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Published in behalf of, and
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Indians of the United States.

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Nez Perce Indians Out After Burke's Scalp.

Commissioner, Answering Protest, Calls
Prices Paid for Timber Highest
Ever Paid.

A protest of Indians of the Nez Perce tribe to the sub-committee investigating Indian affairs in Oregon that their interests had been neglected in the government sale of timber from their reservation, has been answered by Charles H. Burke, notorious Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with the declaration that the prices received for this timber were the highest ever paid for a comparable product.

The Nez Perce Indians received \$90 per capita from the proceeds of the sale, he said. He also explained the procedure followed in the leasing limestone mineral rights, complaint against which was made by the Indians, and which he contended followed exactly the laws for leasing of unallotted Indian lands. Burke, who seemed to believe that the Indian Bureau should be run to suit Charles H. Burke, regardless of the wishes or desires of his Indian "protégés," answered this latest accusation of mismanagement as follows:

"The land on the Nez Perce Indian Reservation included in the leases was opened to exploration in the usual manner. Mining locations were made in accordance with the act and leases were executed in favor of the locators, as required by law. The act provides that the rate of royalty shall be not less than 5 per cent of the net value of the minerals at the mine, and the Bureau of Mines, after having an examination made, recommended that the rate of royalty for these particular leases be fixed at 7 1/2 per cent, which recommendation was adopted by the department.

"Very little development work has been done on these leases although the superintendent reports that the assessment work required by the act is being kept up. There has been considerable difficulty over two of the leases on account of a reported attempt to sublet them. The sub-lease was never submitted for action and the department has taken the position that any dispute between the parties to the alleged sub-lease must be settled by them as best they may.

"On June 28, 1918, a unit of timber was sold from the Nez Perce Indian Reservation to the Craig Mountain Lumber Company of Winchester, Idaho. The contract price was \$3.50 per 1000 feet for yellow pine and \$1 for inferior species. Under this contract, entirely completed in July, 1923, approximately 62,000,000 feet were cut for the Nez Perce Indians received approximately \$180,000 net income.

On August 2, 1923, two other units were sold to the same company. For this pine timber \$3.80 per 1,000 feet was received on one unit and \$4.80 on the other and \$1.50 for inferior units. Prior to June 30, 1925, approximately 25,000,000 feet had been cut from these two units, for which more than \$90,000 net had been received and placed to the credit of the Nez Perce Indians.

"The timber was mature and prior to the sales the Indians were deriving no substantial revenue from the timber lands. The sale of the timber has afforded funds for the maintenance of activities directed to the education of child-

ren, the improvement of health conditions and economic advancement among the Nez Perces."

Chickasaw Indians Want U. S. to Pay for Stolen Land.

The Chickasaw Indians are about to present to Uncle Sam a bill for \$200,000,000. This announcement is made by Mr. Douglas H. Johnston, governor of the Chickasaw Nation, who has been in Washington for the past six months in the interests of his people. The bill is a demand for payment for 6,000,000 acres of land in Oklahoma.

The suit for payment has its origin in a controversy between the government and the Indians which involves a doubtful construction of a treaty and the firm stand of the Chickasaws to adopt as freedmen and members of the tribe the negroes who had been slaves of the tribe. The treaty was made in 1866, and the leased district, in what later was Oklahoma Territory, covered lands once occupied by the Wichita and affiliated tribes. The Chickasaws contend that the contracts covering it were lease contracts. This was an opinion expressed by the Court of Claims when the matter was first appealed. The United States Supreme Court, however, held that contracts involved conveyances and that the lands were sold. The area was regarded by the government as public domain and sold to settlers for many millions of dollars.

According to Governor Johnston the Indians "ceded" these lands to the United States for certain specific purposes. Among these purposes were the settlement of friendly Indians, the removal of Chickasaw and Choctaw freedmen, and the settlement of such members of the tribe as might wish to remove there.

"The treaty also provided," says Governor Johnston, "for a fund of \$300,000 which was to be held in trust by the United States, pending the removal or adoption of the freedmen. It was provided that the Chickasaw and Choctaw freedmen were to be removed, if the tribe failed to adopt them within two years, in which event the \$300,000 was to be used for removal. If the tribe adopted such freedmen within the time specified, they were to have the benefit of the \$300,000.

"The Chickasaw freedmen never were adopted. The tribe never has claimed nor has it ever received any part of the compensation."

The Indians hold they made a lease and not a conveyance to the government. Governor Johnston says that Indian treaties must be interpreted as the Indians understood them. The Indians, according to him, did not intend to part with the title, and the United States did not mean to acquire it.

AMERICAN INDIANS NOT A VANISHING RACE.

