

Division of Information Northwest Regional Office PORTLAND, OREGON

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

For Immediate Release

FIRST INDIAN IN NORTHWEST ENTERS MULTNOMAH COLLEGE UNDER "INDIAN GI BILL"

Johnnie Pahe, a Navaho Indian now residing in Portland, this week became the first Indian in the Pacific Northwest to avail himself of the vocational school opportunities afforded by Public Law 959 of the 84th Congress, sometimes referred to as the Indian GI Bill.

Don C. Foster, Bureau of Indian Affairs Portland area director, said Pahe has started a two year course of training at Multnomah College in Portland under the vocational school program of the law. The program was initiated by BIA in the current fiscal year with \$1,500,000 appropriated by the last session of Congress. Included in addition to vocational school training are opportunities for apprenticeship training and on-the-job training.

Foster said BIA has been trying to get such a program for more than 20 years.

To be eligible for participation in the program a vocational school must be accredited by a recognized national or regional agency or approved by an appropriate state agency and must be able to show "reasonable certainty" of employment for its graduates in their fields of training.

Foster said Multnomah college and eight other vocational schools in the jurisdiction of the Portland area (Washington, Oregon and Idaho) have qualified.

To be eligible to receive the training the Indian must live on restricted land or lands under the supervision of the Department of the Interior, and must be between the ages of 18 and 35. The educational background requirement depends on the course of study to be pursued. The BIA Portland area has been allotted funds for 40 students to start their training during the current fiscal year. The law provides for payment of tuition and all related costs for the student and his family.

Foster said Pahe was selected as the first student by a screening committee at the Portland area office. Applications are received at the BIA's relocation offices.

Pahe, 20, is a native of New Mexico who came to the Northwest in 1951 as a student in the Chemawa Indian school program for Navaho children without previous educational opportunities. After three and a half years at Chemawa he entered the U. S. Army and completed his education to the eighth grade level while in service.

His Chemawa teachers characterize him as "always ambitious" and his service in the Army Corps of Engineers got him interested in engineering work. He will study at Multnomah to be an engineering aide.

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Note to Editors: Other Vocational schools declared eligible under P.O. 959 are:

Portland: Behnke-Walker Business College

College of Beauty Moler Barber College

Northwest Technical Institute

Seattle: Edison Technical School

Tacoma: Moler Barber College

Tacoma Vocational-Technical School

Pocatello: Idaho State College



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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

For Immediate Release

COLVILLE INDIAN RESERVATION BRIDGE CONTRACT AWARDED

Bureau of Indian Affairs has awarded a \$79,947.90 contract for construction of three Sanpoil River bridges on the Colville Indian reservation in Ferry county, Washington, the Department of the Interior announced today.

The bridges will cross the Sanpoil river on the Silver Creek road, Bridge Creek road, and 21 Mile road, about 25 miles north of Wilbur, Wash., replacing the present old army-type structures.

The bridges will improve travel on the reservation and will be important for fire protection, timber access, farm-to-market purposes, administration and use of the general public.

The proposed work involves the construction of three reinforced concrete bridges totaling 348.5 lineal feet.

The work will be performed by Federal Construction company, Spokane, Washington, whose bid was the lowest of 13 received. Bids ranged to a high of \$139,366.



Division of Information Northwest Regional Office PORTLAND, OREGON

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

February 29, 1960

For Immediate Release

KLAMATH INDIAN TIMBER TO BE READVERTISED FOR BIDS

The Department of the Interior today ordered the immediate readvertisement of bids for the sale of three Klamath Indian timber units valued at \$21,235,030.

The bids for the sale of the units, which will be governed by specifications and minimum requirements for sustained-yield management under provisions of the Klamath Termination Act, will be opened next December 1, Portland area office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, announced.

At the same time, the Department of the Interior announced there will be no readvertisement for three other units on the Klamath reservation for which bids will be opened April 1, and for four other units for which the bid opening has been set for August 1.

