

Yakima, Ft. Simcoe, Oct. 30, 1880

Hon R. B. Trowbridge

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Wash. D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to submit the following report of operations at this agency for the month of October.

Although there has not been so great activity as characterized last month, the force at the agency has by no means been idle. We have gathered our fall crops including some 1900 bushels of potatoes and kept a large force of Piutes at work making roads, cutting wood etc besides hauling by the Yakimas of some 30 tons Department freight. The number of days work done by the Piutes and paid from annuity funds has been more than 500. This has enabled the greater number to procure comfortable clothing for the winter and they

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are now in far better condition than ~~0000~~ ever before since they came here.

The school opened with fair prospects of success. Most of the Yakimas are yet engaged in gathering their fall crops, providing wood for the winter and require the services of their older children for the present, so that only the younger have yet been sent to the school. The number now present is about 40, including 15 Piutes, which we expect will be increased to 60 in one or two weeks. This will be as many as can be accommodated at present. The Piutes are greatly interested in the school and anxious to send their children, but believing that the Yakimas are primarily entitled to the school we have not yet felt justified in admitting more than fifteen at present.

The sanitary condition has on the whole been satisfactory. There is at some ~~0000~~ anxiety at present regarding the diptheria which has made

its appearance at Goldendale, The Dalles and other places in the vicinity, but as yet no cases have been reported.

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~~This is a report of the reports of wholesale mortality and bad treatment of the Indians on the reservation.~~

reported on the reservation.

I have taken a census of the Piutes preparatory to the issue of ration tickets for the winter and found the number as follows

| | | |
|---|----|-----|
| At the present count, men | 96 | 96 |
| Women 151, children 157 | | 508 |
| Children then in school | | 12 |
| Persons known and to be employed by Yakimas | | |
| and not present | 22 | |
| Family reported absent fishing | 7 | |
| Left the reservation without liberty | | |
| and now at Warm Springs | 29 | |

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While there is believed to be employed by Yakimas at Sattas, Antanum and other places at least 35

35

making a total of 509

The whereabouts of all except the last 35 is definitely and certainly known. Last year when the census was taken Oct. 19th there was present 439. Some 30 were known to be at work at the Steam Mill and from 30 to 45 believed to be employed at different places by the Yakimas so that the actual count is about the same now as then.

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This disposes of the reports of wholesale mortality and bad treatment of these Indians since they have been on the Yakima reservation.

I am gratified to add that they are cheerful and contented, anxious to be at work and earning something, and ready at all times to perform any service that may be required of them.

(no signature)

Very respectfully. ..U.S. Ind. Agent

Fort Simcoe, Nov. 5, 1880

Rev. James H. W₁lbur, U.S. Indian Agent, Wash.D.C.

My dear Brother:

Yesterday the people came together for the purpose of recommending two men for members of the police force in place of ^{Shusta}Shuster, resigned and of Hoptowit, deceased. Sattas Aleck was unanimously recommended in place of Shusta and Benson in place of Hoptowit.

Considerable dissatisfaction was expressed with some of the present members of the force and it was resolved all the policemen concurring to request permission to hold an election for members of the police force on Monday, Dec. 20th. This was the desire of all, there being no dissenting voice. Some complain of John L₁mley that he is too firm a believer in toman-ious to

p. 622

be an efficient captain of police, and I think he prefers to retire, though if elected he will probably serve. It was also ~~declared~~ declared to be the wish of the council that the laws of the United States be extended over the reservation.

The council also requested that each policeman be supplied with one or more pairs of pocket handcuffs to be used, if required on those resisting arrest, and it was also resolved that the proceedings of the council as above noted be forwarded to you with the request that a reply be made as soon as practicable. I had heard something of the intention of the previous council and intended to oppose the election of policemen, but finding the desire unanimous concluded to make no opposition, but forward to you the proceedings as desired.

very respectfully yours

J.H. Fairchild

Clerk, Yakima agency.

Census.

George Waters 624
Palouse-Columbias

Nov. 12th, 1880

Rev. James H. Wilbur, U.S. Indian Agent, Washington D.C.

My Dear brother:

Mr. Henshaw, superintendent of the U.S. Indian census for the district including this Territory arrived last night to make arrangements for the census of this Reservation. Mr. Henshaw tells me that there is a small appropriation available for the employment of assistance where necessary. As every camp and lodge belonging to this treaty must be visited you are aware that it is physically impossible for the force of agency employees to perform the labor. By calling at the Indian division of the Census Bureau you will learn all about it and the sum that can be spared to pay for assistance.

