go back to the tribe to be used for further acquisitions.

Indian Service rehabilitation funds to the extent of \$27,500 have been allotted to Blackfeet: for an arts and crafts building, for the construction and repair of twenty homestead units on the Two Medicine Unit of the irrigation project, and for subjugation of land on the irrigation project. The tribe also will spend \$25,000 of its own money on the construction of these twenty home-



Good Grazing Country
Blackfeet Reservation, Montana.

stead units, including outbuildings, fencing, wells and similar equipment. The tribal council is undertaking the responsibility of selecting from among the large number of applications already received the twenty families who are to occupy the new homesteads.

The key to the whole project, Indian Service workers and Indians agree, is irrigation. The sum of \$83,000 has been included in the Interior Department appropriation bill for 1939 (pending when this article was written) to be used for reconditioning the

irrigation project on the Milk River. CCC-ID funds to the extent of \$30,000 are also being allotted to this project.

Actual authority for the Blackfeet to spend part of their tribal money has had to wait for Congressional approval, since all existing Indian tribal funds are on deposit in the United States Treasury and, are with a few exceptions, at the disposition of Congress. By virtue of its charter approved by the Secretary of the Interior under authority of the Indian Reorganization Act, however, the future Blackfeet tribal funds, like those of other tribes similarly organized under the Act, may accrue to the tribal corporation and be available for expenditure for purposes approved by the tribal council.

The Indian Service is going to watch this program at Blackfeet to which the tribe, through its council, has pledged its support, with deep interest. Here is an experiment which, as an example to other tribes, may prove significant and far-reaching. Here is a tribe which, instead of dividing its tribal funds into per capita payments, is staking them on a tribal venture. The Government, convinced of the soundness of the Blackfeet Reservation's economic potentialities, and of the ability of the Blackfeet Indians themselves, is investing in these Indians through loans and outright grants. The Blackfeet Tribal Council is to be congratulated upon its work in planning the new undertaking: the Indian Services wishes it and the Blackfeet Indians well in their accomplishments.

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WASHINGTON OFFICE VISITORS

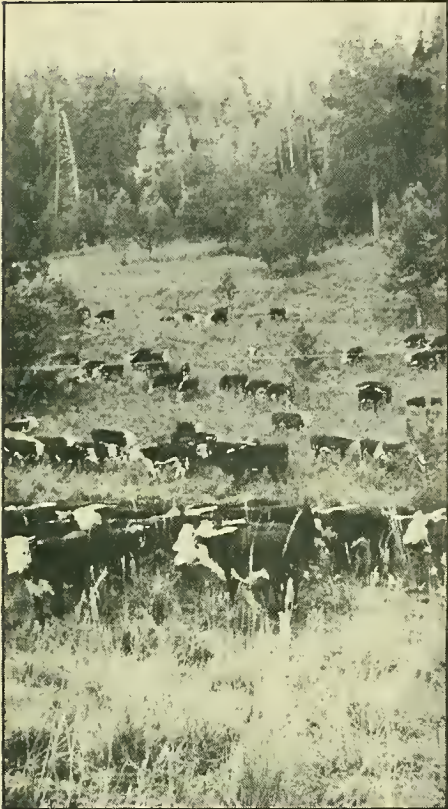
Among the recent visitors to the Washington Office were five delegates from the Crow Reservation in Montana - Harry White-man, William Bends, Bird Horse, Ties His Knee and Donald Deer Nose, who came to discuss numerous tribal matters with the various division heads.

Another tribal delegation which was recently in Washington were three members of the Keshena Tribe in Wisconsin, composed of Neil Gauthier, Al Dodge and Pete Lookaround, who came to discuss various forestry and land problems.

Other visitors have included William A. Durant, Chief of the Choctaws, Elwood Harlan, Winnebago delegate, Miss Alida C. Bowler, Superintendent of the Carson Agency, Nevada, Mr. A. M. Landman, Superintendent of the Five Civilized Tribes Agency in Oklahoma and the attorney for the Five Civilized Tribes, James H. Finley, and Douglas H. Johnston, Governor of the Chickasaw Nation.

A RÉSUMÉ OF INDIAN CATTLE SALES - 1937

By John T. Montgomery, Supervisor of Extension Work



Beef Round-Up At
Mescalero, New Mexico.

Sales records from fourteen cattle-producing reservations offer an interesting study in comparisons. Prices varied greatly due to wide differences in weight and quality of the animals themselves and also to the method of selling in vogue at each particular jurisdiction. In general, northern cattle are larger and weigh more than the southwestern cattle. For example, Fort Hall, Idaho, yearlings averaged 681 pounds per head; Klamath, Oregon, 642; San Carlos, Arizona, 575; Mescalero, New Mexico, 536; Fort Apache, Arizona, 504; Truxton Cañon, Arizona, 550.5; and the weights of other classes of cattle vary similarly.

Due to demand for weighty animals most of the past year, heavier and older cattle have sold well. The exception was Fort Apache. There the yearlings outsold the twos and threes by about one and two dollars per hundred weight, respectively. Similarly, heavy cows sold for less money at Fort Apache; fat cows averaging 849 pounds sold at \$4.25 and the same class weighing 904 pounds sold on Fort Berthold, North Dakota, at \$5.90; while on Klamath, 1,113-pound cows brought \$5.39 per hundred weight.

Methods of selling varied. In general, however, one of two methods is followed: Selling at auction to the highest bidder; and selling on sealed bids, usually to the highest bidder. A third method which is becoming increasingly popular is selling on the central live-stock markets of the country through commission firms.

The principal objection to selling at home has been that animals generally have been bought by speculators whose profits

BEEF: IT BROUGHT \$987,568 TO FOURTEEN RESERVATIONS



Selling Beef Cattle At Auction At One Of The Four Sales Held At Yakima, Washington, During 1937.



Truxton Cañon, Arizona. Twenty-Six Hundred Head of Indian Cattle Have Been Moved To Excellent Summer Range At Higher Elevation, Formerly Used By Lessees. Note The Pine Tree Altitude.

might have been saved to the Indians by more intelligent selling. Another objection to home sales has been collusion among bidders and resale of cattle among themselves: this practice in some areas is quite general. These objections to home selling apply to auctions and to sales by sealed bids, but less, perhaps, to open auctions.



A Sales Ring At Fort Hall, Idaho

On some jurisdictions it is the practice to sell on bids marked "All or none"; that is, acceptance of proposed prices for all the animals offered in the sale. Generally such bidders submit a good bid for one class of animals and very low bids on other classes, which means a low average bid when all classes are taken into consideration. Usually this is a very poor way of selling cattle and costs the seller many dollars.

Selling at central markets, or "shipping", as it is generally called, is popular or unpopular depending upon the market on the day of the sale. If the shipper sells on the high spot for the week or month, he is fairly well satisfied; if not, he is sure the market was manipulated to his damage. In general, selling on central markets at the season of demand for the classes of livestock produced on Indian reservations is as satisfactory as any method.

More money would be obtained for our cattle if they were sold directly to feeders, who finish cattle for eastern or western markets. In general, Indian cattle pass through too many hands between sale to slaughter: each handler must make a profit if he is to remain in business.

