

Indians-Reservation-"apato  
Council-McWhorter

Indians of the Yakima reservation are to sit in council today near Toppenish to consider the modified contracts regarding the land under the "apato project to be presented them by the federal government representatives.

The council is the result of the activity of L.V. McWhorter an adopted member of the Yakima tribe who thinks that the entire matter needs to be more thoroughly discussed by the Indians in order to be better understood by all concerned before definite action is taken/

Regarding this council Mr. McWhorter has made public a letter received by him from Louis Mann of the reservation who has previously expressed his views through the columns of the "erald:

The letter is obviously in reply to a letter written to Mann by McWhorter and Mr. Mann says:

"There are Indians scattered all over the reservation and there is lots of trouble to get them together for a general council, as all our Indians do not want to sell 60 acres under no circumstances. If the Indians are squeezed to hell they will never give no consent to their allotment to be sold as Mr.

Jones Bill is. This is no fooling among my nation of the Yakima Indians. I am in earnest. I have been talking to my people and everyone concerned do not wish none of that business after all Jones is working all he can and wants our reservation to be thrown open to the white settlement and in time he will do it and our Indians who have not received no allotment don't get their allotment finished before the reservation is thrown open.

"I will notify Yallup and others to have some kind of council about this water rights matter. Yakima Indians own half of the Yakima river by the treaty of 1855 as we the Indians are the

witnesses of that treaty stand good today. It is the sun and the waters of rivers that empty in the ocean. We do not claim what is not ours. "e are no foreigners. "e are natives of our country. We are not going to make no trouble about nothing but what we own by our treaty rights . "e do not own big land but small patches, 80 acres apiece only.

"Mr. Indians is not supported by the government no more; only our children in school. Every Redskin works for himself for his own living and why is this senator sick about our small tracts of land and why are they sick about us. They will never get no consent from no Indians I know of-"The Yaki a Herald, August 18, 1909.



Indians from all parts of the Yak ma Indian reservation are meeting in the long house at Wapato this afternoon to listen to the reports of Chief Yo-kash-ow-hi, Chief Se-Sash-elit-palmer and Chief Frank ~~Se-Sash-elit-palmer~~ See-Lat-see about their recent trip to Washington D.C. on Indian affairs.

Over 300 Indians will be at the meeting according to Louie C. Mann, Indian, who was interpreter for the chiefs to President Calvin Coolidge, Hubert Work, secretary of interior; Sen. Wesley Jones of Washington and E.B. Merritt, assistant secretary of the commission on Indian affairs.

The chiefs were given five minutes to talk to President Coolidge. The interview was gained through the efforts of Sen. Jones and Chief Yo-kash-ow-hi talked to the president through Mann.

"President Coolidge nice man," stated Mann. "I think he is an Irish Irishman, red headed." The four Indians had their pictures taken with the president during the time of the interview. This picture was run all over the east in papers.

The trip of which Mann has a complete diary began Feb. 7 and they returned to Toppenish Feb. 19.

Main objects of the trip were:

The reestablishment of the Indian agency now at Toppenish at White Swan; the granting of the right for Indians to hunt anywhere in the state; the naming of Indians as law officers on the reservation; the abolishing of a patenting fee for the Indian lands and the refusal to grant permission for the logging off of Indian lands.

"The Indians contend the moving of the Indian agency from White Swan to Toppenish was done without their consent and is merely a commercial benefit for Toppenish which does not



aid the Indians in the least.

Chief See-lat-see explained his reasons for not wanting the Indians to own a title to their lands in his interview with the secretary of the interior. Mann explained See-lat-see's stand.

"Hold reservation tight," he say, " and hold arms in front like circle. No want patenting fee for our children he say to Secretary Work. Indian own land; then land shark loan money. Money buy moonshine and make Indian feel big. When he get sober 80 acres gone," said Mann.

The extension of the allotment period to last as long as there are any Indians is the request of the Indians. The hunting problem has been aggravated through the arrests of three Indians for hunting in the state without a license.

This right was granted under the Treaty of 1855 and when Charles Burke was through Yakima recently he was asked about the validity of the treaty. He explained it was no more, Mann says. The Indians cannot understand this. The treaties with other nations, Japan, England and other foreign countries made even before 1855 are still in effect.

"The Indian treaties are valid," Mann stated.

The interview with Merritt was taken down in shorthand and a typewritten report which the Indians contend has been altered and parts left out will be read before the meeting in the long house.

Major Evan Estep, Indian agent at Toppenish is not liked by the Indians, they stated in the talk with Merritt. Charles Davenport, deputy sheriff stationed at White Swan is also on the taboo list.

"Major Estep pointed his finger and say he know how things should



go " stated Chief Yo-kash-ow-hi in the talk to Merritt.  
Davenport was dismissed with the concise statement: "Don't like him. "

Mann did not do any of the talking with government officials  
He acted as the interpreter only/"I get sore and sick. My  
people want to go so I go right through" he stated in  
explanation of his trip.

The Indians were given every opportunity to state their  
case. Secretary Work answered their talk with him by stating :I am  
here and the government will take care of the reservation."

He gave each of the Indians a photograph of himself.

President Coolidge did not talk save for six words."I have  
Indian blood in me," he stated according to Mann.

Senator Jones is a busy man according to ~~Donoso~~ Mann" He  
have committee meetings in the morning, in the night and all  
the time."

Mann closed his interview with the newspaper representative  
in an abrupt manner.

"Have to hurry and get down to White Swan" he stated. "Me  
wild Indian" he smiled , "no got auto." The Yakima Republic,  
March 2, 1925.

Indians of the Yakima reservation are to meet in convention at White Swan on the third and fourth of March and take action in regard to their affairs which is mighty important and interesting.

They are to organize an association with president, secretary and other officers which association will make the decisions on matters affecting the Indians of the Yakima reservation and determine the action of the tribes and of the majority of the individuals.

Notices of the meeting is said to be the result of an intimation from the Indian bureau that the Yakimas are able to get along without a chief and that it will be better for them to ~~accept~~ adopt the ways of the white man in the transaction of their business. -Yakima Herald, March 1, 1922.