It has occurred to me that p 625 if George Waters is competent and I think by a little training he can be made so, it would be a good thing for him.

He could get at the desired information better than any white man and I think I can go around at first with him and post him so that he can do the work. As the Palouse and Columbia have to be visited, I have mentioned as the very lowest limit of additional funds which are required \$250 and of course you will get all you can. As the work has to be completed by April and a vast ~~amount~~ amount of clerical work must be done after the enumeration is completed, it is my judgment, adviseable that it be commenced as soon as possible.

If you concur with me perhaps it would be well to telegraph who to ~~employ~~ employ and the compensation to promise.

Mr. Henshaw leaves today to visit the agencies on the Sound and will not return till next April or May so that we must do the work ourselves, with the assistance suggested from the census bureau (p 626) All is well. School is now up to 60. All unite in love to Mrs. Wilbur and yourself. ~~Yours~~ Very Truly Yours, J.H. Fairchild.

Yakima (Port Simcoe) March 30th

Hon Thos. M. Michal

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington D.C.

Sir: I am informed by the Indians that Inspector Pollack on his visit to this agency last winter promised to return in the spring and distribute our herd of cattle among them.

Against any such action I respectfully protest. Its effect on the could (copy) on y be bad while it would deprive the government of a resource that has proved of immense value in the past. I respectfully ask the Department to take into consideration the fact that within the past two years our herd has furnished nearly 600 head of beef cattle worth at least \$12,000 which has supplied subsistence to the Piute prisoners located here without expense to the Dept. besides some hundreds of head issued p 764 to meritorious Indians and the natural increase has more than kept the number of cattle at its original proportion.

To make the distribution to the Indians as suggested by Inspector Pollock would compel the government to furnish a yearly fund for the purchase of beef for the Piutes and school, and be a real injury to the Indians.

All experience shows that what is gained without effort is rarely prized at its value, and the Indian is no exception to the average human nature. While, if the proposed distribution should take place, there might be a few of the Indians who would appreciate and care for the cattle they received, by far the greater number would look upon it as a windfall to be enjoyed as quickly as possible and notwithstanding all the efforts of the agent would drive their stock off the reservation, sell them and soon dissipate the proceeds. It has been my practice to issue cattle to Indians who I saw were industrious and economical and use the prospect of such an issue as an incentive to good conduct and industry.

I have carefully guarded the herd till it has reached such proportions, that the natural increase renders it possible to supply beef to the Plutes and School and to issue each year several hundred head to deserving ~~Indian~~ young Indians without diminishing the herd. To deprive the agent of such a means for the encouragement of good conduct would seriously cripple his resources and greatly impair his power to assist and encourage merit and industry. I respectfully ask that such instructions be immediately given as shall prevent any such distribution and set the minds of the Indians at rest on the subject.

Very Respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

James H. Wilbur

U.S. Indian Agent.

Umatilla--Crime

Yakima Indian(copy)

Fort Simcoe May 6 (1881)

Dr. William McKay, Dear Sir:

I am informed that an Indian belonging to this agency was wrongly killed by three white men when getting his horse. I have written a letter to the agent at Umatilla and write this to you. Please look after this matter and try and know the truth and if the white men are guilty as reported to me, see they are arrested and dealt with according to justice.

Any information you may obtain in reference to the matter please communicate to me.

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Yakima Indian, Fort Simcoe W.T. May 6, 1881

to the U.S. Indian Agent,

Umatilla Agency, Oregon. Dear Sir:

Dear Sir:

Two Indians came to my office this morning as soon as it was light and informed me that an Indian belonging on this agency looking for a horse on the Umatilla side of the river found his lost horse, took it and started back for home, was followed by three white men, overtaken, stabbed in different places in his body and has since died of said wounds. One of the men informing me is the father of the man said to be dead. ~~Please~~ Please for the cause of justice and the future good of the service to inquire into the said case and if I am rightly informed, see that said white men who are thus guilty are arrested and brought to trial.

