REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF OURAY SCHOOL.

OURAY SCHOOL, UTAH, *July 14, 1899.*

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the Ouray boarding school for the year ending June 30, 1899:

Upon taking charge of the school, November 25, 1898, I found 26 pupils in attendance. Since that time there has been a slight increase in the attendance, but it is still far from satisfactory. This school should be filled to its normal capacity of 80 pupils, peaceably if possible, by force if necessary. I have endeavored to create a friendly feeling toward the school, to show the Indians that the white man's way is the best way, and that the school was established for their benefit. But while some of the Indians are willing patrons of the school, there are many who are still opposed to education. They know that civilization brings with it duties and obligations that require energy and industry, and they prefer to live in the old way and be supported by the Government, rather than adopt a new method of living, which will compel them to abandon their vices and go to work.

A system of waterworks is greatly needed. At present we have to haul the water in barrels for laundry, kitchen, and bathrooms. This is very unsatisfactory and a fruitful cause of sickness in cold weather. An attempt has been made to dig a well near the kitchen and laundry, but the formation is such that good water can not be obtained. I think that a well can be dug in the river bottom about 20 rods from the kitchen, and good water obtained at a depth of a few feet.

A barn or other comfortable shelter is needed for our increasing herd of cattle. If the lumber can be furnished by the agency sawmill, the school employees can do most of the work of building.

Our farming operations have been fairly successful. We will have plenty of hay for our stock and some vegetables for the children, although gardens are not so good as usual on account of the cold, backward spring.

The employees have worked faithfully and diligently, but owing to frequent changes, and the consequent unsettled condition of affairs, the pupils have not made that steady growth which is to be desired and which can be obtained where the same employees remain throughout the year; yet there have been some progress and improvement, and I look forward hopefully to the future.

Very respectfully,

JNO. M. COMMONS, *Superintendent.*

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

REPORTS CONCERNING INDIANS IN WASHINGTON.

REPORT OF AGENT FOR COLVILLE AGENCY.

COLVILLE AGENCY, *Miles, Wash., August 25, 1899.*

SIR: As directed in your circular letter bearing date May 1, 1899, I have the honor to submit my second annual report of affairs at this agency. In submitting this report I have concluded to leave out "past history," of which, I believe, enough has been said in previous reports. It is well, however, to restate a few known facts.

The jurisdiction of this agency embraces three reservations, two of them—the Colville and Spokane—in the State of Washington, and the Cœur d'Alene, in the State of Idaho. Together they contain an area of more than 3,500,000 acres. The population of the various tribes is shown in the following table, viz:

Tribes.	Males.		Females.		Total.	Children of school age.		Total.
	Above 18 years.	Under 18 years.	Above 14 years.	Under 14 years.		Males.	Females.	
Lower Spokane	112	63	134	61	370	30	32	62
Upper and Middle Spokanes, on Spokane Reservation	59	26	68	27	180	11	22	33
Okanogan	198	107	189	79	573	67	51	118
Columbia	108	40	124	39	311	30	32	62
Nez Percés of Joseph's Band	33	23	54	17	127	11	12	23
Cœur d'Alene	137	94	167	83	481	49	49	98
Upper and Middle Spokanes, on Cœur d'Alene Reservation	42	26	53	24	145	20	16	36
Lake	107	64	99	41	311	42	41	83
Colville	110	50	95	48	303	30	27	57
Nespilem and San Poil (estimated)	120	70	140	70	400	45	30	75
Calispel[1]	50	25	25	50	150	15	10	25
Total	1,076	588	1,148	539	3,351	350	322	672

[1] Estimated; not on any reservation.

Speaking of the Indians residing upon the Colville Reservation—the Okanogan, Columbia, Lake, Colville, Nespilem, and San Poil tribes—I can say that they are gener-

ally progressing, industrious, and where not disturbed by outsiders are polite, obedient, and respectful, are becoming civilized, and fast adopting the ways of the whites. Nearly all of them are living in comfortable houses. and but a very limited number are occupying the traditional tepee or brush homes.

The Columbia tribe have sustained a severe loss during the past year in the death of their chief, Moses. The direct cause of his death was Bright's disease, coupled with severe exposures and advancing years, which overcame his magnificent physical endurance and he succumbed to the inevitable March 25, 1899. In the passing away of Moses the last remnant and vestige vanished of a succession of chiefs who have conspicuously figured in the history of pioneer life for generations. Moses came of fighting stock and was a chief by inheritance. His ancestors for generations had been chiefs and possessed undaunted courage and bravery. He belonged to that class of Indians who bravely and incessantly fought the advance of civilization, clinging with steadfast tenacity to the traditions of their forefathers in defending the inheritance they had received from Almighty God. Born with the instincts of a great warrior, he contested every inch of ground which he had been taught belonged to himself and his people. After a few years of hostility he fully realized the folly of his contention and soon comprehended the friendly feeling toward him on the part of the whites. He made a treaty with the Government, and, as he said himself, "washed his hands from all previous warfare," kept his promise faithfully, and died a warm friend of the Government. After his suspension of hostilities he settled down to more peaceful pursuits, and had a wonderful influence in having his people do likewise. For many years past he had been an ideal Indian, thoroughly modern in every respect, and lived on a fine farm on the Nespilem River, well stocked with cattle and horses, also well supplied with agricultural implements. He lived in a good substantial frame dwelling and dressed entirely in citizen's clothes, was a great lover of horseflesh, and among his band could be found many blooded animals. He often contested for supremacy with white people, backing up the merits of his horse with cash. His judgment was rarely misplaced. He was a suave, pleasant man of sunny disposition and jovial nature; exerted a powerful influence over his people, and his wishes were never disregarded by them. Though stern in governing, he was kind to the weak and generous to those in want, caring for the old and indigent, supplying them with provisions from his own larder, and often gave them money to purchase necessaries of life. In his death the tribe loses a faithful friend and the Government a good citizen.

