

REPORT OF MEETING OF FORESTRY AND EXTENSION
DIVISIONS REGARDING RANGE MANAGEMENT, FARMING,
ETC., HELD AT EL NAVAJO HOTEL, GALLUP, NEW
MEXICO,

January 18 and 19, 1933.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mr. A. C. Monahan, Assistant to the Commissioner. Those present were as follows:

A. C. Monahan, Assistant to the Commissioner, Washington, D. C.
John T. Montgomery, Supervisor of Livestock, Salt Lake City, Utah.
H. C. Neuffer, Supervising Engineer, Irrigation Department, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
Em. H. Zeh, Forester at Large, Washington, D. C.
Mark W. Radcliffe, Field Agent, Land Department, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
E. A. Johnson, Associate Silvercultivist, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
A. H. Womack, Irrigation Department, Polacco, Arizona.
Mary Stewart, Assistant Director Indian Education, Dept. of the Interior, Washington.
C. E. Faris, Superintendent Santa Fe Indian School and Northern Pueblos, Santa Fe,
New Mexico.
S. F. Stacher, Supt., Eastern Navajo Agency, Crown Point, New Mexico.
John G. Hunter, Supt., Southern Navajo Agency, Fort Defiance, Arizona.
E. R. McCray, Supt., Northern Navajo Agency, Shiprock, New Mexico.
J. E. Balmer, Supt., Leupp Agency, Leupp, Arizona.
C. L. Walker, Supt., Western Navajo Agency, Tuba City, Arizona.
Edgar K. Miller, Supt., Hopi Agency, Keams Canyon, Arizona.
G. A. Trotter, Supt., Zuni Agency, Zuni, New Mexico.
E. J. Stenson, Chief Clerk, Southern Navajo Agency, Fort Defiance, Arizona.
Guy Hobgood, Extension Agent, Southern Navajo Agency, Fort Defiance, Arizona.
Tom Allen, Southern Navajo Agency, Fort Defiance, Arizona.
J. L. Rush, Stockman, Southern Navajo Agency, Fort Defiance, Arizona.
Edgar G. Stocks, Farm Agent, Southern Navajo Agency, Fort Defiance, Arizona.
W. F. Marshall, Farmer, Cornfields District, Southern Navajo Agency.
Calvin R. Taylor, Farmer, Klagetoh District, Southern Navajo Agency.
Willis P. McNatt, Stockman, Tohatchi District, Southern Navajo Agency.
D. E. Harbison, Forest Supervisor, Southern Navajo Agency, Fort Defiance, Arizona.
W. P. Maguire, Junior Range Examiner, Southern Navajo Agency, Fort Defiance, Arizona.
D. W. Rogers, Extension Agent, Northern Navajo Agency, Shiprock, New Mexico.
G. E. Hedden, Senior Forest Ranger, Northern Navajo Agency, Shiprock, New Mexico.
Joseph Howell, Jr., Forest Supervisor, Hopi Agency, Keams Canyon, Arizona.
B. M. Simpson, Stockman, Hopi Agency, Hotavilla, Arizona.
Chas. Bigham, Stockman, Hopi Agency, Keams Canyon, Arizona.
H. Harvey, Farm Agent, Leupp Agency, Leupp, Arizona.
M. A. South, Stockman, Leupp Agency, Leupp, Arizona.
W. M. Thomason, Stockman, Leupp Agency, Leupp, Arizona.
R. D. Holtz, Forest Ranger, Zuni Agency, Zuni, New Mexico.
Montoy Lopez, Stockman, Eastern Navajo Agency, Crown Point, New Mexico.
J. C. Tyler, Stockman, District No. 2, Crown Point, New Mexico.
Alberta Glenn, Stenographer, Southern Navajo Agency, Fort Defiance, Arizona.

WR 1510

Mr. Monahan:

Mr. Rhoads and Mr. Scattergood both asked me to extend their best regards to all. Mr. Rhoads has been laid up most of the winter and has been in bed for the past two weeks with lumbago or sciatica. He has had quite a hard time all winter. Still, he is keeping in active touch with the work on the telephone and signing most of his own mail at his house.

Before we take up this program which I have been given for the discussion of the evening, there are two other matters which Mr. Montgomery has in the form of memoranda from Mr. Cooley. We will ask Mr. Montgomery to read them and we will dispose of those things before we go into the other matters.

Mr. Montgomery: (Reads)

MEMORANDUM for Mr. Monahan.

January 12, 1933.

Extension 52968-32

During the past three years Congress has appropriated funds in considerable amounts to supplement those contributed by the Indians in order that an effective campaign might be carried on for the eradication of scabies from sheep belonging to the Navajo Indians. That this campaign has been effective is evidenced by reports received from representatives of the Bureau of Animal Industry during the past year that the Indian sheep are free from disease and they have found no scabies infection among them.

In view of the fact that Congress probably will not make further gratuity appropriations for carrying on such work it will be necessary to adopt some plan for financing scabies eradication work whereby the Indians will pay dipping fees sufficient to meet the expenses in connection therewith or that the superintendents of the various Navajo jurisdictions make such arrangements for the use of the funds available under their various budget authorities as will enable them to meet the expenses necessary to carry on the work.

It is desirable that a uniform charge be made for dipping the sheep of all the Navajo Indians or at least a charge as nearly uniform as the varying conditions on the different reservations will permit. The records here indicate that some efforts have been made along this line in the past but nothing definite has been accomplished and our information at this time is to the effect that there is some dissatisfaction as a result.

The difference in the dipping fees may be at least partly due to the fact that expenditures of reimbursable funds were made to provide for the construction of dipping vats and the necessity of securing funds to repay the amount advanced.

Due to conditions prevailing at the present time it might be advisable to defer payments on the reimbursable indebtedness and only collect such fees as may be necessary to meet the expenses of dipping until such time as conditions improve.

If the individual sheep owners do not have cash available for the payment of dipping fees, sheep may be accepted in payment of the amount due and the

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WR 1511

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proceeds from the sale of the sheep to the schools for subsistence or to other persons should be deposited to the credit of the funds held as "Special Deposits, Sheep Dipping" for use in meeting expenses in connection with sheep dipping operations.

It is desirable that this matter be given careful consideration by all the superintendents and that some definite understanding be reached as to what uniform fee might be charged the Indians which would be reasonable and still meet the expenses incident to the carrying on of dipping operations.

(Signed) A. C. Cooley

Mr. Monahan:

Is there any discussion on this before we proceed? What should be done on that Mr. Montgomery? Have you any suggestions to make?

Mr. Montgomery:

I think there is one little slip in this memorandum when it says the matter of eradication of scabies among the Navajo sheep has been entirely successful. I think there is still a little disease in the flocks and it is not time to stop dipping. If you get anything as tenacious and difficult to handle as this thing, I think we all agree now is no time to quit. It is absolutely necessary to have one dipping - at least one a year. It would pay for itself in the eradication of ticks and lice and if we quit just when we have gained control of this disease, we will likely have another outbreak which will cost as much to handle as the first. The Navajo people have been handicapped by regulations in the shipment of their lambs. They won't have to meet the very disagreeable quarantine regulations next year which they have had to meet heretofore. My belief is that the campaign should go on and wherever some disease is found those sheep should be dipped until there are no infected sheep and all sheep should be dipped at least once a year. I think it is cheap insurance and well worthwhile from all standpoints.

Mr. Monahan:

Mr. Cooley raises this question - whether it is desirable that a uniform charge be made for dipping the sheep and then the question of how that can be collected.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo Agency)

I think that a uniform price should be made for dipping sheep; otherwise the Navajos cannot understand why some should pay more than others. And so far as collection is concerned it appears the only way that can be done is by collecting sheep, generally speaking.

Mr. Monahan:

Would you suggest what the fee should be?

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo Agency)

I would rather hear from some of the other gentlemen in that regard.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp)

I think that fee should vary some. The Leupp reservation has not had to construct a lot of vats, whereas they have on other jurisdictions. Last year we cut the price way down for several reasons. The main reason was that about three years ago we told the Navajo Indians that when their sheep were without scab they would not have to dip any more. Then we had to talk them into another dipping and last year again and they seemed to have a hard time understanding why we continued. I do not think that we should charge as much when we do not have such a great reimbursable debt to meet as they have in other places, but I am willing to line up with anything they agree on.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

I think that by all means we should charge a uniform rate for dipping because living next door to some jurisdiction where they charge less than we have to charge our Indians cannot understand why there should be a difference and there should not be because it is a common problem. It is the problem of all the Navajo country rather than that of each jurisdiction.

Mr. Monahan:

Would you suggest a price?

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo Agency)

That would have to be determined by first having the Bureau of Animal Industry report the estimated cost of dipping. They would give you the price better than we can determine.

Mr. Trotter: (Zuni Agency)

While I am not a Navajo superintendent, I would like to say we charge $1\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ a head and find that covers the dipping and medicine.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp Agency)

We used to charge 2¢ for two dippings, and then dropped it down to $1\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. Last year we charged only $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ for one dipping.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

Mr. Chairman, may I say again that that is a thing rather difficult to determine for this reason: Conditions vary in different sections. Some have better dipping vats and are better prepared and can dip much cheaper than can others.

Mr. Miller: (Hopi Agency)

Mr. Chairman, I am in favor of a fee similar on all reservations. Of course, our vats were built out of reimbursable funds and we find that the charge of $1\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$ does not pay for the dipping on our reservation. We hire all the labor out of money that we get but that does not cover the cost of anything more than the mixture. Where Mr. Balmer charges only $\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$ a number of our Indians will take their sheep and drive them a long way to his vats and dip and when the matter of setting a fee comes up before the local Navajo council we say we are going to continue the price we always charge. If you drop the price one year you cannot get it back the next year and I think for that reason the charge should be the same. If any of our Indians go over on Mr. Hunter's jurisdiction or to Leupp they should be charged the same as any Indian who has sheep dipped on our reservation. Some 8,000 or 10,000 dipped off our reservation this year. Those Indians went down to Leupp and came back and made quite a fuss because here was Mr. Balmer charging $\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$ and we were charging $1\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$. Of course, they extol the virtues of Mr. Balmer and jump on me. For that reason I think the charges ought to be the same all over and $1\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$ is very low. It wont more than pay for the medicine.

Mr. McCray: (Northern Navajo)

I think that the statement Mr. Walker made that the Bureau of Animal Industry people estimate the cost is probably right in line. However, I believe that if we could set a price of $1\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$, even if we had to help our sheep dipping funds with a little Agency money, it would probably be a good proposition to consider because if we go much above that it will work a hardship on the Indians and I believe if a uniform charge of say $1\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$, (or if the other gentlemen decide on more, say 2¢) is set let all of us hold to it. But I believe $1\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$ with other monays that we might use would enable us to get by with one dipping.

