

Minnesota Historical Society  
State Capt. Blodg

Justice and Fair Dealing for every Indian who desires to become a good Citizen.

# THE TOMAHAWK.

Published in behalf of, and to secure the welfare of the Indians of the United States.

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Truth before Favor.

Vol. XV.

White Earth, Becker County, Minnesota, Thursday, March 14, 1918.

No. 47.

## THE TOMAHAWK.

GUS H. BEAULIEU, Founder.  
Edited by THE TOMAHAWK PUB. CO.,  
White Earth Agency, Minnesota.

Entered at the Postoffice at White Earth, Minn., as mail matter of the second class.

SUBSCRIPTION: \$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

Shoot the Spies and Hang the Traitors, especially those of the Hun stripe, and devote the vast sum of money which is employed for their board and keep during their holiday interment to the benefit of the Red Cross.

Abolish the Indian Bureau and enlist its 7,000 or more employees in the more needed service of the Army and Navy. This step would materially relieve the Red Man's Burden, cork up a big leak in their tribal funds and save the Nation millions of dollars which could be appropriated to a more creditable purpose.

## The Jurisdictional Bill.

The bill now before Congress to enable the Chippewas of Minnesota to appear in the Court of Claims to secure rights which the Department of the Interior has on certain points long denied, and on others has neglected, is a recognition of fair play. Congress still has not been blameless in one respect, for the taking of certain lands for a forest reserve, and Star Island, without provision for payment therefor was, to say the least, arbitrary. Attention was frequently drawn to the incidents by local and general councils and heretofore without effect.

The present Congress however has nobly rectified past mistakes, or will have done so when the Jurisdictional bill has become a law. We see no reason why the House Indian Committee should not report favorably and the bill passed in the House. The Senate should speedily endorse and pass the bill so as to permit the Chippewas to enter into the Court of Claims within the year mentioned in the bill. The bill has in mind the forestry lands and Star Island, but does not specify claims arising otherwise.

We have just claims against the federal government for lands granted to the State of Minnesota. The State came into possession of land under the Land Grant Act, both swamp and so called school lands within the boundaries of unceded territory.

The Chippewas were in possession under the recognized principle of ownership through occupancy and it is our firm conviction that no title is stronger.

We evidently have no claims against the State, and of course cannot regain title but we are entitled to remuneration at least to \$1.25 per acre in accordance with the terms of the Nelson Act of 1889.

If the bill passes we trust that the General Council to meet this summer will instruct the attorney to be appointed to sue for value of school and swamp lands as well as those of forestry.

We have no doubt but this will be done and mention of it is made at this time only with the intention of informing the people at large of the claims we have, and to be careful upon the several reservations

to send delegates who shall be men of information and persistent in effort.

These delegates should be men of intelligence and sobriety, men who will give every hour to the performance of duty.

## A Wise Decision.

According to reports from Washington the comptroller of the Treasury has held "that the approval of an account by the President of the General Council when properly certified to by the Secretary of the General Council and presented to the Department, leaves the Department nothing to do with it except to pay the same." The Department has all along contended otherwise, holding itself to be the scrutinizing eye over item of expenditure of a special appropriation for the use of the General Council.

It has been humiliating to the officials and delegates from the several agencies to be compelled to appear hat in hand asking an agent for transportation and subsistence when a General Council was to be held, and to be held down like infants for reports of incidental expenses. A parallel would be a mother giving a child a bag of candy and telling a nurse to take charge of the sweets and to report on the manner of mastication.

We believe it can be safely left to the Council to determine for itself regarding expenditures, and we further believe that the executive committee will always act prudently and economically if the Council is left to judge upon its own expenses.

## Who Foots The Indian Bill.

Somehow most people get it into their heads that the people of the United States, through Congress, each year take twelve millions of dollars out of the Treasury and give it to the Indians, or to "agents" who "look after and civilize the Indians."

It is never quite generally known that millions of Indian money is used to pay for the administration of tribal affairs, and that the Government makes the Indians pay for the System that rules them, whenever it can. It is sometimes lost sight of that much of the money appointed by Congress is simply in payment of treaty funds and contracts made by the United States; and which the Government is therefore, bound to pay.

An example of how the Indians are made to pay for the administration is the case of the Ute Six Million Dollar fund, of the 1910 settlement. When the money was appropriated a bill was prepared itemizing every dollar and every cent ever paid out by the Government for the administration, support, sustenance, etc., of these Indians and charging for the salaries of every and all employees that had ever served them. The Utes had this money taken out of their fund. They paid it Generally speaking the Red Man pays in one way or another,—but does he really get what he wants?

Considering the quality of "sustenance," the foetid civilization and the grade of the "employees" the Indian is given, doesn't it seem like a hideous crime to make him pay for these what should only be paid for sanitary and nourishing food, real indus-

trial training and decently civilized employees?

And still the robbery goes on, still the Red Men foot the bill.—American Indian Magazine.

## Memories of Yesterday.

THE TOMAHAWK takes occasion to print certain correspondence which were written by "gardians of the Indians," and officials of the Indian Bureau, some thirty two years ago, and concerning the stormy debut of its predecessor, THE PROGRESS, and which finally terminated in the triumphant and permanent establishment of free speech and a free press on the White Earth reservation and this contrary to the prescribed limits advocated and dictated by the imperious, egotistic minions of the Indian Bureau. "Tempora mutantur, et nos mutamur in illis," how about the "rules and regulations," of the Indian Bureau?

