

Uncle Sam's Indian Wards

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING TO MAKE FIRST-CLASS MEN AND WOMEN OF THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF REAL RED MEN—SOME EXCELLENT RESULTS.



By EDWARD B. CLARK.
N OTHER bureau in any other department of the United States government employs as many men and women in its field of work as does the office of Indian affairs.
 Here is an office which in a vital way has control of the affairs of 350,000 people who once owned all of the continental United States. There are about as many Indians in this land as there were the day that Columbus landed, a fact not generally known. It is recognized by everybody that the Indian has certain rights of fostering care and of direction along the road to civilization, prosperity and health, and it is for this high and humane reason that the office of Indian affairs, of which Cato Sells is the directing chief, must be administered sanely and helpfully.
 Even today American people, notably the Easterners, think of the American Indians in the mass as still being in a more or less savage state, or at any rate, a state of barbarism. The old-time problem had to do largely with the men who constantly went on the warpath and who were a menace to the advancing civilization of the whites. The Indian problem for a long time was in considerable part a war department problem.
 Today things have changed. The problem largely is with the young Indians, the boys and the girls who must be trained along lines running diametrically opposite to those followed by their ancestors. It is largely a problem of education, and the United States government today is trying to teach the young Indians in order that when they become old Indians they will present no such task of regulation and of government as that which confronted the authorities in the case of their forefathers.
 Today there is only one roving band of Indians in the continental United States, and even this band is now at rest within certain limits where it probably will remain contented.
 Of course on occasion the restless elders among the Indians wander about a little, but the aboriginals no longer are roamers and wanderers in the sense that they were as late as a quarter of a century ago. The one roving band is that of Chief Rocky Boy, and this little group of about three hundred Indians has roused pity and made occasional trouble for a good many years. It is a Montana band, and while many years ago congress tried to do something definite for Rocky Boy and his followers, the attempt came to little or nothing, and they kept on roving, a charge if not a menace to the people of Montana.
 The present commissioner of Indian affairs, Mr. Sells of Texas, a lawyer, a banker and a farmer, transplanted temporarily at least into a field of endeavor concerning which he knew a good deal before the transplanting, has succeeded in inducing Rocky Boy and the men, women and children in his following to locate upon government land in Montana, where they have an area equal to four townships on which to dwell, there to till the soil to earn their living. Congress will be asked this winter to set aside this land as a reservation for Rocky Boy, the rover.
 As has been said, the chief problem today is with the young Indians. If they can be educated properly the Indian problem in a few years will vanish. Recently there was held in Washington a meeting of the supervisors and superintendents and instructors of the greater schools for the Indians throughout the United States. They were called together by Commissioner Sells to consider a reconstruction of the system of study for the Indian children of school age. A course of study has been prepared and has been adopted. It is hoped that it will give to the children of the Indians the best vocational training offered by any school system in the United States.
 Concerning this course of study which has just been adopted the commissioner says:
 "It emphasizes the study of home economics and agricultural subjects, because any attempt to change the Indian population of this country from a dependent to an independent people within a reasonable length of time must give special consideration to the improvement of the Indians' homes and to the development of their lands. The usual subjects of school instruction are not neglected, but they are subordinated to subjects which, if learned practically, lead directly to productive efficiency and self-support."
 The Indian children of the United States receive primary, prevocational and vocational instruction. In an introduction to the report on the new course of study prepared under the direction of the commissioner this explanation is made:
 "The primary division includes the first three

grades, the prevocational division includes the next three grades, and the vocational division contemplates a four-year course above the sixth grade. The first group is the beginning stage, the second group is the finding stage, and the third group is the fitting stage."

There should be interest in knowing how this course of study for the Indians compares with the course which white children follow. In the first six years the Indian course parallels the public school course in all the essentials of academic work. In this period the principles are taught and application of them is made just as soon after the principles are understood. The knowledge of industrial and domestic activities at this stage centers more or less around the conditions essential to the proper maintenance and improvement of the rural home.

