

1: Minister of Crownâ€™Indigenous Relations | Revolv

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The duty of making the usual annual report of this Bureau having devolved upon me as Acting Commissioner, by reason of the resignation of General E. Parker in July last, and of the continued vacancy in the position of Commissioner of Indian Affairs up to the present time, I have the honor to present herein a summary of the affairs of this branch of the public service since the date of the last annual report. In accordance with what is so generally known as the Indian policy inaugurated by President Grant, it has been, during the past year, the aim of the Department to secure, in the administration of affairs under its charge, the greatest good and best results practicable. Much has been accomplished by intrusting to men of good standing and moral character the responsible offices of superintendents and agents; by earnest endeavors, through conciliatory measures, rather than by force or threatenings, to promote order and the interests of peace with the more intractable and hostile-disposed tribes; by seeking to inspire the confidence of the Indians in the Government, by dealing fairly and liberally with them, and observing faithfully and promptly the treaty stipulations and provisions made by law for their benefit; and by encouraging every disposition and effort on their part to better their condition, by whatever means would tend to that end. As a result may be adduced the prevalence generally of peace with tribes who have hitherto been in open hostility to the Government; the marked and gratifying change in the views and feelings of many of their members in regard to the necessity of abandoning their roving habits, and of establishing themselves upon reservations, where they can be properly cared for and civilized; the improved state of other tribes who have long been friendly; and the efficient and judicious management, except in a very few instances, by the officers of the Department of the trusts committed to them. This condition of affairs, it is submitted, will warrant the assertion that the conduct of the service the past year has been wise, prudent, and measurably successful, and affords sufficient reason for indulging the hope of the early accomplishment of the beneficent designs of the Government toward the Indian race. While, however, good order and peace have been maintained among most of the tribes, disturbances and outrages have occasionally occurred, which will probably be the case until the parties who originate them are brought under proper restraint and influence. A spirit of lawlessness, disaffection, and even of hostile intent, still exists among some of the nomadic tribes, which, it is not unjustly apprehended, is engendered and fostered often by white persons or citizens from sinister motives. Those in the first-named Territory, warlike in their disposition from time immemorial, have changed but little, and most of them are still under the surveillance of the military, at whose hands they have at times suffered severely, in consequence of their numerous murders of citizens and frequent depredations. Of late, indications of a better feeling on the part of quite a large number of these Indians have been manifested, and they have expressed a desire or willingness to settle upon reservations and peaceably yield themselves to the control of the Government. I refer to the massacre, at Camp Grant, of a large number of defenseless women and children, and a few men, by an armed party of citizens of Mexican origin, and some Papago Indians, an account of which is fully set forth in the accompanying documents to this report, marked A. The Apaches of New Mexico, more particularly those known as the Southern or Gila bands, have been very troublesome, causing, by their frequent depredations and outrages, great loss and injury to citizens of that Territory. So exasperated had these citizens become, that they determined to wage a relentless warfare against the disturbers of their peace and depredators upon their property. For this purpose an organization was effected, and resolutions passed declarative of its intentions. Better counsels, however, prevailed, as the objects and intentions of the organization have not been carried into effect, nor has any effort been made to that end. Popular feeling in New Mexico appears to be set against the noted chief of the Apaches, named Cochise, who, with his followers, in his mountain recesses and haunts difficult of access by troops, seems to have set at defiance the power exerted for his capture and subjugation. Deeming it practicable to induce this chief and his people to be friendly, strenuous efforts have been made by this Department to get

him to visit Washington, but, so far, without avail. There is now a better prospect of peace with these Apaches than ever, and it is confidently expected that the steps which are being taken to insure this result will be eminently successful. With a view to ascertain the condition of the Apache bands both in New Mexico and Arizona, and to provide for their future by establishing them in suitable homes, under proper regulations and restrictions, Hon. Vincent Colyer, secretary of the board of Indian commissioners, by directions from you, dated 21st July last, visited these Territories; and, after some time spent in communicating with some of the chief men of the Apaches, and in examining localities that might be desirable for Indian reservations, the following places were selected by him and reported to the Department, viz: He also requests that temporary asylums be established at Camps McDowell, Beal Springs, and Date Creek, Arizona, where the Tontis, Hualapais and western band of Mohave Apaches may be protected and fed until such time as it shall be found practicable to remove them to one of the above-named reservations. Peaceably established on the reservations indicated; afforded the means of subsistence, and provided with aids for their instruction in agriculture and other industrial pursuits, it is believed that the citizens of New Mexico and Arizona will have but few occasions for complaint against these Indians hereafter. For more particular information regarding them, reference is made to Mr. In regard to the Kiowas and Comanches, referred to as among the most troublesome of the tribes, there is but little improvement in their behavior to report. A goodly number have remained upon their reservation, and conducted themselves in an orderly way; but many of them have proved, as hitherto, false to their promises, and have come far short of the expectations indulged that they would cease their raidings and crimes. The past year has marked their history with gross outrages, and there would doubtless have been a serious war inaugurated by them but for the watchfulness of the military and the agent in charge of their agency. Lenient measures and forbearance toward these restless and war-loving spirits appear apparently to have no effect in restraining their passion for plunder and war, and a severe treatment would seem to be the only wise and proper course to pursue to compel right conduct on their part. It is a question for consideration whether a like treatment would not have the effect to deter the vicious and unlawful of other wild tribes from similar conduct; and it is suggested that all Indian agents should be instructed, upon the commission of a crime by an Indian or party of Indians under their charge, coming to the knowledge of such agents, to arrest the offender or offenders, calling upon the military for assistance, if need be, and deliver them up for trial by the proper Federal or State court having jurisdiction in the case. A large body of Apaches, numbering, it is reported, about one thousand, ranging in the Staked Plains, Texas, not attached to any agency, and who have never been on an Indian reservation, recently sent in word that they desire to cease raiding, and to come in and be established upon the reservation for the Kiowas and Comanches in the Indian Territory. With your approbation, directions have been given to the proper agent to make arrangements necessary to that end. When this band shall have been removed from Texas, there will be but comparatively few Indians residing within the limits of that State. Of the tribes of late years hostile and difficult to manage, but now [Page 4] quiet and disposed to be friendly, are the Arapahoes and Cheyennes. No serious difficulties have arisen with them during the past year, and their conduct has been quite commendable. It is believed the visit of several of their prominent chiefs to this city last spring had a great tendency to conciliate the disaffected of the tribes, and will doubtless be productive of a better understanding of their treaty obligations, and tend to convince them that a strict and faithful compliance therewith will be to their best interests. Also of the Sioux Nation, in Dakota Territory, comprising a number of powerful bands, heretofore formidable in their opposition to the Government, it may be observed that they are in a good degree peaceable. Those upon the reservation selected for the whole nation are quiet; many of them are friendly-disposed, and evince a willingness to abandon the hunter-life and become tillers of the soil. Some trouble is anticipated on account of the suspicion with which some of them look upon the projected Northern Pacific Railway being run through what they claim to be their country; but as yet no decided demonstration of opposition has been made by them. The Sioux of the band under the noted chief Red Cloud have for the time being a temporary location north of the Platte River, about thirty miles south of Fort Laramie, Wyoming Territory. It is intended, when it can prudently be done to establish them at an agency somewhere within the limits of the reservation designated for the whole nation. Part of this band, dissatisfied with Red Cloud, and refusing to recognize him as their leader,

