

The TOMAHAWK.

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A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER devoted to the interests of the White Earth Reservation and general Northwestern News. Published and managed by members of the Reservation.

Subscription rates: \$1.50 per annum. For the convenience of those who may feel unable to pay for the paper yearly or who wish to take it on trial, subscription may be sent us for six and three months at the yearly rates. All sums sent to us should be forwarded by registered letter to insure safety. Address all communications to.

THE TOMAHAWK
WHITE EARTH, MINN.

RESERVATION LANDS TO LEASE

100,000 acres of first class farm lands on White Earth Reservation, in tracts of 80 acres and more, by ALLOTTEES.

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LATE LAW CLERK, LAND DIVISION, INDIAN OFFICE.

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JOHN LEECY Prop.

SENSATIONAL CHARGES.

The following special dispatch from Fergus Falls, dated Oct. 24, appeared in the news columns of the Chicago Record-Herald on the Sunday following. It is a very sensational article but up to this time not one of the daily papers of the twin cities have contained this spicy bit of news or commented on it in any way. Ray W. Jones is the present lieutenant-governor of this state and Thos. Shevlin is a member of the Republican national committee. Here is the article:

"The federal government has filed sensational charges in the suit for timber trespass brought against the Commonwealth lumber company of Frazee, of which Ray W. Jones of Minneapolis is president and Thomas Shevlin a large stockholder. The government demands \$115,000 for stolen timber, most of it green, cut under the 'dead and down' law. This is demanded in addition to \$78,940 already paid by the company. The timber was all cut on the White Earth reservation. The government charges that Captain W. A. Mercer, former Indian agent at Leech Lake, who had charge of the White Earth timber, and Daniel Sullivan, superintendent of logging for the government, knowingly entered into a deal with the commonwealth company to defraud the government and the Indians."

Commenting on the above the Albert Lea Standard says:

As the Record-Herald well says, the charges are "sensational"—yet the twin city papers are mum.

Lieut. Gov. Ray W. Jones and Thos. Shevlin are accused of criminal conspiracy, of fraud and of grand larceny. We again inquire, if they have not been indicted, why not?

Perhaps the Preston Times, Ralph Wheelock, the pert young man of the Minneapolis Tribune, and other apologists and stool-pigeons of the timber thieves can answer and explain to us, maybe, that the thieves are yet "immune."

In the meantime the standard has not given away its entire case by a good deal—and it has not yet been served with any demand for retraction.—Long Prairie Democrat.

PROTECT YOUR LIBERTY.

"For the purpose of protecting the members of this reservation from unlawful detention by Indian Agent and by Indian police on this reservation, and to test the validity of the Indian Court, the undersigned hereby donate the sum opposite their respective names. The particular object for which this collection is made is to get out writs of habeas corpus and to commence suits against those who unlawfully detain members of this reservation without due process of law."

The foregoing is a copy of a subscription that is now being circulated on this reservation.

It has been the custom of the Indian agents to order members of this reservation to be thrown into the agency jail when they felt so disposed or were unfriendly to the latter, and this has been carried to such extremes during the past two years. On this account, and for their own protection, every member of this reservation should contribute something.

SETTLERS TRY TO BUILD AND ARE ARRESTED.

People Who Enter Ceded Reservation Land at Town of Richards, Prevented by Indian Agents From Erecting Houses.

CASS LAKE, Minn., Nov. 14.—A flurry of excitement occurred at the townsite of Riceards this afternoon by the arrest of 21 people who had taken possession of lands under the townsite law, as amended February 9th, 1903, to apply to the ceded reservations of Minnesota.

When the people interested in this new townsite law took possession they informed Major Scott, acting Indian agent, of their purpose and promised him they would not drive any nails until he received advices from Washington as to the legal standing of the case.

This promise was given on the 13th of October. After one month the Indian agent not receiving any word from Washington, the new townsite proprietors informed Major Scott of their intention to build, as the weather was growing cold and people could not live in tents any longer. Moreover, the day for making final proof on the land was rapidly approaching and it became necessary for the claimants to comply with certain conditions of the townsite law, both in residence and improvements.

On Friday the entire party began putting together their small houses, which had been framed. They had not been at work long before four of Captain Beaulieu's Indian policemen appeared upon the scene and commanded the people to stop and submit to arrest. This they did peacefully and marched one mile to Bena and surrendered to Captain Beaulieu, superintendent in charge.

The captain was very indignant at what he termed a violation of the law and disregard of orders. After a short parley he let the prisoners depart on their own recognisances. The arrests put an end to building operations for the present. The department of Indian affairs, through its representatives, Major Scott and Captain Beaulieu, have prevented the claimants from completing their improvements, therefore the responsibility, it is said, rests with that department. The claimants say they were acting entirely within their rights and were told to build by the best legal authorities in Washington.