For years the adult Indians resented all efforts to secure their consent that their children should attend the Indian schools. In December, 1890, there was an Indian uprising produced by various conditions and fostered by what was known as the ghost dance craze. On the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota at that time the Indians were divided into two camps on the question of allowing children to attend school at the agency. Those who refused to allow their children to go to school looked upon those who were in favor of the school plan as enemies of the Sioux race.

When the Indians that year were upon the warpath, the children of the peaceful ones continued to attend school at the Pine Ridge agency. One day a band of warriors left the main body of Indians in the field and swept down by the agency and fired a fusillade into the school building, which stood on a bluff. Happily one of the school-teachers had seen the Indians hiding behind a clump of willows on White Clay creek and had sounded an alarm. The school children were hurried to the basement of the building and thus escaped injury when the structure was riddled with bullets.

This incident is spoken of only to show the vast difference that has been created by time and by the advance in civilization. Today Commissioner Sells reports that the vast majority of the Indians are anxious and urgent that the little ones shall go to their lessons. The problem now instead of being one of how to induce their parents to let them come, concerns itself with providing school room for all of those who seek to fit themselves for the life's work.

Aggressive steps have been taken toward the development of improved vocational training among the Indians. The Indian office has adopted plans which it believes will accomplish the education necessary to instill in the Indian youth the responsibility of self-support and citizenship. Emphasis is being placed on agricultural and domestic science. This program will be carried out in all the Indian schools.
 Next summer teachers' institutes will be held

in different parts of the West and all the Indian school superintendents and teachers will attend to exchange views with a view to bettering the service. In addition to this the best-known educators in the country will be invited to attend the institutes and address the teachers. The final effort is to give the Indian exactly what he needs to better his way, health and industrial prosperity being two of the main objects. The idea is to hurry the day when the Indian no longer will be wholly or in part a consumer of things provided for him, but will become a producer in his own behalf.

There are many farms for the use of Indian pupils. They usually consist of large tracts of fertile land capable of raising every crop that the climate in which the school is located will permit. In some cases these farms are well irrigated. Every school, Commissioner Sells says, has been or will be furnished with all the equipment necessary for tilling the farms to the fullest extent, and they will be furnished with stock so that lessons can be given in the care of animals and in their raising. It is believed that a substantial showing along these lines can be made.

Every farm is expected to grow all the crops that it is possible to raise in the localities in which they are situated, corn, oats, wheat, alfalfa, clover, timothy and so on. The schools are expected to raise all the potatoes and other vegetables with which to supply the tables of the pupils. At the Choctaw Indian school on the edge of Oklahoma last year the pupils put up for their own use 20,000 gallons of vegetables and fruits. This, of course, was in addition to the fresh material which was on the table during the ripening season.

In a letter to the superintendent of the Indian schools, Commissioner Sells says:
 "I believe there is a splendid chance for increased efficiency of our school service by special effort and co-operation along the lines indicated. I must insist that you give the development of the school farm your most careful attention to the end that the highest degree of efficiency and results be accomplished. There is absolutely no excuse for a waste acre of overlooked opportunity on the school farms. We need all they will produce and we cannot justify the purchase of anything we can raise. It is inconsistent to expect the Indian boys and girls to return home from their schools and do more than they have witnessed their teachers doing for them when they are supposed to be qualifying themselves for industrial equipment and self-support."

The Indian schools prepare the children for vocational and industrial work. They are expected, and the records show that the expectation is not vain, to go back to the places from which they came, there to become self-supporting, to take the same interest in life's work that the white man does and thus eventually to solve forever what has been known for some centuries of American life as the Indian problem.

CHEATING HIS STOMACH.
 Landlady—You didn't wear glasses when you came here, Mr. Newbord. Why do you wear them now?
 Newbord—I want to make the food look as large as possible.
 There are about 85,000,000 German-speaking people in the world and about 82,000,000 speaking Spanish.

OX WARBLER ATTACK BACKS OF CATTLE



Stocker Steers in Pasture.