(Wilbur)

Pollack

Yakima Indian Fort Sincee W.2. May 14th, 1881

Hon H. Price, commissioner of Indian Affairs

Washington D.C. Sir:

I have the honor herewith to enclose the report of the chief of police for the quarter ending March 31st, 1881

Your honor will see by said report that a great change has taken place with the Indians of this agency during the past few months and naturally, and wisely, you will want to know why this change? What is the cause and how can it be remedied. I answer, Near the close of Decem or Col. Wm. J. Pollack U.S. Indian inspector came to the agency in my absence and remained until the 13th of January, 1881
p. 814

holding councils with the Indians and in said councils telling the Indians Wilbur had been cheating them and lying to them and the great father at Washington -that the great father would be surprized when he came to know Agent Wilbur had been doing in making the Indians work for goods he had sent them. This was not the mind of the President that if they worked doing anything outside of their own places they were to have their pay in money-that when the great agent had let them have things and they had agreed to work for them, they needn not work, that everything that was ~~charged~~ charged to them on the books of the office they need not pay. That Agent Wilbur had sent papers to the great father telling him he had so many cattle belonging to the p 815 department, that he (Pollock) believed there was a great many more than Wilbur reported and that it was his mind (Pollock's) to gather up the cattle thirty miles below the station and count them. He (Pollock) organized parties of men from 75 to 100 and sent them out in all directions over the reservation to gather in the cattle to a certain point where he would come and count the cattle and he believed there was a great many more cattle than Wilbur

reported and he would give each man so hunting and driving
or "rounding up the cattle" as he called it a cow and calf or more.
After the parties had been out two or more days Pollock gave a counter
order and told them to go out and stop the drive, the drive
then stopped and the cattle left out in open ... in the snow about
p 816

18 inches deep with a heavy crust and out of the hundreds started
from their places of shelter only fifteen were driven where they could
be fed--the result of the drive was the loss of hundreds of the
Department cattle with a claim for services rendered by the Indians
in the drive and the loss of their horses, made poor in the hunt of
cattle which died during the winter, as the Indians claim, in
consequence of the drive of about , at least, one thousand dollars.
I need not multiply the doings and sayings of said inspector Child
while here--the above is but a faint representation of what he
did to destroy the confidence of the Indians in their agent.

Pollock told the Indians all the cattle belonged to them and that
in the month of May he would come back and issue all p 817
the cattle to them.

Since his talk with them last winter there has been more
stealing and general lawlessness in one month than we had before
in ten years. An unpardonable injury has been done the agency.

Your obedient etc.

James S. Walbur

U.S. Indian Agent.

850
Police. Celilo Plutes
Simpson

Salina Indian, Port Simcoe, W.T. May 21st

The bearer, Thomas Simpson goes out to the fishery on the Columbia River about six miles above Dalles City to watch over and prevent any difficulty between the Indians and whites. Any help that can be rendered by the whites to detect men that are selling whisky to the Indians or are imposing upon the Indian women will be kindly rec'd by the bearer and highly appreciated at this office. He also is instructed to keep a watchful eye and see that the Plutes do not cross the river unless they have a permit from here

James H. Wilbur

Yakima Indian

Umatilla

Fort Simcoe, W.T. May 25th

Mr. Walker Esq.

Dear Sir: I send Homer Hoffer up the river to obtain as near as possible the number of Indians at the mouth of Rock Creek and near your place and if there are any above you that do not belong to the Umatilla agency that you know and can estimate something near their number, please help the bearer to any and all the information you have means of giving and greatly oblige. We are getting a census of the Indians belonging to this treaty.

I am sir

etc. (Wilbur)

Yakima, June 18, (1881)

Hon H. Price

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Wash.D.C.

Sir:

I respectfully ask permission to increase the police force at this agency by the addition of 1 lieutenant and six privates making the force consist of one captain, one lieutenant and fifteen privates.

This increase is necessary to enable them to deal effectively with parties engaged in selling liquor to the Indians off the Reservation. During the summer months a large proportion of these Indians spend more or less of their time at the fisheries along the Columbia river and gathering roots and berries in the mountains.

These privileges are secured to them by treaty and as the fisheries are widely separated the Indians at such season are scattered up and down the Columbia River for more than 877 one hundred and fifty miles. It is at these fisheries they procure liquor which they sometimes, though rarely, bring to the reservation. It is impossible for our small force of police-- one officer and nine men, to exercise a vigilant supervision over Indians so widely separated.

I also ask for the restoration of rations to the police at this Agency. It is asking too much of a man to be always ready to leave his business at a moment's notice to be absent from his family sometimes for days, constantly exposed to danger and paying his own expenses, for five dollars per month. It not frequently happens that our police are called to distant points to make arrests or settle disturbances where their unavoidable expenses amount 00 to half their monthly salary. As a rule I think their travelling expenses average as much as they receive for their services. I ask therefore the restoration of their rations. (Fair child for Wilbur)

*Land
Lease*

Revenues

902

Yakima, Fort Simcoe, July 10, 1881

Hides. Grazing
etc.

