

*Indian Affairs*

July 12, 1946

Mr. John Chouteau  
Vinita  
Oklahoma

Dear Friend:

I have your letter of July 5th enclosing carbon copy of letter you apparently had written Senator Moore.

I am glad to have heard from you and to know your reaction to the proposed bill prepared by our friend, Mr. O. K. Chandler, of Miami. I have given this bill a great deal of study, and shall continue to try to do everything that seems proper for the Indians in my section of the country. I have been living among them for thirty-five years, and everyone who knows me will admit that I have been their friend and have every reason to continue to see that they get a just settlement of any and all valid claims they have against the United States Government.

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

Your friend,

George B. Schwabe, M.C.

GS:LW



Vinita, Oklahoma.  
July 5, 1946

Honorable George Schwabe  
United States Congressman  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Schwabe:-

I am sending you a copy of a letter I am writing Senator Moore. In the copy of Mr. Chandler's letter to Senator Moore he mentions he has talked to you about the settlement bill and that you will go along with Senator Moore. I am glad to know this. I am a Democrat but I vote for the man if he is a good man. We need good men in Congress. Men who can and will do what the people want done. Indians for a long time have been wanting to settle with the Government for all time. And I hope that you and Senator Moore get the bill introduced and finally get it passed. It will take hard work I know and possibly two or three years. But a start must be made sometime if it is ever done.

Most Cordially yours,

*John Chouteau*

Tohn Chouteau



Vinita, Oklahoma.  
July 5, 1946

Hon. E. H. Moore,  
United States Senator,  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Moore:-

As a life-long Democrat, in the Dewey and Roosevelt campaign two years ago, at the instance of my friend O. K. Chandler of Miami, Oklahoma, I signed an article endorsing Mr. Dewey which article was included in a campaign pamphlet or document and it was given wide circulation over Oklahoma and Craig County. I did this on the faith I had in the word of my friend that his party meant what it said when it said it would settle with the Indians: that Mr. Dewey and those of his party elected to the Congress would keep their promise to the Indians. Of course, Mr. Dewey was not elected and therefore could not keep his promise.

Mr. Chandler now sends me a copy of a proposed settlement with the Indians. Also a copy of a letter he has written you. I have read and studied both the bill and letter. The bill is complete. It leaves nothing. The Indian bureau, the Indian, with his claims and property, are disposed of at one lick. The bill suits me and I am glad to learn that Mr. Chandler and his party are about to redeem their pledge to the Indians, at least they attempt to do so.

I am Seven-eighths Indian, almost a fullblood; so-called restricted or incompetent Indian. All my people come under this classification, yet the Government of the United States has contributed nothing to our wellbeing, educationally or otherwise, notwithstanding Mr. Chandler's letter to you represents the Congress is paying the Indian bureau millions of dollars each year for protecting the interests of Indians; they don't help us; we don't ask them to. His bill, as I read it, would forever stop this fraud. It cannot be anything else, as the Indian bureau gets the money for doing something it does not do nor intends to do.

I hope you will introduce Mr. Chandler's bill and his letter too, as it has information in it that the people should know about. If copies could be sent to the Indians they would know. I believe they will approve the bill. Of course, maybe some won't. That's true of everything. You can't please everybody. But the great majority will approve it.

I thank you.

Most cordially yours,

Tohn Chouteau