Mr. Montgomery:

I am glad you are in favor of dipping the sheep. That is the principal interest. From the standpoint of administration or business I would think that a uniform charge all over the area would be the thing because it would eliminate these disagreements and long drives which occur. I see no objection to a uniform charge and I do see those things in its favor. I really think it is the sensible way and if you all agree here I will take it on myself to write the Office and ask that an order be sent out, signed by the Commissioner, to the effect that the sheep will be dipped this year, naming a set charge, and you can post it and it will save all arguments

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo)

In this connection I would like to say that I do not think there is any wide variation in range conditions, and I do think we should have a minimum charge of not less than $1\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$ now. If you dip a thousand head at this time you cannot dip them for less than 2¢ . You lose money if you do. We charge $1\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$ always.

we find we can break even if we are careful. In charging $1\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ for both goats and sheep we can get by. But we do not charge for the dipping of bucks for the reason that the owners of the herds would be very difficult to collect from for that dipping. This last year we collected around 600 head of sheep and goats. We allowed \$1.00 for all ewes and goats. We had to hire harders until we could butcher. If it had not been for our good neighbors we would not have been able to dispose of these goats. We think it should be mandatory on the part of our neighbors at non-reservation schools to buy their meat supplies from the Navajo country. If they can do this it will make a market for us to dispose of our stock derived from dipping. We do not feel that this is going to solve the problem of getting rid of our surplus stock. It is just a beginning. We have a real problem in this connection.

As I said awhile ago I think there should be a minimum charge of $1\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per head and if we have to dip during the winter whatever price is set should cover the cost of the medicine.

Mr. Monahan:

Is there anyone else who wants to say anything?

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

I would like to hear from Mr. Faris.

Mr. Faris: (Santa Fe School and Northern Pueblos)

My experience is really limited to the Jicarillo Apache Agency. They had a small number of sheep compared with the Navajos. We had 25,000 sheep. We insisted each year that they dip at the beginning of the year. They do yet dip each year though there is no infection. The Indians just take that as a means of getting their sheep together for inspection. I would certainly say that would be, in my opinion, a good thing for the Navajos to do - to dip each year. It is the only way to get an inspection worthwhile. Range inspection is at best only a guess.

Now as to the price. If you set it at $1\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ and the average herd runs 400 that would be \$6.00. That would be 6 old ewes if the price is \$1.00 for each old ewe. The charge for dipping and the price allowed for sheep should be uniform. It seems there should be some decided agreement as to the charge per sheep and the price you are going to pay for the sheep taken in. And dip each year.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

These other superintendents have stated that they cannot dip for less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. We have been dipping for $1\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ and 2¢ and not making a charge for the second dipping. That is because it is hard to get them in and because we had money with which to dip.

Mr. Montgomery:

Do I understand it costs $1\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to dip these sheep once?

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp)

It costs more than that.

Mr. Faris: (Santa Fe School and Northern Pueblos)

Four hundred head at $\frac{3}{4}$ does not take much stock from one owner. Even if you charge 2^A or $\frac{3}{4}$ he is only going to have to give up a few sheep.

Mr. Montgomery:

Do I understand most of you think you can get through the year if you only dip once for $\frac{1}{2}$?

(They agree)

There is one other advantage in dipping that you can make use of and that is this man who wants to cross your range. You can say to him "Have you dipped your sheep?" and he has to show a certificate that he has or stay off. I think it is the best lever you can put on those migrating bands that may possibly come in and help overstock your range.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp)

Take Mr. Hunter's reservation. There are Indians right on the lines, about twenty miles from their vats, and they are only three or four miles from our vats. They have come to our vats to dip but that was after taking the matter up with the stockmen. We would much rather they would dip at their own vats.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

That could work both ways and may even up.

Mr. Montgomery:

It seems that you can iron that out between yourselves. The thing I am interested in is whether it is worthwhile to keep on dipping and setting a price and staying with it and making this insurance against future quarantines.

Mr. Faris: (Santa Fe School)

The thought occurs to me to make the second dipping free. The idea I always had north was that if an individual was found to have infection instead of dipping free he was charged even more because that resulted in later dipping; consequently the cost was in excess of the first dipping. The fact that he had infection in the flock after dipping indicated carelessness. In some instances he has been careless by leaving some of his flock at home.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

You cannot always charge it to that.

Mr. Hunter: (Shorn Navajo)

It seems to me that it would be advisable to make this charge high enough to cover the cost. If $1\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ went to do it we should charge 2¢. I know that our applicable funds do not amount to much. If we get through with our regular activities I am going to be surprised. So I say, charge as much as the dipping costs unless we are given an appropriation to cover the difference.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

I agree with Mr. Hunter fully. We are 150 miles from a railroad and it costs more to get medicine up there. We can tell ourselves that we can do it for $1\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ but we cannot and why should we rob one fund to help another.

Mr. Miller: (Hopi Agency)

It would be a bad effect on the Indians to raise that price at the present time. I think an order should be sent out by the Indian Office and the order should be posted so that they may see it and the price should be the same. As Mr. Balmer says, some of the Indians live within three or four miles of his vats and they can dip there but the charge should be uniform.

Mr. Monahan:

It seems to be the consensus of opinion that the charge should be uniform. Now what do you recommend as a charge, taking into consideration both Mr. Hunter's statement and Mr. Miller's statement as to the effect of raising the cost this year?

(Discussion as to cost, including cost of materials, etc.)

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

I still think that should be left up to the Bureau of Animal Industry.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp)

It cost us a little over 2¢ this year for the dipping.

Mr. Monahan:

Is it the consensus of opinion that that should be left to the Bureau of Animal Industry to determine?

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo)

I would suggest that we have a uniform method of counting the animals that are to be paid for. If we do not count the lambs in making up totals we cannot make expenses.

The later we wait and the longer the wool, the more medicine it takes. Right now it will cost twice as much to dip a sheep as in July or August. Another thing in this connection, I think we should have a uniform system of handling the stock. We have been dipping the bucks free and I would like to know if it is the concensus of opinion that we should carry out the same plan.

Mr. Simpson of the Hopi Agency:

We dip our bucks free if they come in a buck herd but if they come with a band of sheep we charge the same as for the sheep.

Mr. Montgomery:

I do think this; that if these flocks are clean of scabies that one dipping is a sort of insurance against an outbreak and gets rid of a lot of lice and ticks and I think all sheep men are satisfied that one dipping is very well paid for by the comfort of the sheep and means much to both sheep and lambs. Of course, the right time to dip is right after they are shorn. The sooner you can dip the lambs the better.

Mr. McGray: (Northern Navajo)

Would it be in line for us to discuss and settle at this time the season and time for dipping and if all jurisdictions are to dip at practically the same time? It would eliminate the chance of these fellows slipping from one place to another or getting out of dipping entirely if we could all dip at the same time.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

In accepting sheep for dipping charges we should agree upon the price we are going to pay for the class of sheep we accept.

Mr. Montgomery:

I think you will run into a little difficulty there in the way you classify the sheep. You will state that you will take the price in fat ewes. One fellow will say the ewe is fat enough and another will say that it is not fat enough. You will have to agree on that. And one tobacco dipping will be sufficient. If you find a scase in the stock of one man, that man will just have to be penalized.

I will read the other memorandum.

MEMORANDUM for Mr. Menahan

January 12, 1933

Extension 55901-32

The question of providing stallions for the Indians of the various Navajo reservations is a matter which has been brought to the attention of this Office from time to time. Although it does not appear from the records of this office that a definite promise was made to the Indians that stallions

would be furnished upon completion of the dourine eradication campaign there was a general understanding that stallions would be provided to enable them to improve the grade of horses they owned if they would cooperate in carrying on the campaign for the eradication of dourine, and that such animals would be paid for with funds accruing to the tribe from oil operations.

Large appropriations of such funds were made to provide for the purchase and leasing of lands for the benefit of the Navajo Indians. The production of oil dropped off and the income received therefrom was correspondingly reduced. As a result the income received was not sufficient to meet the obligations contracted for in the purchase and leasing of lands and it was therefore necessary to forego the use of such funds for other purposes including the purchase of stallions. If at any time superintendents have funds available under the provisions of their budget authorities they may arrange for making such purchases as available applicable funds will permit.

On the other hand the statement has been made that the Indians have been purchasing horses and mules from the outside stating that they feel that the Government does not intend to carry out its promises, and that they have paid exorbitant prices for the animals which they have so purchased. The status of the matter should be explained to the Indians as set forth above. Satisfactory horses and mules can be purchased at prices that are very reasonable and every assistance should be given the Indians by the superintendents with a view of procuring satisfactory animals free from disease at reasonable prices.

(Signed) A. C. Cooley

I think there is nothing to that except that if that promise were ever made; if the promise were that they would take it upon themselves to see that the Indians would be provided with proper horses to take the place of these inferior horses (and the Indian people will insist that something was said about it); it happened before my time in the Indian Service and I do not know about it. But I do know that we need horses on the reservation. We have too many useless kind and not enough of the kind we need. Most of them would be entirely useless so far as farming or riding is concerned. The Indians feel that there is something more than just owning a horse. If a man owns 100 horses he is quite a man in the community and there is that feeling all through this part of the Indian world; that the number of horses a man owns is an indication of his financial status and his social status. We all know that the other things are true: that we have a lot we do not need and we need a lot we do not have.

Mr. Faris: (Santa Fe School)

It just seems to me that those who have attended the Navajo Council for the past years will agree that the Indians have been allowed to go from the Council feeling that they were going to get those stallions. I think the Indians went away from the Council one year after another with the definite belief that they would get them. I believe the superintendents have left there with the same opinion.

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo)

I am sure that the Indians have. They have felt that we were going to replace these useless horses with good stallions and jacks. We have bought some in the last few years but that is just a beginning.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

I also think that the Indians have understood it that way.

Mr. Faris: (Santa Fe School)

That is the big advantage of your being here, Mr. Monahan, to hear about that. They are the ones who have the axe to grind.

Mr. Montgomery:

Governor Hagerman and I tried to get \$5000 from the Office to buy those stallions but we could not get that much.

Mr. Faris:

I think this is an exceptional opportunity to lay those matters before Mr. Monahan at this time.

Mr. Montgomery:

Do you have enough horses - work horses - on your reservation.

Mr. McCray: (Northern Navajo) No.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp) No.

Mr. Miller: (Hopi) We have some pretty good stock they have been buying off the reservation.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo) No.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo) No.

Mr. Trotter: (Zuni) No.

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo)

I would like to say last year we lost most of the horses and this spring some of the people had nothing to work when they wanted to put in their crops and we made a survey in various sections to see how many teams we had in the different localities and we had them work together helping each other. We did buy a carload of mules and horses. We had to buy harness to use with those teams. And we feel very happy in the way the Indians handled those teams. In each case they broke the animals to work and we appreciate that work on their part and the community spirit they showed. This year they are asking for more teams and we have asked the Office for money to buy some more and we hope to put them out in localities where needed most because if they do not get them they will not be able to plant as they would like to because of lack of horses. We do not know whether we will get the money

er not. We have some money for road work and we give people buying horses work on the roads. We pay them half cash and half to apply on their accounts.

Mr. Monahan:

Perhaps some one could word a resolution to the Office expressing the opinion on this matter.

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo) Having been delegated to word the resolution:

I think that every effort should be made to provide funds reimbursable for the purchase of more teams to be put out among the Indians this year. Unless we do have this additional horse power a number of them wont be able to plant their fields.

Mr. Monahan:

Is that the concensus of opinion?

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp)

I thought we were trying to get some stallions and jacks from funds other than reimbursable to keep the promise made to our Indians and not sell them animals under reimbursable funds.

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo)

I did not understand that we were to give those stallions and jacks to them gratis. What money we have had to buy such animals has been reimbursable because some of the Indians want individual ownership. They are not very strong for community property and we think that everything should be reimbursable.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

Speaking for our jurisdiction we do not need teams just for putting in crops. If that is all the teams to be gotten we would not be justified in asking for reimbursable money for that. If it is to do other heavy work then we would need some.

