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A. J. ...
11177-24
N. Y. C.

Director of ...

OCT 27 1914

W. J. ...

of the ...

...

... is enclosed copy of a letter dated May 13, 1914, ... to this Office by ... which he claims to ...

... is ... of the ... the records of your ...

Very truly yours,

COPY

O'Neil, Nevada, May 18, 1914.

Dept. of Interior,
Division of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

I am a Shoshone Indian, raised on a little ranch near Wells, Nevada. My father had lived on this place for many years prior to his death. After he died I took charge of the ranch and made my living there up to 1913. I have the land fenced and entirely cultivated. The amount of land embraced in this claim to the best of my knowledge is 45 or 50 acres. In 1913 a man by the name of Meabes came there and took the land and told me to leave. Some white men said that he had taken this land as a Desert land entry with other lands adjoining it. The white men also tell me that if he could take my land from me he would have no right to take it under the desert land act as it was not desert land. I had it cultivated part of it with a part of hay and other parts potatoes, grain and other vegetables which I lived on. I am writing you to find out if there is any way for me to get my ranch back. If you need any further information in reference to this I can get it.

As for the description of the land at present I can not give it but if you want that let me know and I will have a white man get it and I will send it to you. This man that took my ranch also took my implements. I have a wife, two children, an aged mother and a niece 12 years old to support and the loss of this ranch makes it very hard for me to make a living for the people depending on me for their living. I trust you will give this matter your immediate attention.

Yours very truly,

(signed) Tim Jones (Indian)

O'Neil, Elko County,

Nevada.

P.S. The man Meabes who took my ranch is a white man.

Dunlap, Calif. Nov. 13, 1914.

r. Tim Jones,
O'Neill, Nevada.

Dear Sir:-

The question in reference to your land which it seems has been taken by some one else and regarding which you wrote to Washington on May, 18, 1914 has just been referred to me for report but it arrived at a time I had a few weeks work laid out which will take my time until about the first of December.

I now plan to come to Wells very early in December and look the matter over very carefully and hope that I may find the means of restoring the land to you if the facts are as stated by you.

I should be there by the 10th of December and possibly I may be able to get there a few days earlier.

If the land is near Wells I hope I may meet you there and save taking the time to go away out to O'Neill. I will try to write to you again telling you just when to expect me.

Very respectfully,

W. J. Jones
Special Indian Agent.

Land
Allotments.
1887-16.
D. V. C.

State of Wisconsin
Allotment.

Dec. 5, 1914.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In compliance with Office letter above of October 27th, I have to report that I have visited this land, in company with Jim Jones, who makes the complaint, but I was unable to see Mr. McAbee, as he was away from home and out of reach of convenient transportation. I am enclosing a little sketch that will assist in understanding the situation. Jim Jones has lived in this little valley all his life and his father lived there for many years, before he was born. This fact can be substantiated by the evidence of old settlers in the locality, but he can't live on the S. E. 1/4 of Section 34, which is covered by Mr. McAbee's application. He has sometimes had a small garden on the S. W. 1/4 of 34, as indicated on the sketch, but his meadow was all, or probably all, in section 35, which belongs to the Railroad Company. The N. W. 1/4 of Section 34 is the allotment of Dave Herrick, serial number 62317 ELNo 044. Dave Herrick had made his home adjacent to the Jones' camp for a good while and was very near the line, but possibly his house is on his own land.

Mr. McAbee has now had this application for almost three years and I can hardly believe that he intends to attempt to make final proof on the land, as he has built no fence, he has none

of the land under cultivation, except a small garden patch that the Indians had formerly used and which he sowed in grain and the rabbits ate it all up as soon as it came through the ground. He has never produced a single thing on the land and the Indians, who live near by and on the only road leading to his house, say that he has never lived there, that they doubted whether he ever slept on the land and they were very positive that his family had never slept there a single night. He is now living and has been living on some land that he purchased, a mile or two north of there.

As to the Indian's allegation that they were driven off of their land, it is not substantiated by the Indian's own statement, at this time. He says, that Mr. Meabe had told him, he had lived on the land where their garden was; but they say that they were never disturbed in the use of their small meadows, down in Section 33; that they were away from their land, when they were working on the ranges, but that they considered it their home all the time and came back there occasionally. As to Mr. Meabe having taken their implements, it seems that Jones had left a plow about his place, when he was away for several weeks and when he came back, it was gone. He has no idea who took it; he has never seen it in Mr. Meabe's possession, nor on his place; and he has no reason whatever to think that Mr. Meabe took the plow.

