

MEMORANDUM concerning Commissioner Brophy's instructions of October 1, 1945, to Mr. Zeh to visit the Hopi Reservation.

I arrived at Keams Canyon Monday, October 8, The first four days were used to meet various leaders of the villages and discuss with them my desire to meet with the Hopi Indians for the purpose of discussing:

1. Certain specific and generalized allegations made by Roger Quochytewa, Governor of Oraibi.
2. The economic conditions in general of the Hopi Indians so that recommendations could be made to improve the economy of the Hopi's.

Numerous field trips were taken at that time and a very good picture of conditions of District #6 was obtained (see attached map.)

The leaders apparently decided to meet in general meeting rather than by villages or Mesas and informed Mr. Ladd and Mr. Zeh that they desired a meeting to be held at Toreva School October 13. This meeting turned out to be rather a preliminary meeting and Tuesday October 16 was agreed upon as the date of the next meeting which was to be held at Toreva School also. The third meeting was held at Oraibi School on October 17.

Since the meetings were all general meetings, it was deemed advisable to let the Indians talk themselves out and during this process attempt to analyze the trends and purposes of the talks. Consequently, very few questions were asked and I listened and encouraged them to talk freely.

During the second meeting the leaders of the villages were given a chance to make their talks. This process lasted all during this meeting. (Minutes of meeting are attached.)

During the next meeting, held at Oraibi School on Wednesday, October 17, the chairman opened up the meeting to anyone in the assembly.

Impressions gained at these meetings can be summarized as follows:

Roger Quochytewa, now Governor of Orabibi, and his group which includes Carl Johnson and Emory Sekaguaptewe, all from Oraibi, are apparently working hard to become the recognized leaders of the Hopi Indians. The vehicle on which Roger Quochytewa apparently is planning to ride to power is the discontent and criticism against the Superintendent and the government which they are able to build up due to the stock reduction program and the plan to construct a drift fence along the present boundary of District #6. (This drift fence is to keep Navajo stock from trespassing on the already too small area assigned to the Hopi Indians.)

Unity of action of the Hopi tribe was repeatedly stressed by the Oraibi group. Unity of action in itself is ammendable in most cases. However, it apparently is not a cardinal virtue of the Hopi's who in past years have acted as village groups rather than a unified tribe. It apparently is for this reason that the tribal council as such has not been much of a success in the past.

Very few direct complaints against the Superintendent were made during these meetings. In the final analysis they were weak since there were generalizations, such as "we don't like him anymore", "have lost our confidence in him", "he tells each village a different story", etc. One specific statement which was verified as being correct was a statement by Peter Kuwamsa that a reservoir was built above his field without talking it over with the Indians whose fields were below the dam. Mr. Powell, SMC, admitted that Peter was right and that they inadvertently neglected to do so. However, Superintendent Ladd assured me that he would get in touch with Peter and discuss the matter with him on the ground. The construction of this dam had definite merits. However, a preconstruction discussion with Peter would have avoided this cause of complaint.

It appeared to the listener that a few others who indicated discontentment with their Superintendent obtained their instructions from someone else, presumably Roger Quochoytewa, but were poorly thought out so that their presentation rather detracted than added to the weight of complaint against the Superintendent.

More important than complaints against the Superintendent appeared to be the general feeling among the group that:

1. They as a tribe were being neglected to the advantage of the Navajo.
2. The drift fence now under construction was a determined effort on the part of the government to define the Hopi Reservation to the present District #6, set up by the Navajo Superintendent.
3. The stock reduction plus the small area of District #6 left the Hopi without sufficient means by which they could make a fair living.
4. Due to the construction of the drift fence the Hopi were being deprived of any further claims or rights on the Executive Order Reservation of 1882.
5. If the Hopi permitted the construction of this fence they would be indicating their concurrence to the steal of their rightful claims to the land within the confines of the Executive Order Reservation.

For your general information a few facts are stated below:

Area of Executive Res.	2,472,320 acres	..
Area of District #6	631,194 "	
No. of Hopi Indians on District #6	3,560 "	
No. of Navajos on Exec. Order. Res. (given to me by Window Rock)	6,127 "	
No. of sheep units permitted on District #6	23,127 "	
No. of Navajo sheep units on Exec. Order Res.	93,921 "	

Roughly speaking only one-half of the Hopi Indians are stock owners. The stock reduction amounted to about 30 per cent or 7,410 sheep units. There

appears to be practically no possibility to add irrigated areas to their farming lands and the irrigated areas at present are very small and some of them practically complete failures.

A relatively small acreage can be added for farming purposes through the use of flood waters by constructing dams similar to the one on the Polacca Wash built by SMCO. None of these aids, however, will ever supply the entire Hopi population with sufficient land to support adequately the present and future Hopi population. It is estimated that probably not more than one-half of the present Hopi population can ever secure a reasonable living standard from the land now confined to District #6.