have gone into Montana, having for their chief Sitting Bull. Unless carefully managed, these seceders, reported to have eight hundred lodges, may cause great trouble to the Government. Besides these Sioux roaming in Montana, without constraint, there is another large body of them in the same Territory, living in the neighborhood of their hereditary enemies, the Gros-Ventres and Assinaboines. They were, at the massacre in Minnesota of , driven from that State, belong to no agency or reservation, and claim the right to follow the buffalo wherever they can find it. By the judicious management of the Department and its officers in Montana these Indians have been thus far kept quiet. They are apparently determined to remain upon the reservation provided for the Gros-Ventres and Assina-boines, and, so long as it is expedient to allow them to be there, must be supplied with the necessaries of life, or difficulties with them will inevitably follow. It is earnestly recommended that Congress should make the requisite appropriations for their proper care and subsistence by the Department. It may be well here to give the military view as to the disposition of the Sioux Nation, and especially the wandering portions of it, and as to the care to be exercised over them. One of the highest of the authorities in that branch of the service is of the opinion that, unless the civil Department can control the Sioux, hostilities will be again renewed, which the military may not be able for the time being to repress, with the limited power at its command; and it is suggested that a conciliatory course, under the circumstances, be pursued, and a liberal provision made for the wants of these Indians. The Indians in Kansas, Nebraska, those in the Indian country, ex-cepting the Kiowas and others before mentioned, and in New York, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, who have been long in contact with the whites, and under influences favorable to their advancement and civilization, occasion but little trouble to the Government, or its [Page 5] citizens, by whom they are surrounded. Many are well educated, and the possessors of good, cultivated farms, and others managers of a prosperous business. A large number of those residing in Michigan and Kansas, as also the Winnebagoes in Minnesota, have become citizens, and the probabilities are that most of those remaining in Kansas and Nebraska will, in a few years, if not removed to the Indian country and there brought under a territorial form of government, become merged into the citizen population and their tribal existence be extinguished. Other Indians, as in Oregon, California, Nevada, and the several Territories, with the exception of the wilder and unfriendly part of them, hereinbefore noted, have been quiet and peaceable; but there is no very marked change in their condition to report. A few Seminoles yet remain in Florida, and quite a large number of Cherokees yet reside in North Carolina and several of the adjacent States. Measures are now being taken to remove the latter to the country of their brethren in the Indian country west of Arkansas. The aggregate of the population of Indians within the boundaries of the United States, including Alaska, is estimated at , By the statistics furnished, regarding those under the care of agents, it is shown that with nearly all the tribes there is a decrease in number from year to year, arising from causes so well known, and often repeated. With those most advanced in civilization there is, however, a perceptible increase. The true policy of their preservation from utter extinction, before many years pass, it is generally admitted, is to prepare them as rapidly as possible to assume the relation of citizenship; by granting them increased facilities for the education of the young; by habituating them to industrial pursuits, and by the incentive to labor incited by a sense of ownership in property, which an allotment of their lands in severalty would afford, and by the benign and elevating influences of Christian teachings. One of the most potent agencies for the civilization of the race is that of education. The means provided under treaty stipulations, and by special appropriations by Congress, are found to be entirely inadequate for the establishment and maintenance of any larger number of schools. Where, in many cases, buildings are required to be erected for school purposes, the funds applicable are barely sufficient for that object, so that when they are furnished and operations have commenced, other requirements for a successful carrying on of the schools cannot be met, and the undertakings either prove a failure or produce results scarcely appreciable. Under the act appropriating said sum the money is to be expended among the tribes having no educational fund. Many of these tribes are wild and roving, without any fixed habitation where schools could be permanently established; others are opposed to schools; and others again manifest no desire to have them. In order to utilize this gift of the Government to the best possible advantage it is respectfully recommended that legislation be had by Congress giving discretionary power to the Secretary of the Interior to distribute the fund at such times and among such tribes as he shall be satisfied will produce the

most beneficial results, whether the tribes have any other provision of this character or not. Since the date of the last annual report of this office, by direction of the President of the United States, the office of several superintendents has been discontinued and the agents subordinate thereto now report [Page 6] direct to the Indian Bureau. No detriment to the service has been caused by this change. The offices so discontinued number six, and a considerable sum, which was expended on account of salaries and office, incidental and traveling expenses, is thereby saved to the Government. The existing laws regulating trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, enacted many years ago, , and which were adapted to the time and to the condition of affairs among the Indians, are judged now to be inadequate to the purpose, or are so defective as to fail to secure the Indians against the encroachments of the whites, and the introduction of evils which have so much contributed to their demoralization and led to troubles and difficulties between them and the whites. A revision of these laws is very much to be desired to meet the changed circumstances now surrounding the Indians, arising out of the building of railroads through their lands, the rapid advance of white settlements, and the claims and rights of squatters, miners, and prospecting parties; also to provide some definite course to be pursued in cases of crimes committed by Indians against Indians; to express clearly the right of citizens to trade with Indians; and to define more specifically what is to be understood now as Indian country, especially as to the application of the term to the Territories of New Mexico, Utah, and other portions of country acquired by the United States from foreign powers subsequent to the law in question. Although the laws referred to, "or such provisions of the same as may be applicable," have been, by act of Congress approved February 27, , extended over the Territories mentioned, it is a point at issue between certain parties and the Department whether trade by citizens who are inhabitants of these Territories, with Indians who may come to their places of business outside of an Indian reservation, is prohibited by law. A case is now being tested upon a suit brought against the superintendent of Indian affairs for Arizona, and the agent for the Pima and Maricopa Indians in that Territory, by a firm whose goods were seized by the agent for trading with the Indians without a license issued in accordance with law. It is gratifying to report that in some portions of the country, more particularly in Montana Territory, by the vigorous and determined action of the superintendent of Indian affairs there the traffic in spirituous liquors with the Indians has been to a considerable extent suppressed. During the year a number of persons have been arrested, tried, and convicted, for the first time in the history of that Territory, for selling liquor to Indians. In Washington Territory, also, efforts made in the same direction have been quite successful. Much credit is due to the officers who have shown such activity and zeal in this matter, and it is hoped that others may be inspired, by their example and success, to seek to accomplish like results, so that this bane to the Indian race may be greatly abated if not altogether removed. Under the legislation of Congress appropriating money for the removal of the Kickapoo Indians, who, many years ago, left the Indian country and went to Mexico, back to the United States, steps were taken early last spring to effect that object. An agent, with a delegation of Kickapoos from Kansas, proceeded to Santa Rosa in Mexico, and there met these Indians and communicated to them the wishes and purposes of the United States Government. The mission was, however, unsuccessful, as the Indians were influenced against the measure pro- [Page 7] misrepresentations on the part of some Mexican officers and citizens as to what would be their condition in the United States, and by deceiving them with assurances that the Mexican government would take care of them and liberally supply their wants. As it is important to the welfare and peace of the citizens of Texas residing near the frontier, who have suffered severely by the depredations and outrages of these Kickapoos in the past, further efforts to effect what is so desirable, it is thought, should be made early next year. For the report of the agent of his proceedings I refer to document herewith, marked B. During the past three months Indian lands have been disposed of by sale, or are being disposed of, by or under the direction of the Department, to the extent of 40, These lands embrace a residue of 2, These lands are sold and the money applied for the benefit of the Indians, in compliance with treaty stipulations. A small residue of the Cherokee neutral lands in Kansas, 3, Congress, by special act, provided for the appraisal and sale of the Stockbridge and Munsee lands in Wisconsin, comprising 28, acres. The appraisal has been made under the supervision of this office, and the sale is being made by the General Land Office, in accordance with the act. In compliance with the act of Congress of July 5, , a commission was appointed to effect settlement with persons

