

February 9, 1945

Mr. O. K. Chandler  
Box 934  
Miami, Oklahoma

Dear O. K.:

I have your letter of the 5th instant, referring to legislative matters in which you are or may be interested and which may be now or have been pending in the present Congress. You do not state which items or measures are of interest to you.

We had our first meeting this morning of the House Committee on Indian Affairs. I can arrange for a meeting with the Committee at almost any time to suit your convenience and shall be glad to give personal attention and consideration to your items, if you will be good enough to identify them to me and tell me something about them.

Your friend,

George B. Schwabe, M. C.

GBS:CG

SCHWABE COLLE



Box 934

Miami, Okla., Feb. 5, 1945.

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

Dear Congressman:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 29th ultimo, wherein reference is made to some claims matters in which you assume I have an interest.

As a taxpayer, an Indian and a Republican, I am interested in the closing of the Indian bureau as to approximately 250,000 Indian citizens who are as competent to care and provide for themselves as you and I. To dispose of this group means an annual savings of \$20,000,000 to \$40,000,000 to the taxpayers of the nation, Indian and white. To saddle this annual and unnecessary cost upon the taxpayer, white and Indian (the bureau makes annual digs into tribal funds and Indians pay taxes too) is a bureau racket which should not be countenanced in peace or war time; it would not be if the voters actually knew the manner of fraud the bureau practises upon the Congress in extracting their hard-earned cash from them; there would be new faces in the Congress, from the Atlantic to the Pacific - the states east of the Mississippi and north of the Mason and Dixon line, pay eighty per cent of the bill and get nothing back, in the way of Indian agencies, superintendents, schools, hospitals, etc.

As a plain citizen I have long advocated final settlement of Indian claims as a means of liberating the Indian from bureaucratic control and direction; that final settlement was in the interest of economy as well as meeting the government's just obligations to the Indians.

As a Republican I have sought to influence my Party to take the lead in offering an intelligent, economic, honest, praiseworthy program of final solution of the Indian question, a question which has been with us since the landing of Columbus, by inheritance through the colonists from the British. Such solution, outside of being the honest and fair thing to do, I have always considered good Oklahoma, South Dakota, North Dakota and Montana Republican politics.

All this, as you know, is a public matter concerning all the people, and from who I do not now hold nor have I held contract or contracts of representation, through election or otherwise.

**SCHWABE COLL**

True, I now have and heretofore have had, matters before various departments of Government in Washington - this is a work in which I have regularly engaged over a period of years, to be exact,



fifteen. Only once during these years have I appealed to a member of my Party in matters before the departments - either congressman or senator. I invoked the aid of Senator Frazier, a good Republican friend, when he was chairman of the Senate Indian Committee, to require the present superintendent of Quapaw Agency to issue a \$1,500 check covering partial payment of an earned-fee. The senator quickly established justice in this matter and check was promptly issued and mailed to me in Washington.

In legislative matters in which I have been interested, I have always found responsive aid from Republican friends in both the House and Senate. An appeal to them in departmental matters personal to me and my clients would have struck down the interests of my clients and proved unprofitable to me, I just did not do it, could not afford to do so.

With personal good wishes, I am

Sincerely,

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*O. K. Chandler*  
O. K. Chandler

SCHWABE COLL