The general tabulation on the following page indicates the general averages for the reservations named, but like all "average" figures, they mean little unless they are carefully studied.

* * * * *

1937 CATTLE PRICES ON FOURTEEN RESERVATIONS

JURISDICTION	Number	Weight Of Lot	Average Price Per Cwt.	Value Per Head	Total Value Of Lot
Colorado River, Arizona.	215	115,610	537.00	\$3.80	\$ 4,397.00
Fort Apache, Arizona.	4,036	2,388,180	591.71	4.26	101,865.30
Fort Berthold, N. D.	48	41,375	904.00	5.90	2,579.22
Fort Berthold, N. D.	566	339,600	600.00*	6.00*	21,309.78
Fort Hall, Idaho.	1,447	1,127,018	778.80	6.02	67,893.34
Flathead, Montana.	132	110,609	837.95	5.03	5,569.41
Klamath, Oregon.	454	362,789	799.09	6.48	23,541.13
Mescalero, New Mexico.	2,064	1,044,155	505.80	5.83	60,964.03
San Carlos, Arizona.	10,209	6,165,840	603.96	5.37	331,315.75
San Carlos, Arizona.	846	507,600	600.00*	5.40*	27,452.70
Sells, Arizona.	274	148,844	543.00	2.32	3,451.35
Sells, Arizona.	8,896	5,337,600	600.00*	3.04*	162,346.97
Truxton Cañon, Arizona.	2,044	1,063,528	520.30	5.98	63,636.65
Uintah & Ouray, Utah.	241	168,910	700.80	5.60	9,468.99
Warm Springs, Oregon.	766	567,250	740.53	5.99	33,995.35
Wind River, Wyoming.	185	146,648	792.69	5.65	8,297.74
Yakima, Washington.	1,171	946,487	808.27	6.28	59,513.29
	<u>33,594</u>	<u>20,582,043</u>	<u>612.67</u>	<u>\$4.80</u>	<u>\$987,568.00</u>
*Estimated.					

ORGANIZATION NEWS

Constitution Elections:

		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
February 8	Wichita Tribe of Oklahoma	26..	133
February 26	Kalispel, Washington (Northern Idaho)	33...	0
February 26	Colville, Washington (Non-IRA)	503...	76
April 2	Skokomish, Washington (Taholah)	38...	27

Charter Elections:

February 28	Pima-Maricopa (Arizona)	652..	148
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* * * * *

INDIAN SILVER TRADE-MARK NOW AVAILABLE

The mark of quality and genuineness for Navajo and Pueblo silver, created last spring by the Indian Arts and Crafts Board, Department of the Interior, is now available for application upon such silver jewelry as meets the regulations set up by the Board.

Those who are interested in obtaining the mark are invited to write to Mr. K. M. Chapman, Laboratory of Anthropology, Santa Fe, or at P. O. Box 966, Gallup, New Mexico.

MILLER FLAT COMMUNITY IMPROVES ITS LIVE-STOCK

By Alferd Smith, Secretary, Live-Stock Association

Warm Springs Agency, Oregon



Roping A Wild Horse

they were no good, so we decided that we had to do something about getting them off, so we could have more grass for our cattle and work horses. They were pretty hard to catch but we always catch some every year, then the ones that we miss always get harder to catch. Soon we don't have many left, and our grass is getting better all time.

We talked about organizing stock association a long time and we had some meetings but we did not know how to organize so it would be any good. After Mr. Peal came, he told us all about how to organize and the things that we could do that would help all of us people. So we had some meetings to understand all about it. Then we write the by-laws and constitution; then elect officers. We got along good before we organized but we we found out we can do lot more now.

We ask for irrigation and we are getting that. We bought a thresher mostly to thresh grain for seed; now we don't have to buy any seed except mostly alfalfa and things like that we have not been raising. We are going to buy some cattle when we get the loan money so all the people can live better.

The Soil Conservation Service has built us a big corral so we can work our cattle easier, and they are going to build a fence for a bull pasture this spring.

TREND IN THE NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK IN THE
MILLER FLAT COMMUNITY



We try to take care of our range the best way we can. This year we put our cattle behind the drift fence and they done good up there. We want to buy some good mares and a stallion this spring so we can raise some good horses.

* * * * *

ALBUQUERQUE INDIAN SCHOOL STUDENT'S DRAWING ADOPTED
FOR USE IN COMING NEW MEXICO EXPOSITION

New Mexico is planning a Coronado Cuarto Centennial Exposition for 1940, the 400th anniversary of Coronado's coming from Mexico to explore the Southwest. Paul Satsewa, from Laguna, a student at the Albuquerque Indian School, drew a sketch for the school magazine, illustrating his idea of Coronado's first sight of the village of Zuni. It so impressed members of the Centennial Commission that the drawing has been reproduced as a part of the Commission's advertising material on the coming event.

ARE A SUPERINTENDENT'S WIFE'S SERVICES WORTH A DOLLAR A YEAR?

"I am thinking of starting a crusade," writes one superintendent's wife, "for putting superintendents' wives on a dollar-a-year salary, so they can legally ride with their husbands. I think it could be justified on the following grounds for pinch-hitting and stand-in services rendered:

	<u>Per Year</u>
School programs, Indian	\$.02
School programs, public .....	.03
Funerals .....	.10
Musical recitals, white and Indian (rated same as funerals) .	.10
Fairs - judging duties .....	.05
Garden club judging (hard work and loss of friends) .....	.10
Answering the door on holidays, washdays and Sundays for Indians and business callers .....	.05
Extra use of discretion, caution and bridling of the tongue (sometimes) .....	.12
Attending parties at clubs .....	.02
Attending Chamber of Commerce dinners in nearby towns (almost rank with funerals) .....	.08
Evening business and Indian callers (one has the choice of either listening or going to the kitchen or to bed) .....	.10
Waiting meals while someone talks to husband 'just a minute - you are so busy in the office ' .....	.15
Running what amounts to a hotel and rooming house (the pleas- ure of having some people overbalances inconvenience) ...	.01
Waiting meals, hours, while husband is stuck in mud on reservation .....	.01
Visiting sick and afflicted (partly personal duty) .....	.01
Going out nights to wrecks involving Indians .....	.01
Helping get cows out of mud-holes on drives .....	.01
Remembering to deliver messages left while superintendent is away .....	.01
Going on long repetitious rides on reservation, especially in bad weather, rather than staying home wondering what shape the body will be in, if and when it is brought home .....	.02
	<hr/> \$1.00"

KLAMATH TIMBER COMMITTEE DOES OUTSTANDING WORK

By George S. Kephart, Forest Supervisor



Left To Right: Charles S. Hood, C. M. Kirk, James Johnson, S. E. Kirk (Chairman), Luke Chester, Boyd J. Jackson (Secretary), Carthon R. Patrie, J. L. Kirk, Ben F. Mitchell, Levi Walker.