Mr. Monahan:

What about this alleged promise for stallions and jacks.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

We have made no such promise to our Indians other than to say that every effort would be made to obtain jacks and stallions for them but they got the idea from the Tribal Council.

Mr. Trotter: (Zuni)

I am a little like Mr. Stacher. I have found that everything we purchase for the Indians and they find it is their own ownership they take more pride in it and take better care of it. If we buy any stallions I should like to see some of them at Zuni.

Mr. McCray: (Northern Navajo)

I think the suggestion undoubtedly correct that anything we get in the way of breeding stock should be made Indian ownership because it is very true that a thing that is given to them they do not appreciate and care for. We did, however, last year buy a few jacks and three very good horses from relief money. We hold them as Government property. We do not allow the Indians to think they own them and we are collecting from the Indians something in the way of feed for those animals for the service they get from them. But if we were to buy more this year it would be under reimbursable and the communities under the chapter organizations would have to buy them under reimbursable agreements.

Mr. Montgomery:

Are we agreed that the purchase of stallions and jacks should be made under reimbursable agreement?

Mr. Miller: (Hopi Agency)

I think we should keep the promise to furnish the horses.

Mr. Montgomery:

Do you have any idea as to the number or kind or was there something definite?

Mr. Miller: (Hopi Agency)

They got the idea that if they went to work and castrated all of these animals that they would be furnished with stallions.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

I believe there was a promise made on this order: "If we can have your cooperation in eliminating these worthless stallions, every effort possible will be made to secure money from Congress to replace them with stallions."

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

I think that is about right.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

I think that promise was made while Governor Hagerman was Chairman.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

I do think it will be almost impossible to supply the needs of the Navajo country as to stallions and jacks if we are going to do so on the reimbursable plan.

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo)

In those cases where they are not sold under reimbursable plan it would be advisable to turn them over to the chapter organizations and let them sign up for them.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

I believe, because of this general understanding, that some help should be given if possible in purchasing jacks and stallions from funds other than reimbursable. Otherwise it is going to take forever to supply the needs.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

If Congress is shutting down on us a little already and we have not been able to get reimbursable money to supply vital needs, I cannot see why it would be advisable to ask for money for stallions. If we were sure of enough reimbursable money it would be all right.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupa)

Even if we should be able to get sufficient reimbursables, there is a limit to what you can get for an Indian. He may need a stallion or jack as badly as anyone else but if you have already sold him up to his limit you cannot sell him one.

Mr. Miller: (Hopi Agency)

I would like to say that the Government has met its promise in that respect to a certain extent on our reservation. They have given us money and we have purchased stallions and issued them to the Indians and they are carried as Government property.

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo)

I would like to say in this connection that about fifteen years ago we bought nine fine stallions and put them out in various localities expecting the Indians to look after them but what is everybody's business is nobody's business. They did not take care of them and I do not think you will ever get the results by issuing them out over the reservation that you will by having individual ownership. I think reimbursable is better. I do not think the Indians understand they are going to be given stallions and jacks.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

I think where we have reimbursable funds and where the Navajos are able to make

these individual purchases that should be done, but unfortunately a great number of our Navajo people will be unable to do that. In some cases perhaps it would work out to have chapter officers sign agreements and accept responsibility for the care of these animals. But in allotting reimbursable funds to the different jurisdictions, I have learned much to my disappointment that there is a limit set for each jurisdiction. Whether you have 15,000 Indians or whether you have 20,000 you can get only so much and it hits large jurisdictions pretty hard that reimbursable funds are not allotted on the basis of population and needs. In other words, some jurisdictions will get five times the reimbursable assistance in proportion to population and needs as we can get at Southern Navajo because we have a large population.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

As I remember it there is \$15,000 for an Agency. But Indians who need stallions are as a rule able to take care of them and are not loaded down with other reimbursables. But we would not have enough money to buy seeds for poor Indians and yet supply the wealthy Indians with stallions.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

It occurs to me that the way this reimbursable operates is in favor of the man who can take care of himself. The man who actually needs help is the one who cannot get it.

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo)

We try to help the man who needs sheep rather than the one who has a large number.

Mr. Zeh:

In case reimbursable funds are very limited and we have heard that the Indians will not take care of the stallions as they should, would it not be possible to fulfill that promise, if the promise were made, by obtaining a few good animals with tribal funds and keeping them under control of the Government and have them taken care of by competent men who will serve only such animals as are fit for raising colts. In trying to build up a better breed of animals only good mares should be served by the stallions. By having them under the control of the Agency we might be able to raise better stock and at the same time keep the cost down.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

I think it would be a fine thing to set aside a reasonable amount of money from tribal funds for this purpose provided that they make the proper distribution among the jurisdictions in accordance with the population and needs.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

We cannot very well use tribal funds because the Indians have gone on record.

as wanting that money used for the purchase of lands and improvement of lands.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

That is unless they modify that.

Mr. Montgomery:

The only places we have where horse breeding is successful is where the horses are assigned to certain persons to take care of them. We are getting a good many remounts from the Army but they are given us only under the condition that they be kept in barns and not let run wild.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

Several of our chapter organizations last year took the responsibility of taking care of either a jack or stallion. I am going to ask Mr. Taylor to say how that was handled.

Mr. Taylor, Farmer, Southern Navajo:

Each man furnished so much feed and one man took care of the stock.

Mr. Monahan:

Let us pass on to the program that was sent out, which is really the purpose of the meeting. Let me say first that I understand there are some of you who cannot stay over until tomorrow so let us go as far as we can tonight and then have another meeting tomorrow.

Mr. Faris was in Washington when this matter was discussed with a considerable group and is familiar with the matter and I am going to ask him to read this and then we can ask Mr. Neuffer to give us a discussion as to what money is available for water development and then we will go on with the general discussion.

Mr. Faris: (Santa Fe School)

As the Chairman said, I was in Washington when this matter was discussed and this is a good opportunity to tell Mr. Monahan about these matters because he does have sympathy with the part the field superintendents have to play. I will now read the program: It is dated December 30, 1932, and is in the form of a memorandum to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Program for development and utilization of Navajo
Reservation Grazing Areas

At an Office conference with representatives of Land, Forestry, Irrigation, and Extension present, the following program for the development of the Navajo Reservations was prepared to be submitted to you for your consideration.

We are convinced that water development, range management, flock improvement, including the reduction and elimination of unprofitable livestock, are all factors in the economic betterment of the Navajo Indians, and are so related that neglect of one defeats the possible promise of the others. We feel that the Navajos, in council and chapter organizations, are conscious of their economic problems. They have always manifested commendable interest in doing their best to cooperate with the administration in plans for their advancement. The superintendents, reservation personnel, and field representatives also appreciate these problems and have given the matter serious study. We feel that the program suggested follows their recommendations to this Office.

Sufficient funds are not available at present for a full and comprehensive program for water development, range control, and livestock improvement, nor is there justification for a sufficient appropriation for such purpose in a single season. However, there is some money available. If such funds are rightly used, with proper enlistment of reservation personnel, council members, and chapter organizations concerned, demonstrations may be carried out on certain limited areas of what may be done in stock improvement, range control, and water development.

We make the following suggestions as a definite program of procedure:

1. That three or four definite areas be selected on which a program of water development, stock improvement, range rotation and control shall be worked out. Areas already tentatively selected by superintendents and reservation personnel, and grazing units selected by the Forestry Division, should be followed as far as possible. The areas should include the equivalent of from two or three townships to seven or eight townships or even more, depending on conditions, and should coincide as closely as practicable with the territories now grouped under chapter organizations. They should contain both winter and summer grazing. The tentative selections should be made by the superintendent and the local representatives of irrigation, grazing and extension, and representatives of the Indian chapter organizations.

2. One area should be selected for the first demonstration at each jurisdiction. Funds for water development will probably not be available the first year for all six areas but should be available the second year. Selections should be made for second and future areas in each jurisdiction as it should be understood that additional areas will be developed from time to time until the entire territory in the reservation is included.

3. With irrigation, forestry and extension working together in the selection of these demonstration areas, it should be assured that they include territory suitable for practical demonstration of the best utilization of range and water and of range discipline and policing, which as far as possible should become the duty of the Indians and their several organizations.

4. The Indians should agree that, if this plan is carried out and particularly if the funds available for water development are used in these

demonstration areas, they will limit their flocks of sheep, goats, and other livestock, and improve the quality. Reimbursable funds are available for the purchase of pure bred rams to the extent necessary to provide the number required for demonstration areas.

5. In order to provide funds to pay for the necessary policing of the range and to compensate the tribe as a whole for the use of lands set apart and improved for the use of certain designated individuals, a grazing fee should be charged on all animals turned on the range; provided, however, that family flocks of not more than 300 sheep or an equivalent number of other livestock may be grazed free of charge, such free privilege being considered as the family's share of the grazing privileges of the reservations

(Note: This number of free animals should be subject to revision as the number of stock on the range increases or decreases and if and where range conditions indicate that the pro rata may be, or should be, changed to a larger or a lesser number.)

The rate to be charged per head on animals in excess of free range privilege should not be less than ten cents per head on sheep, fifteen cents on goats, fifty cents on cattle, and seventy-five cents on horses. However, the subject matter of this paragraph should be placed before the next Navajo conference for discussion.

6. A meeting should be called at Gallup, New Mexico, or some other central point, at an early date, to be fixed by the Office, to discuss this program and organize the working details. This meeting should be attended by the six superintendents concerned and by the irrigation, extension, and forestry employees on the reservations. It should also be attended by the irrigation and forestry men-at-large working in the Navajo country. A representative of this Office should be detailed to present the matter to the meeting, and to act as the presiding officer.

It seems to me, as I get it from talking with superintendents and others, that the average flocks are not in excess of 300. There may be some who think 300 is high and others will think it low. I think some time ago the average was said to be 500.

The part that interested me in the Office was Mr. Monahan's attitude as to giving the superintendents the right to be heard in this matter because upon the superintendents' shoulders must rest the burden of making the reduction and it certainly seems that they should be free to say what they want to say as they want to say it because no one will know the problem as they know it. It is not so difficult to say what should be done but it is most difficult to enlist all factors to put the thing over. He is the one man to whom we must look to do this work. The enlisting of the several factors is a big element. If I were trying to project this program I would center this effort around some man who is recognized as a leader. The chapters, no doubt, would support him.

Through all these factors, superintendents would be able to do something and do something in harmony with all concerned. It is not going to be an easy matter to reduce flocks. It is a problem I do not just yet see. You see an Indian who has all goats. He is just barely making a living and unless he sees some way he is going to make up he is going to hesitate. If you can get a leading Indian to go to him maybe he will be more likely to concede.

Mr. Monahan:

This is a tentative program for your discussion. We want you to discuss this and we want to amend it before it is in final shape. Now, in regard to the water situation, Mr. Neuffer. Mr. Neuffer was also in Washington during the discussion and knows the situation thoroughly.

