

N.J.

(Copy)

Feb. 7, 1931.

25-15 054
31

Hon. H. J. Hagerman,
Special Commissioner to negotiate . .
with Indians,
Santa Fe, New Mexico.

My dear Mr. Hagerman:

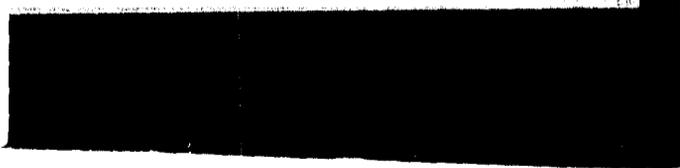
Receipt is acknowledged of your report of May 20, 1930, on the matter of setting aside under fence for the separate use of the Hopi Indians two tracts of land, one adjacent to the Hopi mesas within the present so-called Hopi Reservation, and one adjacent to the Moencopi Wash in the Western Navajo jurisdiction. Your report has been very carefully considered and discussed and we are of the opinion that there should be set aside and fenced for the exclusive use of the Hopis a reasonable and fair area of land. You specify certain boundaries for the proposed segregations and we are disposed to accept your recommendations as to these boundaries. The first area around the Hopi mesas would contain about 440,000 acres and would, as you report, include practically all, if not more than all, the land which has been within the memory of living man used by the Hopi Indians for grazing purposes in this vicinity. The second area would include a reasonable tract of land for the use of the Moencopi band of Hopis who, while they settled in the Moencopi Wash at a comparatively recent date, have apparently so definitely acquired occupational rights that the Office has no disposition to even try to dispossess them, but, on the contrary, desires to define, if possible, a reasonable area for their exclusive use. It has for years been the hope of this Department that the Hopi and Navajo Indians would become so friendly and cooperative as to enable them to live in the same country without any jurisdictional or other differences. While they are in fact not definitely inimical but, on the contrary, do intermingle at times on more or less friendly terms, it is also true that the racial and social differences within the two tribes do persist, and apparently will continue to persist, to such degree as to make real amalgamation virtually impossible and to indicate that if at all practicable separate districts should be designated for the use of each group.

You state that it would cost approximately \$14,000 to erect

342
308.0

100A

342-21



(Copy)

H J

the fence and while the lines you now suggest are in general those which you believe should be fenced, that if the matter of segregation is assented to in principle, more accurate investigations and surveys in the field will be necessary. That sum of money is not now available for such fencing and it would not be without direct appropriation by Congress. We will probably not be disposed to ask for such appropriation until the next regular session of Congress. In the meantime, we desire that you, with the help of Mr. Radcliffe, Superintendents Miller and Walker, and such other field men as may be desirable, when you have the time to do so, proceed to more definitely investigate the proposed lines with a view of being able to designate them specifically when the time comes. Also, please give us any further news which may come to you in the course of these field investigations as to the general question and any particular reactions of the Indians of either group during the coming months.

We read with interest the minutes of the conference held at Flagstaff on November 6, 1930, at which members of both the Hopi and Navajo tribes were present at at which this and other matters were discussed. We approve of your having sent mimeographed copies of the proceedings of this council to the various Hopi pueblos. It is a satisfaction to know that representatives of the two tribes have at last met in a friendly council and that in spite of certain disagreements appearing between them at the council it was in general a friendly meeting. We hope that there may be such meetings in the future.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) C. J. Rhoads,

Commissioner.

Approved.

Feb. 7, 1931.

(Sgd.) RAY LYMAN WILBUR.