appointed by Indian councils to receive money due to incompetent and orphan Indians. This commission made an investigation of the action of persons appointed by Wyandotte and Shawnee councils, the only tribes coming properly within the proviso of the law; and their reports, which give the action taken in detail, are published herewith, marked C. A commission was also appointed to ascertain the facts connected with the applications of mixed-bloods for land or scrip under the treaties with the various bands of Chippewas in Wisconsin and Minnesota. The province of this commission was extended to the investigation of passed issues of scrip. Reference is made of the extended report of the majority, detailing many irregularities; also to the minority report, which dissents from the statements of the majority; both of which are published herewith, marked D. It having been represented to the Department that a confused and unsettled state of affairs, appertaining to this branch of the service, existed in Colorado Territory, particularly at the Los Pinos, or lower agency, and it being deemed necessary, in order to ascertain the truth in the case, that an examination thereinto should be made on the spot, under your direction a special agent, G. The report of this agent is herewith, marked E, and shows that the management of Indian affairs in the Territory has not been as favorable to the prosperity and advancement of the Indians as could be desired, but which finds some explanation in the fact of frequent changes of agents in the past two or three years, the inexperience of the agents at present in charge, and the many obstacles to be overcome in establishing upon reservations, and in making the necessary provision for their support, Indians accustomed to a wild and wandering life. When the new agents referred to shall have become better informed in regard to their duties, and more clearly comprehend the situation and the purposes of the Government, it is hoped a more favorable condition of things will exist, and [Page 8] complaints will cease on the part of the Indians. One source of much uneasiness to the Indians is the encroachment, as they charge, of miners and other persons upon their reservation. To what extent they have reason to be troubled in this regard it is impossible to determine, as the boundaries of their reservation have never been surveyed. Doubtless there are intruders upon their land, and, perhaps, in some cases, unwittingly so. The sooner the work of surveying the reservation provided for in the treaty of is completed, the better it will be for the interests of both Indians and whites. A special report will be made to you by this office, with such suggestions and recommendations as shall be considered necessary to fulfill the treaty stipulations with the Indians in Colorado, and to effect a satisfactory management of their agencies.

2: Indian Agencies and Agents | Articles | Colorado Encyclopedia

Both reports were made public following the arrival of Tara Sweeney as the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs. She is the first Alaska Native to serve in the post -- another political job -- and the first woman in two decades.

Before , different departments were responsible for the portfolios of Indian Affairs and Northern Affairs. The departments responsible for Indian Affairs were in chronological order: The annual reports for Northern Affairs are not included in this database. To access a Northern Affairs annual report from before , consult the government documents collection of a research library. Refer to the publications of the department that was responsible for Northern Affairs at that time. Schedules of Indian Bands, Reserves and Settlements is a separate publication that is also valuable for historical research. The Schedules from to have been digitized and added to the Indian Affairs Annual Reports collection. The content of the database entries reflects the original language used in the documents. This information was not translated. Search Screen The search screen allows you to search by: Keywords Year of publication Keywords correspond to any words appearing in the title of a publication or in the body of the text of each report. The number of hits found will be shown at the top of the results screen. How to Interpret the Results Your search results will be posted as a results summary list from which you will be able to obtain an item description. Search Results Page The search results page displays the following fields: Item Number Year Title Click on the underlined Item Number of a record to access the Item page, which contains additional information specific to that record. By clicking on the lowest item number associated to a report, you can access directly to the first or title page of that report. Item Page The item page has a digitized image of the actual page available in JPEG format and contains the following fields: Actual title of the report Year: Year of publication Item Number: Reference number used in the database Below the image, you will find a page navigation function that allows you to browse through all digitized pages of a report. The total number of pages in a report is also indicated. You can enlarge the image by clicking on it; to return to the original size, click on the Back button of your browser in the upper left corner of your screen. To return to the Search Results page, click on the Back button of your browser in the upper left corner of your screen. How to Obtain Copies You can print the images or save them on your computer. To print a copy of a scanned image in JPEG format, right click on the image, select copy, then paste to your word processing software, using the edit: Alternatively, paste to your desktop and open with the Office Picture Manager to crop and print.

3: Report on Indian Affairs () - Wikisource, the free online library

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is an agency of the federal government of the United States within the U.S. Department of the Interior. The BIA is responsible for the administration and management of 55,000,000 acres (225,000 km²) of land held in trust by the United States for Native Americans in the United States, Native American Tribes and Alaska Natives.

Introduction The goal of Indian education from the 1820s through the 1880s was to assimilate Indian people into the melting pot of America by placing them in institutions where traditional ways could be replaced by those sanctioned by the government. Federal Indian policy called for the removal of children from their families and in many cases enrollment in a government run boarding school. In this way, the policy makers believed, young people would be immersed in the values and practical knowledge of the dominant American society while also being kept away from any influences imparted by their traditionally-minded relatives. Indian Boarding School Movement The Indian boarding school movement began in the post Civil War era when idealistic reformers turned their attention to the plight of Indian people. Whereas before many Americans regarded the native people with either fear or loathing, the reformers believed that with the proper education and treatment Indians could become just like other citizens. They convinced the leaders of Congress that education could change at least some of the Indian population into patriotic and productive members of society. Pratt was a leading proponent of the assimilation through education policy. Believing that Indian ways were inferior to those of whites, he subscribed to the principle, "kill the Indian and save the man. Photographs taken at the school illustrate how they looked "before" and "after". The dramatic contrast between traditional clothing and hairstyles and Victorian styles of dress helped convince the public that through boarding school education Indians could become completely "civilized". Following the model of Carlisle, additional off reservation boarding schools were established in other parts of the country, including Forest Grove, Oregon later known as Chemawa. Reservation boarding schools had the advantage of being closer to Indian communities and as a result had lower transportation costs. Contact between students and their families was somewhat restricted as students remained at the school for eight to nine months of the year. Relatives could visit briefly at prescribed times. School administrators worked constantly to keep the students at school and eradicate all vestiges of their tribal cultures. Day schools, which were the most economical, usually provided only a minimal education. They worked with the boarding schools by transferring students for more advanced studies. In the Pacific Northwest, treaties negotiated with the Indians during the 1850s included promises of educational support for the tribes. For example, Article 10 of the Medicine Creek Treaty signed by members of the Nisqually, Squaxin, Puyallup and Steilacoom Tribes on December 26, called for the establishment of an agricultural and industrial school "to be free to the children of said tribes for a period of 20 years. A similar clause appears in the Treaty of Point Elliott, signed by representatives of tribes living in the central and northern Puget Sound region. The promised schools did not come into existence for several years. In the 1860s and 1870s a few small reservation boarding schools were established on the Chehalis, Skokomish and Makah Reservations. These institutions, which had fewer than 50 students, were all closed by and replaced by day schools. In Tacoma, a one-room shack served as a day school for young Puyallup Indians beginning in 1862. By 1870 students had begun boarding at the school and during the 1870s enrollment increased to 100 pupils. At the turn of the century, Cushman Indian School had become a large industrial boarding school, drawing over 100 students from around the Northwest and Alaska. The Report of Superintendent of Indian Schools praised Cushman for being well equipped for industrial training and photographs show a modern machine shop. Cushman remained one of the largest on reservation boarding schools in the region until it closed in 1908. Indian Training School boys activities Meanwhile, on many reservations missionaries operated schools that combined religious with academic training. Chirouse opened a school in 1862 for six boys and five girls. By 1870 he had 15 pupils and the school continued to grow under the auspices of the Sisters of Providence. At these missionary run schools, traditional religious and cultural practices were strongly discouraged while instruction in the Christian doctrines took place utilizing pictures, statues, hymns, prayers and storytelling. Some missionary schools received federal support,