The only water there of any consequence is down on Section 35, where there is sufficient to make a few tons of hay and I believe if it was handled properly, it could be carried out onto the sage

12/7/14.

brush ground and a small garden made. I explained to the Indian how I thought he could increase the efficiency of that water.

I hardly think we have ground to contest the claim of Mr. Keebe, as the Indians were not living on his land, though they had had a small garden there some years ago. Tim Jones has recently built a new house, which, as indicated, is on the Keebe land, but this house has been built within the past few months. I visited this land a year or a year and a half ago, there was no house at that place, at that time, nor had there ever been, nor had the Indians claimed that they had ever lived there. In the event, that Mr. Keebe is willing to relinquish this land, it might be advisable to have the Indian file his application on it, as they consider it their home and it would protect the pasture for their stock and give them back their little garden patch. I wrote to Mr. Keebe, at the time I made this examination, but so far have not heard from him.

If the Act of March 4, 1913 applied to Nevada land, I would recommend that this matter be taken up with the Railroad Company, with a view to getting this land for this family, but suppose there is no such law applying to Nevada land.

I would recommend, however, that the necessary notation be made on the land office records, that will result in the attention of the Indian Office being called to any application for final proof, that may be made on this land, in order that we may make a further inquiry at that time and possibly protect further the interests of this Indian.

Mr. Jim Jones
Allotment.

14.

12/7/14/

Personally, I don't believe that Mr. Hoabeo will ever
attempt to make final proof and had I been able to see him,
I might have secured his relinquishment.

Very respectfully,

Special Indian Agent.

W. H. B. Jones

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RENO, NEVADA,

Nov. 8, 1915.

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Mr. M. Jones,
c/o Geo. Hammond,
Wells, Nevada.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of October 22, in reference to some trouble about your land. As I explained to you before and as I think I wrote you at one time, the land where you built your house was filed on by Mr. Meabe and at the time I was up there his application was still in effect and I believe that he expressed the intention at that time of completing his proof on that land. The land just below your house, where the meadow was and where the spring is, is railroad land and you have just as much right to it as they do also, unless they have secured a lease from the railroad company. Just across the fence from your house, to the North, is the corner of the allotment made to Dave Herrick on which Mr. Meabe has no right and which you might be able to occupy, if satisfactory with Herrick. The records show that Mr. Meabe filed on that land before you attempted to file on it, though you probably had formerly made some garden on the land. If Mr. Meabe is now attempting to make his final proof, it is your right, as it would be the right of any one, to go to the land office and testify as to his use of the land and such testimony would be given

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consideration in the land office and if he has not complied with the law in reference to living on the land, or having a certain portion of it improved, his application might not be approved.

I corresponded with the railroad company regarding the purchase for you of the land where the meadow is, but we have no funds available for the purchase of the land. It is not practicable for me to come up there at this time, as I have such other work pressing for immediate attention. I hope that you will not have any trouble with Mr. Hoabee and I can hardly believe that he would do you any injury, if you conduct yourself properly. If those corner stakes that you showed me there are right, then you are just on the corner of the land that he applied for, though no use was being made of it at the time I was there. I will write to Mr. Hoabee by this same mail and trust that the matter can be settled without any difficulty.

Very respectfully,

Special Indian Agent.

WES. JOHNSON COMPANY

INCORPORATED

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

MONTELO, NEVADA

March 16th 1933.

Indian Agent,
Reno, Nev.

Dear Sir:

George Moore, an Indian son of Wells or Deeth, has asked me to write you in his behalf, soliciting a little aid.

He tells me that he wrote you some time past, and that you advised him that if he would return to Wells or Deeth that you would allow him a small amount monthly.

This man seems to be a very good Indian, he has been living here all winter, has a wife and one child and has had a hard time making end meet, in fact had it not been for the help given him he would not have made it.

His boy is attending the Public Schools here, and the father says he dislikes very much to move from here at least until the end of the school year, and has asked us to write you asking if you could not help him as you do Thirty Mile Charley, that is allowing him to receive a certain amount of food stuff from this concern monthly, we mailing our bill to The Carson Indian School monthly for payment.

This man has worked whenever he has been able to get work and we feel is really entitled to a little help, but things everywhere are pretty quiet and a job is hard to find.

Yours truly,

Wes. Johnson Company,

A. R. Cave Mgr.

Hasn't Mr. Johnson been taking care of this?

Carson Indian School,
Stewart, Nevada.

March 23, 1933.

