
"Land :
17896-1894. :
20894-" :

(COPY)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Office Of Indian Affairs,

Washington, June 4, 1894.

L. T. Erwin,

U. S. Indian Agent,

Yakima Agency, Wash.

Sir: -

In your letter dated May 4th. 1894, you refer to the agreement negotiated by yourself and Agent Lane, with the several bands and tribes constituting the Yakima Nation of Indians in the State of Washington, whereby they cede to the United States the lands reserved under the 10th. article of the treaty of June 9th, 1855, known as the "Wenatshapam Fishery" and ask that authority be granted you to visit these Indians for the purpose of advising them in the matter of allotments, and if authority is granted, that you be given full and explicit instructions in the premises.

In reply I have to state that on May 17, 1894, all the facts in the case were laid before the Department and draft of instructions prepared for your guidance in the matter of assisting the Indians referred to in making applications for allotment under the 4th section of the General Allotment Act as amended, was submitted for the consideration and approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

I am now in receipt of a communication from Acting Secretary William H. Sims, stating that he has approved the draft of instructions submitted with said Office letter of the 17th ultimo, for your guidance in assisting the Indians residing along the Wenatchee River, Washington, in making applications for allotments of land.

I enclose herewith the instructions as approved, and transmit by to-day's mail, under separate cover the blanks and copies of the acts and circulars therein referred to.

When you can leave your Agency without seriously interfering with the duties thereof, you will proceed to the vicinity of the Indians referred to in your said letter, and carry out the instructions given in the letter herewith enclosed.

I must not omit to state that on May 23, 1894, you were asked by wire whether the Indians expected to take allotments on the tract recently ceded by them, and if so to indicate about how many. To this you replied they did not, and your reply was laid before the Department before the approval of the enclosed instructions. It is not therefore expected that you will assist any of the Indians in making applications for allotments within the ceded territory.

When you shall have completed the work assigned you, you will submit vouchers accompanied by proper sub-vouchers for the expenses incurred in prosecuting the same, and submit full report of your action in the matter.

Very respectfully,

Frank C. Armstrong,

Acting Commissioner.

Hinton (H)