

Refer in reply to the following:

Land

Department of the Interior,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHINGTON, July 31, 1903.

To Indian Agents
and other Officers in charge of Agencies:

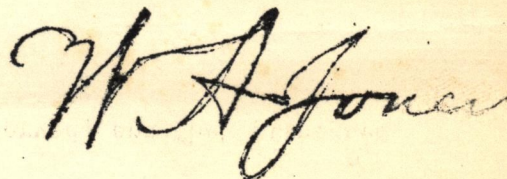
The Acting Secretary of the Interior, in a letter addressed to this office, dated July 27, 1903, concerning questionable transactions in connection with certain inherited Indian land deeds submitted for Departmental action, states as follows:

"It has also been observed in other cases that parties had apparently
"obtained information of the appraised value of tracts to be sold before bidding,
"thereby giving them an advantage over other bidders who were without such knowledge.

"The Department desires you to communicate with all officials having charge
"of the sale of inherited land and to admonish them that the rules respecting the
"giving of information in such cases must be strictly observed, and that disregard
"thereof will be visited by instant dismissal."

The foregoing is intended as a compliance with the Acting Secretary's directions and you will hereby take notice and be governed in accordance therewith.

Very respectfully,



Commissioner.



Concerning information as to bidders on lands,