Mr. A. R. Cave,
Manager Gen. Johnson Company,
Montello, Nevada.

Dear Mr. Cave:

I have your letter of March 16th, requesting aid for George Moore, an Indian who formerly lived at Wells and Ruby Valley.

Our funds for aid of Indians are practically exhausted, but we have some Red Cross flour that we could supply this man if he were at Wells, where our field station has other Indians whom she visits.

Now that spring is here, George can undoubtedly find some work to do. He is not an old man and his great failing heretofore has been his fondness for drink.

In a general way we feel that Indians who go to live at distant points should become a part of the communities where they live and should be treated the same as other indigents in the counties, and this view is taken by the Comptroller General of the United States who has ruled that we cannot expend government funds for the class of Indians known as "non-wards."

Very sincerely yours,

Frederic Snyder,
Superintendent.

FS:A



STATE OF UTAH
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SALT LAKE CITY

HENRY H. BLOOD
GOVERNOR

November 7, 1940

N. L. WILSON
SOLICITOR GENERAL

Mr. Glenn S. Weaver
SPECIAL AGENT
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Joshua Sub-agency
Tropic, Utah

My dear Mr. Weaver:

During my absence from the office on Tuesday, April 23rd of 1940, Mr. and Mrs. Wiggins and Mrs. J. Robinson, both of Wells, Nevada, called with reference to a resolution adopted at a meeting in Wells, October 17, 1940. They also had copies of covenants for certain treaties of peace and friendship which they said had been signed in 1850 at San Felipe and "Gallia", Utah, and Easy Valley, Nevada, the terms of which they asserted had not been fulfilled by the United States government.

The meeting held at Wells, October 17, adopted a resolution pledging loyalty to the United States in case this nation were attacked but opposing any plan to involve this nation in a war in Europe.

Their visit to this office was to request that I should assist in bringing to the attention of the proper authorities the view taken by the delegates relative to the treaties. They left the office before decision was made as to proper procedure. Inquiry at the Salt Lake office of the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs brought the suggestion that this matter should be called to your attention and the thought was that it might be transmitted to the Commission of Indian Affairs through you. Hence, I am addressing this communication to you in order that you may make proper disposition of this subject.

The resolution adopted at Wells appeared in the minds of the members of the delegation to have some bearing on the enforcement of the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, and I am not certain that the

Mr. Clark L. Brayer-51

Nov. 7, 1954

provisions of that law are thoroughly understood by those attending the meeting at Wells.

I am enclosing a clipping from the Salt Lake Tribune of November 6, which contains an account of the nature of the questions discussed there by the group of 25 members of the delegation.

Very truly yours,

Henry J. ...

Governor

Western Shoshone Agency
Wynoo, Nevada
December 3, 1919

Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. Fred W. Baker

Sir:

This is in answer to Office letter of November 26 regarding the resolution passed by the members of the north-western band of Shoshone Indians, which was brought to the attention of the Commanding Officer of the Ninth Corps Area at Presidio, California.

The small group of Indians which adopted this resolution are the leaders of the minority group of the Western Shoshone Indians, including the Goshute group. These leaders are Annie's Tony of Goshute, Muehch Council of Ruby Valley and Tom Tabovens of the Wells Indian Colony.

The spirit of the resolution in declaring allegiance to the United States Government is very commendable. The promises referred to by the government in 1918 for Indians who served in the first world war is not understood. I doubt very much whether there is any foundation of such promises.

In so far as the Selective Service Act and the registration of Indians from different Western Shoshone Bands, there was only one Indian who refused at first to register. After the provisions of the act were explained, this individual registered without further complaint. Inasmuch as our Indians are scattered over such a tremendous area, great care was exercised to see that all eligibles were registered. In spite of all care taken, two Indian boys did not register, not because they refused, but because their whereabouts was not certain. One of them was supposedly somewhere in southern Idaho, the other in south-eastern Nevada or south-western Utah. It was hoped that these two boys registered wherever they may have been on registration day. Generally speaking the attitude was very commendable, in so far as all of our Indians under the jurisdiction of this agency regarding the Selective Service Act. Since registration day three of our Indian boys have enlisted for voluntary service with the Army, and many others are willing to do so whenever called upon to do so.

Commissioner

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December 3, 1940

From all available evidence, the action of the above mentioned members of the Shoshone Tribe of Indians, who were instrumental in adopting the resolution was just an indication of their small group, and was certainly not an official act on the part of the regular governing bodies of the different groups.

Respectfully,

Carl W. Beck,
Superintendent

cwb/ge