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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

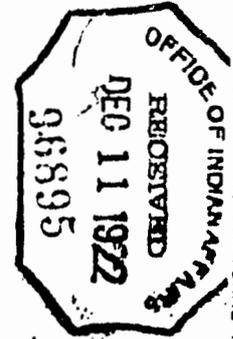
UNITED STATES INDIAN FIELD SERVICE

NAVAJO INDIAN AGENCY

Fort Defiance,

Arizona.

Dec. 5, 1922.



REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Commissioner:

Referring to the third paragraph of Office letter of August 25, 1922, citation above, regarding the irrigation project at Canado I wish to submit a full and complete report thereon.

Under separate cover I am mailing your Office a tracing of the land under the Canado Project, which will give your Office an idea of what has been done and what remains undone. The plat shows the allotment assigned to each individual Navajo; the number of acres farmed by each is marked in red ink. The canal on the north side of the wash, as is shown on the map, is complete as far as the Hubbell Homestead. Below that point flumes have not been put across the arroyos, and the greater part of what has been constructed is more or less filled with sediment, etc. The land under the north side canal contains a great deal of adobe and is badly cut up by arroyos, and if leveled and graded would take an enormous amount of work to put in tillable condition. I believe that the Indians would be unable to irrigate and farm this land successfully.

Filed in attached envelope.

Of the land that has been assigned as allotments I submit the following facts:- Mrs. John Owens, Doctor Yesomite and Tom Winker have recently been assigned their allotments and have not had sufficient time to level them or get the land ready for irrigation, but they expect to have it in such shape as to be able to raise a crop this coming year. Ashie-hin Binallie and Hosteen Gahn should have most of their allotments under cultivation. Kee Williams and Bert Yashie have nearly all the good land on their allotments cultivated.

The canal on the south side of Section 5, Twp. 26, Range 26 is in good condition most of the way. Nearly all of this land is sandy loam and as there is quite a fall from the canal to the wash this tends to make the ditches wash a great deal while irrigating. Concerning allotments I have to state as follows:- Pretty Girl: Only two acres of this allotment can be irrigated. The Presbyterian Mission has 20.00 acres under cultivation. Yashie Holmes, most of the land not farmed is on the side of hills and cannot be easily irrigated. Loco, the part not farmed

cannot be easily irrigated. Lot 34 in Sec. 27 and Lot 1 in Sec. 34 and inside Mr. Hubbell's fence is in alfalfa, this is included in the 100 acres that he has under cultivation. Miguelito, several acres are cut by small arroyos and balance of the allotment not under cultivation is being leveled. Chischillie Begay, this is all very poor land, it is hilly and much cut up by arroyos. Na-ne-bah, the part not farmed is used for buildings, a small part along the river is no good. Sam Whonaghne, several acres more of this allotment should be cultivated, part of it is on a hill. Dosola Curley, five acres are in timber which is being cleared, some poor land along the river and some occupied by buildings. John Curley, the part of this allotment not now farmed is being cleared and leveled. Etzanally Bochay, several acres of this allotment is cut up by arroyos, the rest of it should be farmed. Tapan Etsosie, Yellowhair, Dolth Curley, Tom Curley, Denalth Jinne Begay and Denalth Jinne Begay Badonni have all the land on their allotments that is any good under cultivation. Lot 21 in Sec. 33 is hilly, also the SE 1/4 of NE 1/4 of SE 1/4 Sec. 32. Gana Bitsee, all the good land is being farmed, some is cut by arroyos and some on hills. Kin la chee, this allotment is south of the canal but can be irrigated, the land is being leveled. Edward McCabe, six acres under cultivation, the rest can be cultivated but must be leveled before it can be irrigated. Roan Horse's Son, this allotment is nearly all good level land, about five acres has been farmed in the past, none of it was farmed this last year, it should all be under cultivation. Smiles Bikis, this allotment should all be cultivated. Bosh-la-kai Binalli, this allotment should all be under cultivation.

The total amount of land under irrigation, including Mr. Hubbell's homestead and the Mission land is approximately 330 acres. A large amount of land, as shown on the map, has been subdivided into ten acre tracts below the Cornfields Day School. About 95 per cent of this land, which is subdivided, is quite level, very easily irrigated and would require but a very little leveling and is far better land than is now being farmed by the Indians. If the canal could be extended so it would take in all of the land from Section 10 to Section 30, which is the best land in this valley, the Indians would derive a great deal of benefit therefrom. When I located the Day School at the Cornfields there were many families living in that locality who were doing a great deal of farming, before the Ganado Reservoir was built and were raising good crops by irrigating their fields from the water that they took out of the wash. Since the reservoir has been built they have been unable to do any farming to speak of on account of their not being able to get water at the proper time, it being turned into the reservoir. Practically all of these Indians became discouraged and abandoned their land and moved away to some other place where they could do dry farming. I asked several Indians why they did not continue their farming around the Cornfields as they used to do and their answers were that they were unable to get water on thier crops at the proper time and that they were a failure, but before the reservoir was built they were always able to get water to raise good crops.

In looking over the plat you will notice that all of the land that is within reach of the canal is taken up by Indians and a great effort is being made in farming.

The land north of the arroyo in Section 27 and 28 I doubt if we will be able to get any Indians to take up and level it so that it will be suitable to raise a crop. The expense of leveling is too great for them to undertake. The land in Section 31 and 32, which has been subdivided, and is north of the wash, cannot be cultivated until the canal is built. As it is now the Indians living in the Ganado district receive but a very little benefit from the reservoir, which has cost the government something like \$65,000. to construct. I presume the delay in constructing these canals is due to the lack of funds.

I respectfully request that three blueprints of the land under the irrigation project be made and mailed to this office for future reference.

Very respectfully,

Peter Paquette
Superintendent.

PP/H