A question that may cause Major Scott and his subordinates some trouble may arise out of this arrest. The Chippewa reservation is a ceded one. The townsite law was amended on February 9th, 1903, to apply to this reservation, so as to permit the building of towns within its confines. If any trespass had been committed it is argued that it was a matter for the general land department to determine and not the department of Indian affairs.—Duluth News Tribune.

TO TEACH INDIANS—There will be a civil service examination at St. Paul Dec. 15 for candidates for the position of teacher in Haskell Institute for Indians, Haskell, Kan. The salary is \$1,000 per annum and blanks can be obtained from the secretary of the civil service board at the St. Paul postoffice.

HON. C. J. BONAPARTE ON CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

In the recent twentieth annual conference of the Friends of the Indian at Lake Mohonk, N. Y., the Hon. C. J. Bonaparte, President Roosevelt's special representative in the recent investigation of Indian officials in the Territories gave his views on civil service as follows:

"All that I propose to say on this subject is to call to the attention of this conference what is meant by the application of civil service reform in the Indian Service. It means this, and nothing more, that the people and government of the United States shall free our country from one of the gravest reproaches that rests upon its history. I have heard, and I suppose you all have heard, in connection with Indian affairs of 'a century of dishonor.' I fear there is a considerable element of truth in the reproach implied in that term; but the dishonor does not lie in some of the supposed offenses usually imputed to the American Indian. Our national purpose toward the Indians has been uniformly just and humane; but we have intrusted the carrying out of intentions, in themselves good and worthy of a great nation, to most discreditable instruments.

"I know of no greater crime against humanity than to select for the care of a people in the condition of one of our Indian tribes, a man unfit for his office; or even a man whose unfitness not being ascertained is rendered probable by the fact that he is selected from unworthy motives. Too often, as you well know, a man is chosen because he has done questionable work for men who have attained political eminence and influence by questionable means; and to choose a man such as this to take charge of an Indian reservation, is as great an offense against the plain dictates of conscience and honor as it would be to put the like man in charge of an insane asylum, or an institution for the education of youth.

"The application of civil service reform principles to the Indian service means that, having chosen, by the best means we can devise, so as to exclude favoritism and unworthy motives,—so far as it can be excluded in the choice,—having, as I say, selected by the best means at our command men fit for their position, they shall be retained in those positions as long as they worthily discharge their duties toward the Indians placed in their care and the nation that employs them; and they shall be promptly, surely, and with an absolute disregard of all considerations of personal advantage or political profit, removed from those positions the very moment their unworthiness is ascertained, or even gravely suspected.

"I say 'suspected,' for the nation has no right to experiment upon the Indians by leaving in charge of any of these,—the true and undoubted wards of the nation—a man whose fitness for his charge is doubtful, or at least whose unfitness is probable.

"I know of nothing more disheartening to those who wish to think as well as we all wish to think of our country, as the difficulty which is experienced in securing the removal of men whose absolute unfitness for their positions; nay, whose disgraceful conduct; utterly unworthy char-

acter and disqualification for any position of trust have been established beyond any reasonable doubt, as politics are with us.

"They remain there because they are useful to those who have secured them their positions; they have always been, and will ever continue to be, chosen for the public service for those reasons, and they will be retained in their positions for the same reasons which have caused their selection; and while this is so, however this conference may endeavor to ameliorate the condition of our Indian fellow-Americans, we shall not have toward them that full duty imposed on us by our position in the world and by our duty toward them.

"I have known by personal experience men absolutely unworthy to be trusted in any relation of confidence,—men whose unworthiness has been shown by their own lives and by the standing which they occupied in the communities wherein they lived,—I have known such men appointed to positions of great importance and responsibility in the Indian service; and though their unfitness was called to the attention of the officers responsible for their appointment, and the facts regarding them were laid, first before one and then before another officer up to the president of the United States himself, yet they remained in their positions; because, as I remember to have happened in a practical instance, a senator of the United States said, 'That man must have and keep that place.' And his conduct afterwards was such as one could have expected from his conduct before. While such things are done this country will have good reason to be ashamed of its treatment of the Indians; and they will be done until the true principles of civil service reform, which demand simply the application of common sense and morality to the choice of public servants, are adopted there, where most of all it is necessary to the honor of the country that they should be adopted."

The Indian; Right and Wrong.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident; that ALL MEN are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these, are LIFE, LIBERTY, AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS"—Declaration of Independence July 4th, 1776.

Grand Opening.

The grand opening of the White Earth Hall will occur on the evening of Thanksgiving. The Hall will have been thoroughly renovated. Every comfort will be provided for. A new piano will be installed. The music will be furnished by the local orchestra. This perhaps will be the last dance until New Year's night as the majority of members on this reservation observe the season of advent. The ladies of the Woman's Guild Association of this reservation have kindly assured us their support in serving supper for the occasion, and the proceeds of supper will go to their association.

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