Their present income has been augmented by the checks, amounting to about \$100,000 per year, from the men in the armed services. This additional income, however, will soon cease.

Concerning the specific charges of Roger Quochytewa that:

"An unsuitable area was fenced for bull pasture." I can state that I have inspected the bull pasture area and believe that the selection of the area was good. What Mrs. Walthers, who has also submitted complaints, probably saw was the holding pasture near the Keams Canyon store, in Keams Canyon, where bulls are kept for a very short time for the purpose of being picked up by the Indians before being taken to the range or where they are returned after the breeding season before being taken to their regular pasture.

"He built an unnecessary dipping trough for the tribal buck herd." The dipping vat in question was visited. It is located just to the east of the school area in Keams Canyon. It is a much smaller than standard-sized vat. The purpose of this vat is to dip newly purchased bucks before turning them out on the Reservation. Usually the number purchased is fairly small, probably 30 to 50 bucks at a time. This small vat does not require the large amount of medicine that a standard sized vat, dipping several thousand head, requires. ~~They find~~ by using this vat a considerable saving is made. I consider the construction and use of this vat good management.

"That he compelled the return of individually owned bucks to the buck pasture." The return of bucks to the buck pasture after the breeding season is good stock management practiced by all leading sheepmen. This plan had been concurred in by the Hopi Indians. It is a practice that will bring them increased returns since it times the birth of lambs and the lamb losses are reduced by having the lambs come when the weather is warm and feed is more plentiful. A 40 per cent lamb crop was not uncommon when the old practice of leaving the rams with the herd yearlong was practiced. The lamb crop under the new plan has been more than doubled.

"That he caused stallions to be castrated without the consent of the owners." I do not have the answer to this allegation and will have to get it at my next visit.

"That he purchased a sheep shearing machine without the knowledge or consent of the headman." This allegation is true and was carried out since

there was no time in which to hold lengthy meetings. To do so would have taken too much time and caused the funds to become unavailable for this purpose. Since the purchase of this machine, many Hopis have used it and are seeing the advantage of shearing their sheep by machine. It not only adds to the weight of the fleece sheared, but has the added advantage of making it possible to tie the wool which further insures an increased price. Shearing by machine is a good practice which no doubt will be used by more and more Hopi sheepmen each year.

"That he condoned immoral practices on the part of an unnamed employee." This case was unknown to Superintendent Ladd. The only employee he thought it could possibly refer to was the Doctor at Keams who was on leave during the period of my visit.

The accusation made by Mrs. Walther in connection with the construction of the reservoirs appears to be typical of all her allegations in that they indicate clearly that she is speaking of things about which she has very little knowledge. An inspection of these water developments showed them to be pit reservoirs or charcos where no reinforcement of steel or concrete is used since a pit reservoir is merely a hole in the ground which stores as many cubic feet of water as the number of cubic feet of dirt taken out. Their location was well selected and all had functioned properly since construction.

Briefly stated, it appears that the following facts prevail:

1. That the present resources available to the Hopis on District #6 are inadequate to provide the Hopi Indians with a satisfactory standard of living.

2. The Exec. Order Reservation of 1882 can probably never be made entirely available to the Hopis (if they have that right) because there are over 6,000 Navajo Indians on it now which would have to be taken care of first.

3. The area outside of District #6 is so heavily overstocked with Navajo Indians that any reduction in the Navajo population on the Exec. Order Reservation, unless it be nearly 100 per cent, would not make possible any expansion of Hopi range areas sufficient to meet their demands for a better standard of living.

4. It appears therefore that any improvement in the Hopi economy must come from sources other than land in the areas accessible to their Mesa villages.

5. A small measure of improvement can come from:

- a. Continued stock and range improvement
- b. Further development of flood water areas such as the Polacca area.
- c. Improving the technique of marketing their arts and crafts, etc.
- d. Improving farming and horticultural practices

6. The execution of all items under No. 5, however, will not be a solution to the problem. The efforts toward a solution must be much more far-reaching.

7. The migration to the Colorado River Reservation if continued and stepped up will help.

8. New industries, developed on a sound basis can be a material aid in the improvement of the Hopi economy.

9. A high standard of education (equal to whites or better) designed to fit the Hopi Indians to compete with the outside of the Reservation world appears to be indicated.

10. An efficiently functioning organization set up to aid and encourage the qualified individuals to seek employment off the reservation should prove useful and valuable. This selection of individuals should probably ~~have~~ already started in the school years.

Most of the items mentioned are long range problems. For action in the near future all steps under #5 should be ~~performed~~ perfused together with an allotment of sufficient funds to carry on work projects up to approximately \$100,000.00. This amount can be reduced if a sufficient large number of Hopi Indians can be induced to seek outside work while the present favorable conditions for work continue.

From a morale building standpoint I feel that a visit from the Commissioner will be most valuable and will build up the confidence and understanding of the Hopi Indians in the efforts of the government to aid and assist them in the solution of their problems.