Mr. Neuffer:

The water development on the reservation that you are all familiar with has been going on a number of years. Not over two or three years ago, soon after Mr. Zeh was out on the reservation and made his first reconnaissance, I talked with him and he showed me areas and how many sheep certain portions would run and what kind of water and grass there was and we began to check up on what we had to do. Two years ago in March we made a rough reconnaissance, as all superintendents know, from one jurisdiction to another to try to see how much it would cost. As near as we could find out at that time from estimates made, it would cost about a million and a half to completely develop water on the reservation. We made a report. I think you are all familiar with that. On account of lack of appropriations we have not gotten very far. The matter of overgrazing immediately came into our discussion. If we are going to develop this water we do not want to have a recurrence of the situation which has so often occurred. I know of many cases where we meant well, building reservoirs, developing a spring, and then five times too many sheep would come into the area. Naturally, anyone studying the situation would have this comeback to me: What is the use of developing more water if we are going to ruin the reservations as fast as we develop it. You all know the situation. Mr. Balmer has probably had it come home to him more than anyone else. My opinion is, the entire difficulty at Leupp is due to overgrazing the range; that is in respect to the flood situation. I have been asked several times the same question: What is the Government or the superintendents or who is in charge of it; what are we going to do with this range control? You want more money. You are not justified in asking for it.

Fortunately we have not been asked that question by a Congressional Committee. The appropriation for water development on the Hopi reservation for 1932 was \$106,000; in 1933, \$70,000; in the 1934 bill, if it passes, it is \$60,000. We cannot hope to get a large appropriation within the next few years and I hope we are not asked questions regarding overgrazing and what we are going to do in regard to it. We have no answer. If we cannot give them something definite we will probably not get anything.

I was at the House hearings early in December and the committee at that time said they felt they could cut out that item this year. When you get your hearings you will see it. They were persuaded otherwise and so far the money is in the bill to a limited amount. I think if we can get a definite program started we can at least save what we have and probably get more, but not in the next few years. We may be cut more in 1935. I hope not, but if we have a program and can go before the committee and say we have range control on that area and that it is proving a success, it will be a great help. And now we have this range program before us and it will assist our range control. If it is here and we have to argue and prove these points. It is easy to ask and sometimes hard to prove things to the committee. I hope we can have something definite. Probably you will recall I wrote a letter to each superintendent suggesting that if he thought it advisable we might put a requirement to the Indians that we would do water development work only in such areas as the Indian would agree to range control methods, which means cutting down flocks to a reasonable number so we can save the country. If we can work out this program I have hopes that we will get farther with it, and, as Mr. Monahan suggested, I think this is just a start.

As to how many sheep you can graze on certain areas, I think that is a matter that our range experts can tell us all about. But if we can follow out some definite schemes, I think we can get ahead. Personally, I would like to see this thing finished in about five years but to ask for the money now without control, is out of the question.

Mr. Monahan:

As near as I can guess from Washington and what is going on in Congress, if the appropriation for 1934 is passed by the present session of Congress it will go through for about \$60,000. It is possible that someone will block it and that will mean a special session and no one can foretell what will happen. If this Congress can put it through before March 4th I think it will go through.

I have a letter handed to me by Mr. Zeh this afternoon which he wrote Mr. Kinney in Washington after having seen this program, in which he makes certain suggestions and summarizes the situation as he sees it from his work. The Forestry Division is trying to lay out some grazing units. This is a very interesting letter and I think it will be well worth our time to have Mr. Zeh read it.

Mr. Zeh:

This was written shortly after Mr. Neuffer returned from Washington.

(Mr. Zeh reads his letter dated in Albuquerque, N. Mex., Jan. 8, 1933, addressed to Mr. J. P. Kinney, the original of which is on file in Washington, D. C. for reference purposes.)

Mr. Hunter had a meeting yesterday at Fort Defiance to discuss this particular program. I think a good way to start our discussion is to ask Mr. Hunter to begin it.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

In opening this discussion with reference to the situation relating to our range problem on Southern Navajo and relating to our plans for a correction, I would like to say that I shall only attempt to touch the high spots and hope to have the privilege of calling on our Forest Supervisor from Southern Navajo or one of his assistants in discussing the matter more in detail. I am sure we all realize that the condition with reference to the range throughout the Navajo country is a critical one. We know that the range is greatly overstocked and I am sure that we realize our responsibility in trying to do something about it. We may say that it is absolutely impossible to reduce stock in the Navajo country to any great extent and I admit that it is going to be a great task. Nevertheless, something has to be done now or we won't have a range. We all know that it has been delayed too long and it is now our responsibility to do something about it. We have given this matter a great deal of consideration at Southern Navajo during the past three years particularly. When we first brought this condition to the attention of our Navajo people they, as a matter of fact, thought it was a big joke. In our country two or three times a year we call in chapter officers from different sections of the reservation and on these occasions we talk about problems in which they are interested. About three years ago one subject was the condition of the range and what we were going to do about it. I remember Mr. Harbison was called upon and he told them in considerable detail just what it was about. They were interested because they thought it was a joke. However, as we held meetings over the reservation and as we held other chapter officers' meetings, Mr. Harbison was always on the program. They began to take more and more interest and finally it became a serious interest and now they are anxious to have us tell them about the range. They like to discuss it. They are actually realizing now that the situation is critical and they are anxious to work with us in any reasonable plan that will help improve this range. I feel that in all this discussion that has been carried on in our country through chapter organizations we have done a great deal of absolutely necessary preliminary work in starting this program and without this work it would have been almost impossible.

During the past year or two our Forestry Division has given a great deal of attention to making reconnaissance of our range and about a year and a half ago our Forestry Division and Extension Division, together with Mr. Womack of the Irrigation Division, got together and decided upon a district in which we hope to start this program of range control. We gave very careful study to the whole reservation and chose a district which was considered most favorable. That is the Tohatchi District. Over there there is better opportunity for winter and summer range. We have better distribution of water and the people perhaps have a somewhat better understanding of what it is all about, and other conditions make it most favorable for us to start

the actual operation of our program in that district. We realize, of course, that the thing we have to do in order to arrest deterioration of the range and bring it back is to reduce the stock. And in making this reduction we cannot make a 10% or 5% or 40% reduction and actually benefit the range. We have to make drastic reductions. Our Forestry people say about 75%, but we have compromised with them and decided if we can make a 50% reduction in the next year in that particular district that we will be doing very well. We feel that it is our responsibility to make that reduction. We know we cannot do it in a drastic way. We have to give full consideration to the conditions facing the Navajos today. And if this drastic cut of 50% is made throughout that area - - I might state there are about 40,000 in that district and that will mean we have to reduce about 20,000 -- we will have to do a lot more preaching in that district.

I would like to say in our meeting yesterday we had our Forestry boys and Extension boys with us and we discussed this plan as to what we were going to do and when we were going to start. We realize nothing definite can be done until after the Tribal Council. I think we should sell the proposition, generally speaking, to the Navajos before we do anything. But getting back to our plan with reference to this particular area. The reduction of flocks is a very great problem. We have found by careful calculation that if we purchase mutton for all the schools on Southern Navajo and if we sell 60% of the mutton or meat supply to Santa Fe and Albuquerque from that particular district, we can use about 11,000 head of sheep and if the folks over in Washington will support this program and will aid us in finding a market for 10,000 more, we will cut down there to our 50%. Furthermore, if we do this I believe we can persuade those Indians to make that reduction if we can show them some other means of making a living for their families. Our plan in that connection is to concentrate all our efforts in that district; that is, largely so. We want to do most of our water development in that district. We want to give more reimbursable assistance to those people. We want to get at least four farmers there to tell those people how to farm and if the folks in Washington will help us to do those things -- and that will not involve much additional money -- I think we can make a start in that district.

This district includes about 365,000 acres. We really feel quite optimistic about this proposition. There are a great number of other points I could discuss about this but I am not going to take time. I will be glad to answer any questions asked or enter into the discussion.

I would like Mr. Harbison now or later to discuss some of the details of this plan which I have mentioned.

Mr. Harbison: (Southern Navajo)

I believe that Mr. Hunter has quite fully and completely discussed the situation. I might go just a bit more into detail and say that our plan involves the movement of livestock from those areas only, as we have water development there already. It is absolutely necessary that we get reduction before we can inaugurate a range management plan which will be effective in any sense.

Fortunately the water distribution is already much more favorable than on any other part of the reservation.

I might discuss the map just a bit. The ragged edge on the left is a mountain cliff. The straight border on the right is the eastern boundary of the Southern Navajo jurisdiction joining Mr. Stacher's jurisdiction. The bottom of the map is our south boundary and on the north is our boundary joining Mr. McCray. It is hardly necessary to say the success of our work on that unit will be dependent upon the management of adjoining areas. That is the physical feature that all superintendents will admit and will gladly make exchanges. Mr. McCray will have flocks which will have to come on our area and we will have flocks going on his jurisdiction. I want to stress the point made by Mr. Hunter that the success of our plan involves the elimination of worthless stock and will be dependent upon our ability to take care of our Navajos through some other line of endeavor. At present the agricultural line seems to be most practicable. Our extension service tells us that agriculture can be developed considerably more than it is at present. However, it is fully agreed by all of us that they must have more help.

There are about 600 families in that area. No one man can give individual attention to that many people. We must have more farmers and with farmers we must have more equipment. They need horses and plows and harness. All of these factors will have to work for the success of that unit.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

I would like to say that we have in mind to apply this program to this particular area say for one year, or as long as necessary. Then after we have made the reduction in flocks and gotten these people started in that particular district, then the assistance which we have given them in the way of reimbursable material and a few additional farmers and water development we will transfer to an adjoining district and extend the area, and so on until we cover the jurisdiction.

Mr. Monahan:

Let me take this first paragraph and run through this hastily to get the idea before us and see if this is a practical thing.

(Reads suggestion numbered 1 in the program)

There is a little confusion as to the number of sections to be designated. Six areas should be selected and we will see how far we can make the money go. The idea is to select one area first and then add on until all areas are covered. The discussion is now open to whoever wants to take the matter up.

Mr. Neuffer:

As Mr. Hunter pointed out, only two or three wells will be needed in his area.

That is easy. There will be no difficulty there. I do not know just how our program is going. It might be possible for us to do that before the first of July. I will have to talk to Mr. Womack about that.

(It is decided this can be done.)

In view of that area being taken care of I think some sort of committee should be formed to pick out areas, so far as irrigation is concerned, and find out how much water we need to make the water development complete. If we can pick out six I would like to say I do not think we should go into any area except where we can have control. If we can get a committee of Forestry, Extension and superintendents, I will have a representative of the Irrigation Department look into that with them.

So far as 1934 funds are concerned, we cannot use any of them before July 1st. If we can make a selection of these various areas and decide on a program and submit it to Washington, perhaps we can get approval of the program we want for the first year and that will help us.

Mr. Monahan:

We will give the approval very quickly. Whatever you agree on we will approve right away.

Mr. Neuffer:

I would suggest, without meaning to infringe on anyone's prerogatives, that perhaps the Foresters would help us on that. If we could have a general committee and cooperate so we would know when to go to the different places so this would fit in our other work.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

I would like to say just here that we are ready to show you what our needs are. Our Forestry people made a very careful reconnaissance of that area. They found the carrying capacity of that area is 4,000 whereas we have 45,000.

