

Miami, Okla., April 21, 1945.

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

Dear Congressman:

Thanks for your letter of the 14th instant.

I am leaving in the morning for Marshalltown, Iowa. I am going with no great hopes. If the result is good, fine; bad, it can't be helped.

Of course I do not know the intentions of the leaders in the 1940 and '44 national conventions as to the manner or method they had in mind of keeping their party's pledge which it made to the Indians. Evidently somebody had an idea as to the meaning of the pledge and how to keep it. My personal view of the matter is that it cannot be kept through the creation of a claims commission. Nothing of an IMMEDIATE character can come from that source and our party's pledge is: "Immediate, just and final settlement." The procedure will have to be through settlement, agreement or compromise with the view to bringing Indian affairs, in a large measure, to an end. The bureau is a most useless governmental function in the present-day life of the Indians of Oklahoma; get it over with, settle with the Indians, finally and forever and let them go their way, as they are doing, as citizens of our state and nation in all that the word implies.

The Collier-Thomas-Stigler claims commission idea is political chicanery, pure and simple, particularly is this true as to Thomas and Stigler. As to Collier the idea was just another brain-child-maverick of his closely related to that of others from the same source, which started in every direction and reached nowhere, except into the national treasury and tribal Indian funds. Let the New Deal and the new dealers have that idea - Republicans can and should have a better one; better for the Indian, the country and the taxpayer.

I have given most of my time since the November election in research work with reference to the Indians and their relation to our government and in the days previous to its creation. As yet I have not completed this work, almost, however, and upon my return from Iowa will complete and be on my way to Washington shortly thereafter.

Thanks for the invitation to make your office my headquarters while in the City. The past eighteen years I have made my headquarters with the Senate Indian Committee - Mr. Grorud and I are friends of long standing. I appreciate your hospitality and shall certainly be seeing you while in Washington.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely,

O. K. Chandler
O. K. Chandler

SCHWABE COLL

OKC-1