In a dingy ex-school room at Klamath Agency in Oregon, furnished with discarded chairs and heated by a temperamental kitchen range, nine Indians decided questions last December for their tribe which concerned the future sales of timber worth some fifteen million dollars. These nine formed a special Timber Committee, charged by the General Council with the task of determining whether economic conditions were improved sufficiently to warrant an increase in the prices being paid, under contract, for Klamath Reservation timber. They were charged also with the task of drawing up a new form of timber sale contract to be used on all future sales of timber.

I looked forward to the meeting with particular interest. "There is meat enough in these problems," I said to myself, "for a Wall Street board of directors and a staff of clerks and lawyers." The situation was complicated, moreover, by a prolonged depression in the lumber industry.

The meetings began with the election of Selden Kirk as chairman, Boyd Jackson as secretary and Ben Mitchell as reading clerk. Others of the committee were Luke Chester, Charles Hood, James Johnson, Clayton Kirk, J. L. Kirk and Levi Walker. Carthon Patrie, Forester, and Frank B. Lenzie, Regional Forester, represented the Indian Service's Forestry and Grazing Division, while Superintendent Bert Courtright and the writer appeared for the Agency. During sixteen wearing days of meetings, this committee kept faithfully to the work at hand.

Once there was a momentary flare-up, when a ruling of the chair was questioned. All parties, however, made the concessions necessary to clear the air quickly. Personal bias was not allowed to interfere with the smooth conduct of business.

In preparation for the meetings an excellent report on the trend of economic conditions as affecting timber had been prepared by the Regional Office. In the discussion of this report I really began to appreciate the caliber of the committee members. The subject matter covered a broad field. In surveying it some angles could be defined by facts and figures beyond all dispute. Others were general and open to disagreement, even among specialists. The truth of some facts had to be accepted on the word of experts, in the same way that most of us accept the fact that the world is round. There were statistics, reviews of market conditions, studies of trends and similar highly complicated matters. The committee dug down through it all, searching carefully for an answer to the question, "Have economic conditions improved to the point that we are justified in asking for an increase in stumpage prices?" A less capable committee would have jumped blindly at this chance to increase tribal income, without any desire to understand the reasons back of its decision.

After this review of the report a series of conferences was arranged with representatives of each of the seven contracting companies. During these meetings there was ample opportunity for misunderstandings and the promotion of hard feeling generally, but in spite of the bewildering array of evidence, the committee held firmly and politely to the fundamentals. The Regional Office report showed that conditions were much improved during the first part of the year (when the report was prepared) and that stumpage increases were warranted. The committee found this to be true. It found equal truth in the contractors' evidence that a recession of

serious proportions had occurred later in the year. It considered the fact that no increases would be imposed legally for another two months, and realized that conditions might be either decidedly better or worse at that time. Very wisely, it would seem, the committee recommended to a General Council that the Klamath Indians give the Indian Office a free hand to impose such increases, or no increase at all, as should appear proper when the time for final action arrived. In view of the continued recession we can imagine how welcome this recommendation, and its adoption, was to Indian Office representatives.

In odd moments during these sixteen busy days, two other things were accomplished. An existing form of timber sale contract was so objectionable that several companies had refused to bid under its terms. A new form of contract was therefore drafted by the committee. This protects the Indians' interests and appears acceptable to the lumbermen.

These sixteen days of meetings are remembered with real pleasure. They began in a cheerless, uninspiring old room that would dampen the ardor of the most optimistic. Aptly enough, on the last day we moved across the hall to a remodeled and freshly painted Tribal Committee room.

I recall a report submitted to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in 1871 by J. N. High, Sub-Agent at Klamath Agency. High said:

"..... The completion of a new sawmill has worked a great reformation and inspired them to great exertion to amass various kinds of property Savage in skins, paint and feathers, as they were two short years since, they have donned the white man's costume, taken the ax, cross-cut saw, and hauled to the mill a half million feet of lumber and, today, are lumber merchants with stock in trade constantly on hand, evincing shrewdness and business integrity that makes an agent's heart strong to work with and for them"

In two short generations the Klamaths have adapted themselves to a new civilization. It would be foolish to think that every Indian on the Klamath Reservation was then, or is now, a paragon, just as it would be supremely foolish to assume that every white man is entitled to wear a halo. There have been stormy times at Klamath. But I think that incidents like the timber committee meetings are evidence that a large number of these Indians are doing productive straight thinking and have made a long forward step along the path of self-government.

THE BALLAD OF CHARLIE MCCOFFUS

An Indian Service field worker, who prefers to remain anonymous, makes the following contribution, which he dedicates to the Washington Office personnel.

A field engineer named Charlie McCoffus
Worked all day in the field and all night in the office
Checking contracts and vouchers and estimates too,
To be picked all to bits by the Washington crew.

For the boys in D. C., in their double-lensed specs
Their sallow complexions and fried collar necks,
Care not for the time nor the money they waste,
If a carbon is missing, a comma misplaced,
They bounce back the paper with ill-concealed jeers
To harass the hard-working field engineers.

To get back to Charlie, he struggled along
'Till an ache in his head told him something was wrong,
He went to the doctor, and "Doctor, said he,
There's a buzz in my brain, what's the matter with me?"

Well, the medico thumped, as medicos do,
And he tested his pulse and his reflexes too,
And his head and his heart and his throat and each lung
And Charlie said "Ah", and he stuck out his tongue.
When the doctor said, "Wow, what a narrow escape,
But a brief operation will put you in shape."

"Your brain's overworked like a motor run down,
And you're flirting with death every time you turn 'round,
I must take out your brain for a complete overhauling,
In the interim, take a respite from your calling."

So Charlie McCoffus went under the knife,
He struggled home brainless and kissed his own wife,
While old Doctor Loomis and two other men,
Were putting his brain in order again.
Well, the weeks rolled along and Charlie McCoffus
Never called for his brain at the medico's office."

The Doctor got worried, gave Charlie a ring, said
"You'd better come over and get the darned thing."
"Thanks, Doc, I don't need it," said Charlie McCoffus,
"I've just been transferred to the Washington Office."

So Charlie now wears a fried collar to work
And he hides in the lairs where the auditors lurk,
And his letters bring tremors of anger and fear
To the head of each hard-working field engineer
And the pride and the joy of the Washington Office
Is brainless, predacious, young Charlie McCoffus.

ELECTION TO BE HELD AT CONSOLIDATED CHIPPEWA JURISDICTION,
MINNESOTA, ON AGENCY LOCATION

Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes has issued instructions for the holding of a referendum by the Indians of the Consolidated Chippewa Jurisdiction of Minnesota, upon the subject of the permanent location of the administrative headquarters of the jurisdiction. Chester E. Faris, Senior Field Representative of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, was placed in charge of the referendum conducted under the departmental policy of consulting Indians on Indian affairs.

Secretary Ickes wrote to Mr. Faris:

"The election should be preceded by ten days notice, and should be held, if possible, within three weeks of the date of this instruction."

Mr. Faris was directed to proceed in cooperation with Superintendent Balsam of the Consolidated Chippewa Jurisdiction and with the Executive Committee of the Tribe.