Hon H. Price, Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Sir:

I have the honor to report miscellaneous receipts Class 2 at this agency for the 2d qr , 1881 as follows:

| | |
|--|-----------|
| From sale of 187 hides | \$796.23 |
| From Grazing cattle on the reservation | 1,695 |
| Toll in grist mill | 1 |
| Sale of subsistence to employes being subsistence on the reservation or derived from miscellaneous funds | 174.76 |
| total | \$2666.99 |

Provided the last item is admitted.

(Fairchild for Wilbur)

Fort Simcoe, Aug 15th, 1881

Hon H. Price, commissioner of Indian affairs, Wash. D.C.

Sir: Respectfully acknowledging the receipt of your communication of July 23d (no marks in upper corner except L) directing me to forward as soon as possible a list of allotments of land made to Indians on the Reservation together with the subdivision of said land, amount allotted to each with sex and age of each allottee. I have the honor to state: As stated by me in my application for a plat of the survey of this reservation, very many of p 945 section and township ~~sections~~ stakes have been removed and on the most of these that remain the marks are so nearly obliterated that it will be nearly impossible to give a legal subdivision without a plat of the survey.

The names, sex and age of those to whom allotments have been made together with the amount of land to each are herewith transmitted. I am also directed to mark on the enclosed map such townships as will be most likely to be soonest allotted. In obedience to these instructions I have marked with red ink 6 townships which also include the most of allotments already made. I have also marked three townships in black ink, 2 situated in the ⁴h₁tanum and Yakama p 945 946 River. No allotments have yet been made in these last three townships but the Indians are anxious that the lands on which they are located be allotted them and as soon as the presence of other duties will admit it it is my intention to make allotments. Referring to the list of allotments transmitted herewith I would say that when the plats of the survey are received some slight change of lines may be necessary to conform to the legal subdivisions. This was understood by the Indians when the allotments were made.

Very etc.

(Wilbur

School Building

Saw logs

Yakima, Fort Simcoe, Aug 16, 1881

Hon H. Price, Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I respectfully ask authority to purchase 50,000 feet of saw logs delivered at our steam mill at prices ranging from ~~\$0.75 to \$1.00~~ \$3.75 to \$5.00 per m according to the quality etc. The new school and boarding house will require about that amount in addition to the department logs on hand.

Purchases to be made from Indians only and the price in no case to exceed \$5 per thousand feet. The Department

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teams having been required to transfer supplies from Malheur Agency
no means
leaves me to procure the necessary logs, except by purchase from
Indians and I respectfully ask that I be authorized to make the
purchase

Etc.

(Wilbur)

L

Tumwater

1635-1881

Fort Sincos, August 16, 1880, Hon H. Price, commissioner of Indian Affairs
Sir:

Referring to Department communication marked as per upper left corner of this 9635, 1881 and directing me to "definitely state the locality of the fisheries referred to (Tumwater) giving section, town and range and also description of the lands in the same manner to which Taylor claims to hold patent from the government," I have the honor to transmit the enclosed statement of the several subdivisions included in his claim.

The general character of the land p 862 is broken and rocky. Some tremendous convulsions of nature seem to have broken up and set on edge the various strata of rocks and between the ledges thus formed, are many little valleys some of them of extraordinary fertility producing an abundant growth of grass and when cultivated, all descriptions of fruit and vegetables in profusion. These arable spots however form but a small proportion of the whole tract. In the vicinity of the River, the soil where not bare rock is generally sandy, though producing a fair growth of grass. Of course the principal value of the tract is the fishery. To the Indians this would be, and even now is of estimable value - it affords to all a large proportion, and to some p p. 963 of the older ones their entire subsistence.

Referring to my letter of May 23 in which I recommend the purchase of this fishery for the exclusive use of the Indians, I would again earnestly urge its importance. I have not been able to procure the statistics of the amount of fish taken this season by white fishermen at that fishery but it is enormous. Only by the constant presence of five police has it been possible to preserve order and another season it will undoubtedly be still worse. Another, and by no means slight

reason , why it is desirable to secure this fishery for the exclusive use of the Indians may be found in the character of the most of the white fishermen. These are for

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the most part a wild , rough, reckless class of men, whose influence on the Indians is wholly demoralizing. It is my firm opinion that the purchase of this fishery from Mr. Taylor will be worth to the Indians of this reservation many times over what Mr. Taylor professes himself willing to take.

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant

James H. Walbur

U.S. Indian agent.