Much credit should be given the Indians upon the Colville Reservation for their advancement and present prosperity. They are on a good, sound, and conservative footing, satisfactory to the Government and creditable to themselves. The territory occupied by these Indians is adapted to agriculture and stock raising. In extending the limits of their farms good substantial fences have been erected, and during the past year quite a number of them have purchased fence wire out of their own financial resources.

The extension of the mineral laws to the Colville Reservation, while having its injurious effects and drawbacks, has its redeeming feature. Prospectors and mining camps create a market for the produce of the Indians, and, as a general rule, the prices are far in advance of those in a more open market outside.

In my last report I submitted for your consideration a few remarks relating to the condition of Joseph's band of Nez Percés, and offered a few suggestions which I deemed necessary for their improvement and advancement. This year I reluctantly admit that I have nothing encouraging to offer. The same spirit of indifference exists, and instead of being able to report the ordinary progression, I must admit that the conditions warrant my saying that they have made the initial step toward retrogression. With a lavish expenditure by the Government and a feeling of disregard for their future wants, this small band has lapsed into an indolent and lazy condition.

Chief Joseph himself is not in any way a progressive Indian, and has not the confidence of his people. It is difficult to instill into his mind the fundamental principles of civilization. He lacks the stamina of a chief, and wields but very little influence over his people, at least for their betterment. Chief Joseph may be applauded for his acts of bravery and as a great military chieftain in the sacrifices he made for what he considered his birthright; how he led his warriors forth to battle akin to the ancient Hannibal; how he fought, bled, and finally surrendered with all the honors of war and a vanquished hero. All those acts appear very flattering on the pages of history, but to know a man thoroughly is to see him daily in the different walks of life. He may have been a success as a military commander, but as a progressive, public-spirited Indian he is decidedly a sad failure. He is hostile to civilization, and he and his handful of warriors are the most backward of all the tribes on

the Colville Reservation, and, taking into consideration the fact that the Government has supplied them so lavishly with rations, clothing, and implements for the past sixteen years, their condition should be very much different.

Located as they are in the beautiful valley of the Nespilem River, where the hand of nature has made the soil prolific, the climate mild, and the air balmy, they should have good farms and comfortable homes. Many of them have no farm, do not care for one, as they are supported in luxury and ease by the Government. I can not be too emphatic in criticising the practice of furnishing these Indians rations and clothing. If it can not be stopped immediately, let it be done by a gradual decrease. The issue of subsistence encourages idleness and carelessness. The Nez Perces are nonprogressive in their present state, immoral in their habits, and filthy in their customs. The women do most of the labor, and they live much as their forefathers did, or as near as the surroundings will permit. Marriages are not known, children are born promiscuously, and morality and virtue are in a deplorable condition among both sexes. They are inveterate gamblers, and spend much of their time in the traditional Indian games of chance. While Chief Joseph is a pleasant, sociable Indian to meet, he is a much overestimated man as to his tact and ability. As chief of his band he should exercise some control and be willing to elevate his people to a higher standard. This he does not do, has no desire to better their condition, and they plod along in the same rut from year to year. He should endeavor to rectify their errors, and assist in apprehending those who violate the laws of the land.

There should be a definite and feasible plan adopted for the uplifting of these Indians in order to accomplish beneficial results, and restrictions adequate to curb their hostile nature must be established and enforced. With a systematic, vigorous policy this tribe will pave the way for a bright and glorious future of thrift and industry. There are grand results in store for them, but under the present prevailing conditions the desired end can not be obtained. Were these Indians treated on the same equality of adjoining tribes they would be better citizens in every respect, and I earnestly suggest that the profuse generosity of the Government be at least limited, and this tribe allowed to rely on their own resources, at least to a certain extent.

The Cœur d'Alene tribe of Indians have during the past year made material progress in the way of improving their farms, and have a greater acreage in cultivation than ever before. I can only repeat here what I stated in my report of them last year, that they are further advanced in civilization, in better condition financially, and better farmers than any other tribe connected with this agency.

The Lower Spokanes and the Upper and Middle Spokanes on the Spokane Reservation are in better condition this season than they have been for a number of years, thanks to the generous action of the Department in supplying them with the necessary seed grain with which to put in crop. These Indians are, as a rule, thrifty and industrious, and with a little more assistance from the Government in the way of supplying them with necessary farm implements would, in my opinion, soon become self-supporting and good citizens.

Allotment of land in severalty to the Indians residing upon the north half of the Colville Reservation was commenced in the month of December, 1898, by Special Allotting Agent Harry Humphrey, and about 200 allotments have been made up to date. Special Allotting Agent W. E. Casson has recently been assigned to duty in connection with this work, and it is hoped that the work of allotting all of the Indians residing upon that part of the reservation can be completed before winter sets in.

The court of Indian offenses is presided over by three full-blood Indians as judges. They are men of irreproachable character, and, when holding court, dignified in manner and bearing. The decisions of the court are faithfully abided by. The police force, with a few exceptions, have rendered faithful work, and well deserve the pittance they receive as compensation.

In conclusion I desire to acknowledge to the Honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs and to all officers of the Department my sincere appreciation for their courteous treatment and support in all matters pertaining to affairs at this agency.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

ALBERT M. ANDERSON,
United States Indian Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

REPORT OF AGENT FOR NEAH BAY AGENCY.

NEAH BAY AGENCY, WASH.,
Neah Bay, July 21, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to submit my third annual report of this agency, for the year ending June 30, 1899.

Population.—There are three distinct tribes on this reservation, divided as follows: Makahs, 404; Quillayute, 228, and Hoh, 75. The Makahs are subdivided into Neah Bay, 285; Ozett, 48; Suez, 33, and Waatch, 38; a total of 707 Indians under my charge. According to this census just taken, there has been a decrease of 49 since my last report. This decrease is mostly from an epidemic of measles during last summer and fall.

