allotments were made by relatives of absentees and in the confusion of the spelling of names many duplicates were made. As the years roll by it is discovered that quite a number receiving allotments here had been heretofore or since allotted upon other reservations, often under different names.

Leasing.—The leasing of these allotments by all except able-bodied males has increased the clerical work of this office, as it has been and will continue to be the policy of this office to facilitate the rental of these lands in the end that the Indians will become self-sustaining when the last payment has been made for the purchase of the unallotted lands upon the reservation. The usual price of rental paid varies from 75 cents to $3.50 per acre, the price being governed by the proximity to the railroad and cleanliness of the land. Careless renters have in many instances sowed foul seed upon these lands, necessitating summer fallowing, causing a loss not only to the lessee but the lessor also.

There has been constructed within the last year 85 miles of railroad across this reservation, and negotiations are now practically accomplished for the right of way for 100 miles or more. The advent of these roads will greatly stimulate agriculture and facilitate the rental of Indian lands owned by Indians not physically competent to farm it themselves.

The two saw mills operated by the Government are kept quite busy sawing for the Indians.

Religion.—There are 7 churches upon this reservation—5 Presbyterian, 1 Methodist, and 1 Catholic, the pulpits being occupied by native ministers excepting the Catholic. These native ministers are energetic and zealous workers and are no doubt doing much good work, there being apparently less crime among the Indians than among as many whites.

The Indians are gradually dropping their tribal ways and adopting civilized customs and ways. The keeping trace of heirships to the allotted lands is quite perplexing, and at the end of the trust period unless some special work is done in this connection the Government will find it a very difficult task to distribute properly the estates. This office fortunately has a biographical dictionary in the shape of an Indian policeman who has a wonderful faculty of keeping track of relationship.

Citizenship.—These Indians are now recognized as citizens of the United States and declared so by the supreme court of this State. They, however, are not taxed and seldom resort to the courts, as nearly all their differences are settled at this agency. The administrating on estates seems to be the most perplexing to them in their new order of things. But few have availed themselves of the elective franchise.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully,

C. T. STRANAHAN,
United States Indian Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

REPORTS CONCERNING INDIANS IN INDIAN TERRITORY.

REPORT OF AGENT FOR QUAPAW AGENCY.

QUAPAW INDIAN AGENCY, IND. T.,
Seneca, Mo., August 26, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith my annual report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899.

This agency has under its supervision eight different tribes, each occupying a separate reservation varying in area from 3,976 acres of the Modoc Indians to 56,245 acres of the Quapaw Indians.

The following table shows the population by tribes:

Tribe.	Total population.	Males.	Females.	Males over 18 years.	Females over 14 years.	School children between 6 and 18 years.	
						Males.	Females.
Wyandotte	344	159	185	96	120	41	42
Seneca	329	157	172	80	99	44	48
Quapaw	252	114	138	63	71	27	38
Peoria	184	89	95	36	47	39	38
Miami	101	46	55	18	31	17	16
Ottawa	165	90	75	40	45	34	30
Eastern Shawnee	93	42	51	16	30	19	17
Modoc	50	22	28	16	18	4	4
Total	1,518	719	799	365	461	225	233

Satisfactory census statistics can not be obtained with the means at hand for procuring the same; and statistics relating to the cultivation of Indian lands, crops raised, stock owned by Indians, etc., can not be definitely obtained under existing circumstances. Nearly all of the census statistics were gone over twice, as I was dissatisfied with the first returns, and while the population shows an increase of 49, the actual increase is not so large, as I found that a number of names had been omitted from the last census returns.

The following table shows the number of acres of allotted lands, the number of acres unallotted, acres cultivated by the Indians themselves, and those cultivated by white renters, and the number of acres under fence in the various reservations:

Tribe.	Allotted.	Unallotted.	Cultivated by Indians.	Cultivated by whites.	Under fence.
	Acres.	*Acres.*	*Acres.*	*Acres.*	*Acres.*
Quapaw	56,245	.....	1,095	[1]18,340	41,928
Seneca	25,821	26,086	974	5,802	11,898
Peoria and Miami	43,450	6,851	1,531	10,575	23,081
Wyandotte	20,695	535	1,022	2,964	6,409
Ottawa	12,714	1,587	447	5,087	10,960
Eastern Shawnee	10,484	2,543	397	1,941	6,022
Modoc	3,976	.....	126	695	2,142
Total[2]	173,385	37,602	5,592	45,404	102,440

[1] Including hay lands. [2] Exclusive of lands set apart for agency, school, and church purposes.