Mr. Monahan:

I think Mr. Balmer has a report on exactly what has been done to dispose of the surplus stock.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp)

There has not been a great deal done. For one reason, when that plan was agreed upon I understood that Mr. Landsey was to be sent out to help us dispose of these animals and he was called away and took several weeks before we could get him back to the country. He left the impression with me that it

was just a temporary detail and that he would be back. We started out and looked over several markets and he took sick and I took sick and finally we busted up and the last I heard he was in Phoenix and then back in Seattle, but we did look over some markets and talked with a great number of buyers and the prices they offered were prices the Navajos were reluctant to accept. The best price offered by Clover Packing Company in Phoenix was 90¢ per animal. We had one bidder come in to offer us \$1.40 for a couple of thousand head. The Indians in some cases were going to accept that price but in most cases not. The Santa Fe School and Albuquerque School and Fort Wingate, Truxton Canyon, Phoenix and Riverside agreed to take off our hands quite a number but even that was hardly a drop in the bucket considering the number of animals we have on the reservation. That is our main reason for trying to get the outside buyers. Several buyers agreed to send men in and then advised us they were more or less afraid of the market and would not send them in. Another thing against us was it was rather late in the season when we got started. Through one buyer we shipped to St. Paul, Minn., a couple of thousand head to be used there for experimental purposes by the University of Minnesota. And we have hopes of shipping more into that part of the country.

Mr. Monahan:

As I understand it certain schools have taken some off your hands.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp)

In Mr. Walker's case, he lines up with Phoenix and Truxton. But Mr. Berry at Riverside informed me that he only had a few Navajo students and it would be very difficult to induce the other tribes to eat mutton. Mr. Faris has taken quite a number of sheep off our hands and Mr. Perry and Mr. Dale. The shipments to Truxton are small. Laguna Hospital agreed to take one mutton a week. I told them we had about a million sheep we wanted to sell. I really think what we have to do is get in some of these outside buyers and sell under a cooperative plan if we are going to make any material reduction. The schools cannot possibly use up the amount we have on hand.

Mr. Miller: (Hopi Agency)

I would like to ask Mr. Balmer what the price was these schools agreed to pay and whether or not it was butchered stock.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp)

In practically every case they advised us what they could buy the meat for from different packing houses, which was very low. I think you buy, Mr. Faris, for 7¢ delivered. We even talked about shipping these animals to different markets and feeding them but in that case you would be taking chances on the markets and you may sell them at higher prices and you might take a loss. We could not figure how to avoid a loss. You cannot use government bills of lading

to ship these lots and it is not practical to ship them otherwise. The only thing was whether to use them at home or bring in outside buyers to take the sheep as they were. The sheep sent to Minnesota were spring lambs weighing an average of 50 pounds, more or less selected stock.

Mr. Zeh:

This goes back to a statement Mr. Neuffer made. After the units are selected by the superintendents, I would like to bring before you the matter of making a map similar to the one made of the Tohatchi unit and of course that would mean the transferring of forestry men to sections where no forestry men are available and I would like to bring this matter to Mr. Kinney's attention.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

We have our area selected as designated on that map. We think that is the most logical place to try it. That is land we have recently acquired from white people. It has been fairly well protected until recently. We have had the matter before the people of the Office with a view to protecting it further. We cannot protect it unless we can get wire to fence it. If we can fence it on the south side we will have no trouble. Then we will need money to do a little tanking. It will not be expensive to build tanks in that section. That is some of the best land we have but unless something is done in a short time the whole area will be rendered just as useless as the rest of our reservation by the grazing of stock belonging to white people from the outside. It is connected with the public domain and we cannot protect it unless we can get the drift fence. The Indians have agreed to cut the posts and set them if we can get the money for the wire. I believe that would make as good a demonstration plot as can be found anywhere.

Mr. Monahan:

How much money will it take?

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

It will take about fifteen miles of fence. I think it will cost at least \$4.00 for 80 rods.

(After discussion it is decided \$100.00 a mile is a fair estimate of the cost @ \$1500 for the fifteen miles.

Mr. McCray: (Northern Navajo)

I am afraid what I have to say wont be very agreeably received by some of the other gentlemen here but this selection of an area is a simple matter. I do not think there is any superintendent here but what, through the advice of his extension and forestry people, could make a selection very easily, but the matter of working it out after it is selected will not be very simple.

Mr. Hunter intimated that he would need on his one area to get rid of 20,000 head of sheep. According to Mr. Balmer it will be about 20 years before these sheep can be consumed. If that is the case with Southern Navajo, where are the other jurisdictions going to get off when they begin to dispose of their sheep.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

May I say again that if we supply our schools and 60% of the meat supply for Santa Fe and Albuquerque that would mean in one year 11,000 head.

Mr. McCray: (Northern Navajo)

That is just a point. I am not advancing that as an obstacle to the plan. There might be other ways to dispose of those. We might even run the excess number off onto the other areas of the reservation. This would only add to the overgrazed condition of the rest of the reservation. But that is one point that we will have to consider if we are to reduce the number of stock on each area that we select on the six jurisdictions.

Mr. Zeh:

That is a real problem to find a market. But even if it is almost impossible we should not let that discourage us but should keep working on the problem.

Mr. Montgomery:

The marketing of Navajo sheep is the weakest spot in the whole chain of the livestock industry in the Indian Service. Why that is I do not know but possibly because many of the sheep go into the traders' hands as barter for goods and supplies that families need. Then along comes these quarantines due to infection in the flocks. We are penalized again and again and that penalty falls on the traders. That situation in the marketing of Navajo sheep I think is one that we should spend some thought on in the set-up of our agricultural program this year. The outlook now is better than it has been in my memory. There is the matter of getting rid of the lambs. I think we can all spend some thought on the problem of selling the Navajo lambs. We do not have trouble selling the cattle off of the other reservations. They come in to buy. There is no trouble about that. Other places we get rid of the cattle and hogs but these Navajo lambs are something to think about. They are not producing a good lamb and not enough of the kind that will sell. We will have to produce the kind of lamb that will sell. We can do something in the way of organization and getting the buyers to come in and buy the lamb then.

Mr. Zeh:

I think the statement Mr. Montgomery makes is the finest statement we have heard to back up the question of providing more feed for the lambs on the range. The small lamb is the result of not having enough feed when the lamb

needs feed. Even if we have to take a loss it will be a gain in the long run to manage some way to get sufficient feed for the lambs.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

From our experience in trying to sell lambs to the State that is almost out of the question for the reason that the State is well supplied with the very best kind of white man's sheep. We sent a load to the Clover Packing Company on consignment. But that did not prove practical.

Mr. Hebgood: (Southern Navajo)

The average price paid by the traders is the best we can get outside the reservation. The traders are paying more for the type of lambs we have than any outside buyer will pay.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp)

Getting back to Mr. Hunter's statement about supplying Santa Fe and Albuquerque. Just roughly guessing I cannot see where both schools would take over 3000 head a year.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

That is a rough guess. Fort Defiance uses about 300 lbs. a day.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

How do you transport it?

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

By truck. We contract with the chapter organizations to furnish the shipment say this week. The sheep are slaughtered by the Indians and they pay the truck driver for transporting them into Santa Fe and Albuquerque.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

Unless we can do that we cannot handle it. The rate by carload is too great.

Mr. Maguire: (Southern Navajo)

May I suggest that a dressed mature sheep averages about 40 lbs. as compared with white peoples' dressed mature sheep which weigh about 75 lbs.

Mr. Montgomery:

The market will accept your 30 lb. or 35 lb. carcasses if they are good ones. But someone told the story that when they hang up they do not look like sheep.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

I was just stating to Mr. Monahan that our school uses 300 lbs. a day and for the school term that would be \$1,000 lbs. for Fort Defiance alone. If we could furnish 60% of the supply for Santa Fe and Albuquerque, together with our schools, it would amount to between 10,000 and 11,000 head a year.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp)

With 300 lbs. for 400 pupils you are over-feeding 50%.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

That covers all the schools on our jurisdiction.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

We have a question we cannot answer. They say what do we want with Navajo sheep. We have Pimas and they wont eat mutton. (That is in the Phoenix school.

Mr. Zeh:

Unless the children at Phoenix see the menu they do not know when they eat mutton. They are buying a considerable amount of vienna sausage and hamburger. Everyone knows that much worse meat goes into these things than was ever found on a mutton.

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo)

We should make improvement on the delivery next year over what we have made this year. The Indian Office should check up on the deliveries made and apportion them between the jurisdictions for the school year. As it is now we do not know just what we are going to deliver to the different schools and it is quite a lot of bother to get in touch with Mr. Balmer at times when we could handle it by telephone. It would be well to settle this and advise us when and to what schools we should make delivery.

Mr. Paris: (Santa Fe School)

When this was first mentioned to us I was doubtful that it would work. But our school, and I think I can say Mr. Perry's school, has been well satisfied with the plan. The mutton we have had from the Navajo territory this year has been very creditable and as long as it is creditable there is no cause for discussion.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp)

Mr. Paris has co-operated, but on the other hand Mr. Dale has complained about his meat.

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo)

We did have one complaint.

Mr. Paris: (Santa Fe School)

I would say that instead of using less than we have that we can use more as long as it is the quality that it is now.

Mr. Stacker: (Eastern Navajo)

What percent mutton and what percent beef do you use?

Mr. Paris: (Santa Fe School)

About 50%. We use about 60,000 pounds of meat a year. That would mean about 1,000 head of sheep.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

Mr. Montgomery cannot you arrange with the schools in the north to distribute mutton by the carload?

Mr. Montgomery:

They have beef there and use it.

Mr. McCray: (Northern Navajo)

Possibly up to this time the reservations that have been furnishing mutton have been able to take the sheep off the range in fair shape but from January on they are going to be pretty poor. Is that going to be satisfactory?

Mr. Paris: (Santa Fe School)

I cannot answer that now because I do not know what the quality will be. As long as it is as it is now it will be satisfactory.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

We plan to raise quite a bit of forage in that demonstration section so we can feed the sheep which we plan to market to Santa Fe and Albuquerque.

Mr. Hobgood: (Southern Navajo)

We are glad to hear that the deliveries of meat have been satisfactory so far. It is going to be impossible to deliver meat when the warm weather begins. It will be necessary to use refrigerator cars.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

When that becomes necessary we will ask these gentlemen to issue bills of lading.

Mr. McGray: (Northern Navajo)

I think Mr. Faris and Mr. Perry have plenty of help in their schools and if they have help to butcher they would buy it on the foot and that would do away with our delivery problem in the summer.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

We tried that in three different schools and in each case they came back with the statement that they did not have room or space to do it.

Mr. Monahan:

If you had refrigerator space they might be able to send some Indians down with the herds to do the butchering.

Mr. Faris: (Santa Fe School)

We do not have sufficient refrigerator space.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp)

Why not figure out what these schools can use and get a line up ahead as to the amount. I believe if we do that the statement I made that it would not be possible to sell very much of the surplus stock that way would stand. We have to look to outsiders in order to reduce the numbers on the reservation and as Mr. Montgomery said, we will have to concentrate on the outside markets.

Mr. Monahan:

I think that would be well and I wonder what Mr. Montgomery can do toward finding outside markets.

Mr. Montgomery:

Very little. Talking about markets you will be interested to know that packers laid out into a hospital last fall for less than \$3.00 per cwt. That was fat ewes. They are animals that weigh a couple of hundred pounds. There was a big waste in the carcasses but they actually delivered the meat for less than \$3.00 per cwt. So talking about markets you can surely see how difficult it is.