Location.—This reservation is situated in the extreme northwest, on the Pacific Ocean and western end of the Straits of Juan de Fuca.

Climate.—During the last year, from June to June, there was a rainfall of 107 inches, 211 rainy days, 254 cloudy, 51 part cloudy, and 49 clear. This gives a fair idea of what a wet place this is. It is safe to say that we don't need irrigation ditches.

General condition.—I believe that these Indians are in a little better condition than last year, but the improvement is not great. They are still very poor. There was a time once when they had plenty, when whale oil brought a good price and they were permitted to kill seal; then they had money and had everything they wanted that money could buy. At that time they owned several schooners and made regular trips to Alaska sealing, and were very successful. In their native canoes they went many miles out in the Pacific and killed whales of great size, and now the market for whale oil is gone. They are prohibited from sealing, their schooners were seized and sold. They kill a few whales that they float on the beach near their villages and use for food—raw, dried, and cooked. They are natural seafaring people; their canoes are models of marine architecture. They live only a short distance from fine halibut banks and in a day can catch thousands of pounds of fine edible fish, but they do not realize as much from this market as they should and probably recognizing that fact they follow this pursuit in a desultory manner.

They have a few head of cattle and horses, but as their grass land is limited there can be no increase in their herds. To get money to buy clothing and provisions, they sell baskets of excellent make, market some fish, fish some for the canneries, and pick hops at the hop yards up the sound.

Schools.—We have two schools. The Neah Bay day school was this year very ably conducted by Prof. J. M. Collins, assisted by Chestoqua Peterson. The Quillayute day school has been for years under the management of Prof. A. W. Smith, and is well conducted.

There should be a day school at Hoh. Hoh is about 60 miles from the agency and 20 from Quillayute, and has never received any assistance. There should be a day teacher and one police there. There is a building there suitable for a school room that could be rented for a small sum.

Court.—We have five Indian judges, two at Quillayute and three at Neah Bay, constituting two courts. Their decisions are reasonably equitable and relieve the agent of many trials of a trivial nature.

Police.—The police consists of five privates and one captain and is a very efficient force.

Crimes.—Whisky and licentiousness is the great curse of these Indians. They nearly all drink if they can get it, and when off from the reservation they seem to get it without much trouble. On the reservation there is not much drinking; the police keep a strict watch for anything of the kind.

Sanitary condition.—The health and sanitary condition of these Indians does not change much from year to year. During the last year they have had an epidemic of measles, proving generally fatal either primarily or from the resulting lung troubles. Consumption, as would be expected, is very common amongst them. The sanitary condition of their villages is very poor, their houses are crowded together along the beach only a few feet apart, decayed fish and whale everywhere; the stench is sometimes simply beyond description. A few of the younger and more progressive have moved back from the village, have built houses and small gardens that are a credit to them.

The water system at the agency is bad and endangers the health of the employees. However, I expect to make this the subject of a special report.

Missionary work needed.—This is a ripe field for missionary work. There never has been any missionary here. We expect that this year a good Christian worker will be amongst these people.

Field matron needed.—Probably there is no one single thing that these people need as much as some one to teach the women and young girls good cleanly housekeeping. We have had the pleasure of visits the past year from Inspector Duncan and School Supervisor Bauer. We hope that we have profited thereby.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the honorable Commissioner and the Indian Office for the many courtesies shown me during the last year.

I am, very respectfully,

SAMUEL G. MORSE,
United States Indian Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

REPORT OF SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT IN CHARGE OF PUYALLUP AGENCY.

PUYALLUP CONSOLIDATED AGENCY,
Tacoma, Wash., August 23, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith my first annual report for the agency and schools under my charge.

The offices of the agency and of the Puyallup boarding school are near the city of Tacoma, and all mail for the agency or school should be sent to Tacoma, and visitors or employees coming to the school should buy tickets to that city. A very complete description of the reservation belonging to this agency was given in the report for 1898.

A part of the lands belonging to the Puyallup Indians are valuable for grazing and gardening and command a yearly rental of from $5 to $10 per acre. Some of these Indians cultivate a portion of their lands and, if industrious and sober, make a good living. The greater part of the timber from lands near the city of Tacoma has been sold, but there is still a large quantity of good timber on the allotments farthest from the city. By order of the Indian Office further sale of timber from any of these allotted lands has been stopped.

Portions of a large number of allotments have been sold, and the unsold portions are benefitted by the improvements made by the purchasers, though the money received from these sales is not always, perhaps not often, wisely used. In spite of laws prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors to Indians a large part of their money goes for that purpose.

The Skokomish Reservation, at the head of Hood's Canal, contains 4,714 acres, nearly all allotted. Some of this land is very good, but a large part is still swamp, and valueless for agricultural purposes until drained. The feasibility of draining and reclaiming this land will be the subject of investigation this year. At present the only tillable lands are those along the Skokomish River, 367 acres being reported under cultivation. A day school is maintained on this reservation, occupying some of the buildings of the old boarding school. Attendance is small owing to the bad condition of roads for the greater part of the year. The Congregational Church supports a missionary, and the Shakers also have a meetinghouse.

On the Chehalis Reservation, near Gate City, the conditions are similar to those at Skokomish. Lands are allotted, but only 330 acres are reported under cultivation and 1,081 under fence out of a total of 3,753 acres. Part of the remainder is too dry and part is too wet or is covered with timber. A day school is maintained at the site of the old boarding school, but, as at Skokomish, the attendance is small owing to bad roads. The Chehalis people are all engaged in farming, and get a fair living.

Squaxin Island contains 1,494 acres, all allotted. The greater part of the island is still covered with timber. The clearings are small and the improvements of little value. The inhabitants spend most of their time abroad fishing or working for whites. Access to the island can only be had by rowboats at long distances from steamer landings, and statistics are meager and unsatisfactory. No school or church is now maintained here.