The places to be voted at the referendum are Bemidji, Cass Lake, Duluth, Grand Rapids, Minneapolis and a location within the White Earth Reservation. The Executive Committee of the Tribe is authorized to add additional place names to the ballot, and a space will be provided upon the ballot for the writing in by voters of any location not named in the ballot.

Secretary Ickes stated: "Seventeen days ago, the government's records at the Cass Lake Indian Agency were seized by a crowd of local Indians, openly incited by white persons resident at Cass Lake. For more than two weeks, this illegal seizure and concealment of government files and property has continued. The situation is an intolerable one and should be brought to an end. I have referred the case to the Attorney General for appropriate criminal or civil action, in the event that the lawless actions by the local citizenry are kept up. The referendum among the Indians will decide where the Agency shall be located permanently. In the meantime, the administrative headquarters is Duluth, and there the government's records should be deposited."

SHELTERBELT WORK IN OKLAHOMA AND KANSAS: AN INDIAN CCC PROJECT

By A. C. Monahan, Regional Coordinator for Oklahoma



**Black Locust And Chinese Elm Rows
Planted Near Mangum, Oklahoma, In
April 1935. (Picture Taken
September 1937.)**

The vast national plan for a shelterbelt - a man-planted strip of woodland extending down through the Great Plains area from the Canadian line to Texas, which will help to save soil by lessening wind erosion - is moving toward realization: 2,606 miles of plantings have been made since 1935 in six states; 6,500 acres of groves have been planted on individual farms; and the planting schedule for this year calls for 4,300 miles more of plantings. Applications from farmers for planting stock already exceed available supplies.

Indian Service workers in Oklahoma and Kansas are sharing in this immense project in cooperation with the U. S. Forest Service. The Forest Service began the actual planting of shelterbelts in Western Oklahoma early in 1935. Cottonwood seedlings set out that year are now over twenty feet in height. Locust, Chinese elm, desert willow, tama-

risk and other stock have made proportional growth.

The belts are planted on privately-owned land under agreements with the landowners. The Forest Service prepares the soil, sets out the seedlings and supervises their care for a two or three-year period. The landowner agrees to carry on the necessary cultivation after the planting and to protect the young trees and shrubs from damage. In return he has not only protection from wind erosion, but will have firewood and fence posts after there is growth enough to warrant cutting out surplus stock. The standard shelterbelt is seven rods in width and is planted with ten rows of seedlings. The high-growing stock is set in the center rows.

Indian Service cooperation was arranged early in 1937. The Forest Service agreed to furnish the Indian Service with 100,000 seedlings from its nursery stock at Elk City and elsewhere, and to give advice and necessary instruction on plantings. The Indian Service, through its CCC-Indian Division, planted this stock in shelterbelts on federally owned land at Indian agencies, schools, hospitals and other centers.

The success of this first work warranted its continuation, and similar plans were developed for work during the current season, mostly on individually owned Indian lands held in trust by



A Picture Of A Shelterbelt Taken In July 1935.

the Government. The landowners enter into agreements with the Government similar to those of white landowners with the United States Forest Service. The Forest Service is furnishing the seedlings and the full-time service of three foresters to pass upon soils where plantings are being considered, and to supervise the preparation of the soil and the plantings. The labor of preparing the soil and setting the plantings is carried out by CCC-ID men working under Indian Service foremen.

The original plant quota assigned to the Indian project was fifty miles of basic seven-rod shelterbelt, fifteen miles of three-row intermediate belts and thirty acres of farmsteads or woodlots. The demand for this type of planting is greater than anticipated, and by April first approximately one hundred miles of shelterbelt plantings were completed. Thirty miles of these are in the Canton section in the Cheyenne and Arapaho Jurisdiction; the remainder is near Mountain View and Carnegie in the Kiowa Jurisdiction.

The United States Forest Supervisor states that the Indian crews who have been trained in planting are doing an excellent job. He says he "would match the Indians against any crew in the State."

As a direct result of the planting program on Indian land a great deal of interest in shelterbelt planting has been aroused among white landowners. This has resulted in the Carnegie section alone in applications for some thirty miles of planting adjacent to the work being done on Indian lands. The United States Forest Service is accepting these applications, since it is most desirable



Picture Of Same Shelterbelt (See Opposite Page)
Taken In August 1937.

to complete the work in a given area as far as possible for the benefit of the community as a whole. Mr. John R. Nelson, State Director of the shelterbelt work for the United States Forest Service, says "It now appears that the Carnegie Area will develop into one of the best concentrations of plantings in the State insofar as desirable location of belts and obtaining maximum benefit from the planting are concerned, since this area apparently will have between seventy and eighty miles of windbreaks located in a comparatively compact group. It is anticipated that eighty per cent of these belts will be planted on Indian lands."

A similar project is under way on the Potawatomi Jurisdiction in Kansas. The cooperative arrangement there is between Superintendent H. E. Bruce and his staff and the Kansas Shelterbelt U. S. Forest Service Office. This Potawatomi Area is considerably east of the general area in which the Forest Service is working, but it is country which needs shelterbelts and the Forest Service feels that a successful demonstration on Indian land will prove the value of such work to white farmers in the general vicinity.

Illustrations accompanying this article show the results of 1935 plantings in Oklahoma by the United States Forest Service and in 1937 by both the Forest Service and the Indian Service.

NOTES FROM AN INDIAN REORGANIZATION AGENT'S REPORT

By Henry Roe Cloud

One who wishes to attend a most entertaining and illuminating meeting should arrange to be present at an Oneida Council. Here is an aggressive, intelligent and wide-awake group of Indians. Discussions keep to the point, whether they have to do with the science of government, with social organization, economic foundations, or land matters. These Indians are doing the thinking for themselves and their governing concepts are those of the community in general.

At this particular meeting — March 11— the Oneida Council met at Oneida, Wisconsin, with Mr. Peru Farver, Superintendent of the Tomah Agency, Archie Phinney, Indian Reorganization Agent for the Great Lakes Area and myself. Charter and land matters were discussed in detail.

Archie Phinney threw the responsibility for the final shaping of the Oneidas' ordinance on membership on their own shoulders, offering only a suggestive framework for their discussion. This question of membership is a real problem for this group, where they have an absentee list of about 1600. The discussion led into many phases of the problem, such as the extension of credit, non-Indian persons, blood quantum, disposition of local cooperative profits, effect of actions on Buffalo Creek Treaty of 1838 and the like. The whole question of membership was postponed for further study and report, but unanimous action was taken to eliminate from membership the intermarried white man.

If anyone lacks faith in or distrusts Indian leadership, let him take a trip to Oneida and see for himself the creative activity of this people and their array of solid accomplishments. They are working together and individual ambitions are being subordinated to the principle of the greatest good to the greatest number.

* * * *

LITTLE SOLDIER, AGED STANDING ROCK SIOUX, DIES

"As calm as the passing of winter this year, death claimed Little Soldier, aged veteran of war days of the Sioux. At the age of thirteen years, Little Soldier rode into the Custer fight to get one of the 7th Cavalry horses. That was sixty-two years ago, so Little Soldier was 75. He died Sunday, March 13."