The units for which there will be a readvertisement for bids to be opened December 1 are: The Modoc Point with 56,389 acres and 374,569 board feet of Ponderosa pine and other saw timber with a realization value of \$3,784,618, the North Marsh with 45,895 acres, 393,751 board feet of saw timber and 174,890 cords of lodge pole pine pulp with a realization value of \$11,047,376, and Sykan with 61,611 acres, 282,797 board feet of saw timber and 204,217 cords of lodge pole pine with a realization value of \$6,403,036.

A requirement in the readvertisement is that management plans of prospective buyers be received by the regional forester not later than next September 1. Forest Service consideration of those plans will be concluded and the results mailed to the potential bidders not later than November 15.



Division of Information Northwest Regional Office PORTLAND, OREGON

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

March 3, 1960

For Immediate Release

KLAMATH TIMBER SALES SCHEDULED

The Portland area office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs this year will offer for sale 3,409,593,000 board feet of saw timber and 968,585 cords of pulp wood, all on the Klamath Indian reservation, the Department of the Interior announced today.

The saw timber, the pulp cordage and the land on which they are growing have a realization value of \$68,716,691. They will be offered for sale in 10 different units and are being put up for bid in keeping with the terms of the Klamath Termination Act as amended.

The sales, through sealed bids, are dated for April 1, August 1, and December 1. The December sale, involving the North Marsh, the Sykan, and Modoc Point units which first were offered in a January sale, will be readvertised.

The April 1 and August 1 sales will not be readvertised due to the time element involved. All sales will be governed by specifications and minimum requirements for sustained yield management under provisions of the Klamath Termination Act as amended. A requirement in the readvertisement for the December 1 sale is that the management plans of prospective buyers be received by the regional forester, U. S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, Portland, Ore., not later than next September 1. The results of the Forest Service's consideration of those plans will be returned to prospective bidders not later than November 15.

Land on which the timber is located, amounting to 525,743 acres, will be sold along with the timber.

Units and quantities in the April 1 sale are: Chiloquin, 55,316 acres; 234,731,000 board feet of saw timber and 149,317 cords of pulp wood with a total realization value of \$4,970,230; Yainax, 50,522 acres, 243,783,000 feet of saw timber and no pulp cordage with a realization value of \$3,666,694; and Black Hills, 52,368 acres, 307,015,000 feet of saw timber and 37,953 cords of pulp wood with a realization value of \$5,576,395.

The August 1 sale includes the Yamsay Mountsin unit of 34,982 acres, 548,531,000 feet of saw timber and 86,915 cords of pulp wood with a total realization value of \$13,345,495; Skellock unit of 64,986 acres, 412,200,000 feet of saw timber and 231,585 cords of pulp wood with a realization value of \$10,393,057; Saddle Mountain with 35,695 acres, 259,910,000 feet of saw timber and 4009 cords of pulp wood with a realization value of \$3,051,956; and South Calimus with 67,979 acres, 352,306,000 feet of saw timber and 79,699 cords of pulp wood with a realization value of \$6,477,834.

The units and quantities in the December 1 sale, the only sale that will be readvertised, are: North Marsh, 45,895 acres, 393,751,000 feet of saw timber and 174,890 cords of pulp wood with a realization value of \$11,047,376; Sykan, 61,611 acres, 282,797,000 feet of saw timber and 204,217 cords of pulp wood with a realization value of \$6,403,036; and Modoc Point, 56,389 acres, 374,569,000 feet of saw timber and no pulp cordage with a realization value of \$3,784,618.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs January 20 sold the Antelope Desert unit of 91,540 acres, 68,907,000 feet of saw timber and 464,399 cords of pulp wood for \$1,642,182.

Bids for the future sales will be received at the Klamath sales office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.



Division of Information Northwest Regional Office PORTLAND, OREGON

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

March 10, 1960

For Immediate Release

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT PROPOSES LEGISLATION TO RELEASE LOWER ELWHA AND SHOALWATER BAY INDIAN GROUPS FROM TRUSTEESHIP

The Department of the Interior announced today it has submitted to Congress proposals for legislation that would end Federal trusteeship and supervision over two small Indian reservations in western Washington.