Civilization.—A marked improvement in the condition and civilization of the Indians in this agency is noticeable. I do not believe that there is a community in the United States where the inhabitants are more law-abiding and where the percentage of crime is less than in this agency. The only serious crimes committed during the year by Indians were that of Thomas Wind, an Ottawa Indian, who was convicted in the State of Kansas for train robbery and sentenced to a term of twenty years, and the case of Martin Smith, a Seneca Indian, who killed his father-in-law, George Johnson, also a Seneca Indian. Smith has not yet been tried, although he has been indicted. I am satisfied that the killing was justifiable and Smith should be acquitted. Johnson was a very large and powerful man and very dangerous when in a state of intoxication, which was very often the case, and while in this condition he brutally assaulted his wife and daughter (Smith's wife), and Smith, in his defense of them, struck Johnson over the head with an ax handle and killed him.

I believe that the sooner the Government makes some arrangement to dispose of the surplus lands belonging to the different tribes and settles with those who have money due them, the better it will be for the Indians. When this is done this agency can safely be abolished; in fact, the agent is of very little benefit to the Indians at present, as they are citizens of the United States and come under the jurisdiction of the United States courts.

Industry.—No marked advancement has been made during the year by the Indians in this agency in the pursuit of agriculture, nor do I look for any in the future. The laws relating to the leasing of lands are responsible for this condition. The most bountiful crop in the history of this agency was raised during the last year. Of course the Indian is not responsible for it, as nearly all of the very best lands are controlled by white men, who manage to get hold of the greater portion of these lands for a nominal cash rental. Among the different tribes of this agency I consider the Modocs, as a tribe, the most thrifty. Nearly every man among them cultivates part of his allotment, and I do not know of one able-bodied man or woman of this tribe who is not willing to work if he or she receives compensation for his or her efforts.

Sale of Indian lands.—Since writing my last annual report 27 Indian deeds have been filed in this office to be forwarded for the consideration and approval of the Department. Of that number 25 were for lands in the Peoria and Miami and 2 in the Wyandotte reservations. Eighteen of the Peoria and Miami and 2 of the Wyandotte deeds have been approved by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Secretary of the Interior. The consideration received by the Indian for these lands has varied from $4 an acre for very rough lands to $20 an acre for good agricultural lands.

During the last year nearly all of the inherited lands of the Peorias, Miamis, and Quapaws have been purchased from the heirs by certain persons who have acquired this land for a nominal sum. In a number of cases they did not pay over 10 per cent of the actual value of the lands. These deeds are not acknowledged by the agent nor is the approval of the Secretary of the Interior asked. The parties purchasing these lands say that the Department has no supervision over them; they claim that the

restrictions are purely on the person and not on the lands, and that when the allottee dies the restriction is removed and the heirs can alienate such inherited land. Since a decision was rendered by the United States court for this district upholding these views, purchasers of these inherited lands are becoming more bold in their transactions. I have forwarded during the year several communications bearing on this subject, and up to the present time have not received any instructions from your office.

Leasing of Indian allotments.—No leases of the lands of individual allottees were forwarded by me this year for approval, this requirement being unnecessary. Contracts are made between the Indians and their lessees without the advice of the agent. It is impossible to give figures as to the number of leases made during the year, as very few are filed for record with the clerk of the United States court in this district.

I find that there have been a great many mining leases made during the year, one party alone having over one hundred. Most of these mining leases do not require the lessee to develop the land during the entire term of the lease, which is generally for a term of ten years. Very little urging is necessary to have the Indian sign such a contract if he receives a few dollars for doing so. While up to the present time there has been very little prospecting for minerals in this agency, I am satisfied that if the present prices for zinc and lead ores are maintained we will have quite an influx of miners and prospectors. I can not see why valuable deposits should not be found here, being in such close proximity to the richest lead and zinc mining district in the world.

Miscellaneous.—A great deal of earnest work is being done by the missionaries in this agency, and with considerable success. There are some sixteen missionaries and fifteen places of worship belonging to the Methodist Episcopal, Episcopal, Baptist, Roman Catholic, and Society of Friends denominations.

It is impossible to make a satisfactory report in reference to the improving of roads. Every effort has been made by me to get road work done, but without success. There is no way for the agent to compel men to do road work, since he is powerless to remove white men from the agency for refusing to do so. There can be no improvement in this respect until this agency becomes part of an organized Territory or State.

There is a large amount of surplus land in this agency which, in its present state, is of very little benefit to the tribes to which it belongs. Some disposition should be made of it. It should be either sold or divided among the individual members of the tribe. The Seneca tribe alone has over 20,000 acres from which the tribe derives not the least benefit. This land, not being inclosed by fences, is pastured by many small herds of stock without any expense to owners of the stock. During the year I asked for authority to lease the entire tract for a term of five years; this would have given the tribe an income of over $1,000 a year, besides having the lands fenced. The authority was refused on the ground that it would not be wise to lease all of this land to one company; that it was advisable to divide the land into a number of tracts and lease them to different parties. The objection to this is the lack of water, as the entire tract is very poorly watered. If it were all under the control of one company the cattle could be watered at the extreme south boundary, where it is bordered by a good-sized stream of running water.

