

May 15, 1945

Mr. S. R. Lewis  
Attorney at Law  
Alexander Building  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Mr. Lewis:

I am just this morning in receipt of copy of Resolution adopted April 29, 1945 by Administrative Board of The American Indian Federation, which apparently was sent to me by Mr. Joseph Bruner. The Resolution did not suggest that a copy be sent to me, but I am glad that it was sent to me.

Nobody has ever discussed this situation with me before, and I know nothing about it except what is contained in the Resolution and what little I have been able to glean from people with whom I have talked on a few occasions. If there is anything that I can do to see that right prevails, you may count upon my doing it throughout the consideration of the matter.

Sincerely yours,

George B. Schwabe, M. C.

cc: Mr. Joseph Bruner  
P. O. Box 174  
Sapulpa, Oklahoma

GS:lw

SCHWABE COLL



R E S O L U T I O N

R E S O L V E D: by the Administrative Board of the AMERICAN INDIAN FEDERATION, duly assembled in the Tulsa County Court House, Tulsa, Oklahoma, on this 29th day of April, 1945, that:

WHEREAS, on May 26th, 1941, the Senate of the United States gave its consent to the ratification of the Convention for the creation of an "Inter-American Indian Institute", which was open for signature at Mexico City on November 1, 1941, and was signed on behalf of the United States on November 29, 1940; and,

WHEREAS, the President of the United States issued an executive Order dated November 1st, 1941, providing that the Advisory Committees created by this Inter-American Indian Institute be reimbursed for necessary traveling expenses and subsistence, as provided by law; and,

WHEREAS, it seems very evident, from the testimony of John Collier, late Commissioner of Indian Affairs, found at page 167 to page 178, inclusive of the Hearings before the Sub-Committee of the Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives, 77th Congress, Appropriation Bill of 1943, that this Inter-American Indian Institute is the "brain-child" of the said John Collier, who has had his son, Charles W. Collier, appointed Secretary of this Inter-American Indian Institute and is, no doubt, endeavoring to promote and foist himself into the position of President of said Institute, in order to obtain a much greater salary than the salary paid to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs; and,

WHEREAS, the American Indian Federation is opposed to any and all ideas advanced and advocated by John Collier, the late Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and desires to take a firm stand against any organization created and promoted by John Collier and his gang of free-booters; and,

WHEREAS, the American Indian Federation has strong proof that the National Congress of American Indians was sponsored and promoted by the said John Collier and his satellites, meeting in Denver, Colorado, on November 16th, 1944, having for one of its



objects and purposes the destruction of the American Indian Federation, which has heretofore opposed the communistic efforts of the said John Collier and his organization; and,

WHEREAS, the American Indian Federation has valid evidence that the expenses of the delegates to the Convention, held at Denver, Colorado, on November 16th, 1944, were paid out of funds under the supervision and control of the Indian Bureau, while John Collier was Commissioner of Indian Affairs; that only persons known to be under the influence and control of the said John Collier were notified or invited, as delegates to said Convention; and,

WHEREAS, the administration of John Collier, late Commissioner of Indian Affairs, was at all times of a communistic nature, and was carried on according to the personal views of said John Collier and at all times in conflict with the statute laws enacted by the Congress of the United States; and,

WHEREAS, the American Indian Federation desires to go on record against the Inter-American Indian Institute, created by the executive order, above referred to; and,

WHEREAS, the Indians of the United States have been made citizens by Act of Congress, with all of the privileges and immunities of other American citizens, and have made great progress during the past one hundred years, and have produced many useful citizens, including one Vice President of the United States, several United States Senators, and many Representatives, and we now have one Congressman from Oklahoma, William G. Stigler, a Choctaw Indian, and many Indians holding County and State offices, not only in Oklahoma, but throughout the United States, and have furnished many brave soldiers for the present World War II, now fighting for American principles, on many battlefields, in foreign lands; and,

WHEREAS, it is the sense of this Indian Organization that we oppose the appropriation and use of federal funds to carry on the so-called "National Indian Institute" in the Department of Interior, created by said Executive order, and sanctioned by the Senate of the United States on May 26th, 1941, for we believe that the ex-



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penditure of public funds would be a detriment to the Indian race, and a waste of the taxpayer's money. In other words, we do not wish to join and interfere with Indians inhabiting the Southern Republics, for the reason that those Spanish American Republics have the jurisdiction and control of their own people, and we should not attempt to influence them as to their needs or way of life.

IT IS, therefore, RESOLVED, by this Administrative Board of the American Indian Federation, that the Honorable Joseph Bruner be, and he hereby is authorized, to transmit copies of this Resolution to President Truman, to the Chairman of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, the Chairman of the House Indian Affairs Committee, and to Congressman W. C. Stigler, from Oklahoma, and to the Chairman of the Appropriation Committee of the Senate and House of Representatives, and a copy to the public press.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED, this 29th day of April, 1945, by the

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF THE  
AMERICAN INDIAN FEDERATION

ATTEST: M. Edna Wilson  
Secretary,  
Administrative Board

By S. R. LEWIS  
Chairman.

APPROVED: *Joseph Bruner*  
Joseph Bruner  
President, AMERICAN INDIAN FEDERATION

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*MADE IN U.S.A.*