

SCHWABE

Indian Affairs

June 8, 1946

Mr. P. H. McGhee
Pryor, Oklahoma

Dear Friend:

I am just in receipt of carbon copy of the Dr. Herrington letter, apparently written by our good friend, O. K. Chandler, the original of which Dr. Herrington sent me, with your Postscript added.

I have answered Dr. Herrington's letter fully, and shall be glad to discuss this matter with you at the first opportunity to talk with you personally.

Thanking you for your interest, and with all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

George B. Schwabe, M.C.

GS:LW

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Pryor, Oklahoma, June 4, 1946.

Hon. George B. Schwabe, M. C.
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman Schwabe:

You will no doubt recall a conversation we had in front of my office in Pryor shortly following your election, and my urging upon you as one of your first legislative efforts the introduction of a bill to bring about final settlement of Indian affairs between the Indians of Oklahoma and the Federal government. My interest then and now was and is, justice to the Indians, who have been wronged down through the years in a manner impossible of correct measurement. Of the multiplied millions of dollars we have spent on account of the Indians in recent years, very little if any of the money actually reached the Indians. I felt then and feel now that this evil should be corrected. I have some direct information on the Indian bureau's evils, although I am white and not an employee of the bureau. I have three relatives in substantial administrative positions with the bureau. Through this source I learn that little of the money appropriated by the Congress for bureau handling ever reaches the Indians.

I have just had an extended discussion with our mutual friend O. K. Chandler of Miami, Oklahoma, concerning the virtues of a proposed bill providing a final settlement with all Oklahoma Indians and the removal of the Indian bureau, roots, stump and all, out of Oklahoma. In his letter to you of May 10, 1946, Chandler outlines the bill's objectives, the amount of appropriation necessary to meet its final settlement features, and some of the reasons why fairness, justice and economy fully support it. I wish wholeheartedly to endorse the bill in its every objective; also, to endorse Chandler's letter to you of May 10, in its every detail.

Aside from the justice of the bill, both to the public and the Indian, it is the difference between success and defeat of the Republican party's Congressional candidate in the First Oklahoma district in November. Of course, this feature of the proposed bill should not be the compelling reason for its introduction in Congress and enactment into law - evils now most hurtful are the result of laws enacted purely for political advantage. However, every appearance to you and I and others who have given the subject even casual thought, is that this nation's recovery from its present helpless condition must come through the success of the Republican party in the Congressional elections this year. The Chandler proposal casts a deep shadow across this picture in Oklahoma, possibly elsewhere; its effect upon the future of this nation is impossible of measurement at this time.

I urge that you act in keeping with Chandler's request of May 10, 1946, at the earliest possible moment. The quicker we prepare for

Hon. George B. Schwabe
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the battle in November, the more certain we are of success.

Very truly yours,

Chairman, Republican County Central
Committee, Mayes County Oklahoma.

VDH/h

June 6th 1946.

Dear Mr Schwabe
Republicans at a meeting at my office to discuss
our chairmans stood in the Indian Matter.
We called for copy of his letter to you
We urge you to put this matter over.
Truly yours

W. H. H.
Gateway City
Pryorville