Schools.—It is gratifying to be able to report a prosperous year for the schools, both showing an average attendance during the year limited only by their capacity.

The increase made at the Seneca school was between 40 and 50 per cent over the preceding year. The increase can only be slight in the future unless the capacity of the school is increased. After the first quarter very little effort was required to keep the children at the school; runaways were almost unknown and the children seemed very well satisfied to stay. The cook at this school is entitled to a great deal of credit for this condition because of an extra amount of interest she takes in satisfying the appetites of the pupils. Many dainties are furnished them not provided for in their regular bill of fare and without expense to the Government, and the children show their appreciation for these favors. In fact, the entire corps of employees is deeply interested in the welfare of their charges and the success of the school. The much-needed improvements, asked for a number of times—water, sewerage, and bath systems—should be completed at an early date, as this school is suffering greatly from lack of these conveniences.

The increase at the Quapaw boarding school was only slight. This can be accounted for, as the school was already filled to its full capacity the preceding year. It would require very little effort to increase the attendance at least 25 per cent were the capacity likewise increased. An addition to the girls' domitory building should be erected to enlarge the domitories and dining room, the latter being altogether too small for its present use. A number of other improvements have been asked for for

this school which I hope will receive your favorable consideration. I am pleased to say that the employees at this school show a deep interest in their work and strive in every way for the advancement of the school.

While there were a number of very serious cases of sickness at the schools, not a child died during the year. The health of the schools is carefully looked after by our efficient physician, who makes from two to three trips to the schools each week, although they are over 15 miles apart, the nearest one being 5 miles from the agency.

Reports from the superintendents of their respective schools are herewith inclosed.

Respectfully submitted.

EDWARD GOLDBERG,
United States Indian Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SENECA, SHAWNEE, AND WYANDOTTE SCHOOL.

WYANDOTTE, IND. T., *June 30, 1899.*

SIR: In compliance with the instructions from your office, I have the honor to submit my second annual report of the Seneca, etc., boarding school for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899:

Attendance.—While the average attendance for the first quarter was but 72 and a fraction, the average attendance for the year was 120 and a fraction. The small attendance during the first quarter is accounted for largely by the school not opening until the 15th of September the year before; consequently a number of the parents insisted on keeping their children out until that time this year.

Schoolroom work.—I can report splendid progress of pupils in schoolroom work. They have been under the instruction of three teachers who have given them their undivided time and attention, and have taken a special interest in the school.

Holidays.—All of the legal holidays have been observed with appropriate exercises. The pupils were allowed ten days vacation at Christmas time, and on their return to the school found a Christmas tree loaded with nice presents donated by employees and friends of the school.

Reading room.—A reading room has been established. We have about 300 books and several periodicals placed in it for their use, and it is thoroughly enjoyed by all the older pupils.

Industrial work.—The industrial work of the school for the boys includes farming, gardening, care of stock; also splitting and hauling wood and working in the laundry. The industrial work for the girls is general housework and work in the kitchen, dining room, sewing room, and laundry.

Needed improvements.—The greatest need of the school is an ample water supply and sewerage system. The same condition exists as reported last year. However, the arrangements for this defect seem to be about completed, as the matter has been laid before the Department, and we expect to have them in before school commences again.

Stock.—The school stock consists of 6 horses, 2 mules, 16 head of cattle, and about 25 hogs and pigs. The cows are all too old to be of any profit to the school, and should be disposed of and younger ones purchased.

Health.—The school has been especially favored in this respect. Dr. Caskie, the agency physician, has made his regular visits to the school during the year and watched the children closely, consequently we have had no serious illness.

Closing.—In closing these remarks I feel that I can conscientiously report that it has been a successful year, and I desire to thank each of the employees for aiding in making it such. I also wish to express to Agent Goldberg my sincere thanks for his attention and kindness.

Very respectfully,

R. A. COCHRAN, *Superintendent.*

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.
(Through Edward Goldberg, United States Indian agent.)

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF QUAPAW SCHOOL.

QUAPAW, BOARDING SCHOOL, VIA BAXTER SPRINGS, KANS.,
July 3, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to submit my annual report of the Quapaw boarding school as follows:

School opened on September 6 with an actual attendance of seventy-one pupils; this attendance was unusually large for the first day of school. It is a very difficult matter to convince Indians that it is necessary for their children to be in school the first day and remain in school every day throughout the session. The habits of the Indians are so irregular and dilatory that anything like regularity or system appears to their view to be a burden.

Many children who were solicited before school opened came later on, and were refused admission on account of lack of room, but lost opportunities seem to make but little impression on the Indian mind. Before the last of September, the attendance had grown to more than our listed capacity (90), and has been maintained above that number till the last day in the afternoon, as is shown by the monthly and quarterly reports.