The Quinaielt Reservation contains 350 square miles and lies on the extreme west of the State, fronting the ocean. Only 60 acres are reported under cultivation, the main support of these Indians being salmon fishing and freighting to Gray's Harbor. A few destitute old people have received needed supplies of food and medicine, furnished through the farmer at the subagency. As no allotments have been made the people are slow to make improvements. It is not probable, however, that the lands remaining to be sold would yet justify the expense of the surveys necessary to be

made before allotment, although their condition would no doubt be much improved if they had lands on which to build homes of their own. The buildings of the abandoned boarding school are now worthless, and, while the attendance at the day school is small, a new building should be provided so that a day school could be maintained here for the benefit of the smaller children and others that can not well attend the boarding school at Tacoma.

The Shoalwater Reservation on Shoalwater Bay, near the ocean, contains 335 acres unallotted lands. No church or school is maintained here. The people are migratory, living part of the year at Bay Center or North Cove, and living mainly by fishing and oystering. But little of the reservation is cultivated. There is yet a small body of good timber for which there is no present demand.

The Nisqually Reservation contains 4,717 acres, allotted, but only a small part yet under cultivation. No school is maintained, pupils being taken to the boarding school at Tacoma.

Population.—A census of the population by tribes is as follows:

Tribe.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males over 18 years.	Females over 14 years.	Children 6 to 16 years.
Skokomish	100	106	206	63	64	51
Quinaielt, etc	175	139	314	107	99	55
Nisqually	54	52	106	40	34	24
Chehalis	87	76	163	56	49	34
Sklallam	159	162	321	95	113	76
Squaxin	60	53	113	36	44	26
Puyallup	270	285	555	154	189	157
Total	905	873	1,778	551	592	423

As previously reported, there are Indians scattered along the sound, and not now on any reservation and impossible to enumerate, and the children of these Indians, with those under 6 and over 16 years, who should be in school, increase the number of children dependent on the schools of this reservation for their education to at least 600, aside from those now at the training schools.

Education.—Reports for the five day schools, the Puyallup boarding, and St. George's mission (Catholic) show attendance as follows:

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Average.
Puyallup boarding school	142	100	242	216
St. George's school	33	38	71	47
Chehalis day school	13	7	20	10
Skokomish day school	12	14	26	8.75
Port Gamble day school	11	9	20	13
Jamestown day school	15	9	24	20.8
Quinaielt day school	8	7	15	11
Total	234	184	418	326.55

Hop picking begins in September and keeps a large number of children out of school until well into October. This not only occasions a serious loss of time from school, but, what is of more importance, the free and easy manners attending these gatherings have very bad effect on children of all ages and especially on the older girls. After the first of December the boarding school is well filled, the average attendance after that time being about 230.

The usual course of instruction is given in the school room up to the 8th grade. There is a large class in vocal and instrumental music, and a very good band and orchestra receive reguiar instruction. Domestic industries receive a fair share of attention, to be increased this year as additional facilities are furnished.

Departments have been organized for instruction in tailoring, shoe and harness making, carpentry and blacksmithing, and will be further systematized as fast as suitable quarters and material can be provided.

Sanitary conditions have been bad, but when the sewer system now under construction is finished they are expected to be of the very best. Better and larger hospital facilities are still needed, especially for the isolation and care of consumptive patients and others who should be isolated by reason of contagious or offensive diseases.

The following is taken from the annual report of the physician, Dr. Claude H. Kinnear:

During the fiscal year 1899 I have recorded 21 deaths and 15 births; 11 of the births were male (said to be influenced by the war with Spain); 10 of the deaths occurred among females. Nearly all of the deaths resulted from some form of tuberculosis, and about half the number was among children under 5 years of age. Probably a few births happened of which I have not learned, but I consider the record of deaths quite accurate.

The winter was more severe than usual, and the Indians say they experienced more sickness than for six years. Many returned from hop picking last fall with measles, which continued among them during the winter, when they suffered much also from influenza. The measles and influenza were often complicated by pneumonia and tuberculosis, which accounts for a large death rate.

All of the Indians of this reservation (except some of the "Shakers") are in the habit of calling for the physician's services in sickness, and I seldom find them having anything to do with Indian medicine men. However, I have occasionally heard of a medicine man practicing on patients for whom I had prescribed, but who wanted more relief than I could safely give them before the crisis of a disease like pneumonia, or who had become discouraged with my treatment of a chronic or incurable disease that requires prolonged use of drugs and persistent right living in order to obtain meager benefit and avoid serious complications.

The "Shakers" are a religious sect among the Indians analagous to the Christian Science followers among the whites in various places. They pretend to cure diseases by prayer, which consists of ringing bells, chanting, dancing, pounding, and making much noise generally; often the patient is kept awake for days and nights at a time. They will solicit the physician to prescribe for their sick, but neglect to give the medicine or follow his advice, unless the case is going to terminate fatally in spite of the Shakers, when they would fasten upon the physician the responsibility of the issue. Several have died in the hands of the Shakers during the past year who might have been saved by a competent physician. I have made some endeavor to stop this pernicious practice, but have been powerless so far, since they are as well intrenched behind the law as their white brother, the Christian Scientist.

I am called upon to dispense more medicine than the supply annually received. Usually the supply of the best and most useful drugs and vials is expended several months before the new estimate arrives. When the Indians learn of such a condition they are easily induced by unscrupulous dealers and flaring advertisements to buy hurtful patent medicines in Tacoma or Puyallup, where they trade daily.

The use of intoxicating liquors, that can be conveniently procured by these Indians, is playing havoc with them physically as well as morally. Indirectly, it is responsible for some deaths (by a drunken father or mother neglecting a sick child, and rendering themselves less able physically and financially to cope with diseases that are often prevalent); directly, it has caused two deaths during the year from "acute alcoholism."