Mr. Faris: (Santa Fe School)

Now is the time when you get quotations for meat from the outside schools. If you had someone concerned about this problem and let them make deliveries to the schools I think that would go a long way toward handling this.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp)

According to the Phoenix paper, hamburger is 5¢ a pound so meat is not worth very much and that is what you run up against in trying to sell mutton. They come back with the statement that they can buy superior mutton for the same price we are asking. Mr. Berry can buy mutton right next door and not take any chances on transportation.

Mr. Montgomery:

The outlet for the Navajo mutton is the feeder market and you know what the feeder market is.

Mr. Paris: (Santa Fe School)

Mr. McCray is so situated that he has a better feeder market for lambs than any other jurisdiction. You can look back for a number of years and find this is true. (Mr. McCray agrees that this is true.)

Mr. Monahan:

I think we should hear from Mr. Radcliffe.

Mr. Radcliffe:

I think one of the greatest helps in this range conservation problem is to develop more dry farming. I have been convinced of that fact in working on Eastern Navajo reservation. Those Indians out there on the Torreon area, where it looks almost impossible to raise anything, have made a great success this year of dry farming. There is one man who has 80 sacks of beans stored now and there are just numbers of them who have corn stored and I believe if we can get them a little more interested in dry farming it will be one of the greatest helps possible.

Mr. Zeh:

I think Mr. Hobgood should discuss these problems as to raising rye for use as spring feed.

Mr. Hobgood:

I think that there are great possibilities in dry farming on Southern Navajo jurisdiction. I am convinced that we have 200,000 acres there which would make good dry farming. In 1931 we increased our crop production there 50% over 1930. This last year, 1932, we increased our acreage a little better than 100% over 1931, but even though this sounds like we are making great progress, we are yet faced with this problem: With our 100% increase last year we still have an average of a little better than 3 acres for each Indian family. In order to make any impression or furnish any aid in our range work,

each family should have about 30 acres under cultivation each year. In order for each family to cultivate 30 acres of land each year, they should have a total of 60 acres in their farm. This year they will have 30 acres in cultivation. During the winter they should plow the other 30 acres for use the following year. In order to make a success they have to have double the acreage they really cultivate and rotate. By so doing I feel they could have about 25 or 30 tons of dry forage to feed during the winter months. This would feed 200 head of sheep three months - January, February and March. These are the three months in which we must need feed. Winter rye and wheat would furnish pasture during two months - April and May. These pastures would mean a great boost of the lamb crop. The ewes would have plenty of milk to feed the lambs. It would also mean that the Indians, instead of wading in the snow in the winter, could sit up by the fire and feed their sheep and that ought to appeal to them. But how long will it take us to induce the Indian to cultivate 30 acres of land when he is cultivating 3 now. I think you will all admit that 100% increase is wonderful progress. If we have 100% increase this year it will mean 6 acres a family. If we continue to get a 100% increase each year, in four years we will have 30 acres per family. But I am just wondering if that is not asking too much of any of the divisions concerned. If we could do that and cut our flocks down to 200, the Indians would have a better income than they have today. It would mean they would produce all the corn, etc., right on their farms. They would not have any outlay of cash in supplying their food. They would grow it all. Mr. Hunter is supplying his Indians with grist mills. These mills are turning out high grade corn meal and would turn out a high grade of whole wheat flour so there would be no expense of milling their corn and wheat. Each Indian should produce each year 20 acres of winter rye, 5 acres of winter wheat, 2 acres of corn, 1 1/2 acres of beans, and 1 1/2 acres of squash or other garden crops. But how are we going to induce them to raise those crops. The range has reached the point where if there is not some drastic measure taken the Indians will not have livestock problems because they will have no livestock and no range.

Mr. Montgomery brought up a good point there in the market but I still say our problem is not the market. If we could produce a marketable product we would have a market. If we could - but the range is not capable of producing a marketable product today. It is going to take drastic reductions and I do not believe we can depend on our schools and our Indian organizations to take care of the need in making the reduction. On the other hand, I do not believe it is right, under the present economic condition of the Indian, to force him to get rid of those sheep at a cost so small that he does not receive any remuneration in return for his product. This period of depression has run so long that if we remove part of his flocks or income - if we force him to reduce his flock it will reduce his income - the Government will have to make up any difference. It seems that it would be better for the Government to take these surplus sheep off his hands and pay for them even if the Government has to shoot them and throw them in the arroyos to stop erosion. So if the Government has to kill those sheep

and throw them in the arroyos it will be better business than to sell them for less than they can afford to sell them for. It is better to give them \$1.50 for a sheep that is worth 25¢ than to give them 25¢ and then have to give them the difference later on.

If we have any reduction in numbers of stock on our range, a reduction that will save the range, it has to be drastic and sudden, and I believe the Government will have to take the responsibility to make it possible for any Agency to save the range.

Mr. Rogers: (Extension Agent, Northern Navajo)

Since it is the Extension Agents' turn to talk I would like to say that the superintendent and I have talked this over and after listening here I think we have the same opinion that is expressed here. A Navajo will go on a piece of land and work if he is directed to. That will save a Navajo. I was just figuring here that if we had enough feed on our jurisdiction to feed the sheep from now on so they would be salable, the Indians themselves would probably consume the surplus. If the lambs cannot be sold, the Indians do not want to eat them. We have undeveloped irrigation projects on our reservation. If Mr. Nouffer had enough money to complete them and if Mr. Montgomery had money enough to give us more Farm Agents, I think our problem would be solved.

Mr. Hedden: (Sr. Forest Ranger, Northern Navajo)

With the excess number of stock we might be able to accomplish something like this: We are speaking tonight about the large item of reimbursable debts to be cancelled. If such goes through and this livestock is bought, it might be possible to cancel some of the Indians' reimbursable debts by taking some of the excess stock.

Mr. Radcliffe:

I think another thing that will help the range problem is to teach the Indians to try to stop erosion.

Mr. Hobgood: (Southern Navajo)

There is one thing that will help us increase our farming and that is to have more farm agents. In order to bring the Indians forward in the production of agricultural products they have to have close supervision. I believe that we could continue to increase our acreage if we had enough farm agents and farm implements.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

We cannot hope to do a thing in carrying out that program until we can get farm agents to teach them to farm. The Navajos are good workers and I am

sure would willingly engage in the farming industry if there was someone to teach them farming methods. They know nothing about fall plowing; seed bed preparation; methods of planting, cultivating, harvesting and using farm and garden products excepting perhaps corn, beans, melons and a few of the ordinary crops which they now raise and have raised for years and years. Through the chapter organizations our extension and forestry representatives endeavor to teach them improved methods of farming and gardening but where this is done collectively and where it is impossible to follow-up closely, no quick results can be obtained.

In the case of the Tohatchi District, which has a population of 3,000 people and an area of 365,000 acres, we have as an extension representative only one stockman. Even though this man is an extraordinarily capable employee, it is apparent that in consideration of the population and area, that he cannot possibly give the necessary attention to the needs of the Navajos in aiding them with their farming operations.

If the plan proposed for the Tohatchi District is put in operation, the first essential thing to do is to reduce the stock from 40,000 to at least 20,000. Even with such reduction, according to our forestry personnel who have made a very careful and conservative study of the range, there will be more than four times as many stock left on this range as it should carry. However, we cannot hope, within reason, to make the reduction we would like in one year's time. But in order to make a reduction which will afford any basis for a range conservation program, 20,000 sheep must be removed. This in itself is a radical reduction and will have a direct and immediate bearing upon the economic life of the people of this particular district. It will therefore be necessary that we intensively engage in agricultural activities in order to even maintain the Navajo in accordance with his present standards of life, which we must all admit, are low enough. Such a transfer of industry on the part of the Navajo and in such a way as to meet the situation, makes necessary that a number of farmers be assigned to that district at the beginning of the next fiscal year.

We have in mind a plan for providing these farmers whereby the cost of maintaining them will not be exorbitant and instead of taking up our time just now to present this plan we shall do so in detail in a letter to the Office at an early date.

I wish to again emphasize the absolute necessity of supplying four additional farmers for this territory before any action can be taken towards carrying out this conservation program which we are so anxious about.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 p. m.

The Meeting was called to order
at 8:30 a.m. Jan. 19.

Mr. Monahan:

I would like for Mr. Hobgood to discuss the idea again as to how we can help our situation by raising forage and pasture.

Mr. Hobgood:

I spent a number of years in extension work among the white people and among the Indians and have never found any people so willing to listen as Navajo Indians. They have a desire to follow instructions. People who have lived as the Navajos have lived, that is as nature meant for man to live in the beginning, are not used to cooperative efforts and working together. Even though they are willing to listen and follow instructions, we cannot hope for a 100% turnover in a short time. We have to expect our efforts to produce fruit slowly. I believe if we could get money from some source to supply the Navajos with proper equipment that we could get a rapid increase in our farm activities. You know that a large percent of them don't even have plows and harness. It is impossible to stir our earth here with sticks like people used to do. We have to have farm machinery. If we expect our farming operations to increase to an extent to save the range situation we must have equipment. I believe that with enough plows and harness this 100% increase could be expected for awhile. I do not believe that we can expect on Southern Navajo to get a 100% increase without increasing our farm machinery. We put out 200 plows last year and 200 sets of harness. Up to last year we estimate only 25% of the Indians had plows figured from the standpoint of families. I do not believe it will be practical to figure on equipping our Indians with all the farm implements that we consider necessary for the success of farming among white people because they will never farm on a large enough scale to justify it. But when they get up to 30 acres they should have drills.

I stressed the winter rye last night because in our conditions here in dry farming it is by far the surest crop that can be raised. Winter rye sown in August has never failed on Southern Navajo. If it is sown in August it makes good growth and if weather conditions are good you can even get pasture in the fall. It grows rapidly in spring so you can have pasture then. You know that means much with the lamb crop in the spring. Winter wheat was stressed because it is another crop that is pretty sure. It enables the Indians to raise chickens, which would be a great thing from the standpoint of health and raising the standard of living. A flock of chickens at each hogan would be a great advancement in upbuilding the Navajo. I believe that in time, if we could get some of our stock off the range so it won't be completely destroyed, it would solve the Navajo problem. I think that something has to be done right now if we are to save the range. We have large areas on Southern Navajo which three years ago were almost perfect growths of grama grass but now they are a solid mass of snakeweed, which shows how rapidly transition from good condition to practically worthless condition has taken place.

Our range is becoming denuded in certain places so even weeds wont grow. We have encroaching of poisonous weeds. We have one very poisonous weed - the whirl milkweed - coming on the Southern Navajo range. We have more than one factor to face there. It is not altogether lack of seed but the danger because of the poisonous weeds. We must insist on getting farm machinery if we are going to enlarge our farm activities. If we get our Indians farming as large areas as we should, we will probably need five or six hundred plows. We would need probably three hundred sets of harness. We would need some horses - better horses than we have. Like someone said last night, it does not matter how few horses you have on your range, if they are not horses you can use they are surplus. Most of the horses on Southern Navajo are usable in a way. We do have surplus horses because we have horses that have not a saddle mark on them. A horse that has never been worked is a surplus horse.

Another point I would like to speak of to illustrate the condition of the range. The New Mexico College some time ago wanted to get Navajo sheep to use as experiments to see what feeding would do. They took Navajo sheep producing an average of 3 pounds of wool and they claim that those sheep, under proper feeding conditions, produced 8 pounds.