From the Sioux County Pioneer Arrow, March 18.

BOOK TRUCK SERVES INDIAN SCHOOLS IN SOUTHERN ARIZONA

Books, Magazines, And The Pictures That Move And Talk Come
To The Desert Indians



The Book Truck



The Book Truck In Process
Of Being Shelved.

The book truck pictured here is the library for a vast area of Southern Arizona Indian country: Pima, Papago, San Carlos, Fort Apache, Walapai and Colorado River.

The arrival of the book truck at an Indian Service school means far more than books for the children. It means books for adults as well. It also means magazines, newspapers, maps, victrola records, mounted pictures and classroom exhibits to aid teachers.

And it means movies. Indian parents and children bring their suppers to school, eat and talk in the open shelter on the school grounds and then go inside to sit in the gathering dark while "Mr. Bookman" - Pierrepont Alford - brings in the portable motion picture machine and connects it with the electric generator which is run by the book truck's motor (there is no electricity at many of the Southern Arizona day schools).

Indians of all ages delightedly witness, some of them for the first time, the pictures that move and talk. A typical program would be a demonstration of the methods by which various crops may be irrigated; a Mickey Mouse reel; and a picture based on the life of Louis Pasteur.

SOIL CONSERVATION PROBLEMS AT THE OTHER END OF THE WORLD



Halfway around the world, and, from our point of view, at the bottom of it, lies Southern Rhodesia. Americans, when they think of it at all, picture a vast, unsettled area, free from the problems brought by the pressure of people upon land. As a matter of fact, according to Douglas Ayles, Soil Conservation Assistant for the Southern Rhodesian Government, who was a recent visitor at the Washington Office, Southern Rhodesia is struggling against some of the same problems of soil erosion and overgrazing with which the Indian Service and other government agencies are contending in our

own Southwest. Mr. Aylen's story of their problems are made such rich listening that we pass on to our readers some of the impressions he left during his brief visit. Strong parallels and equally strong contrasts with our own problems come constantly to mind as the story unfolds.

Southern Rhodesia, which is a British self-governing colony, has a population of nearly 60,000 whites and some 2,000,000 natives, who are mostly of the Matabele (Zulu) and Chisohna native African stocks. This land of some 150,344 square miles is a young country, since settlement by whites in large numbers did not begin until the 1890's. Its early history was one of exploitation and large land grants to the venturesome whites who got there first. The Matabele, who had enslaved most of the other natives, were at first friendly to the newcomers; as their numbers and their pressure increased, however, the natives rose against them. The colonists put down the uprising and freed the enslaved natives. After massacres and reprisals, peaceful relations were achieved by about 1900 and permanent reserves set aside for the natives.

The economy of Southern Rhodesia is a combination of farming (tobacco and corn are cash crops on the better land), stock raising and small mining operations. White-owned farms are large: perhaps two thousand acres, with seven to eight hundred acres of arable land, worked by a white man who may employ from twenty to a hundred natives. Stock ranches range from ten to forty thousand acres; such an enterprise would be staffed by one or two whites who direct a large number of native workers. The ratio of twenty acres per head for cattle would seem to approximate conditions on much of our own western range.

Rhodesia is a country of large areas of poor soil and small areas of very good soil. Rainfall, which comes in sudden, heavy bursts - as much as three inches in an hour - varies from twelve to fifteen inches a year in some parts, to twenty-five to thirty in others. The climate is mild, with light frosts in winter and summer temperatures in the hotter areas up to 100 degrees.

There is a lack of mineral salts in the soil and the temperature of the soil is high; these two phenomena are of vital importance, since they act as a deterrent to the accumulation of humus in the soil. The light soil, the dryness, the sudden, heavy rains, and the lack of humus - these are all factors which of themselves offer hazard to the soil; in addition, there are powerful human factors which complicate and deepen the problem.

As in this country, changing administrative policies have changed the natives' ways of life, and these shifts have affected the land itself. Unlike this country, however, the vast ex-preponderance of natives over whites has made the natives' use of the land a major problem. The Native Department of the government is the largest unit in the entire scheme of government and the natives' use of their soil is a major concern of its workers.

Formerly, Rhodesian natives cultivated small patches of soil in a somewhat casual fashion, raising mixtures of their native crops - kaffir corn, millet, a variety of peanut and pumpkins. They did little weeding and little clearing and they operated largely on a communal basis. Seeking to build up the country's exports, the government encouraged the natives to plow, to farm methodically and to grow crops for market, as much, for example, as ten acres of corn apiece. Natives cut or ring-barked trees and cleared or burned over land. Native crops were marketed, along with whites', through farmers' cooperative societies.

At first few thought of the soil itself, of giving the land a rest, of the effects of native customs on their farming and grazing methods, and of their effect, in turn, upon the soil.

The native attitude toward cattle is an example of the far-reaching effect of tribal customs. Native prestige has been and still is, Mr. Aylen explained, measured in terms of cattle. The more cattle a man has, the more he can present to his future parents-in-law and the handsomer and more capable wife he is able to acquire; with still more cattle, he can acquire another wife; and so on. And it is not the quality of the cattle which counts, but the number: five scrub animals, which may be worth far less than one good one on the open market, are five times as valuable as one cow in terms of prestige and wife-buying. Cattle, therefore, are raised by the natives in as large numbers and with as little trouble as possible. They are herded close to the kraals and mostly cared for by the children, and are customarily turned into fields that have already become too unproductive to farm, to forage what they can and to contribute to the ravage of the depleted ground cover.

As a result of this, cattle are weak, and when droughts come, losses are distressingly heavy - up to sixty per cent. Tick-borne cattle diseases are so prevalent that cattle must be dipped once a week; this weekly concentration at the vats (dip tanks) of large numbers of stock further denudes the soil in the vat areas. The government made an effort some time ago to improve the native strain by importing pedigreed, but unacclimated bulls, with disappointing results.

What, then, is the Rhodesian Government doing? One remedy is obvious and is being applied: that of developing supplementary water holes and reservoirs, to spread the live-stock and lighten the load on the previously watered areas. The main task, Mr. Aylen emphasized, is one of education: to convince natives and whites alike, but principally natives, since there are so many more of them, of the urgency of cutting down on the number of their cattle and of the wisdom of concentrating their efforts on fewer and more productive stock; of driving home the hard fact that one good animal eats a fraction of what four or five scrubs eat and is worth as much or more; that grass and soil are not everlasting gifts of providence but are resources which can be mined to exhaustion.

It is not a program which can be accomplished overnight. Immediate insistence upon changes so powerfully opposed to traditional values would cause an upheaval in native affairs. By example, by education and by finding profitable uses for scrub animals, the Rhodesian Conservation Department is seeking to meet this problem of salvaging Rhodesia's badly eroded areas. Some of the excess animals can be sold for fertilizer; some of the better ones are used in manufacturing beef extract; and training in the preparation and use of hides has been a further incentive to cut down on useless stock.