particularly at times when Congress felt less inclined to provide the large sums of money needed to establish government schools. The Tulalip Mission School became the first contract Indian school, an arrangement whereby the government provided annual funds to maintain the buildings while the Church furnished books, clothing, housing and medical care. In Congress drastically reduced the funding for mission schools and eventually, in the winter of , the Tulalip school became a federal facility. The old school buildings were destroyed by fire in . On January 23, , exactly fifty years after the signing of the Point Elliott Treaty, a new and larger school opened along the shores of Tulalip Bay. The children ranged in age from 6 to 18 years and came from many different reservations as well as some off reservation communities. It was not uncommon for teachers at day schools to recommend certain students for the boarding school. Because Tulalip offered a maximum of eighth grade education, some students transferred to Chemawa for more advanced training. Fort Spokane Boarding School opened in with an enrollment of 83 pupils and grew to by . It operated only until after which time the children attended day schools closer to their homes. Similarly, the military facility at Fort Simcoe became a school for the Yakama and their neighbors. The national system of Indian education, including both off reservation boarding schools, reservation boarding schools and day schools, continued to expand at the turn of the century. In the Pacific Northwest, Chemawa Indian School became the largest off reservation boarding school and drew pupils from throughout the region and Alaska. Chemawa had originally been located at Forest Grove, Oregon, but was moved to Salem in after officials determined that the original site lacked adequate agricultural land. By Chemawa enrolled students from 90 different tribes, nearly a third coming from Alaska. All federal boarding schools, whether on or off reservation, shared certain characteristics. The Bureau of Indian Affairs issued directives that were followed by superintendents throughout the nation. Even the architecture and landscaping appeared similar from one institution to the next. Common features included a military style regimen, a strict adherence to English language only, an emphasis on farming, and a schedule that equally split academic and vocational training. By reading the Reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and other documents you can compare the official reports submitted by various schools. A Typical Daily Schedule A typical daily schedule at a boarding school began with an early wake-up call followed by a series of tasks punctuated by the ringing of bells. Students were required to march from one activity to the next. Regular inspections and drills took place outdoors with platoons organized according to age and rank. Competitions were held to see which group could achieve the finest marching formation. A triangle would ring in the morning and we would all run, line up, march in, get our little quota of tooth powder, wash our teeth, brush our hair, wash our hands and faces, and then we all lined up and marched outside. We went from the tallest to the littlest, all the way down in companies. We had A, B, C, D companies. They had all kinds of demerits for those people. Helma Ward, Makah, Tulalip Indian School, from interview with Carolyn Marr The foremost requirement for assimilation into American society, authorities felt, was mastery of the English language. Commissioner of Indian Affairs T. Morgan described English as "the language of the greatest, most powerful and enterprising nationalities beneath the sun. Students were prohibited from speaking their native languages and those caught "speaking Indian" were severely punished. Later, many former students regretted that they lost the ability to speak their native language fluently because of the years they spent in boarding school. Another important component of the government policy for "civilizing" the Indians was to teach farming techniques. Although few reservations in the Pacific Northwest had either fertile land or a climate conducive to agriculture, nonetheless it was felt that farming was the proper occupation for American citizens. So boys learned how to milk cows, grow vegetables, repair tools, etc. The academic curriculum included courses in U. Music and drama were offered at most schools. Young women spent either the morning or the afternoon doing laundry, sewing, cooking, cleaning and other household tasks. Older girls might study nursing or office work. The young men acquired skills in carpentry, blacksmithing, animal husbandry, baking and shop. They chopped firewood to keep the steam boilers operating. The work performed by students was essential to the operation of the institution. The meat, vegetables and milk served in the dining room came from livestock and gardens kept by the students. The girls made and repaired uniforms, sheets, and curtains and helped to prepare the meals. A standardized curriculum for Indian schools emphasized vocational training. Estelle Reel, who served as Superintendent of Indian Education from to , was

a strong advocate of this curriculum which gave primary importance to learning manual skills. No amount of book learning, she felt, could result in economic independence for Indian people. Others would claim that by limiting education to manual training the educators were condemning Indian people to permanent inequality. A former student at the Fort Spokane boarding school described typical work done by the boys: Some of the boys were detailed to the garden. There was a large barn on the place, and the boys learned a lot about farming on a small scale. But for boys who had ambitions for becoming something else, Fort Spokane was far from being adequate. The Indian Boarding School Experience, at Eastern Washington Historical Museum

Mandatory education for Indian children became law in and thereafter agents on the reservations received instructions on how to enforce the federal regulation. If parents refused to send their children to school the authorities could withhold annuities or rations or send them to jail. Some parents were uncomfortable having their children sent far away from home. The educators had quotas to fill, however, and considerable pressure was exerted on Indian families to send their youngsters to boarding schools beginning when the child was six years old. Fear and loneliness caused by this early separation from family is a common experience shared by all former students. Once their children were enrolled in a distant school, parents lost control over decisions that affected them. For example, requests for holiday leave could be denied by the superintendent for almost any reason.

Negatives and Positives For some students, the desire for freedom and the pull of their family combined with strong discontent caused them to run away. At Chemawa, for example, there were 46 "desertions" recorded in , followed by 70 in . Punishment of runaways was usually harsh, as the offenders became examples held up before their fellow students: Two of our girls ran away Helma Ward, Makah, interview with Carolyn Marr

Illness was another serious problem at the boarding schools. Crowded conditions and only the basic medical care no doubt contributed to the spread of diseases such as measles, influenza and tuberculosis. Tuberculosis was especially feared and at the Tulalip Indian School the dormitories were kept cold by leaving the windows open at night.

4: Full text of "Annual report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, for the year "

The first important duty performed by Stuart as Superintendent of Indian Affairs was to arrange for a congress of all the southern tribes at Augusta, Georgia, where the chiefs were met by Governors Fauquier of Virginia, Dobbs of North Carolina, Boone of South Carolina, and Wright of Georgia.