White Earth, Minn.,  
March 23rd, 1886.

Hon. Jno. D. C. Atkins,  
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,  
Washington, D. C.

SIR:—  
Referring to my letter to the Department under date of this day, I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of Gustavus H. Beaulieu to me in reply to mine, a copy of which was enclosed in letter of above date.

I have placed a guard over the press and have ordered that they be not allowed to print, publish or circulate such a newspaper until the Hon. Commissioner of Indian Affairs be informed of the situation and his reply returned. I respectfully request that the Department give me instructions at an early day.

Very respectfully,  
(signed) T. J. Sheehan,  
U. S. Ind. Agent.

White Earth, Minn.,  
March 23rd, 1886.

Hon. Jno. D. C. Atkins,  
Com'r. of Indian Affairs,  
Washington, D. C.,

SIR:—  
I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of paper served on Gustavus H. Beaulieu and Theodore H. Beaulieu, Mississippi half-breeds who purchased a printing press and material and proposed establishing a newspaper on the White Earth reservation. Having learned from various reliable sources that their main object was to publish scurrilous attacks on the Agent, Court of Indian Offenses, and my employees who might from any cause incur their displeasure and not for an honest livelihood as such a paper here could not possibly, in my opinion, become self-supporting. I deemed it for the best interests of the service to notify these parties to withhold its publication until a license or permit could be obtained from the Hon. Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The malignant and vindictive spirit with which these persons are actuated would, in my opinion, with the aid of this paper, neutralize all the good the Department would be able to do with all the resources at its command for the advancement of these Indians to a higher civilization. I calmly talked with the principals of the paper, trying to persuade them that their conduct would lead to bad results, but their conduct was defiant and their demands were such, if complied with, would entirely subvert and render void all regulations and orders emanating from the Hon. Secretary of the Interior and the

Hon. Commissioner of Indian Affairs for my guidance in the management of the affairs of this agency. \* \* I would be gratified if the Department would telegraph to Gen'l. Heth, (ex-confederate officer, who was Indian Inspector at this agency at the time), to investigate this affair and make his report on the same as it would consume but little of his time by so doing.

Very respectfully,  
(signed) T. J. Sheehan,  
U. S. Ind. Agent.

That the U. S. Indian agent had a most subservient tool and ally, to assist him in promoting his nefarious designs and persecution of the publisher and editor of THE PROGRESS, in the person of Gen'l. Heth, U. S. Indian Inspector, is manifestly evidenced in the following excerpt from a letter or report submitted by him to the Indian Commissioner, under date of April 1st, 1886:

"The newspaper, which the Beaulieus, mixed blood Chippewas, who are wonderfully cunning and shrewd, wished to print at this agency was, I believe, in the interest of certain individuals who are a part and parcel of a combination and what is known as the "Pine Ring." Col. Sheehan very properly, in my estimation, suppressed the publication of this paper until action was had by the Indian Department."

As THE TOMAHAWK is not actuated by any sinister motives in publishing the correspondence concerning the stormy birth of its predecessor, THE PROGRESS, likewise out of respect for the memory

of the dead, as most of the actors who took part in this near tragic drama, have long since gone to their reward, criticism, though richly deserved, is withheld, suffice to say however, that the many long years which have come and gone since these stirring, history-making epochs took place, many changes have transpired progressively speaking, and the original slogan of THE PROGRESS, "A Higher Civilization; The Maintenance of Law and Order," has developed into assured facts while the names of its servile detractors are but the fading memories of yesterday.

In another issue we will publish an article treating of the law suit which was instituted by the publishers of THE PROGRESS against the Indian agent and which resulted in favor of the pugnacious Indian journalists.

Read THE TOMAHAWK, 52 issues \$1.50.

## What is the Matter?

"The Indian School at White Earth seems to have a hard time keeping the boys in school. Two of them came to town early yesterday morning. The reason they left was mainly on account of the short and improperly prepared food dished out to them, according to their side of it.—Mahnomen Free Press."

If half the reports, heard about the village, concerning the scanty condition and the poorly cooked food served on the pupils' tables are true then matters must "be

worse than bad." A daily diet of half-cooked beans, raw, soggy bread, butterless, sugarless, milkless and washed down with a sloppy liquid, slightly sweetened, once a day, at breakfast is about on a par with the meagre daily fare of the Kaiser's war prisoners; and it's no wonder that many of the pupils cherish a longing, lingering to "go back to mama." From reliable sources it is learned that the superintendent and principal of the school are paid a combined salary amounting to about \$3,300 a year, and which sums are derived from the Chippewa tribal and treaty funds. Nowadays the saying prevails that the public is being "Hooverized," on the food question. However an amendment to this stereotyped phrase might be applied to reported pupil food conditions at the agency boarding school and applied something like "Cato-sells-ized and Merritt-ized" instead.

Furthermore, a school that requires the combined service of its subordinates coupled with the agency police force to keep its pupils "at home" in order to muster up a fair daily attendance speaks but little credit for the auspices which controls its affairs, likewise a very costly and burdensome system for the Chippewas to support.

Now is the time to pay that subscription.

## When you want the best

In Groceries, Dry Goods, Winter Clothing, Footwear, etc., call on us.

We're right here every day in the year (except Sunday) to supply you with any and everything you may need in

THE BEST AND PUREST GROCERIES IN THE MARKET.

## The B. L. Fairbanks Company,

White Earth, - - Minnesota.