REPRODUCED FROM THE HOLDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES - LOS ANGELES BRANCH

Castle Butte Station,
Leupp Indian Agency,
Dilkon, Arizona.

August 12, 1929.

Mr. J. E. Palmer,
Superintendent Leupp Indian Agency,
Leupp, Arizona.

Dear Sir:

Kindly accept my range report, Castle Butte District. Taking in years of 1927, 28, & 29, I find that the Castle Butte District range is overly grazed, and that the Indian does not have sufficient land to range his ~~xxxxx~~herds. For the past three years, up until after July 4, 1929, we have had a terrible drouth, little or no rain to speak of. The Indians lost a great many sheep during this time, due to the fact that there was no feed, and very little stock water. Since July 4th, we have been getting considerable rain, which I understand is very unusual in this dry, arid, section. Grass, however, is very short, even with the aid of this rain. It is not over an inch and one-half high, which means at this late in the season, it will not get over two or three inches more growth before fall. Some localities of my district, where sheep have passed over very frequently, going to the water holes, the grass is entirely gone, and erosion is taking place, which will mean that there will, perhaps, never be any more grass in those localities. The localities mentioned are quite large areas, therefore, it cuts down the grazing land in this district.

Water development that has been carried on, has helped a little in opening up some two thousand acres of grazing land, but even with that, it is hard to notice any change in conditions. What the Indian really needs is more grazing land, when you figure that it takes about seven acres to take care of one sheep.

Very respectfully,

O S Lewis

U. S. Stock Ranger.

I hereby swear that the above letter contains facts that are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

O S Lewis

Subscribed and sworn to ~~xx~~ before me this twelfth day of August, 1929.

(Signed) Wallace D. Bailey.

Postmaster,
Cedar Springs, Arizona.

Postmarked.

17-X