The reservations affected are Lower Elwha embracing 372 acres in Clallam county near Port Angeles and Shoalwater bay which comprises 334.75 acres in Pacific county southwest of Hoquiam. There are about 80 Indians in the Lower Elwha group and 11 residing on the Shoalwater Bay reservation.

Under the Department's proposals, which have been endorsed by a majority of the Indians in both groups as well as by state and county officials, the lands on the reservations would be conveyed to the Indians in fee simple or unrestricted status.

In the case of Lower Elwha, the governing council of the Band would provide for a division of the lands among the enrolled members. In the case of Shoalwater bay, where there is no tribal organization, the legislation divides among the 11 residents all reservation lands except for a cemetery which is to be turned over to a public or nonprofit body.

On both reservations the Indians are well assimilated with the surrounding non-Indian communities and have been managing their own affairs for a generation or more with only a minimum of assistance from the Indian Bureau.



Division of Information Northwest Regional Office PORTLAND, OREGON

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

April 6, 1960

For Immediate Release

INDIAN LANDS OFFERED FOR SALE IN NORTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON

The Bureau of Indian Affairs will open bids April 28 for the sale of approximately 4200 acres of Indian lands in north central Washington, the Department of the Interior announced today.

The land will be offered in 37 different units and sealed bids offered for the purchase of them will be opened at Nespelem, Wash., at 1:30 p.m. April 28. The units are located in Chelan, Okanogan, Ferry and Stevens counties. They are allotments on the Spokane and Colville reservations.

There are irrigated and potentially irrigated units offered for sale, as well as grazing lands, dry land farms, combination grazing and timber lands and lands with sawtimber.

The tracts offered range in size from 5.75 acres to one of 680 acres, although most of the units are 160 acres. They are located near Wellpinit, Northport, Oroville, Bridgeport, Monse, Okanogan, Omak, Elmer City, Nespelem and Inchelium.

Detailed specifications may be obtained from the Superintendent of the Colville Indian Agency at Nespelem.



Division of Information Northwest Regional Office PORTLAND, OREGON

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

April 12, 1960

For Immediate Release

SEATON ANNOUNCES PROPOSED FEDERAL REGULATIONS TO PROTECT COMMERCIAL FISHING RIGHTS OF ALASKA NATIVES

A proposed new set of Federal regulations under which the commercial fishing rights of the Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts of Alaska may be exercised, if they choose to utilize such rights, was announced today by Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton.

The proposal is being forwarded to the <u>Federal Register</u> for publication in the near future. Comments are invited from interested parties for a period of 30 days after the date of publication.

The Department's sole purpose in proposing the regulations, Secretary Seaton emphasized, is to permit the Alaska natives to use these fishing rights which were preserved for the natives by Section 4 of the Alaska Statehood Act, if they choose to do so.

Secretary Seaton pointed out that when the Alaska Statehood Act was being considered by the Congress, the Department of Justice informed the Congress that the inclusion of a reference to "fishing rights" could well result in "raising an implication that there is a 'right or title' to fishing rights in the natives of Alaska" despite prior court holdings to the contrary.

'The Supreme Court," the Secretary stated, "has already enjoined the State of Alaska from interfering with native fish traps until it is determined whether these traps involve native fishing rights protected by the Statehood Act."

"The best legal advice I have been able to obtain from the Department of Justice and the Department of the Interior," the Secretary said, "has been to the effect that these fish traps are 'fishing rights' protected by the Statehood Act. Under the circumstances, I have no alternative but to permit these natives to operate these traps if they choose to do so.

"Congress created these rights and we cannot, by arbitrary or capricious action, abolish them. If the legal conclusions of lawyers in the Department of Justice and the Department of the Interior are correct—as reflected in the position taken in the Supreme Court—then only Congress could abolish the right created by the Congress for these natives to operate fish traps if they so chose. I am further advised that such action by the Congress might also raise questions of just compensation.

"As recently as 1952, 334 fish traps were operated in Alaska waters under regulations issued by Secretary Oscar L. Chapman. The Eisenhower Administration has complied with the wishes of the Alaskan electorate and eliminated all fish traps but these native traps, which I am advised I cannot eliminate," the Secretary stated.