Opposition has come from whites as well. "Why should I pay taxes," say some of the less able white farmers, "to teach the natives how to improve their land and thus better to compete with me?" The more progressive whites, however, see the native problem as inextricably bound up with the welfare of Southern Rhodesia as a whole; see that a depleted land means first a weakened, and then a starving population, thrown upon the rest of the country to support. As a matter of fact, the program is only partially financed by white taxpayers, since all adult natives pay a tax of a pound a head a year to the Southern Rhodesian Government.

Facts gleaned hastily from Mr. Aylen on native administration are interesting. Native reserves are inviolate: no whites, not even superintendents, live on them, with the sole exception of the cattle inspectors. In general, the natives are a subject people, without representation or vote, and marriage between whites and natives is prohibited. In local matters, however, their own tribal governments and customs have the weight of law: the authority of their head men is recognized, and law and order problems, except for grave offenses such as murder, are settled by tribal law. Criminal cases come before a white magistrate. These commissioners,

or magistrates, must, in addition to a sound academic foundation, have a thorough knowledge of native law, customs and languages, as well as English law. There is a native constabulary, which is supplemented by a white police force, a representative of which visits each native village once a month. The commissioners also make the rounds of the reserves, reaching each one about once every three months.

The liquor problem is dealt with in both positive and negative directions: Hotels bordering on native reserves cannot be licensed to sell liquor, even to whites. Natives may brew their own beer on their reserves; when off their own areas, as on a white-owned farm, for instance, they are limited legally to possession of four gallons per household at any one time.

With the exception of one government training school, in which natives pay a small tuition, native education is in the hands of various mission groups. From the government's point of view, Mr. Aylen said, some of the American missions were the most successful, because they supplemented religious teaching with training in handicrafts and agricultural methods.

Health measures, such as compulsory vaccination, free clinics, and medical treatments, have been carefully developed by the government. As a result, the native population is increasing in numbers.

In general the government's objective in dealing with its native peoples is to promote high standards of character, and ability and opportunity for self-support. In pre-settlement days, the native code of ethics required strict integrity of behavior; stealing, for example, was unknown. Native standards broke down, however, with the influx of pioneers of mixed backgrounds and character forty-odd years ago. Swift changes brought by whites have raised problems in native life which present-day government and mission workers are trying to solve.

The soil erosion problem in Southern Rhodesia is so pressing, according to Mr. Aylen, that, with the very modest budget available for government action, the only chance for solution is through education and propaganda measures designed to awaken natives and whites alike to the seriousness of the danger facing them. Beginnings have been made in training natives at the government school; an educational bulletin is issued and distributed; and a number of the native commissioners and missionaries are keenly alive to this peril to Rhodesia's resources.

INDIANS IN THE NEWS

Newspaper clippings about Indians and Indian Service activities come to the Office of Indian Affairs in large numbers. Readers of "Indians At Work" may be interested in an occasional cross-section of newspaper comment on Indians.

From The Alaska Weekly.

Ten thousand dollars' worth of native products have been sold throughout Alaska during the past four months by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, since it started a marketing program to aid the natives. Virgil R. Farrell, Indian Service employee whose business it is to find markets and take orders for the parkas, mukluks, moccasins, baskets and ivory said he found a ready response to the program.

"Since last October we have delivered \$10,000 worth of native products to dealers in Alaska. The money has been paid to the natives who make the goods and we are now taking in more orders," Mr. Farrell said.

From The Spokane Daily Chronicle, Spokane, Washington.

Local artists are interested in the second summer state college art colony being arranged for artists, teachers and students. Classes will be held on the Indian reservation at Nespelem, under the direction of Worth D. Griffin, Head of the Department of Fine Arts of Washington State College.

The purpose of the colony is to study "America's Last Frontier", to give a vital record and vivid interpretive art. Three days a week from June 18 to August 19, the group will paint from Indian models and the three alternate days will be devoted to creative landscape painting and composition.

From The Missoulian, Missoula, Montana.

The Indians are coming! In fact they're here. Three Montana State University students legitimately claim not only good campus records but also distinguished family trees going back to some of the first citizens of the state.

Joseph Larry Parker is a great-grandson of Chief Joseph, famous leader of the Nez Perce Tribe, while Archie and Margaret Erin McDonald, brother and sister, are grandchildren of Angus McDonald, Hudson Bay factor, who came to Montana in 1839.

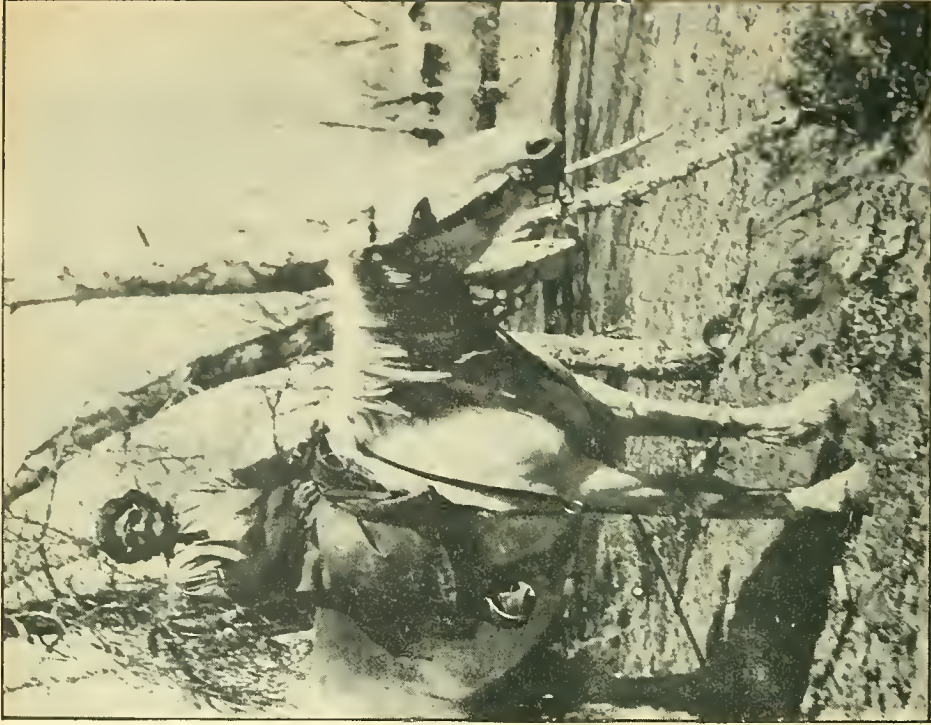
(Note: Parker and McDonald are receiving educational loans from the Office of Indian Affairs.)



Women's Shiny Team. Uintah And Ouray Fair.
(Photo by Thorne, Vernal, Utah)



Uintah And Ouray - Duchesne Canning Center



Mrs. Rose Daniels, 98 Years Old.
(Photograph By Mrs. Ray Dillman. 1937.)

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF CCC CELEBRATED

More than 7,000 Indians enrolled in the Civilian Conservation Corps, Indian Division, joined with many other Indians and with white neighbors in a national observance of the fifth anniversary of the Corps, on April 5.