At one of our meetings we were talking about the advantage of getting pure bred rams. One Indian said if we get good sheep how can we keep them good without feed. That is a vital question. They will go down if they are not properly fed. The same sheep with proper feed will produce more lambs and of by far better quality. If we are going to stay in the livestock business we have to do something with our range. Each year it is harder to get marketable lambs. The feeders do not like these sunbaked lambs; they demand quality.

Mr. Monahan:

I think we should discuss this phase. It seems there is a possibility of developing something besides the stock.

How much reimbursable money is it going to be necessary to have to equip the Navajos with plows, harness and seed and fencing? Other machinery would come later. I want to get an estimate so we can see if we cannot get an allotment for those things.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

Rather than go on record regarding that just at this time I would prefer to have an opportunity to make a report of our needs. It will require a little discussing with our extension force.

Mr. Monahan:

Would you suggest then that each superintendent send in a report as to what he will need in the line of wire, harness, plows, etc.?

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

We have sent one in.

Mr. Monahan:

Each superintendent do that and I will see what I can do with the reimbursable people to see about funds being allotted for that.

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo)

Is any money available at this time for the purchase of wire?

(Mr. Monahan did not know but agreed to look into that.)

Mr. Monahan:

Suppose you each address a letter to the Washington Office and address a copy to me personally and I will see what can be done when I get back.

Mr. Faris: (Santa Fe School)

I estimate \$50 a family will be a start, not including seed, and \$75.00 at the outside, including seed. (The superintendents agree.)

Mr. Monahan:

If there is nothing else on that subject I would like to have the matter of grazing fees discussed and if it is possible to charge grazing fees.

Mr. Rogers: (Northern Navajo)

One more suggestion on the reduction of sheep. I think we should wait a little while because if we get in a hurry we might ruin the Indians. I have not any concrete program but I do not believe you can dispose of them now at the present prices.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

Before leaving this particular subject, Mr. Monahan, I would like for us to get into this record the very great urgency of obtaining additional funds for our irrigation people in making it possible to help our farm operations in different sections of the country through building diversion dams and irrigation projects. There are a great many places on Southern Navajo where if we could spend just a little money we could farm from one to one thousand acres and where Indians could raise good crops but if we do not have money to help them they can hardly live. I think in connection with this program that would be one of the best things that could be done.

Mr. Neuffer:

It is just a matter of buying materials as the Indians are willing to do the work. They are not asking the Government to pay them for their work but just give them a little help with materials. If we could make a concentrated effort to get more money in 1935 for these projects we might be able to get it. If the superintendents could each write me a letter on the subject and I could incorporate the letters in my general set-up it might be of some benefit.

Mr. Montgomery:

If they could be made to understand what this program is I do not think there would be any objection but under the heading of irrigation there would be because of the expenditures of great sums, during the good times, which have had to be written off.

Mr. Radcliffe:

I believe if this could be put before the Indians and we could get an expression from the chapters it would help.

Mr. Paris: (Santa Fe School)

I suggest that the superintendents work this out according to the number of people who can be supported by sheep raising and the balance by other means, farming, etc., and present this to Mr. Monahan.

Mr. Harbison: (Southern Navajo)

It seems to me the meeting was called primarily to get into operation a designated area, demonstration area, for range management. It seems that we cannot get the equipment necessary to do it on every jurisdiction. I would like to suggest that we do this: modify the program a little and instead of trying to get an area on every jurisdiction, pool our resources and select one area, and I would like to suggest Southern Navajo. We have an area of some 365,000 acres. We have offered a scheme of relieving that area of the surplus stock and if we can have the cooperation of each of the superintendents here in letting us clear that area of the excess on it, we will get down to doing something. Theyway it is everyone wants to go into this thing, and is willing to take off half of the excess, but you will never give a demonstration of range management unless you get the stock off the area. But if we keep on here, everyone wanting these plows, etc., knowing we are not going to get the money, we are not going to get anywhere, so why not just join hands and say here's an area ready to go. We will throw our resources in and so we will have a demonstration. We must get at the basic trouble of the range which is overstocking. I would like to make the suggestion that we would get somewhere if we all join up and take the money that is available and take this one area, get rid of the excess stock, and make a thorough job of it. Otherwise we will not get a demonstration area.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

I want you to know that Mr. Harbison's suggestion is not made in a selfish way. If any of the superintendents can show that they are more ready than we are in the Tohatchi District, we will be glad to do the same thing for them that we asking them to do for us. I think if we could select one or two or three areas, say on the Hopi or Western Navajo reservations, we should, and go just as far as we can but make a definite start this year.

Mr. Zeh:

It took quite awhile to get this area mapped and while other areas could be worked up the work could go on on the Tohatchi unit.

Mr. Neuffer:

If we can decide on an area it wont take long to get the water development.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

We have a district that is as ready as any for this demonstration as it is not overgrazed now and the only expense necessary now is to help those Indians in the way of fencing it and developing water.

Mr. Neuffer:

We may have enough money to develop the water there and perhaps on some others. It all depends on the area.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

Where we are going to need help on the Tohatchi problem is in the stock reduction. Otherwise we do not need any help.

Mr. Harbison: (Southern Navajo)

I think if Mr. Walker is ready to go over there, Southern Navajo is willing to put up money to see him make a go of it if we cannot put over our purpose.

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo)

We are handicapped because we do not have control of our range. At this time we are trying to add some to our area. If the plan goes through we could join with Mr. McGray to work out a nice proposition and to carry out this program.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp)

We seem to be basing everything on the fact "if we secure these funds." If we do not get these funds what plan are we going to follow then? And from

the looks of things we seem to have every right to expect that we are not going to get any increase in our appropriations at this time.

Mr. Zeh:

I think we can continue our plan but we may have to select small areas and go slowly but I think it should not prevent us from making our plans and doing as much as possible toward the execution of the same. If we can go just a certain distance it is better than dropping the whole plan.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp)

I think we can do something to help ourselves. We are making a rude cultivator for our Indians. It may not be as good as a manufactured implement but it does answer the purpose. That way we are not throwing the Indian in debt. There may be many other things we can start doing now even though we do not have reimbursable funds. And I think the Navajo Indian would appreciate some of these things much more than ones we buy from manufacturers.

Mr. Miller: (Hopi Agency)

Why could not we settle the purpose of the meeting by designating certain areas where this should be attempted. The project is one that is very important and the Hopi is always willing to do his part. Unfortunately for us at this time we are not in a position to designate any area for this contemplated experiment. We feel that the time is inopportune for us to attempt such work but we do feel that the step should be taken. We feel that these men have in all good faith attempted something that is going to benefit the Indians and I would like to see it go through. Why not decide at this meeting to let Southern Navajo and Western Navajo go ahead and do all we can to make these plots they set aside a successful example to all Indians to make the work more easily carried out when we do attempt it. It will be a great help to us if Southern Navajo and Western Navajo attempt this scheme. We are not in a position at present to name an area for the reason that we have legislation coming up that is far more important and if we do attempt anything between the two antagonistic tribes of our reservation we would cause a condition which would be detrimental to that legislation. We will do what we can to assist the others with this work with the idea that when this matter is settled and we can name an area we will start our end of it. And I would like to fully convey to the Commissioner that when we do start it we will do everything possible because we are interested in it. We have a very large reservation and have only two field men in the reservation. They have work they cannot give up to attempt anything like has been suggested. We now have a forestry man who has begun mapping the reservation, but right now he has all he can do on the road work. So we do not feel that we are in position to name an area.

Mr. Neuffer:

If we selected areas then and left Hopi out and concentrated all our powers

to this end, would that be satisfactory to you?

Mr. Miller: (Hopi Agency)

Absolutely.

Mr. Monahan:

You are suggesting two jurisdictions. How does that stand with the men left out?

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo)

Our allotment has been so small that we feel we should spend our efforts where the water has already been developed. We do not know what area we could name now. We are trying to add to our area. Some of this land has no water. We had hoped to build some reservoirs in there this year and we would dislike very much to see what little money there is given to some other jurisdiction.

Mr. Radcliffe:

In Mr. Stacher's case by next year they will know whether this larger jurisdiction is established and then they can go ahead with this.

Mr. Neuffer:

I realize that Eastern Navajo has had less water development than any jurisdiction in the Navajo country in proportion to the area that the Indians cover. Unfortunately, most of it is off the reservation and our appropriation reads: "Navajo reservation." The areas that have been exchanged are not considered added to the reservation. It is just public domain so far as our water development goes. We cannot go ahead with it until this matter is settled. I would like to see, if possible, one of the demonstration areas over there.

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo)

There is pending at present the largest consolidation ever made. If it does go through it will give us an opportunity to set aside an area.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

I think we could handle three because Southern Navajo will not require any money for water development.

Mr. Monahan:

Then it is agreed to designate three and two additional in case there is money enough to extend over that many? Southern Navajo and Western Navajo seem to meet the approval of the groups and Northern Navajo.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

My thought is if the other superintendents would cooperate in allowing us to dispose of that surplus stock we could make a good start. Another thing I do not want you to lose sight of is this. We have about 3000 people in this district. We have to reduce the stock about 20,000. If we do we have to provide a source of livelihood for these people. We have to have some help if we are going to start those people to farming. One stockman cannot teach those men to make a living. It is absolutely essential that we have some farmers in there to teach them to farm. They are good workers and want to farm but they do not know anything about preparing seed beds or fall plowing or anything of that sort and one man cannot help them much. His assistance is very superficial and he cannot follow-up. We need farmers worse than we need school teachers in spite of the fact that we have 2000 children out of school.

Mr. McCray: (Northern Navajo)

On Northern Navajo we have three men to cover three million acres. In attempting range control we are not going to delegate those three men to that area. We are not going to give up what little hold we have been able to get with the rest of the 9000 Indians to control one little area of about eight townships. If Mr. Hunter needs four farmers for the Tohatchi district we will at least have to have one farmer and one stockman for that area. The Indians will have to be directed and the area will have to be policed. The stock will have to be reduced by at least one-half. All of the markets have been taken care of already. We live in a sheep country and we cannot sell. The development of water; inducing the Indians to undertake this farming problem, which will be an easy matter if we have the help; finding a market for the stock that will have to be moved off that area; -- it will be quite a problem. It seems that we could justify our position a lot more if we could employ one farmer for these areas and then employ two or three Indians as assistants as we can get money to employ Indians easier than we can for white men.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

In view of the fact that the sheep are going to be so hard to get off the range I am wondering if we can lease some of the land from the Utes and transfer some of the sheep there until this can be worked out.

Mr. McCray: (Northern Navajo)

If the Department can handle this it might be done but if you ask the Utes to lease it to the Navajos they wont lease it.

Mr. Zeh:

There is some good range land in the Apache country but because of the feeling between the tribes it might not work.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

If we could get some land to move them onto it might be better as the prices now do not encourage them to sell.

(There is some discussion regarding the Colorado River range but it is decided for various reasons that it is impracticable.)

Mr. Zeh:

The Utes are very much opposed to leasing to the Navajos.

Mr. Monahan:

Now where is the fourth area?

Mr. Radcliffe:

I suggest you hold off the fourth area for the time.

Mr. Monahan:

Then Leupp will be the fifth.

Mr. Zeh:

Leupp has been doing a lot of water development on their own.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp)

If you will just continue to give me a little money as heretofore, we will try to work out a plan for the time and after the others get started we will go into it on a larger scale. Do not take any money away from us but let us go on as we have.