The attendance could be increased to 125 pupils with little difficulty if our school plant were improved so as to accommodate that number. This increase in capacity could be accomplished by the erection of a school building and remodeling some of the buildings we now have.

The pupils have made very remarkable progress in the literary department and in music. These departments have been under the immediate supervision of Mrs. Lamar as principal teacher, who is well qualified in all departments of school work, possesses unusual musical talent, and has had a broad and successful experience as a teacher in the various grades of school work. Miss Carrie M. Darnell began her work in the intermediate grades here on February 14, last, and has already demonstrated her ability as a teacher and her usefulness as an employee. She, too, is a teacher of broad experience. Miss Gertrude Batchelor took charge of the kindergarten and first primary work here

the 1st of last November. Her work has been very satisfactory in these departments. Although her experience is somewhat limited she is well qualified for her work, and is an excellent employee. The exercises given at the close of the school year showed results of the efforts in these various departments of which both teachers and pupils may justly feel proud.

Early in October a literary and debating society was organized in which both pupils and employees participated. This society presented many programmes during the winter and spring months that would be creditable to any white school of like grade. The meetings of this society were continued until late in the spring, and, during the later months the offices were all filled by pupils of the school. The parents frequently came in to witness these exercises, and became much interested and pleased with the progress made by the pupils in this line of work. These exercises give life and interest to school work, and I regard them as a very necessary and profitable part of the work in Indian schools. My chief delight in this department has been the perfect harmony that has prevailed since the resignation of the employee whose position Miss Darnell now fills.

The industrial work in the kitchen, sewing room, and laundry have been under the immediate supervision of Miss Minnie A. Arnot, matron; the work in these departments has been quite satisfactory. The cook, the seamstress, and the laundress are all good, faithful employees. I very much regret to report that complete harmony has not prevailed in these departments.

The farm and the outside industrial work, since the resignation of Mr. Mack Johnson (February 2), have been under the direct management of Mr. William D. Bryce, industrial teacher. Mr. Bryce has managed this department extremely well, and, considering the very unfavorable weather and conditions for farm work, the prospect for crops of all kinds is very promising.

Most of the school farm now under cultivation, as is the case with many other farms in this vicinity, has been planted in corn for twenty years or more consecutively. This is a very extravagant system of farming, to say the least, and will, if persisted in, render the Indian lands almost worthless in course of time. This wasteful system of farming is the direct result of the almost universal practice among the Indians of leasing their farms to white farmers, who will, of course, insist on putting in such crops as promise the best immediate returns, regardless of the ultimate effect upon the land. I believe the school farm should be an object lesson for the adult Indians as well as for the pupils, and that careful attention should be given to rotation of crops and to better methods of farming.

Stock raising should also be encouraged. We sold from the school farm in December 25 head of fat hogs, weighing 259 pounds, and again, in May 25 head, weighing 231 pounds, besides a number slaughtered for pork. These hogs were fed almost wholly on the slops from the kitchens. This school farm should be able to dispose of from 50 to 100 head of fat hogs annually at a very trifling expense for feed. During the past year we fenced 37 acres of land, very suitable for a hog pasture, with posts, boards, and wire. This field is abundantly supplied with spring water, so that we now have an ideal place to raise hogs. I feel confident that with sufficient land and authority to manage it I could make this school self-sustaining.

We need very much a new school building. This with a small amount expended in remodeling would increase the capacity of this plant to 125 pupils, and would give us better accommodations than we have now for 90 pupils.

Our water supply is inadequate, and we have no fire protection except "fire buckets." We should have a larger tank placed on a higher tower, and a steam or gasoline engine to pump the water. We should have also some fire hydrants for fire protection.

Our facilities for bathing are very poor, and should be replaced by something of a more modern type.

All buildings except the laundry, which is equipped with an indifferent sewer, depend wholly upon surface drainage. A complete system of sewerage is a much-needed improvement.

The buildings are all lighted by kerosene lamps. I believe that, with a small amount invested in an acetylene gas plant, a more satisfactory system of lights could be provided than that now in use, and at a smaller cost.

It will be necessary to make some minor repairs during vacation in the way of new floors and stairs. With these, the plant will be in very fair condition of repair for the opening of school in September.

The health of the school has been generally very good throughout the year. Although we have had some serious cases of illness, no deaths have occurred this year.

Very respectfully,

C. H. LAMAR, *Superintendent.*

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.
(Through Edw. Goldberg, United States Indian agent.)

REPORT OF AGENT FOR UNION AGENCY.

MUSCOGEE, IND. T., *August 10, 1899.*

SIR: In compliance with your request, I have the honor to submit herewith my first annual report of affairs at this agency, together with statistical information accompanying the same for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899. In this connection, I desire to state that I assumed charge of this agency June 1, 1899, and my brief experience does not qualify me to report upon exisiting conditions as fully and in as precise a manner as I should like.