"Furthermore," Secretary Seaton said, "I would not eliminate the rights of any native by administrative action without giving him his day in court. These native people have taken their cause to the highest court in our land and I am not going to act so as to deny them the very rights they seek to protect."

The major difference between the existing State regulations and the proposed new Federal rules relates to the use of commercial fish traps by the native people. No provision for the use of such traps is made by the State regulations. The Federal proposal limits the native people to the "traps used in the 1959 season."

The regulations also describe the location of 21 trap sites of the Angoon Community Association, the organized village of Kake and the Metlakatla Indian Community, which have been used at various times in the past by the three native communities.

The proposed regulation provides that during the 1960 fishing season and until otherwise authorized the villages may operate only 11 traps, the same number as were authorized in 1959 in accordance with the Department's position that the intent of the Alaska Statehood legislation was to retain in "status quo" the rights of the natives.

Prior to the 1959 fishing season the native communities brought legal action to enjoin the State of Alaska from interfering with the exercise of the fishing rights which were preserved for them by the Statehood Act. A temporary injunction was granted by the United States Supreme Court and will remain in effect until the Court issues a final decision in the case.

Under protection of the temporary injunction the native villages operated 11 fish traps during the 1959 season--four at Metlakatla, four at Kake, and three at Angon.

The sole purpose of the proposed regulations is to spell out certain fishing rights which were secured to the Alaska natives under Federal law. In this connection, Secretary Seaton explained, any fishing activities by the natives in violation of either the Federal and the State regulations would be subject to penalties imposed by State law; however, encroachment of the natives rights may result in the utilization of penalties provided by Federal law.



Division of Information Northwest Regional Office PORTLAND, OREGON

BURRAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

August 24, 1960

For Release to PMs August 25, 1960

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT FAVORS BILL TO ALLOCATE CONSTRUCTION COSTS ON WAPATO-SATUS INDIAN IRRIGATION UNIT

The Department of the Interior announced today that it favors the enactment of legislation to fix the final construction cost of irrigation works already constructed on the Wapato-Satus unit of the Wapato Indian Irrigation project in Washington and to allocate that cost on a per-acre basis to the lands that can be served by these works.

In commenting on H.R. 12771, the Department pointed out that the bill is an outgrowth of the desire on the part of the Wapato-Satus landowners to know with certainty the total construction charges against their lands.

"Although construction of the unit is not complete," the Department said in its report, "We believe that it is sufficiently advanced to make feasible a designation of the acreage which can be served by the irrigation works already constructed, and an allocation of the cost of the works to those lands. Any lands thereafter brought within the system would pay the entire cost of the new construction but would pay no part of the cost of the construction already completed. The construction cost allocated to the 'new' land might therefore be either more or less than the cost allocated to the land now served."

The Wapato-Satus unit consists of approximately 138,000 acres including 130,000 acres now served by the project works. Of the total, 85,228 acres are owned by Indians and 52,772 by non-Indians.

Under existing law construction costs of irrigation works assessed against Indian lands are deferred until the lands go out of Indian ownership. Consequently, the difference between the construction costs allocated to the "old" and the "new" lands are important only in the case of the non-Indian acreage.

"The new land to be brought within the system," the Department's report stated, "is estimated to be about 8000 acres, of which only 1500 acres are owned by non-Indians. All of the land is interspersed with presently irrigated land and the cost of extending the irrigation system to the new land is expected to be considerably less than the per-acre cost of the works already constructed. If this additional cost were combined with the cost of the constructed works, the change in the assessment against the non-Indian land would be negligible. In view of this fact and in view of the fact that the non-Indians involved want their total obligation to be fixed on the basis of the present construction, we believe that the enactment of the bill is justified."



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Division of Information Northwest Regional Office PORTLAND, OREGON

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

September 23, 1960

For Immediate Release

YAKIMA INDIAN RESERVATION FARM LANDS OFFERED FOR LEASE

The Bureau of Indian Affairs today announced that approximately 300 farm tracts on the Yakima Indian reservation will be offered for lease starting October 3. The leases will become effective March 1, 1961.

