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THE TOMAHAWK.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE MINNESOTA CHIPPEWAS.
"Truth before Favor."

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

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Every time we appropriate money from the Chippewa tribal fund we do so unlawfully.—Hon. H. Steenerson, M. C.

The trouble with the Indian Bureau is that there is 90 per cent administration and 10 per cent civilization.—Hon. W. W. Hastings, M. C.

For several years we have attempted diligently to find out what Indian Inspectors did, and it seems that they were a sort of committee that went out and overlooked the situation, if they went at all.—Hon. H. P. Snyder, M. C.

Inspectors are really representatives of the Indian Office out in the field, and they go there as representatives of the Indian Office and inspect the Indian service and make confidential.—Hon. W. W. Hastings, M. C.

AUTOCRACY.

When a temporary power comes to that conclusion that he is God Almighty power, and begins to misuse and abuse his position to satisfy his power (as the Kaiser did), then it becomes intolerant and a nuisance. It is better that it should die rather than to exist to mislead and destroy. The Indian bureau stands in that same light in relation with the Indian race. Despotically without consent of the Indians, the Indian race was forced into the hands of the military department and political parties, as prisoners of war and later to be used as stool pigeons in the hands of politics. It is a shame that twelve million dollars is blood money, bled out of the people under the name of Indian appropriations, when the Indians do not even get a smell of it.

This idea of beautifying, enlarging and systematizing Indian schools, the un-American idea of segregating, going away from democracy, and doing for the Indians what they ought to do for themselves. It requires twelve millions of dollars to pay the expenses of those connected with the Indian Bureau who are degrading and using the Indian in every way not beneficial to the Indians. Every branch of the Indian Bureau is working night and main to keep intact the system that defies the rights of man. If there is a system that keeps the Indians from what is right and just, it is the Indian Bureau.

A reservation environment is everything but elevating. More vice is introduced than high and noble virtues. To keep a race within an inclosure without the general current that makes progress and thriftiness is a drawback and harmful to the Indians. How can such a condition as the

reservation system be remedied? it is as easy as rolling off a log.

Free and citizenize them all at once. Give to each Indian what belongs to him, and let them go to sink or swim. This great move must be made sooner or later, and "Wassaja" believes the sooner the better. When the Indians stand on the brink of freedom and citizenship we hear the worn out excuses: "Let us wait until we can get the status of the Indians. Do not go too fast; we must not forget Indian treaties. What about Indian education? The Indians have not enough money to educate their children. Now, 'Montezuma fad,' don't be too hot headed and abolish the Indian Bureau. We believe that the Indian Bureau has a duty to perform in these matters before any agitation can be made in regard to Indian freedom and citizenship. We believe in constructive and not a destructive platform upon which the Indians may move, have their being, before abolishing the Indian Bureau. Radical way of doing things is not safe. There are obligations due the Indians from the United States before we can come to any just consideration of abolishing the Indian Bureau."

These ideas are nuts to crack. A hard nut is hard to crack, but a false nut is easy.

The above reasons of our good friends are false nuts.

The status of the Indians is known, he is a WARD. The machinery of the Indian Bureau TURNS OUT WARDS AND NOTHING ELSE. Has Indian treaties done any good for the Indians? Not at all. It has been as a lead around the Indians' neck. The pale faces have broken the treaties and also the Indians' necks. Far better were there no Indian treaties. Treaties held the Indians to one side and they were not counted in with the people of the country.

Now, let us touch upon the education of the Indian children. Higher education will come after they have finished the public schools. The public school system of the United States is the best system of education in the world. It is the cement which unites races into one common family; it is that which has helped to conquer the world for peace and brotherly love. Patriotic is he who upholds the public school system. The Indian Bureau is a drawback to the public schools for the Indian children. One of the duties of the Indian schools is to keep the Indian children from entering the public schools. You can see their policy for doing so. Public schools for the papoosees WOULD MEAN DEATH TO THE INDIAN SCHOOLS.

Indian schools were instituted as make-shift for the public schools, as the Indian reservation were too remote from civilization. No such excuse can be made now, for reservations and Indian boarding schools are surrounded in the midst of public schools. If public schools had been encouraged for Indian children by the Government fifty years ago—in two generations—this question would not attract any attention at all. The Indian children would be coming and going to the public schools with the children of all races. The "Outing System" which General Pratt originated at the late Carlisle Indian School had for its object the public schools, but that is dead now. There is such a thing as a resurrection. It has come to this, that the Indian Bureau must be abolished, and that the Indians must be given their freedom and

citizenship, then the Indian children will recite in the public school rooms of the country. Let us pray this will come soon.—Wassaja.