I regret to state that on the night of the 23d day of February last, the building in which the offices of this agency were located was destroyed by fire, and all the records which had accumulated and been carefully preserved for many years, together with the furniture, safe, and office fixtures were entirely destroyed.

I find the work of the agent vastly different from what I had expected, largely on account of recent legislation by Congress relating to the Five Civilized Tribes, which has in a great measure changed the status of affairs at this agency, and is proving an event of far-reaching importance, as it does away in a large measure with treaties which have been in vogue for many years, and will ultimately result in changing their form of government and bring them under the laws of the United States.

Many of the more progressive Indians of the Five Tribes are gradually coming to realize that they must of necessity accept the conditions imposed upon them by the laws enacted by Congress, providing for the final allotting of the tribal lands now held in common, and that they will be required finally to select a tract of land, and there settle down and establish for themselves and their families permanent homes. The hand of improvement is everywhere visible in this Territory. Almost the entire region is dotted with villages and towns, the homes of many of the Indians and citizen freedmen indicating a degree of thrift and enterprise rarely found in an Indian country; many of their houses being built in modern style, tastefully painted, nestled amidst lawns and gardens neatly inclosed, flanked with orchards of fruit trees, giving abundant evidence of ease, plenty, and in many instances of no small degree of luxury.

Agriculture.—The richness of the soil, with the favorable climatic conditions prevailing in the Territory, offers great agricultural possibilities. The culture of cotton is largely extended and profitably pursued. All the cereals are cultivated in their highest perfection. Bunch and other varieties of grasses grow luxuriantly.

Intruders.—The remarkable development in all branches of industry, with corresponding increase in the volume of business, together with the varied and ever-widening conditions favorable to the avocation of the farmer, stockman, fruit grower, lumbermen, and miners, have all combined to make this an inviting field for the intruder element from the border States, many of whom enter the Territory with the avowed intention of beating the Indian, and wholly disregard and defy the laws of the different nations, and refuse to take out permits until they are either forced to comply with the law or threatened with removal from the Territory by the agent, and in some instances it becomes necessary for the agent to execute the order of removal with the aid of the police force; and where it is necessary to resort to the removal of intruders, the officer executing the order is cautioned to do so with as little friction as possible, treating the party to be removed with all humanity consistent with the due execution of the order.

Population.—The total estimated population of the various nations, including intermarried whites and freed men, is 77,686, as shown by the table herewith, revised by my predecessor, Agent Wisdom, for the year 1898, since which time very few changes have taken place to materially change these figures.

Choctaw citizens by blood, intermarried whites and freedmen	19,406
Chickasaw citizens by blood, intermarried whites and freedmen	9,048
Creek Indians by blood and freedmen	14,771
Cherokees by blood, intermarried whites, freedmen, Delawares, and Shawnees	34,461

The full-blood Indians are to a certain degree civilized and have to a large extent adopted the habits and customs of their more intelligent white brothers. Many of them speak both English and their native tongue. They are peaceable and generally law-abiding, but are slow to accumulate property and are rarely industrious.

The negro population is composed of slaves and their descendants owned by the more progressive element of the Indians of the Five Tribes before the civil war. Since the emancipation of the race the different nations composing the Five Tribes, sustained by a just and humane public sentiment, have done everything consistent to efface all badges of former slavery by granting them the rights of citizenship, and in the Creek and Cherokee nations they are permitted to participate in the allotment of the tribal lands, they are required to serve as jurors when called upon, and are given ample freedom in the exercise of their religious belief.

Indian police.—The allowance at this agency is 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, 3 sergeants, and 22 privates, making a total of 28, and are stationed as follows: Cherokee Nation, 7; Choctaw Nation, 9; Creek Nation, 8; Chickasaw Nation, 3; Seminole Nation, 1.

They are, as a rule, faithful and obedient, prompt, and energetic in suppressing crime and keep this office informed against persons committing unlawful acts within their respective districts, and each member of the force is required to render prompt obedience to superiors, conform strictly to prescribed rules and regulations, be orderly and respectful in deportment and refrain from profane, insolent, or vulgar language, and are absolutely required to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors, and are held to a strict account for a proper observance of the rules and regulations.

The compensation received by the police at this agency, in my opinion, is not commensurate with the duties required of them. They are called upon to furnish conveyances and pay their own traveling expenses, all out of the sum of $10 per month for privates and $15 per month for the captain and two lieutenants.