Venereal diseases are on the decrease among the Puyallup Indians. I treat six or eight cases of gonorrhea among them in a year; may not treat a case of primary syphilis in the same time, but I more frequently find manifestations of hereditary and tertiary syphilis among them.

I am now performing a general vaccination, since some five or six cases of smallpox happened in Tacoma during July. Thus far I have found no objection to vaccination, after its benefits have been explained; indeed, a few have eagerly asked for it of their own accord. It is also encouraging to find among some a reasonable knowledge of the value of cleanliness, antiseptics, and disinfectants, which I hope will prove the entering wedge to a field where their practical utility is much needed.

The pupils of the Puyallup Indian school suffered from epidemics of influenza, measles, pneumonia, and chicken pox during the year, but none died except a boy—an invalid in the last stage of pulmonary tuberculosis when he came a few weeks before his death. Although there was more serious sickness during a severer winter than existed the year before, the mortality was less, which, doubtless, in the main, is due to the hospital and nurse that have been allowed. While the building in use as a hospital is better than none (as was formerly the state of affairs), still there is urgent need of a large modern hospital building, with suitable arrangements for cooking and a hospital cook.

A large chapel, entirely on the ground floor, is desired for the safe and convenient assembling of pupils and employees for suitable instruction in religious and moral subjects, to be given by qualified employees and citizens of Tacoma who would willingly give their time if proper rooms could be provided for such purposes. This seems to be a very important matter and one that will receive careful consideration and be the subject of special recommendation during the year.

Very respectfully,

JOSEPH C. HART,
Superintendent and Acting Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

REPORT OF FIELD MATRON, PUYALLUP AGENCY.

TACOMA, WASH., *July 1, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit my third annual report as field matron of the Puyallup Consolidated Agency, for the year ending June 30, 1899:

In my field of work there are, by tribes, approximately 1,500 people, grading from the uncivilized barbarian to the educated, reputable citizen.

I have, during the year, paid 250 visits to families, exclusive of girls in service. Have attended meetings, funerals, and societies; found homes for unfortunate girls, and service for exemplary ones, aiming to benefit, upbuild, and improve the condition of all. I have visited the Indians of Quinaielt, Nisqually, Chehalis, S'Kokomish, and Puyallup reservations, the Indian villages of Port Gamble and Jamestown, Indians living in Seattle and Tacoma, and scattered in various places on the agency; also visited Snohomish and Marysville, seeking a home for an unfortunate girl and her child, and to visit a dying woman who needed help. I spent eleven days in the hopyards, where Indians congregate in large numbers to work in hop fields, and where drinking, gambling, racing, and carousing are indulged in.

My work is largely of a missionary character. Indians of the Puget Sound country have, by environment, association with whites, and the teachings of Government schools, acquired a limited knowledge of the arts of housekeeping and farming. Old Indians, averse to change, cling tenaciously to their primitive modes of living. Many live in squalid, poverty-stricken abodes, lacking the necessities of life; others, with equal advantages, make homes that are models of neatness and thrift, and evidencing refinement. From this class fourteen girls have been in service among excellent families, in nearly every instance giving entire satisfaction. Of those in service previously five are married and are doing well.

I aim to visit girls in service often, in mother fashion, stimulating and encouraging their efforts for good. Among the intelligent young Indians I aim by constant association, by sympathetic recognition of their merits, to bring them in touch and harmony with influences that will change the current of their desires and awaken a spirit of emulation, thrift, and progression. Having advantages, they need encouragement to improve them; having lands, they need stimulation to cultivate them; having money, they need friendly advice as to the right use of it; having church and schools, the advantages accruing from them needs to be persistently urged upon them.

Among the results of this directing influence I find more intelligent care of the sick, better kept farms, neater housekeeping, more household furnishings, increase of stock and poultry kept, homes showing efforts toward decoration, flowers and vines more abundant, bonnets and hats replacing bandannas, and manifold minor improvements. I have especially sought interest in the care of graveyards, spending time in work myself. This year Indians raised by subscription $80, and spent it in clearing the Puyallup Indian graveyard of logs, stumps, and rubbish, and clearing up the grounds. I take it as evidence of their tractableness.

Three women have pieced elaborate silk "crazy" quilts. One crippled girl has made eight patchwork quilts. Knitting and basket making are minor industries. Fruit raising, canning, and preserving improve each season. Rag rugs, flag mattings, dressed skins for floor rugs, and curtains for windows are more often seen. More Indian mothers realize the advantage that a home has on their children's well-being. More Indian women come to my rooms for advice or instruction.

Indians are slow to change, yet these small beginnings and minor changes will, I believe, ultimately widen and prove of far-reaching influence. Gradually, as I win more and more their slow-given confidence, I find them more ready to follow suggestions. I meet everywhere a spirit of kindness and good will; gratitude is often expressed in little gifts of fruit or flowers or bits of handiwork. There has been entire absence of any disturbing trouble during my three years' work among them, though I often fail to effect reforms earnestly worked for. Where rebuke seems imperatively necessary, I have not refrained to speak, and in no instance have met with resentful defiance.

Immorality is perilously common. Two couples have been induced to marry, after years of living as man and wife. One man told me the lack of money to pay $2 fee for license kept them from marrying. I knew his poverty and felt the hardship in his case, yet urged the fulfilling of the law.

Missionary work is greatly needed throughout most of my field of work; such work as would combine the ministrations of the gospel with practical teachings of how to improve themselves, their farms, and progress in the everyday walks and duties of life.