Most of the tracts, which are Indian trust lands, are in the irrigated lower Yakima valley, and they range in size from 40 to 80 acres. Intermingled are sub-irrigated and non-irrigated grazing lands. In addition, there are some dryland grazing and farming acreages, mainly in Klickitat county in and along the Columbia River gorge. These range from 80 to 160 acres each.

The irrigated tracts in the Yakima valley are adapted to diversified farming and suitable for row crops, truck gardening, orchards, other specialty crops, hay and pasture land.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, emphasized that negotiations must be made by the prospective lessees with the Indian landowners. There are terms and conditions imposed by law and Federal regulations covering the leasing of Indian trust lands, and the lease proposals resulting from the negotiations of prospective lessees and Indian landowners must be presented to the Yakima Indian Agency leasing department at Toppenish, Wash., for review and consideration. Upon approval of the proposals, the leases will be drawn according to prescribed form.

Indian owners are urged to contact the agency for information on laws and regulations covering leases and for basic information on their lands prior to negotiations with prospective tenants. A list of the tracts, including names and addresses of owners, is available at the agency.

As in the past, certain tracts which require the superintendent to act in behalf of the Indian owner will be specifically advertised for sealed bids.



Division of Information Northwest Regional Office
PORTLAND, OREGON

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

November 1, 1960

For Immediate Release

NORTHWEST INDIAN TIMBER CONTRIBUTES MOST TO NATION'S TOTAL

Timber sales from lands belonging to Indian tribes or individual Indians in the Pacific Northwest in fiscal year 1960 returned \$8,263,827 or 67 per cent of the total revenue from timber on Indian lands in the nation, the Department of the Interior reported today.

The national total from such sales last year was \$12,388,000, a record high income to the Indian owners. This was 23 per cent more than the sales in the preceding year, the Department of the Interior report shows. The volume of timber cut under contract also was at a record level of 597 million board feet, an increase of 63 million board feet compared with the 1959 total.

Neither the national total nor the total from the Pacific Northwest, listed above, included the timber from the Klamath reservation, now in the process of termination. Sales from that reservation in fiscal year 1960 amounted to 13,862,000 board feet with a revenue of \$392,020, Don Foster, director of the Portland area of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, reported.

Northwest reservations, exclusive of the Klamath, produced 370,098,000 board feet, which is 62 per cent of the national total.

Sawmills owned by four Indian tribal groups--the Menominee of Wisconsin, the Red Lake Chippewa of Minnesota, the Navajo of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah, and the White River Apache of Arizona--converted to lumber about 50 million board feet of the total cut.

Over the country as a whole, there are nearly six million acres of commercially valuable Indian timberland, exclusive of the Klamath reservation. Eighty-two per cent is owned by tribal groups and the balance by individual Indians.

The record of commercial logging operations on Indian lands extend back over a hundred years. The concept of sustained yield and multiple-use became controlling factors in the management of these forests at the turn of the century.

The forests are factors in the economy of many Indian tribes and individual Indians. They provide cash income to the Indians from sales of standing timber, and employment in the timber harvest. The timber sales, under sustained-yield management, also are a stabilizing influence on the dependent wood using industries and the communities that serve them.

PROPOSED PRESS RELEASE - PORTLAND AREA

The Bureau of Indian Affairs today announced the completion of appraisal contract work at Yakima Indian Reservation. The contract for the preparation of 275 individual appraisal reports, covering approximately 20,000 acres of Indian trust property, was awarded to the Seattle firm of Fenton, Conger & Ballaine, Inc., Real Estate Consultants and Appraisers. The appraisal contract firm, well known in the Northwest, enjoys a national reputation in professional real estate evaluation field and is staffed by expert consultants in all fields of real estate market analysis. Mr. Harry R. Fenton, who heads the firm, has been actively engaged in the rental, management and appraisal of real estate since 1932.