The police department, as I understand it, was created for the benefit and protection of Indian reservations and the Indians thereon in the early days, when Federal courts and municipal governments did not exist, and it was necessary that unlimited

jurisdiction be conferred upon them in order that they might be better enabled to quell disturbances, remove intruders, and assist in training and educating the Indians in the ways of civilization; but as to the Five Civilized Tribes, Federal courts have been provided, together with a form of municipal government, giving ample protection to all the citizens of the Indian Territory. The Indian half-breeds, who compose a large majority of the citizens of the Indian Territory, are competent and good citizens, and are able to take care of themselves under the laws of the United States Government, but the full-blood Indians are entirely helpless, on account of being unable to understand the laws or defend themselves in the courts, and it seems to me that it will naturally take the strong arm of the Interior Department to give them the protection that they now require. The half-breed realizes the benefit that will come to him under the new order of things, and is willing to accept the conditions. The full-blood does not see it and is therefore discontented, but if it were possible that the existing laws and treaties should be administered speedily and give the Indians the desired and intended results, this feeling and the need for this particular protection to the full-blood would be eliminated.

I would therefore advise taking into consideration the changes and new conditions in the tribal governments, that the police force be reduced and be distributed as follows: For the Cherokee Nation, 2; for the Creek Nation, 3; for the Chocktaw Nation, 3; for the Chickasaw Nation, 3; and for the Seminole Nation, 1; and that this number be selected from the best citizens and those most competent; that they be paid a salary of $50 each per month and expenses when traveling, and that the captain be allowed a salary of $100 per month and like expenses. This would reduce the force in this Territory to 13, and the compensation would be sufficient to enable them to devote their entire time to the service, and the change would greatly simplify the work, as it will be readily understood that competent men can not be induced to undertake to discharge the duties devolving upon a policeman in the Indian Territory for $10 per month and pay his own traveling expenses.

It might be well to state in this connection that the agreement entered into by the Choctaws and the Chickasaws with the commission to the Five Civilized Tribes provides that when allotments of lands are made the Government pledges the nations to put each Indian in possession of his allotment, and in my opinion it will naturally fall to the policemen to carry out this provision of the agreement, through the Department of the Interior, under the direction of the United States Indian agent; and as there are a great many intruders, both in the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations, I anticipate that it will be necessary to remove a great many noncitizens in order to place the Indians in possession of their allotments.

Smallpox in the Creek Nation.—During the months of February, March, and a part of April, 1899, smallpox broke out among the Creek Indians residing adjacent to the Sac and Fox Agency, Okla., and one or two cases were reported at Okmulgee, the capital of the nation. Prompt and diligent efforts were at once made by your office and Agent Wisdom to suppress this outbreak. Doctors, nurses, and guards were hired and a strict quarantine was maintained throughout the northern portion of the Indian Territory. As most of the cases were adjacent to the Sac and Fox Agency, Agent Patrick was directed by the Indian Office to care for them, which he did in a most effectual manner. The outbreak in this immediate section, while never serious, caused considerable alarm, and I am satisfied had not vigorous efforts been taken by the Government an epidemic of considerable magnitude would have prevailed.

Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations.—The Secretary of the Interior has prescribed, under the provisions of the act of Congress of June 28, 1898 (30 Stat., 495), rules and regulations governing mineral leases and other matters in the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, Ind. T. Section 13 of said regulations prescribes that—

> All royalties, including advance royalties, as provided for in said agreement and in these regulations, shall be payable in lawful money of the United States to the United States Indian agent at the Union Agency in the Indian Territory. All other royalty, in accordance with the schedule provided in these regulations, unless modified in any particular case by the Secretary of the Interior, as herein provided, shall be payable to said United States Indian agent monthly, and shall be paid on or before the 25th day of the month succeeding the date when such monthly royalties shall have accrued. All monthly royalties shall be accompanied by a sworn statement, in duplicate, by the person, corporation, or company making the same as to the output of the mine of such person, corporation, or company for the month for which royalties may be tendered. One part of said sworn statement shall be filed with the United States Indian agent, to be transmitted to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and the other part thereof shall be filed with the United States Indian inspector for the Indian Territory.

Section 14 of said regulations further provides as follows:

> The said United States Indian agent shall receive and receipt for all royalties paid into his hands when accompanied by a sworn statement, as above provided, but not otherwise; and all royalties received by him shall be, as soon as practicable, deposited with the United States subtreasurer at St. Louis, in like manner as are deposited moneys known in the regulations of the Indian Office as miscellaneous receipts, Class III, with a statement showing the proportionate shares of each of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations.

Moneys so collected and deposited by the United States Indian agent, as above set forth, shall be held to the credit of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations in their respective proportions, and shall be subject to disbursement by the Secretary of the Interior for the support of the schools of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, in accordance with the agreement of April 23, 1897, between the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes and the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, as ratified by the act of June 28, supra.