Leader of Bureau of Indian Education was investigated for misconduct Thursday, September 6, The top education official at the Bureau of Indian Affairs was investigated for alleged misconduct, with two new reports detailing his "unusual" and questionable behavior. He arrived at the leadership position in Washington, D. The OIG also looked into claims that he falsified student data in order to secure additional funds and improve student attendance rates. And even though Dearman was cleared of wrongdoing in both instances, the investigation uncovered some troubling behavior. His presence at the fiscal monitoring review earlier this year at Riverside generated alarms among his own employees, according to the OIG. Office of Public Affairs - Indian Affairs Still, a senior Trump administration official saw nothing wrong with his behavior. The performance review took place a month later. The second report, regarding falsified data, does not mention Dearman or Riverside by name. Dearman ran Riverside -- a "BIE boarding school" -- for those exact years in question, according to his official government biography. This resulted in a "significantly increased" level of federal funding for the school, investigators discovered. But while Dearman was aware of the correlation, investigators found no evidence of wrongdoing on his behalf. Hundreds of students in the gifted and talented program, for example, did not meet the requirements for participation, according to the report. Thank you for the warm welcome Riverside School! I loved meeting with the student council and talking with them about Tribal and conservation issues. Dearman was aware of, and approved of, this practice during both of his terms as superintendent, according to the report. Students were allowed to leave "up to 6 days before the end of the school year" to account for travel time back to their homes, the report said. But Dearman said there was nothing wrong with the practice, which dates back at least to Neither said they marked student travel time as class time, the report said. The agency in fact has been a repeat offender in the eyes of the OIG. A second probe showed that exercised "questionable judgment" when he tried to drum up support in Indian Country for a controversial reform initiative. Two years prior, also during the Obama era, another investigation uncovered ethical lapses by former director Keith Moore and his chief of staff. The two officials steered a contract to a company run by one of their friends, the OIG said in December Bush administration christened it with a new name as part of reorganization that was controversial in tribal circles. The entity, which is part of the BIA, oversees elementary and secondary day and boarding schools. About two-thirds are run by tribes while the rest are operated directly by the BIE. Regardless of the name or how it is organized, the BIE has long experienced leadership issues. He is a career employee, not a political appointee. Both OIG reports about Dearman were turned over to John Tahsuda, the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary who had sanctioned his presence at the performance review earlier this year, for "any action deemed appropriate. She is the first Alaska Native to serve in the post -- another political job -- and the first woman in two decades. In assuming the role, Sweeney vowed to "work with Indian Country to find efficiencies inside the Bureau of Indian Affairs, improve service delivery and culturally relevant curriculum in the Bureau of Indian Education, and create a more effective voice for tribes throughout the federal government. Sweeney, an Inupiat from Alaska, has been nominated to serve as the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs within the Trump administration. A senior official at the allegedly "targeted, bullied, and physically threatened" fellow employees, according to a summary posted on Tuesday. Com has asked the OIG for a full copy of the report. Before Sweeney made her comments about harassment, the director of the BIA had been accused of threatening a female subordinate. In April, Bryan Rice , who hails from the Cherokee Nation , mysteriously disappeared after the complaint surfaced and the Trump administration has refused to explain what happened to him. His career at the BIA began in and he held jobs at other federal agencies, including the Department of Agriculture, prior to his more recent leadership stint. Com first reported on the results of a landmark study which showed high rates of harassment at the BIA. On April 23 -- two days before Rice went missing, Secretary Ryan Zinke announced a new anti-harassment

policy. According to a message sent to Interior employees, Zinke and his staff have "encouraged the Office of the Inspector General to open investigations into [misconduct] claims that were brought to our attention. Rob Bishop R-Utah , the chairman of the panel, has asked Zinke to turn over documents to explain what the Trump administration has been doing to address the problem.

5: Superintendent of Indian Affairs | Chipeta: Ute Peacemaker

general records of the bureau of indian affairs History: Office of Indian Affairs transferred from War Department to Department of the Interior upon its establishment by an act of March 3, (9 Stat.).

Hermen Bendell was born in Albany, New York in Hermen Bendell was trained as a surgeon before, during, and after the Civil War. Hermen Bendell arrived in San Francisco in Herman Bendell, arriving in the Southwest from his native Albany, NY, found disturbing conditions in his territory. Settlers lived in constant fear of murder and robbery by the local tribes, especially the Apache. The infamous Camp Grant massacre occurred soon after: Local Apache Indians This event fueled the cycle of revenge between the local tribes and the white settlers for years to come. Herman Bendell visited all the tribes to discuss their needs. He obtained good local prices for government contracts, supervised the receipt of the supplies, and directed their distribution to the Indians. But in spite of all efforts, whether humanitarian and threatening, many hostile tribes would not remain on their reservations. Settlers at Verde and Camp McDowell fled in the wake of recommenced murder and robbery. In August of , Dr. Bendell accompanied a delegation of representatives from different tribes on a trip to the east coast and to Washington DC. They returned with many gifts, including permission to buy a thresher for the Pima. The Board of Commissioners praised Dr. Herman Bendell, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Arizona, is a most excellent official, a man of splendid judgment, strict integrity, who has managed the affairs of the office to entire satisfaction, but unfortunately he is not a Christian. They had four children: Beulah, Joseph, Myra, and Berta. Herman Bendall passed away in in Albany, NY. More information can be found in the following issue of Western States Jewish History:

6: Office of the Superintendent General of Indian - HÃ©ritage

A Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs was in the Canadian cabinet from until when the Minister of Mines and Resources became responsible for native affairs. In the Indian Affairs branch was transferred to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, who had responsibility for " status Indians " until the creation of the.

Reported to the Congress of the Confederation on 15 October The numerical gap in the bullet items near the end, "First", "Secondly", "Seventhly", "Eighthly", "Ninthly", is within the original document. That they have attentively considered the several papers referred to them, and have conferred thereon with the Commander in Chief. That their report will be confined to Indian affairs in the northern and middle departments, as they are defined by the acts of Congress of the 12 of July, , and to the settlement of the western country, these subjects being in the opinion of the committee inseparably connected, and the committee not being possessed of materials which enable them to extend their views to the southern district. The committee report however, says "northern and western departments. Nor in the opinion of the committee can the Indians themselves have any reasonable objections against the establishment recommended. They were, as some of them acknowledge, aggressors in the war, without even a pretence of provocation; they violated the convention of neutrality made with Congress at Albany, in , and in return for proffered protection, and liberal supplies, and to the utter ruin and impoverishment of thousands of families, they wantonly desolated our villages and settlements, and destroyed our citizens. To stop the progress of their outrages, the war, at a vast expence to the United States, was carried into their own country, which they abandoned in dismay. Waiving then the right of conquest and the various precedents which might be quoted in similar instances, a bare recollection of the facts is sufficient to manifest the obligation they are under to make atonement for the enormities which they have perpetrated, and a reasonable compensation for the expences which the United States have incurred by their wanton barbarity; and they possess no other means to do this act of justice than by a compliance with the proposed boundaries. The committee are of opinion, that in the negotiation which they recommend, care ought to be taken neither to yield nor require too much; to accommodate the Indians as far as the public good will admit, and if they should appear dissatisfied at the lines which it may be found necessary to establish, rather to give them some compensation for their claims than to hazard a war, which will be much more expensive; but it is supposed that when they shall be informed of the estimates of the damages which our citizens have sustained by their irruptions, and of the expences which the United States have incurred to check their career, it will have a tendency to suppress any extravagant demands. Whereupon, Resolved, That a convention be held with the Indians residing in the northern district and the western district and middle departments, who have taken up arms against the United States, for the purposes of receiving them into the favor and protection of the United States, and of establishing boundary lines of property for separating and dividing the settlements of the citizens from the Indian villages and hunting grounds, and thereby extinguishing as far as possible all occasion for future animosities, disquiet and contention. The resolutions, following this, from "First" to "Ninthly," inclusive, were also entered in the manuscript Secret Domestic Journal. Secondly, That the Indians be informed that after a contest of eight years for the sovereignty of this country Great Britain has ceded all the lands relinquished States all claim to the country within the limits described by the second article of the provisional treaty between the United States and the King of Great Britain, oft the thirtieth day of November in the year ; that is to say, From the northwest angle of Nova Scotia, viz. South by a line to be drawn due east from the determination of the line last mentioned in the latitude of thirty-one degrees north of the Equator to the middle of the river Apalachicola or Catahouche; thence along the middle thereof to its junction with the Flint river; thence straight to the head of St. East by a line to be drawn along the middle of the river St. Croix from its mouth in the bay of Fundy to its source and from its source directly north to the aforesaid Highlands, which divide the rivers that fall into the Atlantic Ocean from those which fall into the river St. Lawrence; comprehending all islands within 20 leagues of any part of the shores of the United States and lying between lines to be drawn due east from the points where the aforesaid boundaries between Nova Scotia on the one part and East Florida on the other shall respectively touch the Bay of Fundy and the Atlantic Ocean excepting such