Shakerism is gaining largely and partakes more and more of the "Temahnous" practices. While a spirit of reverent, devout religion pervades their worship that evidently strengthens their purpose to reform, and works for temperance, honesty, and better living, the influence is, in some respects, demoralizing. Shaking, weird chanting, impassioned prayers, ringing of bells, and circling round and round in ryhthmic time are the lesser characteristics of their meetings. The frenzy that somewhat resembles the "power" as seen at negro camp meetings, the casting out of evil spirits, the hypnotic state in which the subject has visions and revelations and like illusions, are susceptible of becoming dangerous elements. I have been admitted to their meetings, in various places, and am conscious of the subtle dangers attending the growth of this sect. Witchcraft, conjuring, and doctoring have had its victims, and will again. There have been a number of deaths unquestionably hastened, if not caused, by Shaker doctoring during a recent period. The agency doctor, Claude H. Kinnear, is tireless and conscientious in his duties to the sick, and has been of inestimable service to me in my work dealing with peculiar emergency cases.

I attended a Shaker camp meeting of Indians on the S'Kokomish Reservation last July. Good order prevailed, while day and evening meetings were held, converts made, and a potlatch held. There was no drunkenness or evil apparent even on the "Fourth," when festivities usual to the day took place. Probably 600 persons were there with their Shaker leaders from Chehalis, Port Gamble, Puyallup, Jamestown, Mud Bay, Quinaielt, and elsewhere.

The Government schools are of vast influence in educating the youth to a better understanding, but the reservation work suffers. The several teachers of the day schools conduct and carry on, almost unaided, Sunday schools, and distribute suitable literature. The Puyallup boarding school has a prosperous band of "King's Daughters" and a large Sunday school. I know of no Sunday school, Young Men's Christian Association, Young People's Society, Christian Endeavor, temperance, literary, or other society (unless very recently organized) on any reservation independent of school work. My aim is to encourage, assist, and promote, as far as I can, all such organizations, irrespective of sect.

Drunkenness and the resultant immoralities are among the greatest bars to success. Men and women alike are victims of the habit. Hop picking is a season of license and debauchery; the evils resulting are appalling.

To the Church Periodical Club I am indebted for a thousand books, papers, cards, etc., for distribution; to the Woman's Christian Temperance Union for home and care in the White Shield Home, a number of months, of three unfortunate Indian girls and offspring, to Fanny Paddock Hospital, for care of sick Indian girl; to many ladies of Tacoma for generous helpfulness in the interests of working girls. A growing public sentiment and interest in Indian work in this section works advantageously for the Indians. From the several teachers and Government employees of the agency I have received many helpful acts of kindness. The Superintendent, Mr. J. C. Hart, and his assistant, Mr. H. Phillips, have been uniformly kind and considerate, and through their advice and helpfulness my work has been more effective.

Trusting that my work will merit your approval, and thanking you for the new road cart provided, and many acts of kindness, I remain,

Very respectfully,

LIDA W. QUIMBY, *Field Matron.*

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

REPORT OF AGENT FOR TULALIP AGENCY.

TULALIP INDIAN AGENCY,
Tulalip, Wash., August 19, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to submit my first annual report of affairs and conditions at Tulalip Agency, Wash., for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899.

This agency consists of five reservations, all bordering on Puget Sound except Muckleshoot, which is located in King County, Wash., a few miles back from tidewater.

Census.—The following table shows population by reservations:

Reservation.	Males.	Females.
Tulalip	235	250
Lummi	189	177
Swinomish	161	142
Port Madison	73	84
Muckleshoot	76	70
Total	734	723

Grand total, 1,457.

General conditions.—Nearly all the Indians of this agency are self-supporting. They all wear citizen dress and a majority of them can speak English. They obtain their living in many ways—farming, selling cedar shingle bolts (which are in demand at near-by shingle mills), selling fir and cedar brush (used in diking, etc.), sale of cordwood in near-by towns and to steamboats, hop gathering, fishing, picking berries, digging clams, knitting socks for market, and making baskets. Smoked salmon and berries to the old Puget Sound Indian are like pork and potatoes to the Pennsylvania farmer. Many of the younger men on the different reservations work for wages in logging camps, lumber and shingle mills, and fish canneries.

Many of them of course, especially the old Indians, have a hard time in getting the necessaries of life, and live in poverty and squalor. To such, the old and infirm, the sick and the widows, who have no one legally bound to support them, occasional issues of flour, sugar, tea, and coffee are made.

My experience thus far justifies me in saying that the Indians of this agency are quiet, peaceable, and obedient. There is too little inclination and desire on the part of all to cultivate the ground. I note, however, that the younger ones are far more ambitious to work and raise vegetables than the older ones. The young Indians, especially those who have had some school training, are more domestic in their habits and are less inclined to rove about.

Agriculture.—Farming, except with comparatively few, is conducted only to a very limited extent. Indians as a rule live from day to day and seem to make but little calculation for future needs. Money, obtained from whatever source, is spent freely and is soon gone, but I am glad to say there are exceptions to this rule.

On the Swinomish Reservation oats are raised quite extensively, 15,000 bushels being harvested during the fiscal year 1899 from about 400 acres. The Government has assisted these Indians in this industry by furnishing a thrashing machine.

On the Lummi Reservation 6,000 bushels of wheat, 6,400 bushels of oats, and 5,400 bushels of potatoes were raised.

On the Muckleshoot Reservation, the only one in this agency not bordering on Puget Sound, more attention is given to farming and the crops are more diversified. More grain and vegetables are raised on this reservation in proportion to acreage and population than on any other under my charge. A drainage ditch is needed here, and I would respectfully recommend that the matter be taken up for your consideration.

On the Port Madison and Tulalip reservations, where the land is more heavily timbered, less farming is done, because of the great expense to clear the land.

Allotments.—No patents to land have been issued this year. A few assignments to Indians desiring acreage have been made. A promise from them to clear a portion for cultivation and to make a home for themselves has been exacted in each case.

