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DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

(Continued from First Page)

school-trained Indian compares favorably with the average white student whose home surroundings as a rule are generally to his advantage.

The Indian's progress is too frequently measured by his garb. We want the Indian to cut his hair and wear citizens clothes. We urge him to live in a white man's house, but if he does not entirely and promptly respond in all of these respects it is not proven that he is not a progressive man. Sometimes young men returning from our schools to the reservations resume certain outward forms of tribal fashion as a matter of expediency or social deference to their elders but their activities show what they are; their farming, their stock raising, the homes they build and the way they furnish them, and their desire to have their children go to school, are the best evidences of their progress.

Recent careful investigation shows that the product of the Indian schools is so generally successful and of good standing, that the conclusions is overwhelmingly against any adverse criticism of the government's system of Indian education.

The war service of 10,000 young Indians brought them distinct educational value in a better use of English, greater self-confidence, respect for authority, and disciplined industry that will add strength and character to their citizenship.

The social and domestic life of the Indians is steadily improving. Marriage by tribal custom is notably giving way to legal rites. At present there is hardly more than one-fourth the drunkenness among Indians that prevailed ten years ago. The missionary workers have been a powerful aid. Their number among the Indians has doubled since 1900, with a corresponding increase of churches and church attendants.

The Indian's industrial progress is especially noteworthy. Their individual funds on deposit have increased in the last eight years in excess of \$20,000,000. During that period they have expended for homes, barns and modern farm implements \$18,000,000 and have added \$13,000,000 to their capital in live stock. The Indian's transformation from a game hunter and wanderer to a settled land-holder and home-builder is everywhere evident. Nearly 37,000 Indian farmers are cultivating almost a million acres, 47,000 are engaged in stock raising and their live stock is worth close to \$38,000,000. Their last year's income from the sale of crops and live stock was approximately \$14,000,000. The Indians are dependable wage-workers. Their annual earnings in public and private service exceed \$3,000,000. Their number

receiving rations and supplies not paid for in labor has decreased one-half in the last seven years.

There are not many defenders of the earlier processes of treaty making and treaty breaking, but the constructive plan, followed now for nearly a third of a century, of allotting the Indians' land in severalty, of conducting hospitals and schools for physical and mental betterment, and providing them guidance in the productive use of the soil and its related industries, if not a perfect one, is the best plan yet devised for a dependent people and is amply justified by results.

Sincerely yours,
CATO SELLS,
Commissioner.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. William Sumner, March 7, a baby girl. Her name is Adele.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Dan Perkins of Ponemah on February 17. Her name is Alma.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Carl are the parents of a son born March 28. They have named him Alvie John.

A son, Eugene Kingbird, arrived at the home of Way-zee and O-ke-zhe-no-din-oke of Ponemah on March 27.

Elsie Sullivan, wife of James Sullivan, died at Ponemah on the 11th of March.

Baby Anderson, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Anderson, passed away on the 14th. He was but five days old.

Robert Burns, son of Alvie Burns, passed away on the 17th of March.

Jerome William, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Blake Rosebear, died the 1st of March.

Bessie Sunrise Wind, daughter of Nodin, Jr., passed away on the 2nd at the age of nine years.

Walter Hardy, son of Mo-ne-do-ke-zis-oonce, died on the 6th.

Harold Kingbird died March 7, he was the infant son of Ah-zhe-day-gahn.

Tay-bus-aush-eke, age 77, passed away at the Agency hospital on the 7th. She had suffered a fractured hip.

Charles Wind, infant son of Nodin, Jr., died on the 8th.

James M. Pierre, three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Pierre, died March 19.

O-gub-ake passed away at the age of 80 years. She is survived by one grand daughter, Mrs. Gilbert Lussier, and several great grandchildren.

Jennie Bellanger, who has been ill for two or three years with tuberculosis, died on the 30th of March.

Kay-gway-tah-be-tung died on the 30th. He is survived by his wife, Ah-ne-me-ke-wub-eke.

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