islands as now are or heretofore have been within the limits of the said province of Nova Scotia. Fourthly, That the following line or lines shall be proposed to be mutually agreed upon and established between the United States and the several tribes of Indians who shall be affected thereby; or lines as nearly correspondent thereto as the Indians can be prevailed upon to adopt and approve of; that is to say, [Beginning at the mouth of the great Miami River, which empties into the Ohio, thence along the said river Miami to its confluence with the Mad river; thence by a direct line to the Miami fort at the village of that name on the other Miami river which empties into lake Erie; thence along the last mentioned river to lake Erie, comprehending all the lands between the above mentioned lines and the State of Pennsylvania on the East, Lake Erie on the North and the River Ohio on the South East. That if the Indians shall object against the lines above described, the said commissioners shall receive and report to Congress the proposition for a settlement of boundary to be made on the part, that the Sense and farther direction of the United States in Congress assembled may be had thereon. The committee report, however, says "northern and western districts. Sixthly, And whereas the Oneida and Tuscarora tribes have adhered to the cause of America and joined her arms in the course of the late war, and Congress have frequently assured them of peculiar marks of favour and friendship, the said commissioners are therefore instructed to take particular care to distinguish the lands claimed as the inheritance of those tribes, to have them ascertained and enter into stipulations that they shall be reserved for the sole use and benefit of these tribes until they shall think it for their own advantage to dispose of the same, [to reassure the said tribes of the friendship of the United States and that they may rely that the lands which they claim as their inheritance will be reserved for their sole use and benefit until they may think it for their own advantage to dispose of the same. A fair copy of the report to this point, as adopted, together with Articles Seventhly, Eighthly and Ninthly, is in the Papers of the Continental Congress, No. Eighthly, That the Superintendent of finance be directed to furnish such quantity of coarse goods, part of those belonging to the United States, as shall be necessary as presents to the Indians at Recommitted. It was first read September 19, and printed. The printed copy was considered in Congress, and is in No. The amendments made thereon, which are printed within brackets in this text, are in the writing of Elias Boudinot. That the Secretary at War be directed to report what sum in goods, to the Commissioners at the proposed it would be proper to limit treaty with the Indians, to give as a compensation for the cession of territory which Congress have directed to be negotiated for with the Indians. That the Superintendent of Finance be directed to furnish such a quantity of coarse goods part of those belonging to the U. These three motions, the first and second in the writing of Arthur Lee, and the third in that of Abraham Clark, are in the Papers of the Continental Congress, No. They are undated, but the indorsement and the record in Committee Book No. That the said Commissioners of the northern and middle Districts be instructed to obtain a particular account of the French inhabitants at Detroit, Illinois, and other villages within the territories of the United States, and that they give assurances, in the name of the United States, to those inhabitants that they shall be protected in the full enjoyment of their liberty and property. That the said Commissioners be also instructed to obtain information of the numbers and places of residence of the citizens of the United States who have seated themselves on the north west side of the Ohio; to signify to them the displeasure of Congress that they have taken this step, with which the publick interest and repose are so intimately connected, without permission or authority; to caution them to abstain from acts of violence or injustice towards the Indians and to the peaceably among themselves; until a plan shall be instituted, under the authority of the United States, for granting settling and governing that country. That the said Commissioners be also instructed to discourage to the utmost of their power, all further intrusion into any of the territories of the United States within their respective Departments, and your committee are of opinion that to strengthen their hands in this respect, a proclamation inhibiting such intrusions ought to be issued by the United States in Congress assembled without delay. Your Committee beg leave further to report that, in their opinion, the trade with the Indians ought to be regulated, and security be given by the Traders for the punctual observance of such regulations, so that violence, fraud and injustice towards the Indians may as far as possible be guarded against and prevented, and the honour of the federal government, and the publick tranquility, be thereby promoted. And that for these purposes and for Indian affairs in general, the standing a Committee of Congress on Indian affairs should be revived be appointed with instructions to prepare and report to Congress an

ordinance for regulating the Indian trade, with a clause strictly prohibiting all civil and military officers and particularly all Commissioners and Agents for Indian affairs, from trading with the Indians or purchasing or being directly or indirectly concerned in purchasing lands from the Indians, except only by the express license and authority of the United States in Congress assembled. And lastly your Committee beg leave to observe that they do not offer the measures which they have suggested as a sufficient security against the increase of feeble, disorderly and dispersed settlements in those remote and wide extended Territories: Nothing in the opinion of your committee can avert those complicated and impending mischiefs, or secure to the United States the just and important advantages which they ought to derive from those Territories, but the speedy establishment of Government and the regular administration of justice in such District thereof as shall be judged most convenient for immediate settlement and cultivation. Your committee therefore submit it to consideration whether it is not wise and necessary that a Committee be appointed to report to Congress on the expediency of laying out a suitable District within the said Territory, and of erecting it into a distinct government for the accommodation of such as may incline to become purchasers and inhabitants, as well as for doing justice to the army of the United States who are entitled to lands as a Bounty or in reward for their services, with instructions to such committee to devise a plan for the temporary government of the inhabitants and the due administration of justice; until their number and circumstances shall entitle them to a place among the States in the Union; when they shall be at liberty to form a free constitution for themselves not incompatible with the republican principles which are the Basis of the constitutions of the respective States in the union. But if Congress conceive it doubtful whether the powers vested by the Instrument of Confederation and perpetual union are competent to the establishment of such Government that then the Committee be instructed to prepare and report to Congress a proper address to the respective States for remedying the defects of the said instrument in this respect. Your committee cannot undertake with any degree of accuracy to propose the limits of the intended Government. They however lay before Congress two projects which have been suggested for consideration viz: First "That from the mouth of the great Miami which empties into the Ohio to its confluence with the Mad River. Thence by a line to the Miami Fort and village on the other Miami which empties into Lake Erie and thence by a line to include the settlement of Detroit would with Lake Erie on the north, Pennsylvania to the east, and the Ohio to the south, form a government sufficiently extensive to comply with the publick engagements and to receive moreover a large population by emigrants. It is conceived that in the first instance to confine all settlements within these bounds would be much more beneficial; even supposing no disputes were apprehended with the Indians, and that it was unnecessary to guard against those other evils which have been enumerated; than to suffer the same number of people to disperse themselves over a country of at least five hundred thousand square miles contributing nothing to the support, but much to the embarrassment, of the federal government. With regard to the southern department which comprehends the Cherokees and all the Indians within the United States to the southward of that tribe, your committee having already observed that neither the papers committed them, nor any information of which they are possessed, enable them to extend their views to the Indian affairs of that department, they therefore desire to be discharged therefrom, and that the same may be recommended to a committee better acquainted with the local circumstances of that country. There is a fair copy on folio The indorsement shows that it was delivered and read September 22, and acted on October According to the record in Committee Book No. This committee was renewed December 18, when Madison was replaced by Mr. A report was delivered April 19, Eighthly, [That the said Commissioners be and they are hereby instructed not to admit into a treaty with the said Indians or suffer to be in any manner connected with it any article, stipulation or condition whatsoever, making or confirming or tending to make or confirm to any individual or individuals any grant or grants of land whether real or pretended within the bounds of the United States as before described. And whereas the trade with the Indians ought to be regulated, and security be given by the traders, for the punctual observance of such regulations, so that violence, fraud and injustice towards the Indians, may be guarded against and prevented, and the honor of the federal government and the public tranquility thereby promoted. Resolved, That a committee be appointed with instructions to prepare and report an ordinance for regulating the Indian trade, with a clause therein strictly prohibiting all civil and military officers, and particularly all commissioners and