Indians of seventy reservations in twenty-three states participated in field day events, ceremonials and other observances of this anniversary which has become so significant in the nationwide effort to rehabilitate the Indian population on a self-sustaining basis. Indian leaders invited the public to inspect not only their work camps, but the work projects themselves. In this way the Indians demonstrated the progress they have already made in the gigantic task of rebuilding Indian assets and showed also the heavy tasks that lie ahead of them.

Over 13,000,000 Calendar Days Of Work

Since 1933 more than 50,000 Indians have participated in Indian emergency work and Indians have worked more than 13,000,000 calendar days. The average total daily number of enrolled men on the pay roll has been approximately 8,400. At present, enrollment totals 7,665 on seventy reservations in twenty-three states.

While one of the main objects of the CCC-ID program is to provide employment as well as vocational training to those in need of employment through performance of useful reservation work, Commissioner Collier pointed out that an equally important result has been the improvement in the morale of the Indians and "an inestimable increase in the value of the reservations."

Indians have been given preference in supervisory positions, when qualified. The employment record for skilled and supervising positions shows 540 Indians as against 436 whites for the four-year period ending July 1, 1937. The Indians are paid the same wages that white enrollees receive, but on most reservations "family camps" have been established. Reservation staffs, working with the enrollees and their families, have helped these groups in their social, sanitation and health problems.

Among the major Indian reservation activities undertaken during the last four years are water development and the prevention

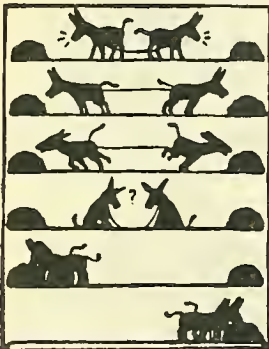
of soil erosion. More than 6,000 springs, reservoirs and wells have been developed; and 50,475 temporary and 16,402 permanent erosion-control check dams have been built.

The Indians have constructed more than 5,600 miles of telephone lines for fire protection purposes, 2,300 miles of fire-breaks, 6,500 miles of truck trails, 2,000 miles of horse trails, 900 bridges and more than 8,000 miles of fences. CCC-ID workers have also constructed more than 900 impounding and large diversion dams. Insect and pest control measures have been taken by the Indians on approximately 100,000 acres of their lands. Among the most important work has been the round-up and elimination of more than 200,000 head of non-productive range stock, bringing many areas down to proper stock carrying capacity, thus making room for productive stock and at the same time conserving the range and the soil.

Commissioner Collier said that training on the job has been emphasized and that many Indians have acquired sufficient skill in the trades to compete on an equal basis with the white man, if he chooses to leave his reservation. The training Indians have received in developing and conserving their land for agricultural and grazing purposes is helping them "to make the most of what they have", the Commissioner said.

* * * * *

CORRECTION



The December issue of "Indians At Work" carried an article entitled "A Word About Cooperation" by Edward Huberman in which the illustration shown at the left appeared.

The statement accrediting the illustration to The Cooperative League was erroneous, since the chart was lent through the courtesy of the Consumers Mail Order Cooperative, Inc., 125 West Thirty-third Street, New York, N. Y.

* * * * *

CCC-ID EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM AT FLANDREAU, SOUTH DAKOTA

Flandreau CCC-ID men's educational activities have included varied techniques - from learning to cut meat, instruction in masonry, carpentry, blacksmithing and tool repair, to training in clerical work and office procedure. The men spend two afternoons a week on this training work.

THE GOOD TIMES ARE GONE, SAID INDIANS OF 1789

By Eva L. Butler

There are a number of references to Indians at work in our old state and town records in Connecticut, from which I have been gathering material. Winthrop wrote in 1668 that he had lately caused a "new bridge to be built by an Indian very expert in such structures - this being the first they have attempted since the Deluge" at Hartford. Joshua Hempsted wrote about going to Niantic to have Indians "bottom" chairs and they were also frequently employed as farmers, whalemens, servants, makers of tar and charcoal and so forth.

Here is one letter which we had mimeographed for use in our Groton schools:

To the Most Honorable Assembly of the State of Connecticut
Conv'd at Hartford May 14, 1789.

Your Good old Steady Friends and Brethern the Mohegan
Tribe of Indians Sendeth Greeting:

We beg Leave to lay our Concerns and Burdens at
Your Excellencies Feet. The Times are Exceedingly Alter'd,
Yea the Times have turn'd everything Upside down, or rather
we have Chang'd the good Times, Chiefly by the help of
the White People. For in Times past our Fore-Fathers lived
in Peace, Love and great harmony, and had everything in
Great plenty. When they Wanted meat they would just run
into the Bush a little ways with their Weapons and would
Soon bring home good venison, Raccoon, Bear and Fowl. If
they Choose to have Fish, they Wo'd only go to the River
or along the Sea Shore and they Wou'd presently fill
their Cancoos With Veriety of Fish, Both Scaled and shell
Fish, and they had abundance of Nuts, Wild Fruit, Ground
Nuts and Ground Beans, and they planted but little Corn
and Beans and they kept no Cattle or Horses for they
needed none - And they had no Contention about their lands,
it lay in Common to them all, and they had but one large
dish and they Cou'd all eat together in Peace and Love -
But alas, it is not so now, all our Fishing, Hunting and
Fowling is entirely gone, And we have now begun to Work
on our Land, keep Cattle, Horses and Hogs And We Build

Houses and fence in Lots, And now we plainly See that one Dish and one Fire will not do any longer for us - Some few there are Stronger than others and they will keep off the poor, weake, the halt and the Blind, And Will take the Dish to themselves. Yea, they will rather Call White People and Molattoes to eat With them out of our Dish, and poor Widows and Orphans Must be pushed one side and there they Must Set a Craying, Starving and die.

And so We are now Come to our Good Brethern of the Assembly With Hearts full of Sorrow and Grief for Immediate help - And therefore our most humble and Earnest Request and Petition is That our Dish of Suckuttush may be equally divided amongst us, that every one may have his own little dish by himself, that he may eat Quietly and do With his Dish as he pleases; and let every one have his own Fire.

Your Excellencies Compliance and Assistance at This Time will make our poor hearts very Glad and thankful.

This is the most humble Request and Petition of Your True Friend & Brethern Mohegan Indians,

By the Hands of our Brothers

Harry X Quaquaquid, his mark
Robert Ashpo.

* * * * *

ALEX POSEY, CREEK POET, HONORED

Alexander Lawrence Posey, Creek Indian and poet, who was drowned in 1908 at the age of thirty-five, was honored recently by a bronze memorial tablet which was dedicated to his memory by the Da-Co-Tah Club of Muskogee, Oklahoma and placed in the Muskogee Public Library. Friends and admirers of the poet, among them Grant Foreman, historian, and Dr. B. D. Weeks of Bacone College, where Posey had been a student, paid tribute to this Oklahoma Indian whose verse still lives. By Miss Margaret La Hay, Cherokee Indian.

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Cover Design: The picture on the cover of this issue of "Indians At Work" shows a group of CCC-ID enrollees constructing an irrigation system on the Lukachukai project, Navajo Reservation, Arizona.