Education.—There are four schools in this agency—the Tulalip Industrial Boarding School, a contract school conducted by Rev. Father Leroux, of the Catholic Church, and three day schools, one each at the Lummi, Swinomish, and Tulalip reservations, the latter opened in February of this year. These schools are well conducted by competent teachers, and the attendance quite satisfactory, except at the Lummi school.

There the parents seem to think they can take the children from school when they wish, and do so take them, the average attendance being, as a result, very low. This reservation (Lummi) is 75 miles from agency headquarters and has no farmer or subagent to enforce the regulations. The direct administration of affairs there falls to the Indian court, and, outside of strictly court matters, the orders of the judges are not well obeyed by their fellows.

An epidemic of whooping cough and measles on the Swinomish and Lummi reservations caused many deaths among the children; the schools were closed for a time in consequence and the attendance materially affected.

The question of the erection of a day-school building at Port Madison Reservation is under consideration by your office, and I trust authority may be soon granted for its erection and the opening of a day school there. It is needed very much, and I am sure the attendance will be satisfactory. This is the only reservation in the agency without some sort of school advantages, and I am sure, from my talks with the Indians, that a school there will be highly appreciated and well attended.

A few of the children of the Muckleshoot Reservation attend public district schools in King County, near the reservation line, but results are not what they should be, either in attendance or progress.

The day school at Tulalip has been a success and the attendance the coming school year will require me to provide more room. I am expecting to turn the court-house into a schoolhouse, and I should like the noonday lunch provided.

We expect during the next fiscal year, 1900, to send about 10 to 15 of the more advanced pupils in the schools of this agency to Government industrial schools and to report increased attendance at every school in my jurisdiction

I am of the opinion that some law or regulation providing for compulsory education would be wise. Authority in that direction, properly exercised by an agent, need engender no ill-feeling among the Indians.

Missionary work.—The only missionary work in this agency is done by Catholics. That society has a church at every reservation, where services are held from time to time.

Courts of Indian offenses.—I am gratified to report that the judges of the courts of Indian offenses, on the different reservations, are men of good character and judgment; I find them honest, fair, and impartial in the performance of their duties; their decisions are respected and obeyed. The principal business of the courts is the trial and punishment of Indians for drunkenness.

Roads.—Very little new road work was done during the year. The highways in present use have been extensively worked, but are still in horrible condition during the wet season.

Liquor Traffic.—There were six arrests of white men for selling liquor to Indians, of which four were convicted. I find it very difficult to detect offenders in this business and obtain sufficient evidence to convict. Many more arrests would be made if I could get positive evidence.

Employees.—Employees as a rule have been faithful in the discharge of their duties. I found it necessary to remove the Indian farmer at Port Madison Reservation for drunkenness. There were several worthy Indians who desired the appointment to this vacancy, and an election was appointed. I promised to recommend the choice of the male Indians over 18 years of age, providing he was honest and capable. A day was appointed and a full vote cast, under the secret-ballot system, after a spirited contest, the majority being in favor of Clarence White, a full-blood Indian, educated at the Puyallup School. He was recommended and appointed through your office.

Timber.—No extensive logging by white men is now carried on in this agency; in fact, no logging at all, except by Indians, who are permitted to take out and sell dead and down timber. One or two permits to clear a few acres for purposes of agriculture have been granted, where I am convinced the request is in good faith.

Water supply.—A water tank having a capacity of 7,200 gallons has been erected during the year at agency headquarters. This tank is 60 feet from the ground and is kept filled by means of a hydraulic ram. The pressure is sufficient to furnish fire protection to all the buildings of the Government at headquarters, 11 or 12 in number. A requisition for hose is now in, and I trust we may soon have it for use in the event of a fire.

Wharf.—A new wharf is needed at agency headquarters. The piles supporting the present one have become teredo eaten and the wharf can not stand many months longer.

Respectfully submitted.

EDWARD MILLS,
United States Indian Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

REPORT OF AGENT FOR YAKIMA AGENCY.

YAKIMA AGENCY,
Fort Simcoe, Wash., August 25, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to submit annual report of this agency for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899.

Conditions have not materially changed on this reservation since my last annual report, except, as statistics will show, there has been a large increase in the amount of grain raised by the Indians. There has also been considerable new ground cleared and broken, and considerable work done in building small irrigating ditches to irrigate their allotments. This work has been done in favored localities where ditches could be constructed and water obtained with little labor. The Indians here are receiving but little assistance from the Government. Articles of subsistence and clothing are not furnished for them, as many seem to suppose.

Three mechanics are employed by the Government, who are kept busy repairing wagons, plows, harness, and all kinds of farm machinery for the Indians; but, for want of material, we can not manufacture or make new, but try to keep in repair what is considered worth repairing, so far as the material we have will permit.

There are quite a number of old, blind, and decrepit Indians who are very destitute and have no relatives who are able to take care of them, and should have assistance in the way of food and clothing. Most of the Indians, however, manage to support themselves by raising stock, grain, and hay; many of them have very good gardens, where their locations are such that they can obtain water for irrigating.

I have just received two new sawmills for this agency, purchased by your office from Indian moneys—Yakimas'. I will have these mills placed in position and sawing lumber as soon as I can do so with the limited means allowed for the purpose.

School.—There is one reservation boarding school under my charge—no day schools—and I herewith submit report of Superintendent Asbury, and anything that I might say would only be a repetition of his report. Our average attendance at this school was somewhat decreased on account of sickness.

Trust patents.—I received 1,818 trust patents from your office to deliver to the Indians. I have delivered 1,154. In many instances I find it a very difficult task to deliver these patents, as there are many that do not know the name they were allotted by, and in many instances their land was selected by some relative who is now dead. Disputes are also constantly arising as to the legal heirs of deceased Indians who have improved allotments, and there seems to be no way to have these estates probated through our State courts, as the court can not order an appraisement and sale of the allotment, and for other reasons it is impossible to probate estates of deceased Indians; consequently the agent has many very difficult problems to solve in trying to settle the disputes and to designate some one who, in his judgment, has a legal right to occupy and keep possession of the land.