The American Indian has stopped "vanishing." That fact seems to be established by the success of intermarriages with the white race. The proportion of fullbloods remains about the same, but the mixed bloods are increasing at the rate of 1,000 a year.

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500 Minnesotans Plan California Trip In Large Caravan.

Arrangements Being Made For Journey to
Native State in Spring.

Beneath the graceful sycamore trees and guarded on all sides by giant redwoods towering several hundred feet above, 500 Minnesotans from all over central California gathered the fore part of this month for a picnic at Sycamore Park, on the Big Tree highway in Santa Cruz county, California. Some of the "Gophers" have been in California for more than fifty years; others came for the first time to attend the picnic.

The real purpose of the picnic was to make further arrangements for the caravan back to Minnesota in the spring. Mrs. Fred McCargar, secretary of the club, explained that she had a number of letters from people with cars who would like to have others without machines, and who want to go, share the expense of the trip with them.

Lists of both of these groups will be kept up to date and mailed to any who desire to join the caravan, either with a car or as a passenger. Write to Mrs. Fred McCargar, Salinas, Calif.

Plans are nearing completion, and it is only a question of determining the proper time and route to be taken, and the amount each person or car should contribute toward the general fund in order to finance the proposition. It is stated that several towns already have sent invitations offering to entertain the caravan providing they would make the night stop at their city.

Mrs. E. Jeanette Thompson, who made the journey to California in a covered wagon, and wants to return in an automobile, produced credentials showing she was the fifth white girl child in St. Anthony, now Minneapolis. She was the daughter of Sherburn Hulse, the first millwright for the steel mill at St. Anthony. Mrs. Philip Hynes, formerly Mary Pond, showed credentials that she was the eighth white child born in Minnesota. Her sister, Ruth Pond, was the third white child, and John Williamson, a friend, the first white child.

Minneapolis is Host to Indian Chiefs.

Nez Perce Indians Enroute to Washington to
Invite President Coolidge to Conference.

Chiefs Francis McFarland and Joseph Black Eagle of the Nez Perce tribe, and Chief Ignatz Cary of the Spokane Indians, were guests of the City of Minneapolis last week. The chiefs were enroute to Washington, D. C., to invite President Coolidge to attend a big Indian congress in Spokane, Wash., Oct. 30 and 31.

The Indians, attired in full regalia, were met at the Great Northern Railway Station by Alderman O. J. Turner, president of council representing the city, and members of the staff of the Civic & Commerce Association, who welcomed them. The Indians were given a dinner at the Radisson Hotel, and later they gave a talk over WAMD. The entertainment for the chiefs while they remained in the city was in the hands of officials of the Northern Pacific Railway and officials of the Civic & Commerce Association.

Indian Trade Test Case Up in Federal Court.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Oct. 16.—Trading on an Indian reservation without a license is charged in an information filed in federal court against Lloyd L. Taylor, who lives near Quillayute.

A number of white persons, it is alleged, have been attempting to evade the federal law by keeping stocks of goods on barges anchored in the Quillayute River.

The legal question presented by the action brought into court is whether the floating stores are on a navigable stream, or are within the jurisdiction of the agent in charge of the reservation.

B. C. Indians Start Cleaning House.

Through the efforts of a recently elected council of chiefs, and supervised by officials of the Dominion Department of Indian Affairs, the Indians of the several Squamish reserves located along Burrard Inlet and Howe Sound in British Columbia, have undertaken an improvement program to extend over a period of five years.

All the houses, churches, and other buildings on these reserves are to be renovated and painted and the reserves will be fenced.

THE TOMAHAWK should be in every Chippewa home. \$1.50 per year in advance.

Old Diary Tells of Pioneer Rum Running.

That "rum running" was common in the West before the establishment of the Territory of Minnesota in 1849 and that government agents were then confronted with problems almost identical with those occasioned by the Volstead law are among the facts revealed by an old diary, a copy of which is in the possession of the Minnesota Historical society.

To supply Indians with liquor was forbidden by the federal law, but a considerable subterranean trade developed as a result of the huge profits involved and the Indian fondness for the fiery liquid. The diary of the Reverend Edmund F. Ely, a missionary who came to Minnesota in 1833, contains many entries, particularly for the year 1847, dealing with "rum running" on Lake Superior.

The following account is not a current newspaper report of bootlegging, but was written by Ely at La Pointe in 1847: "On the last two days of the payment, bottles of liquor were smuggled ashore in the pockets of dealers, and sold for \$1 per bottle, or exchanged for blankets. Some bottles were found to contain only water. The trade in bottles was carried on, (it is believed) through the windows of the John Palmer. Capt. Wood, of the steamer was detected in the night, landing in his yawl, with bottles of whiskey in possession. Some two or three (Continued on 4th page)

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