Mr. Hobgood: (Southern Navajo)

In order to bring this to a definite head, I would like to make a motion that Southern Navajo, Northern Navajo and Western Navajo be designated as the Agencies who will start to work immediately on this and Eastern Navajo will be fourth and Leupp fifth and Hopi sixth.

Mr. Miller:

I second the motion.

(This motion is favored unanimously.)

Mr. Monahan:

The next thing for these superintendents to do is to let us know what areas

they want to recommend. The three selected for this year are named and you should write the Office a letter, letting us know just what the areas are.

Mr. Neuffer:

May I suggest that before they write those letters they call us in and let us estimate the amount needed for water development?

Mr. Monahan:

I think it would be better to write a supplementary letter in this regard.

Mr. Miller: (Hopi Agency)

W. Chairman, how about the grazing fees now. Will the prices as set be absolutely necessary for the first year?

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

I think that is a matter which will have to be taken up with the Tribal Council.

Mr. Monahan:

Before you take it up with the Tribal Council there should be a proposed fee satisfactory to all. Is the fee suggested here satisfactory. (Reads from program paragraph regarding grazing fees.)

Mr. Hobgood: (Southern Navajo)

I do not think that fee would be large enough. Some of the more progressive Indians could go ahead and accumulate more stock. That is our trouble. We have too many large owners getting in the way of the small owners.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

I favor a suggestion made that the fee be on a sliding scale according to the number of stock. This may seem unfair to the large owners who have accumulated a large herd but at the same time we must consider that they are using a tribal resource and that having large herds the fee should be larger.

Mr. Neuffer:

Cannot the Government limit the number of stock to be run on the tribal land by each Indian? I believe it can be worked if they can.

Mr. Miller: (Hopi Agency)

Would it be possible to collect under the present conditions?

Mr. Zeh:

They could collect in sheep and culls and in that way help to reduce the stock.

Mr. Monahan:

This proposal is to use those funds for policing.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

Our folks who are interested in this will do the policing.

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo)

This will have to be put before the Tribal Council and suppose they are against it. Then what will we do?

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

They will vote against it unless we do a lot of work before the council.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

One way of giving relief is for the big men to lease land outside the reservation.

Mr. Maguire: (Southern Navajo)

I might mention the small owners are taking note of that and are going to bring it up before the Council.

Mr. Monahan:

Do you want to go before the Tribal Council as being in favor of these fees or do you want to suggest a higher fee or a lower one.

Mr. Miller: (Hopi Agency)

I do not know about those fees but something has to be done. I think those fees are just about right because one year and maybe two will have to pass before anything can be done.

Mr. Montgomery:

Would it be better to set the price as one sheep for a certain number instead of 10¢ a sheep? That way any changes in price of the sheep or the grazing fee will be easier regulated.

Mr. Balmer: (Leupp)

But would that not break down what we have been trying to teach the Indians about selling their sheep by weight and quality rather than by the head? Could we specify the weight of the sheep? And could there be some specifications as to the quality of the sheep we would accept?

Mr. Zeh:

Would that not complicate matters? Would it be well to set the number and let each superintendent set the value of the sheep he would take.

Mr. Montgomery:

If you take the price in sheep it will automatically raise or lower with the market price of the sheep.

Mr. Miller: (Hopi Agency)

I think we should collect sheep for grazing fees whether it is horses or sheep or goats grazing.

Mr. Montgomery:

If a Navajo finds he has to give a sheep for the grazing of a surplus horse he will probably get rid of the horse and it will tend to rid the range of the surplus horses.

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo)

That would only apply to Indians on the reservation and would not affect the Indians on the public domain.

Mr. Konahan:

I think this might be clearer if Mr. Montgomery will write out his idea along this line.

Mr. Montgomery:

This is my idea. (Reads) That in lieu of a grazing fee for animals grazed in excess of free range privilege, that one sheep be paid for each fifteen sheep grazed, or three cattle or each horse.

Mr. Konahan:

What do you think of that suggestion? Is it better to have a cash fee as suggested in the program or is Mr. Montgomery's suggestion better? Is that the proper number of sheep for fifteen.

Mr. Simpson: (Hopi Agency)

At the present price that is about fair.

Mr. Montgomery:

My idea is to get away from any arguments. That takes care of the fluctuation of price and will help rid the range of excess stock.

Mr. Zeh:

Would the fee be the same for any number grazed above 300 or does the meeting favor a higher fee for over 500.

Mr. Monahan:

This program does not provide a sliding scale. The question is do you want to provide a sliding scale.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

In charging for mixed flocks I think the entire flock should be reduced to sheep units.

Mr. Monahan:

That is set out in the program. (Reads that part of program.)

Mr. Radcliffe:

I think the lease rate per acre and the carrying capacity of the land adjacent to the reservation which we are leasing should be taken into consideration and lease land outside the reservation for large herd owners.

Mr. Zeh:

Would you consider the leased land the same value as the Navajo land?

Mr. Radcliffe:

It is a little better.

Mr. McCray: (Northern Nav.)

I believe if we make this too complicated we will defeat the purpose and it seems to me the equivalent of 10¢ per sheep, etc., is a good proposition. I believe it could be worked that way and I believe if we talk all day we won't better it.

Mr. Zeh:

There seems to be two standards set up. I wonder if it would be better to

keep our same ratio as we use in figuring up carrying capacity and carry that on through rather than follow this ratio

Mr. McCray: (Northern Navajo)

But the idea I think these gentlemen had who formulated this memorandum was to place more or less a penalty on goats and surplus horses.

Mr. Miller: (Hopi Agency)

I think it would be well to adopt Mr. Zeh's suggestion and carry it on as we have.

Mr. Zeh:

I think a sliding scale should be adopted to take care of the penalty for excess goats and horses.

Mr. Monahan:

Is it advisable in your opinion to adopt a sliding scale?

Mr. McCray: (Northern Navajo)

I think it is just making it that much more complicated. The larger owners are going to pay for a larger number of sheep. I believe the effect would be the same there and cause us less trouble in making collections.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

I feel that Mr. McCray is right in that and Mr. Zeh's suggestion to use one ratio would be easier.

Mr. Miller: (Hopi Agency)

I feel as these people do.

Mr. Stacher: (Eastern Navajo)

I feel the same as the rest do about this.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

I have had in mind that there should be a sliding scale but perhaps I am wrong. We have in our country a number of Navajos who have large flocks and unless there is a sliding scale I am afraid they will still be enticed to make their herds bigger. Perhaps it would be all right not to have a sliding scale if we clearly understand that no person will be allowed to have over 300 or 500, as we may decide, unless the capacity of the range will allow. In making reduction in this Tohatchi district the reduction must be made in

the big flocks and in cutting them down as necessary in order to reduce the number of the range capacity; no one should be permitted to have over 300.

Mr. Walker: (Western Navajo)

That is well if we can provide means for disposing of them.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

We realize it will be difficult to reduce those flocks but if they are to be reduced they should not be allowed to increase again. I admit a sliding scale will complicate the matter.

After some discussion along these lines it is decided:

That the general opinion is for one scale;

That the general opinion is that the fee should be paid in sheep or cash equivalent to the value of the sheep.

That Mr. Montgomery's suggested ratio should be accepted.

Mr. McCray: (Northern Navajo)

Comparatively speaking, the Navajo country has a million head of sheep and 500,000 head of goats. Traders who were fortunate were able to get 25¢ for mohair. Mexican goat hide is worth 5¢. In actual cash that is the size of the revenue from goats. We do not, with the possible exception of Mr. Stacher's reservation, have milk goats. They are just common goats or mohair goats. It seems to me that one of the biggest steps in extension is to get rid of those goats. The sheep and cattle are the only source of revenue to the Navajos and they will have to be continued as grazing stock for all time. If we could reduce the number of stock on the reservation by one-third (that is what it would mean to get rid of the goats) we would be making a very long step in progress. The only way to do that will be to get rid of them. We cannot sell them. We cannot find a market for goats. If we supplied everyone in the United States who wanted goat we would not get rid of our surplus stock. They increase faster than the sheep. The only way to stop their increase is to stop their breeding and the only way to stop their breeding is to castrate the goats. That is a man-sized job and anyone who does not want to take a load on his shoulders should not attempt anything of that sort. But when we know a thing is for the good of the people we are dealing with, we should not back up because it is a hard job. We are going to meet opposition. After the bucks are castrated there is only one thing the Navajo can do with those goats and that is eat them because in a few years they will be too old and die of old age and the problem will be solved in that way. They will not wait for that. They are good traders. They will find some way to dispose of those goats. I think most of us agree the Navajo had just as soon have goat as mutton and from now until spring they had rather because the goat is in better shape. The

Navajos are perfectly willing to share their neighbor's problems and I believe that as soon as that program is put in practice these Navajos with a large number of goats will begin trading these with Indians having all sheep. And in that way distribution of sheep, cutting down on the larger herds, will be possible.

At the time the office sent out the letter to all superintendents on that proposition and asked for comments, I told the Office that the only way it would be possible for superintendents to do that and the only way they would consent to it would be with a direct order from the office. It cannot be a half measure. It will have to be 100% and we are going to meet plenty of opposition, but if we have the order from the Indian Office and the Commissioner to do that it will go across just the same as it did a few years ago with the horses. I believe it is worth considering.

Mr. Monahan:

What about this question of a different fee on goats?

Mr. McCray: (Northern Navajo)

It will take twenty years to make any appreciable reduction of goats. I would say boost it up on the demonstration area.

Mr. Monahan:

This fee is only for the demonstration area.

Mr. Zeh:

I thought it was to apply to all the reservation.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

If it is justifiable on the demonstration area it is justifiable on the rest of the reservation.

Mr. Monahan:

I am going to ask the superintendents and others if they wish to do so, to write me in the Washington Office with follow-up suggestions as you think of them in the next few days. Let us have the full information -- whatever occurs to you or occurs to any of your men that you would like to send in. I wish that you would note on your letters that they are for my attention.

Mr. Paris, do you think of anything else we should take up?

Mr. Paris: (Santa Fe School)

I do feel this: I do not believe there is a superintendent here or any

employee who has not felt a different atmosphere in this meeting than in other meetings held. I would like to see an expression from this number of appreciation of Mr. Monahan's having come here and carried on this meeting and reaching the conclusions we have reached. I think a lot of his opinions and I think he has demonstrated to all of you that he is going to give these matters every attention and I think he is entitled to a vote of appreciation. I hope he will go away from here feeling that we all feel that way about him.

Mr. Monahan:

I think the spirit shown is vary, very fine and I feel that we are making a start in this line.

Mr. Zeh:

I want to know if Mr. McCray's suggestion meant to dispose of all goats or provide for a family herd.

Mr. McCray: (Northern Navajo)

I think that if that is considered they should be furnished with a milk goat and we should control the breeding of the milk goats.

Mr. Hunter: (Southern Navajo)

In behalf of myself and the folks of my organization I wish to express appreciation to Mr. Monahan for coming out here and helping us and I particularly wish to express appreciation for the sympathetic and considerate way in which he has conducted this meeting.

Mr. McCray: (Northern Navajo)

I think all superintendents who feel that way should signify it by standing.

(All stand.)

The meeting adjourned at 12 o'clock, m.