According to Indian customs, the widow has no right whatever to the property of her deceased husband, although it may have been by her labor and careful management that the property was accumulated. According to Indian customs, on the death of her husband the property would be divided up among his relations and the widow left without anything, and she would, in many instances, be driven from her allotment if the agent would permit it, and there seems to be no way except for the agent to ascertain the facts and arbitrarily settle these matters in accordance with the State laws, although it is a question whether he has any legal authority to do so or not. The Indian courts are too much inclined to follow old Indian customs to be very much assistance in settling land questions or civil cases of any kind.

The work and responsibilities of an Indian agent on this reservation have greatly increased under the new order of things, and yet at the last session of Congress the salary of the agent at this reservation was reduced from $1,800 to $1,500 per annum, and no additional assistance allowed in any way.

Boundary line.—The boundary line question and the work of the commission, of which mention was made in my last report, is still being agitated, and so far as I know this matter and the work of the commission are in the same condition as then reported, except that Mr. Barnard, of the Geological Survey, was ordered here late last fall to examine into and report on the boundary line dispute; but as it was so late in the season snow in the mountains prevented the completion of his work. Late advices from your office informs me that Mr. Barnard had been ordered here to complete his investigation, but he has not yet arrived, and as snow can soon again be expected in the mountains, unless he arrives very soon I fear he will be unable to do the work this year as expected.

Census.—Total Indian population, 2,343; males above 18 years, 728; females above 14 years, 941; children between 6 and 16 years, 421.

Irrigation.—It has been demonstrated that the lands of this reservation are practically worthless without irrigation, and there are about 2,500 allotments made to Indians, most of which are on a barren sagebrush plain without water. There was built during the term of my predecessor an irrigating ditch, at an expense of something over $20,000, most of which was Indian moneys derived from the sale of the Wenatchee fishery, and was supposed and reported to be second in magnitude of irrigating works in the State of Washington; and this ditch was supposed to irrigate about 20,000 acres of allotted lands.

Unfortunately, the head or intake was located and constructed in the spring or early summer, while the Yakima River—which is the source of supply of the ditch—was at its high stage. The engineer was probably not familiar with the fluctuations of the river and failed to sink his grade line deep enough, so that the canal will not receive its intended supply during low water in the river, and during July and August and the fall months not more than a foot in depth enters the canal, which was intended to carry from 3 to 4 feet in depth, and this expensive canal comes far short of what was expected of it, and it will require considerable expense in money to remedy this evil. There are also some other defects that make the canal as it stands of but little value. Congress at its last session passed a law extending the time of leases on this reservation to five years, and it was expected to make a great many leases under this canal, but owing to the condition of the ditch and the limited supply of water parties do not seem to care to lease these lands on any terms, as the agent can not make any guaranties as to water.

Respectfully submitted.

JAY LYNCH,
United States Indian Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF YAKIMA SCHOOL.

YAKIMA AGENCY BOARDING SCHOOL,
Fort Simcoe, Wash., August 21, 1899.

SIR: In compliance with paragraph 58, Rules for Indian Schools, I have the honor to submit my fourth annual report of this school.

In looking over the reports that I have previously made here I find that, as to improvements needed and conditions to be met, they are very much alike, and as to attendance, transfers to nonreservation schools, farming and gardening, need of water and sewerage systems, repairs of and addition to schoolhouse, addition to girls' quarters, bathrooms for girls, laundry equipment, etc., I desire to repeat, word for word, what was said in my report last year.

The health for the year was not so good as common, there having been a severe siege of sickness—measles, la grippe, and a type of malarial typhoid fever—beginning in November and lasting until into February, besides much more than common at other times through the year. There were over 50 in bed at one time, and in two months more than 100 cases, resulting in 5 deaths, and many more were extremely low. All work had to be abandoned for some time except that absolutely necessary to care for the sick.

This seems a strong argument for the water and sewerage systems that have been recommended some twelve times in the past four years. It is impossible to have closets in a hygienic condition here without such systems. The need of some hospital facilities was also most sorely felt.

Of course the schoolroom work was greatly hampered by this sickness, which caused so much irregularity in the attendance, some pupils being disqualified for school for many weeks. In spite of this much good work was accomplished, but by no means what we had planned to do.

The addition of a carpenter to the force of employees was a great help to the school, enabling us to accomplish the work better and to give more attention to industrial instruction, which is the most important feature of the school work. Our work in this deparment was limited for the want of sufficient lumber. Besides general repairs about the school, we built a cottage for the gardener and an addition to the laundry, both of which were greatly needed.

The farm and garden work have been quite successful this summer, the garden producing more early vegetables than could be used. We have just thrashed over 1,300 bushels of oats and put up some 60 or 70 tons of hay on the school farm, and the prospect for potatoes, carrots, etc., is very good. The success of the garden is due to the untiring attention of T. H. Smith, gardener.

Our herd of cows has been greatly improved by breeding up and substituting the heifers of our own raising for the older, less useful cows, until now it is of very good grade, and produces milk in large quantities. Butter has been made through the year almost sufficient for a meal each day for the school.

Not so much attention was given to social gatherings of employees and children as was planned and hoped for, but with the great amount of sickness and necessary work of nursing which employees had to do it was impossible to give it the desired attention. This is an important feature, and should be done with regularity and interest as a part of the education, serving at the time as recreation and a means of getting employees and children nearer together.

In submitting this, my last report of this school, having been assigned to duty elsewhere, I desire to acknowledge the hearty support and cooperation of officials and employees in most cases during the past four years, and to express regret that circumstances have forbidden my accomplishing all that I had hoped to do in the way of improvement and extension of the work.

Very respectfully,

CALVIN ASBURY,
Superintendent Agency Building School.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.
(Through Jay Lynch, United States Indian Agent.)