These regulations were promulgated by the Secretary of the Interior October 7, 1898, but prior to that time, July 21, 1898, the Department promulgated provisional instructions under the provisions of the act of Congress referred to above, in which the Indian agent at this agency was directed to give immediate notice to contractors, lessees, or other persons having permits from the tribal authorities, that all royalties, lease moneys, rents, etc., that have accrued since their last payment to those authorities, or since the 28th day of June last, and are unpaid, or that they may hereafter accrue under their several grants, shall be paid, through him, into the Treasury of the United States to the credit of the tribe to which they belong. These provisional instructions were intended to apply to all the tribes of this agency, viz, the Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws and Chickasaws, except the Seminoles, who by their agreement with the United States were not subject to the provisions of the act of June 28, 1898. These instructions were printed and mailed to parties interested in the Indian Territory and at other points, and the Indian agent at once commenced to receive and receipt for all moneys paid into his hands under these regulations.

During the quarter ending September 30, 1898, the following amounts were collected for the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations:

Choctaw nation:	
Taxes on circuses and theaters	$33.88
Permits	425.25
Licensed-trader taxes	347.44
Royalty on timber	1,224.65
Asphalt, coal, rock, and stone royalty	2,402.18
Chickasaw nation:	
Timber royalty	408.20
Asphalt, coal, rock, and stone royalty	800.72

These amounts were subsequently deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States for the tribes named.

It was afterwards decided by the Department that under the provisions of the agreement made with the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians by the Dawes commission that the United States, through its officials, were only to collect coal, asphalt, and other mineral royalties, and that the collection of all other taxes in the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations, such as timber royalty, permit taxes, etc., were to be collected by the Indian officials, as heretofore.

Prior to receipt of the amended instructions there was collected by my predecessor, Agent Wisdom, during the quarter ending December 31, 1898, royalties for the Choctaw Nation as follows:

Choctaw Nation:	
Royalty on timber	$212.50
Miners' permits	238.21
Tax on circus	25.00
Chickasaw Nation:	
Timber royalty	70.84
Total	546.55

This sum was subsequently by him deposited to the credit of the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations.

My predecessor, Agent Wisdom, and myself have collected and deposited with the Treasurer of the United States for the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations, since the passage of the Curtis act, June 28, 1898, to the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899, the following amounts of royalty in the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations:

Coal royalty	$107,766.03
Asphalt royalty	1,295.32
Rock royalty	1,083.90
Miscellaneous receipts	2,985.97
Total	113,131.22

Coal, asphalt, and rock royalty is divided in the proportion of three-fourths to the Choctaws and one-fourth to the Chickasaws. Miscellaneous receipts are divided as shown above.

Since June 30, 1899, I have received on account of coal, asphalt, and rock royalty for the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations, the sum of $10,376.55, which, while having been paid in July, was earned and accrued to the nations during the month of June; hence it is given in this report in order to show total amount earned by the nations from June 28, 1898, to June 30, 1899.

In the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations there are 22 coal mines, 4 asphalt mines, and 1 rock quarry. The principal mine operators in these nations are the Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf Railroad Company, with headquarters at Alderson, Hartshorne, Gowen, and Wilburton; the Osage Coal and Mining Company, with mines at Krebs, Ind. T.; the Osage and Atoka Coal and Mining Company, with mines at Lehigh and Coalgate, Ind. T.; the Kansas and Texas Coal Company, headquarters at St. Louis, Mo., having mines at Krebs, Cherryvale, Carbon, and near Jenson, Ark.; the Southwestern Coal and Improvement Company, with mines at Lehigh and Coalgate, Ind. T. The asphalt mines, with one exception, are located near Dougherty, Chickasaw Nation, Ind. T. The names of the operators are the Gilsonite Roofing and Paving Company, with general offices at St. Louis, Mo.; Mastick and Paving Company, St. Louis, Mo.; the Rock Creek Natural Asphalt Company, Topeka, Kans.; the Moulton Asphalt Company, with mines near Coalgate, Choctaw Nation.

I think it proper to add that the mine operators in the two nations named remit their royalties promptly and accompany the same with the required sworn statements. My relations with the officers of the several companies have been pleasant, and no friction between them and this office has ever occurred.

I am satisfied that the coal royalties for the past year would have been much larger had not the strike, which is now on and which commenced in February, 1899, been prevailing. This strike has very materially reduced the output of the mines for the past five months, and, I regret to add, the trouble between the operators and strikers has not been satisfactorily adjusted. The Department has recently instructed Special Inspector J. W. Zevely to investigate and report upon this matter, but I have not seen his report, and can not, therefore, being myself new to the country, give the reason for the strike.

All mineral leases in the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations are entered into by the mineral trustees of said nations, who are appointed by the President of the United States upon the recommendation of the executives of said nations, each of whom is an Indian by blood of the respective nation from which he was appointed. It is the duty of the trustees to receive applications from parties desiring to make leases of lands within the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations for the purpose of engaging in the mining of coal, asphalt, or other minerals; to examine said applications and transmit the same with report of fact to the United States Indian inspector in the Indian Territory, and on receipt of authority from him for that purpose, to enter jointly into leases with all parties whom the privilege of leasing lands in said nation for mining purposes shall be approved by him in such form as prescribed by the Secretary.