agents for Indian affairs, from trading with the Indians, or purchasing, or being directly or indirectly concerned in purchasing lands from Indians, except only by the express license and authority of the United States in Congress assembled: The members chosen, Mr. On January 7, , the committee was again renewed, both matters being committed to Mr.

7: Tribal Reports & Data

10 Correspondence with the Office of Indian Affairs, Indian Agents, and Special Agents Feb. 29, through Nov. , Superintendent's Correspondence, General and Statistical through Justice.

The current director is Michael S. The current assistant secretary acting is Lawrence S. Roberts, an enrolled member of the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin. On January 1, , Roberts succeeded Kevin K. Washburn , an enrolled member of the Chickasaw Nation in Oklahoma , who served from October 9, , to December 31, .

Office of Indian Services: The office has seven areas of activity: The OJS also provides oversight and technical assistance to tribal law enforcement programs when and where requested. It operates four divisions:

The Office of Field Operations: History[edit] Ely S. Parker was the first Native American to be appointed as Commissioner of Indian affairs – Cato Sells , Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Early US agencies and legislation: Intercourse Acts[edit] Main article: Benjamin Franklin and Patrick Henry were appointed among the early commissioners to negotiate treaties with Native Americans to obtain their neutrality during the American Revolutionary War. Congress placed Native American relations within the newly formed War Department. By the Congress had created a Superintendent of Indian Trade, or "Office of Indian Trade" [4] within the War Department, who was charged with maintaining the factory trading network of the fur trade. The post was held by Thomas L. McKenney from until the abolition of the factory system in . The government licensed traders to have some control in Indian territories and gain a share of the lucrative trade. Bureau of Indian Affairs –present [edit] The abolition of the factory system left a vacuum within the U. Calhoun , who created the agency as a division within his department, without authorization from the United States Congress. He appointed McKenney as the first head of the office, which went by several names. McKenney preferred to call it the "Indian Office", whereas the current name was preferred by Calhoun. In Congress established the position of Commissioner of Indian Affairs. In Indian Affairs was transferred to the U. Department of the Interior. It emphasized being educated to European-American culture. With the rise of American Indian activism in the s and s and increasing demands for enforcement of treaty rights and sovereignty, the s were a particularly turbulent period of BIA history. They intended to bring attention to American Indian issues, including their demands for renewed negotiation of treaties, enforcement of treaty rights and improvement in living standards. They occupied the Department of Interior headquarters from November 3 to November 9, . In particular, problems in enforcing treaties, handling records and trust land incomes were disputed. The grievances allege widespread violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act and claim tens of millions of dollars in damages. Trust assets[edit] Cobell vs. The suit was filed against the U. Department of Interior, of which the BIA is a part. A major responsibility has been the management of the Indian trust accounts. This is to compensate for claims that prior U. However, this has been a difficult task as the BIA is known by many Native Americans as playing a police role in which the U.

8: Minister of Crownâ€™Indigenous Relations - Wikipedia

Previously, the administration of Indian Affairs was directly supervised by the Secretary of War, except for the factory system operated by the Office of Indian Trade between and , which was administered by a superintendent responsible to the Secretary.

Indian Agents were individuals responsible for cultivating relationships with the Native Americans and extending government policies. As treaties and agreements were negotiated and reservations were established, these relationships became increasingly complex and controversial. Early Territorial Period Initial management of Indian affairs in what would become Colorado was a result of acquisition of Mexican territory during the Mexican-American War â€™ In General Stephen Watts Kearney occupied New Mexico, and government interaction with Native Americans was largely to ensure peaceful relations and regulate trade. That year, Kearney appointed Charles Bent as civilian governor and superintendent of Indian affairs for the newly acquired land. Vrain and through his store in Taos made him a natural choice, but he spent only a few months at the post before he was killed during the Taos Revolt in January Subsequent governors followed Bent in the role as Superintendent of Indian Affairs in New Mexico, as was the case with later territorial governors. The Utah Territory extended eastward over the entire western third of Colorado to the Continental Divide, and the New Mexico Territory included the southern portion of Colorado east of the mountains. The Kansas and Nebraska territories were established in , with the Kansas Territory covering the central portion of Colorado east of the mountains and Nebraska Territory covering northern Colorado east of the mountains. Agents were appointed to assist the territorial governors or superintendents of Indian Affairs on a somewhat regional basis that conformed to areas occupied by one or more Native American groups. The agents were posted to communities or forts that were in relatively close proximity to the Native American groups they were to serve. In these early years, agents often had some direct contact with the Native Americans in their jurisdiction, with most of their time spent attempting to ascertain which groups were present, their numbers, their modes of life and habits, and their ranges, as well as controlling illicit trade by whites or Hispanics. His wide area covered land occupied mainly by Utes , Shoshones, and Paiutes. Part of the treaty assigned territories for the various Plains Indian groups. Among these, the Arapaho and Cheyenne were jointly assigned to the area east of the Rockies between the North Platte and Arkansas Rivers. Annuity goods were useful itemsâ€™such as clothing, tools, cookware, decorative items, hunting and fishing supplies, and canvases for tipi sâ€™that were distributed to Indians as stipulated by a signed treaty. In two treaties were negotiated with two Ute bands in the New Mexico Territory. Reservations were proposed for the Capote along the Animas River and for the Mouache along the Rio Grande, both extending into present-day Colorado. Though Congress failed to ratify either treaty, the treaties were the first in a series that followed national policy of attempting to have Native American groups cede a large portion of their territories for small reservations in return for money, goods, and services. Discussions with the Native Americans had been initiated in The Cheyenne and Arapaho agreed to cede most of their traditional lands for a smaller reservation that took up a considerable amount of southeastern Colorado and was bound on the north by Sand Creek and on the south by the boundary between the New Mexico and Colorado Territories. The western portion of the reservation was to be occupied by the Arapaho and the eastern portion by the Cheyenne. With the treaty and establishment of the Colorado Territory, A. The Kiowa and Comanche residing in southern Colorado were also attached to the agency at Fort Lyon, though a treaty had not been made with them. The Cheyenne and Arapaho never really occupied the reservation, mostly because the buffalo that they depended on were no longer present and only minimal improvements had been made for the agency. The Sand Creek Massacre, which took place on the reservation in , resulted in widespread warfare. The Treaty of resulted in removal of the Cheyenne and Arapaho from Colorado to reservation lands in Kansas and Oklahoma, and the Upper Arkansas Agency was terminated. Middle Park and Conejos Agencies With the establishment of Colorado Territory on February 10, , the Colorado territorial governor became the local superintendent of Indian affairs. Two agencies were established in Colorado. The Conejos Agency had already been established in in the San Luis Valley to administer to the