The contract between the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Fenton firm was entered into as an emergency program to facilitate the Indian land leasing program at the Yakima Reservation. Individual appraisal reports on each of the 275 properties were prepared in accordance with the real estate appraisal standards of the American Institute of Real Estate Appraisers, considering the individual value characteristics of the specific property. The Fair Market Value and the Fair Annual Rental estimates set forth in each report is documented with supporting evidence of value gathered by the appraisers through an analysis of open market real estate transactions involving comparable non-Indian owned properties in the area. The value estimates set forth in individual appraisal reports will be used by the Indians as a guide in negotiating for leases on their property and by administrative officials of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in approving the terms and conditions of the negotiated leases.

A major significant factor in the value investigation made by the contractor is an analysis of the economic influences effecting land value and farm rentals in the Yakima Valley. This report was prepared by Mr. Gene M. Conger, Market Analyst - M.A.I. appraiser, a member of the contracting firm. The report summarizes the basic valuation data used in the preparation of the individual reports and depicts the economic background common to all of the property valuation estimates. A copy of this economic report is available for review by interested parties at the Bureau of Indian Affairs office at Toppenish (designate such other locations, library, etc., as is felt necessary or desirable).

The Bureau of Indian Affairs expressed satisfaction with the high professional appraisal standards maintained by the firm in its contract work and the expeditious manner in which the contract was completed.



Northwest Regional Information Office, Portland, Oregon

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

P.O. Box 3537, 1001 N.E. Lloyd Boulevard, BElmont 4-3361

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

April 7, 1961

For Release April 8, 1961

HOLTZ TO REPLACE FOSTER AS INDIAN BUREAU AREA DIRECTOR AT PORTLAND

The Department of the Interior today announced the selection of Robert D. Holtz, Indian Bureau area director at Minneapolis since 1955, to head the bureau's area office at Portland, Ore., effective May 1. He replaces Don C. Foster who retires April 14 after 28 years of Federal service. Foster has been with the Indian Bureau for 26 years and was with the Dept. of Agriculture for two years. He has been area director at Portland for seven years.

In his new post Holtz will supervise all Indian bureau operations in Washington, Oregon and Idaho. His successor at Minneapolis has not yet been named.

Holtz first came with the bureau in 1931 as a forest ranger at the Klamath Indian agency in Oregon and later served in the same capacity at Zuni agency in New Mexico, and as forest supervisor at the Papago agency, Sells, Ariz.

In 1939 he rose to the position of superintendent at the former Truxton Canyon agency, Valentine, Ariz., and subsequently was superintendent of the Mescalero agency, Mescalero, N. Mex., and the Fort Apache agency, Whiteriver, Ariz. In 1951 he became area forester in the area office at Phoenix, Ariz., and after three years in this position was transferred to the Gallup, N. Mex., area office as assistant director for resources. In 1955 he transferred to the same position at Minneapolis and later that year was designated as area director.

A native of Iowa, Holtz received his Bachelor of Science degree in forestry from Iowa State college at Ames in 1930, and took post graduate work at Oregon State college, Corvallis, Ore.



Northwest Regional Information Office, Portland, Oregon

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

P.O. Box 3537, 1001 N.E. Lloyd Boulevard, BElmont 4-3361

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

For Release to PM's June 2, 1961

MELVIN ROBERTSON APPOINTED SUPERINTENDENT YAKIMA INDIAN RESERVATION

Melvin Robertson, superintendent of the Menominee Indian Reservation

in Wisconsin, has been appointed superintendent of the Yakima (Wash.)

reservation, Robert D. Holtz, director of the Portland area office, Bureau

of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, announced today.

Mr. Robertson replaces Floyd H. Phillips, who retired May 12 as head of the Yakima reservation.

Mr. Robertson has served nearly 33 years with the Indian Bureau. He began his career in 1928 in the branch of forestry of the Colville Indian agency in Washington. From 1930 to 1935 he was stationed at the Klamath (Ore.) reservation, then moved back to Colville as senior forest ranger.

He was assistant superintendent of the Hoopa Valley reservation in California from 1947 to 1950, when he transferred to the Northern Idaho Indian agency as superintendent. In 1954 he was appointed superintendent of the Western Washington Indian agency at Everett. One year later he became superintendent at Menominee.