The rate of royalty prescribed by the Secretary on coal, prior to January 1, 1899, was 15 cents per ton for each and every ton of coal produced weighing 2,000 pounds. This regulation was afterwards modified upon the application of the coal companies in the Indian Territory, so as to be 10 cents per ton for each and every ton of screened coal produced weighing 2,000 pounds.

There is also located in the Indian Territory a mine inspector who is under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, and who makes his report direct to him. This officer has no connection with this office. His duty is to report on the sanitary condition of the mines and to see that all needful and proper care is taken to prevent explosions or other accidents.

As stated above, all funds arising from mineral royalties are to be used in educating the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians. They are disbursed by the United States Indian agent under the direction of the United States Indian inspector for the Indian Territory.

Cherokee and Creek Nations.—The Secretary of the Interior, under the general provisions of the act of Congress approved June 28, 1898 (30 Stat., 495), also promulgated certain rules and regulations governing mineral leases, the collection and disbursement of revenues, etc., in the Cherokee and Creek nations. Under these regulations the United States Indian agent is required to receive and receipt for all royalties paid into his hands, when accompanied by sworn statements, and it is also his duty to collect, under the supervision and direction of the United States Indian inspector for the Indian Territory, all rents, permits, revenues, and taxes of whatsoever kind or nature that may be due and payable to either of said nations. These revenues,

after having been collected by the Indian agent, are deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States for the tribes named, accompanied by a statement showing the sources from which the royalties, rents, etc., arose.

The principal source of revenue for the Creek and Cherokee nations is the tax imposed by the said nations upon merchants and others doing business within the limits of their Territories. There are a few small coal mines in each nation, the output and royalty thereon amounting to but little. There are in the Creek Nation 33 towns and 520 traders; in the Cherokee Nation there are 89 towns and 612 traders. The tax imposed by the Cherokee Nation upon traders is one-fourth of 1 per cent on all merchandise introduced or exposed for sale in said nation. It also places an occupation tax upon all persons residing in said nation and making a livelihood by either a trade or a profession. This tax is badly proportioned and should be more uniform. In the Cherokee Nation no white man is permitted to engage in trade, save in the Canadian district thereof. This I think to be a poor plan and not conducive to the welfare of the Indians.

The total amount of revenue collected from all sources by the United States Indian Agent at this agency from June 28, 1898, to June 30, 1899, for the Cherokee and Creek nations is as follows:

Creek Nation	$4,913.63
Cherokee Nation	3,150.87

Seminole Nation.—In December, 1897, the Seminole Nation and the commission to the Five Civilized Tribes, otherwise known as the Dawes Commission, entered into an agreement, which provides for the allotment of their lands and the establishment of a United States court at Wewoka in said nation, and gives to the United States courts exclusive jurisdiction of all controversies growing out of the title, ownership, occupation, or use of real estate owned by the Seminoles, and to try persons charged with homicide, embezzlement, bribery, and embracery heretofore committed in the Seminole country, without reference to the citizenship of the person charged with such crime. The Seminole Indian courts are allowed to retain the jurisdiction that they now have, except such as is transferred to the United States courts. This agreement also provides for the gradual extinction of the tribal government. Ample provision is also made for schools and churches.

By reason of this treaty, which was afterwards ratified by Congress, the Seminoles are not under the provisions of the Curtis Act, and the Indian agent does not receive or disburse any of their moneys, it being done by the tribal officers. The Seminoles are peaceable and law-abiding citizens, and by reason of their conducting their own affairs this office has but little business with them, save to enforce intercourse laws.

In conclusion, I desire to express my appreciation for the many courtesies extended and assistance rendered me by yourself and the employees of your office. I am indebted to my clerks, Mr. J. Fentress Wisdom and Miss Blanche Oppenheimer, for the faithful discharge of their duties. They are competent and reliable. Thanks are also due the Department for the kind and liberal support given me since taking up the arduous duties devolving upon the agent at this agency.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BLAIR SHOENFELT,
United States Indian Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.
(Through J. George Wright,
United States Indian Inspector for the Indian Territory.)

REPORT CONCERNING INDIANS IN IOWA.

REPORT OF AGENT FOR SAC AND FOX AGENCY.

TOLEDO, IOWA, *August 21, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor herewith to submit my annual report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899.

I assumed the responsibilities of the office, agent for the Sac and Fox Indians of the Mississippi, resident in Tama County, Iowa, on January 28, 1899. Since which time I have been endeavoring to familiarize myself with the duties pertaining to the office, and to perform them as my best judgment dictates, without fear or favor.

The land upon which these Indians reside has been purchased by them, through their agents, at different periods, ranging from 1857, the date of the first purchase, to