Tabeguache Utes, who had previously been under the jurisdiction of the Taos Agency under Kit Carson as early as 1848. Prior to its official establishment, the Conejos ranch of Lafayette Head had been where annuity goods for the Tabeguache and Mouache Utes were distributed beginning in 1848. Head became the first Indian agent at the Conejos Agency. The agency had no real headquarters, though its business was carried out at Hot Sulphur Springs, Breckenridge, Empire, and Denver. The eastern boundary was at 37 degrees latitude, which was mostly west of the Continental Divide. The treaty stipulated that two new agencies would be established on the reservation. In order to satisfy treaty stipulations, the agent became the manager of several employees—typically a farmer, blacksmith, and schoolteacher, but often including cattle herders and sawmill operators. A full complement of buildings was constructed, including residences, shops, barns, school houses, and warehouses. Employees were to teach the Native Americans their respective skills. The agent ordered and distributed annuity goods and rations, made sure the agency was well supplied; hired, fired, and managed employees; and completed arduous financial accounting tasks. In addition, he was to enforce ever-changing government policies and respond to crises between Native Americans and whites. Despite the best intentions of most of agents, they were subject to accusations of malfeasance by Native Americans as well as encroaching whites, and to removal for political reasons. Grant, Christian reformers were included in developing and implementing Native American policy. This resulted in the Board of Indian Commissioners being established in 1849 and Christian evangelism being incorporated into Native American policy. With these changes, tribal traditions were discouraged; the treaty system was revamped so that it was no longer a nation-to-nation agreement; monetary annuities were discouraged in favor of goods, agency improvements, and services; and Native Americans were considered wards of the government for their protection. With proper oversight, it was thought that Native Americans could be educated in industry, civilization, and Christianity so they could eventually attain US citizenship and become self-supporting. Native Americans were initially to be placed on small reservations, with the goal being that when ready, they would be granted exclusive ownership of land in parcels of acres or less. This was designed to teach them the values of land ownership and enable them to earn a living from their labor on their land. All of these goals were made without Native American input, ran contrary to Native American customs, and were demoralizing. Under the new policy, candidates for agents were to be put forward by Christian religious groups. Inadequate candidates were immediately available. For example, the initial agents for the Los Pinos and White River agencies were former military officers who were available as a result of the reduction of military force following the Civil War. Congress rejected this approach of appointing former military officers as public servants to fill civil positions in July 1849, so the American Unitarian Union began nominating candidates as agents for the two Indian Agencies in Colorado. Oakes, successor to Simeon Whiteley, selected the agency location and began construction of the buildings. Parry, who was completely unprepared for the job, replaced Oakes in June 1850. McCook appointed several ineffective military officers as agents thereafter. More successful were agents John S. Littlefield and Edward H. Danforth, both nominated by the Unitarians and serving as agents from 1851 to 1852. Danforth was followed by Nathan C. Meeker who was not a Unitarian but was highly religious and brought utopian ideals from the agricultural colony of Greeley to the agency. The incident prompted the eventual removal of most of the Utes from western Colorado. He selected the agency location and initiated construction of its buildings. Speer was replaced by Unitarian Jabez Nelson Trask, the first of three Unitarian agents between 1853 and 1854. Thereafter, the agency was served by a succession of agents unaffiliated with the Unitarian Church whose rapid, near-annual turnover provided no stable leadership until the Utes associated with the agency were removed from Colorado in late 1854. Denver Special Agency A large number of Utes who were to be attached to the White River Agency refused to move to the reservation and desired to continue hunting buffalo on the plains, spending summers in North and Middle Parks, and wintering near Denver. Although attached to the Middle Park Agency, these Utes had become accustomed to visiting the agent in Denver, where they acquired goods and services from the government. Rather than force the Utes onto the reservation on the west side of the Rockies, James B. Thompson, personal secretary and brother-in-law of Governor McCook, continued the practice of supplying the Indians in Denver in 1855. This practice was formalized through the establishment of the Denver Special Agency in 1856. It continued to serve the Utes through 1860, when they agreed to go to the reservation

and be served by the White River Agency. After a brief reopening in , the agency was permanently closed. The Tabeguache Utes attached to the Los Pinos Agency, under the leadership of Ouray negotiated an agreement shortly before his death, in , that stipulated that they would be moved to a smaller reservation, likely at the confluence of the Grand and Gunnison Rivers in present-day Grand Junction. With this in mind, a survey of the proposed new reservation was completed that included several townships in what is known as the Ute Principal Meridian. If the land there was found unsuitable, then other lands could be considered. The Ute Commission, following the lead of member Otto Mears, found the land at the confluence of the Grand and Gunnison Rivers unsuitable for agricultural settlement, so decided that land at the confluence of the Green and White Rivers in Utah should be the new reservation. This land was annexed to the existing Uintah Reservation, and the reservation is now known as the Uintah and Ouray Reservation. Tabeguache Utes formerly attached to the Los Pinos Agency were forced to the new reservation in September Weaver as the agent. The actual agency site selected that June was on the Los Pinos River, much to the consternation of the Utes, who expected it to be placed on the Navajo River. A post office at the agency was named Ignacio when it opened in . When the town of Ignacio grew nearby, the post office was moved there in . Native Americans attached to the agency were formerly served at agencies in Abiquiu and Cimarron, New Mexico. Ignacio, leader of the Southern Utes—“as the three bands came to be known”—had the foresight to distance his group from Ouray during the Brunot Agreement of , when the San Juan Mountains were ceded to the US government. A strip of land fifteen miles wide and south of the territory ceded in the Brunot Agreement was recognized as the domain of the Southern Utes. The Southern Utes agreed to move to this reservation along the southern border of Colorado in . Because they were recognized as separate from the Utes attached to the Los Pinos and White River agencies, they were allowed to remain in Colorado. Under the agreement, the reservation was to be allotted to individual tribal members with the remaining land sold for the benefit of the tribe. Ignacio objected to the plan and desired to retain contiguous land for the Weeminuche band. An agreement in resulted in the allotment of the eastern portion of the reservation, still known as the Southern Ute Reservation, with its agency at Ignacio. The allotments designated to the Utes in the eastern portion of the reservation amounted to about 60, acres of land, leaving , acres open for entry to other settlers beginning in May . The western portion was set aside as the Ute Mountain Ute Reservation for Native Americans who did not want to participate in the allotment program, with agency headquarters at Navajo Springs. Because of a lack of water, the agency at Navajo Springs was quickly abandoned and a new agency was constructed in about at Towaoc. Reconfiguration of Mesa Verde National Park in resulted in a land exchange that took 12, acres of the Ute Mountain Ute Reservation in exchange for 7, acres of land vacated from the original configuration of the park and 19, acres on the north side of Ute Mountain that extended to the south side of McElmo Canyon. US Government Printing Office, Harvey, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, St. Wendell and Van Benthuysen, Printers, University of Utah Printing Services, Delaney, and Gregory C. Thompson, The Southern Utes:

9: Indian Affairs Annual Reports, - Library and Archives Canada

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