Red Lake Indian Awarded Distinguished Service Cross.

The first distinguished service cross awarded a Beltrami county soldier by General Pershing has been won by a Red Lake agency Indian, Sergeant Joseph La Jenness, D. company, Sixtith infantry, for extraordinary heroism in action near Cuel, France, Oct. 14, 1918. Sergeant La Jenness retained the command of his platoon after he had received a severe gunshot wound in the leg, maintained the organization of his platoon under heavy fire, and directed it in the overcoming of several machine gun positions. He consolidated his position on the line held by the company, and remained on post thirty six hours until ordered evacuated on account of his wound.

We congratulate Sergeant La Jenness upon his achievement on the battle field and its due recognition by General Pershing.

In the army an Indian is recognized as a competent and in La Jenness's case signally so. As a Red Lake Indian under the Commissioner of Indian Affairs the only cross he ever got was the double-cross.

And by the way has the Commissioner himself done anything in his field of duty that would warrant a bestowal upon him of any mark of distinction. Speaking impersonally, the bureau under his management would suffer court martial if certain congressmen could act as a trial board, and we know what the result would be.

Soldiers' Civil Rights.

The soldier in the United States service has certain rights which he and his family should know. When you get back from the army, if you find that the court has rendered against you, do not worry about it. You still have a chance to be heard if you apply to the court in person or through an attorney, within ninety days after your discharge. The court may stay any judgement rendered against you or your property. If payments on a mortgage have been overdue, the property cannot come foreclosed until three months after you have been discharged. Your taxes or assessments may have become overdue. If your family filed a statement of the case, the property would not be sold for unpaid taxes. Even if such sale took place you can redeem the property by paying six per cent interest. This must be done within six months after the President's proclamation that the war is over. The Red Cross Home Service will be glad to advise you on these matters. Debts contracted before you went into the army are still due, with interest, and you will, of course pay them as soon as you are able to do so. All our government guarantees is that your absence on military service will not count against you in court. If you are proving up on a homestead, your time in the army counts as time spent on the homestead.

Read THE TOMAHAWK, 52 issue \$1.50.

The Right Kind of Minnesota Soldiers' Memorial.

Minnesota plans a state memorial to its boys who have served in the great war. It should have a memorial, and it should not stint in building it any more than its boys have stinted their gift of service and sacrifice at the call of their country.

What kind of a memorial? A committee appointed by the governor to investigate and advise him and the legislature is working on that question now, and will soon make a report.

The issue lies between a building that will be purely a memorial, only something to look at as a reminder of the military service of Minnesota's sons, and a building that will at once be a memorial and something that, in itself, will serve the public use, as the men it commemorates have served.

Can there be more than one answer to that question? By all means, the memorial should be a building not only beautiful to look upon, and therefore fitted to what it commemorates, but a building that will be of large public use and benefit, that the people may be reminded of what it seeks to remind them not only by its appearance, but by the service it will yield to them as long as it stands.

No cold, stilted structure, tomb-like and useless no matter how beautiful, should be built as a

memorial to men who have given the noblest service soldiers ever rendered to mankind.

The memorial should be in the Twin Cities because they are central and because there are more people there, of course. And the plan suggested by the alumni of the state university is by all odds the best: to put the building on the university campus, and to make it take the form of a memorial auditorium, for the use of the university and the public. The university needs such a building, and the state will soon have to build it anyway. Moreover, placed there it would be situated so that rooms in it could be set apart as headquarters for the various organizations of veterans of the great war that will be formed, and as a meeting place for them.

All soldiers' memorials should be of public service, because they are erected to commemorate a great service. In no way, we feel sure, could Minnesota better meet this need than by building its soldiers' memorial on the university campus and by making it a building that will be of the widest possible use to the soldiers and the public. The fact that one-sixth of Minnesota's soldiers in the great war and one-third of its officers were men of the university is an additional reason for making this decision.—Ex.

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Series of Choosings. Life is one long series of choosings. This way or that? Shall we do or leave undone? The questions fill every hour of every day, and by our wise or foolish answers we write our history.

The Fault is Yours. Never complain that your confidence has been betrayed. The fault is yours for pouring unsafe talk into a leaky mind. You do not blame a leaky pail for leaking. Blame yourself for not knowing it leaked.—Life.

Cactus Candy. Louisiana has a new product. It is cactus candy. The cactus is peeled, dipped in hot syrup or molasses and coated with powdered sugar.



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