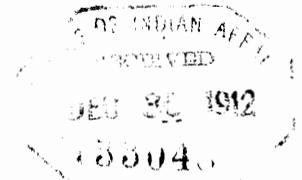


4389

Flagstaff, Arizona,

Hon. H. F. Ashurst, U. S. Senator,
Hon. M. A. Smith, U. S. Senator,
Washington, D. C.



Gentlemen:

We respectfully call your attention to a band of some 225 Navajo Indians, that has left the Western Navajo and Leupp Reservations, and is roaming over the country between the Little Colorado River and the Tusayan Forest Reserve.

They use water stored by white stock men and are in other ways a menace to the stock men of this locality.

On one occasion an armed party of these Indians forced a white sheep man to move his flock during a snow storm, thereby inflicting a heavy loss upon him.

About five years ago, some 115 of these Indians received tentative allotments on the public domain in the locality referred to above, under Section 4, of the General Allotment Act of February 8, 1887. None of these Indians have complied with the conditions of this Act and the nature of the allotments is such that it is not possible for the Indians to live upon them, with possibly a few exceptions.

There is plenty of vacant land on either of the

H. F. A. - M. A. S. #2,

reservations mentioned above to supply all these Indians, and the land is of better quality than any of the allotments they have received on the public domain.

It is perhaps advisable that water be developed on the Western Navajo Reservation for stock and for irrigation, and we respectfully urge that you use your influence in getting this reservation its share of the appropriations, Support of Indians in Arizona and New Mexico and Irrigation of Indian Reservations.

Large sums have been spent in recent years for irrigation purposes on the San Juan, the Navajo, (Fort Defiance), and the Zuni Reservations, while the Western Navajo and Leupp have been almost entirely neglected.

We respectfully urge that you take these matters up with the Secretary of the Interior at your earliest convenience and ask that a reliable man be sent to investigate and report on the condition of Indians on and off these reservations, with view of having these Indians returned to their respective reservations.

For this work we respectfully recommend the selection of Mr. Matthew M. Murphy, Supervisor of Farming, now located at Tuba, Arizona. Mr. Murphy has been in the Government service here for the past eight years and is familiar with conditions.

H. F. A. - M. A. S. #3.

We have such confidence in his honesty and integrity that we feel sure his report when made will deal justly with the interests of all parties concerned.

Very respectfully,

W. W. Durham
O. L. Hart
W. G. Dickinson
Tom Collins
W. C. Colcord
S. S. Aker
Cutter Hart
Charles W. Heiser
Harry Hebban
N. Babbitt
L. J. Beard
A. H. Beasley

J. C. Truer sec. Coconino Cattle
growers association
Wm. M. Rudd Jr.
A. J. Diamond
G. W. Hart
E. L. Dargatzis
Tom Francis
Hugh E. Campbell
D. E. Collins
J. W. Fisher