(From Weekly News Letter United States Department of Agriculture.)
 Specialists of the department are urging cattle owners, in the North as well as in the South, to take steps to rid their cattle of ox warbles or "woles," the importance of which to the cattle industry has been generally underestimated. Ox warbles are the whitish grubs or maggots which develop from the eggs deposited by certain flies known as warble flies or heel flies, and which injure the hides, reduce milk flow and retard the growth of the animals. The maggots are commonly found just below the skin on the backs of cattle in the spring. Their presence is revealed by local swellings about the size of pigeons' eggs, each with a small central hole or perforation through which the maggot breathes. From this hole the maggot, when mature, emerges to enter the ground and change to the adult or fly stage. When full grown the grub is about three-fourths of an inch in length.

In the past trouble from the warbles has largely been confined to cattle in the South, but recently the bureau of entomology has discovered that a second species, heretofore not found in this country but known to be even a more serious pest in Europe than is our native warble, has become well established in certain districts in the northern part of the United States. While it is probable that this so-called European ox warble will not be of as great importance in the southern part of the United States as the species already established, there is every reason to believe that unless checked it will become generally distributed throughout the northern half of the country. This European species is now generally distributed throughout New York and the New England states and a few specimens have been obtained from western Pennsylvania, western Maryland, southern Michigan, eastern Iowa and Missouri, and western Washington. Attention is also directed to the fact that this species is now generally distributed throughout southern Canada. The department, therefore, is calling attention at this time to the danger of spreading this species promiscuously about the country, and is urging cattle owners to take the simple means necessary to prevent its spread.

Until recently warbles were not regarded as serious evils in the South, because it was thought that the loss they occasioned came principally from the damage they did to hides. Even this loss in the aggregate, however, is important, as hides show warble holes three to six months in the year, and dealers pay from 50 cents to \$1.50 less for hides that show even moderate warble infestation. In many cases the scars left after the holes have healed cause buyers to cut prices considerably.

The loss from the warble, however, is by no means limited to the holes the maggots cut in the hides. Extensive investigations in Germany and Denmark indicate that the losses through reduction in milk supply in dairy cattle, the retardation of growth in young stock, and the loss of flesh in all classes of animals are twofold greater than the damage done to the hides. In some of these tests the early extraction of the grubs from the backs of infested cattle resulted in an increase of nearly 25 per cent in the milk production. Animals from which the grubs had been extracted showed a gain of more than five per cent in weight over similar animals in which the pests were allowed to develop normally.

Thus far the veterinarians and entomologists of the department have determined no better way of controlling these pests than through the systematic extraction and destruction of the grubs from the backs of infested animals.

When the larvae are nearly ready to leave their host they may be easily squeezed out by pressing the swelling with the fingers, but if not so far developed it is often very difficult to get them out by squeezing. In such cases a slender pair of forceps may be used for pulling them out. If the swelling and its opening are still very small, the best way of extracting the grub is to make an incision with a knife, after which the grub can be squeezed out by applying strong pressure. Kill the grub when removed.

It is important that warbles be removed as early in their development as possible. This relieves the infested animal from the irritation and prevents the enlargement of the exit holes. While this practice is not applicable to ranch conditions, it is



Dipping Cattle.

in small quantities in and upon the skin of cattle which are repeatedly dipped in arsenical dips.

The discovery of the European ox warble in certain sections of the North makes this pest significant to northern cattle raisers and to those who import pure-bred or other cattle from these sections. During the winter and spring months considerable numbers of pure-bred live stock are purchased in the northeastern states and are shipped to various parts of the country. It is urged that all animals thus transported be examined by the purchasers and all grubs destroyed during the spring and summer. Animals purchased at any season of the year may harbor these pests. In the winter and spring they will be found beneath the skin on the back, while at other times of the year the grubs are elsewhere in the body of the host, and it will be necessary to watch for the appearance of these grubs during the following season. In those states in which registration of all imported animals is required it would be comparatively easy for the authorities to follow up such importations and see that any warbles are destroyed.

Slogan for Dairymen.
 More land in alfalfa and less in pasture is a new slogan for dairy farmers. On the same principle if they will save one of their full silos till midsummer they will gain excellent results.