NOTES FROM WEEKLY PROGRESS REPORTS OF CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS - INDIAN DIVISION

Work On Truck Trail At Fort Totten (North Dakota) Graveling of Horse-Shoe Lake Truck Trail is the major project at this Agency now. The trails are all being gone over with the caterpillar and blade to straighten up ruts, clean out culverts and repair other damages done by the spring thaws.

We have been surveying trails leading to, in and around the camp ground situated near Wood Lake. As soon as truck trail maintenance work is completed we will take our heavy equipment consisting of caterpillar and blade to construct the necessary trails. Christian A. Huber.

Improvement Of Grounds At The Phoenix Sanatorium (Arizona) The work continues to progress satisfactorily. The setting out of 115 shrubs and plants required the greater portion of the week. It was necessary to irrigate well all shrubs and plants set by pumping water from the Grand Canal which forms the west boundary of the sanatorium grounds. Joseph T. Jenkins.

Report From Paiute (Utah) Work continued through the week on Project 66A. Excavation of sand stone was completed and the remainder of the time was spent on smoothing up sides of the tank. This work is very slow and takes time. Ten loads of gravel were hauled for cement work on this project. P. E. Church.

Work On Spillway At Chilocco School (Oklahoma) Concrete work was

completed this week on the large spillway. The forms were removed and taken apart. Dirt work will start next week to connect the spillway to the dam. This project will be fully completed next week.

Plowing and harrowing was completed in the thirty-eight acre field. Seeding and sodding will complete this project. Achan Pappan.

Work On Boundary Fence At Rocky Boy's (Montana) Three large crews have been working on the boundary fence this week. Since most of the frost is out of the ground we have gone over most of the new fence and retamped the posts. This project is now completed and all ends of posts and any old broken pieces of wire have been gathered up.

Our crew on Fire Hazard Reduction have completed the work for Project 113, and we have also cleaned the snow off some of the posts that had been covered. William W. Hyde.

Truck Trail Work At Seminole (Florida) The pond which was 90 per cent completed during the previous week was completed this week, making it possible to construct the grade where the pond was filled. 3/4 of a mile of right-of-way was cleared through hummock land where the grade will be later constructed. 192 yards of rock was hauled and placed on the grade for surfacing material. This 192 yards surfaced 675 feet of road bed, completing 100 per cent to date 11,891 feet. B. L. Yates.

Boundary Fence Construction At Carson (Nevada) During the past week we have begun with a new territory - that is, the East-West line of the North boundary; a location where the crew left off last year or rather last summer because the sand was too soft and made traveling unadvisable for delivering the men and also materials for the line. This time of year the sand isn't so bad and the trucks got a little further up with the posts and spools of wire. Now we are over the bad territory and are in a location where the going is good. Raymond Sammaripa.

Report From Pima (Arizona) The Maricopa Indians completed the work of lowering canal banks on the sections where the material had piled up the most. Some little further work should be done, but the men of that district can take care of the balance.

The work of placing rock water spreaders at the heavier structures of the Erosion Control Project is nearing completion and we hope that results will justify the efforts we have made to revegetate that section of the Blackwater District. Clyde H. Packer.

Telephone Work At Tulalip (Washington) The construction of the line is nearing completion, wire is all slung and tied in, the guy rods are all set. The line has not been cut in for service as yet. Old poles and wire are not yet removed and some additional danger trees are to be cut. Gayle Smith.

Work Progressing At Choctaw-Chickasaw Sanatorium (Oklahoma) Our CCC-ID men have made a very good

showing this week on maintenance, stock water reservoir reinforcing of Reservoir No. 4.

The walls of the structure are being reinforced with rock and clay soil where needed. Parts of the wall had been weakened considerably by heavy rains and such work became necessary in order to avoid further damage. Tony Winlock.

Spillway Construction At Pine Ridge (South Dakota) Despite the rains and snow of the past week very good showing was made on the spillway construction. In the lower portion of the spillway an unusual method of construction is being used, wherein a continuous pour is being made in each section of the slab, from the bottom of the lower cut-off wall up over and including the dentated wires. This does away with at least one construction joint and makes a solid mass of concrete from the bottom of the incline to the extreme lower end of the spillway chute. Two cement mixers and two vibrators are being used at present. Raymond Sauser.

Heavy Rains At Hoopa (California) The weather conditions during all but one day of this week have been very unusual. Roads were washed out, telephone lines down, rain fell in a steady downpour day and night. Banks of earth on hillsides that have not slid for 30 years or more started for lower levels. School busses were almost put out of business and schools were closed. Little could be accomplished in the work except to doctor the roads to and from work. Crews were kept at work, although little could be accomplished. Frank Maness. (From Report of March 25, 1938)

Good Basket Ball Team At Winnebago (Nebraska) The CCC-ID Basket Ball Team now has reached its peak. Last week in getting ready for a tournament we played a game and won 101-54. We entered the tournament at Sioux City, Iowa, last week. In the first round we won over Pender, Nebraska, 50-20. In the second round we won over the Morningside Independents from Sioux City 25-15. In winning these two games we have reached the semi-finals to be played Friday. After this tournament we are entering two more - one at Wayne, Nebraska, and the other at Macy, Nebraska. Harry Gilmore.

Various Activities At Uintah And Ouray (Utah) This week has been spent in digging post holes on the boundary. We have dug 490 post holes and went over some that were dug last winter, cleaned them out and dug some of them deeper.

We have located a plot for a baseball diamond and have done some work on it. The boys are anxious to get the diamond ready to play on.

One man has been riding alone on fence maintenance. He has been riding the fence line horseback and fixing up broken places. Loren Pike.

Report From Pierre School (South Dakota) The past week has been one of the most successful that we ever had in the history of CCC-ID at Pierre. We have our ground well-prepared for seeding and sodding and our cedars all set in and watered with the exception of two large ones and some small ones that we are to bring up from the forest. We have about a thousand holes dug for trees

and expect to put in a big bunch of native ash and cottonwoods this coming week. S. J. Wood.

Truck Trail Construction At Colorado River (Arizona) Cutting men advanced 3/4 of a mile. Clean-up crew right behind cutting crew. Stump crew still on first 3/4 of a mile of right-of-way. Have advanced slowly because of the large number of stumps. Miles Parker.

Numerous Activities At Cherokee (North Carolina) Had a small crew working on road side clean-up last week; one crew forest planting (setting out pine); one crew working on a trail into our new nursery and another crew has been doing repair work on our truck trails. Roy Bradley.

Fire Hazard Reduction At Tomah (Wisconsin) It has been necessary that work on all truck trails stop for the time being owing to the condition of the roads which make the transportation of men difficult. Fire hazard reduction work has been taken up in order to use the men to the best advantage. Our machine operator has been busy overhauling the 70 caterpillar tractor. Kenneth G. Abert.

Report From Fort Peck (Montana) The four crews that are clearing underbrush cleared 100 acres this week. Two crews had to move to the edge of the timber because of high waters. One crew is cutting and splitting posts out of the piling that was left over. The crew cuts around 100 a day.

Although the roads are muddy and soft the crews are able to get to work. James MacDonald.

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