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Crow. Mont.

BOSTON ADVERTISER

Jan 15 1910

Mr. Russell W. Bear, an Indian, who was on his way to Washington, paid us a short visit on Sunday evening. He gave a very helpful talk to the Y. M. C. A. *Jan. 1910*

MEN, WOMEN AND EVENTS AT WASHINGTON

Washington, Feb. 14.

That the Indian can put to shame by comparison the finest eloquence in either hall of congress was demonstrated anew last week in the senate committee on Indian affairs, where have been held hearings on a proposal in congress to cause the Crow Indians to sell the reservation of some 2,000,000 acres of fine land they have in Montana that it may be thrown open for settlement to pale faces. The Crow Indians have come to Washington, some in their typical war paint and feathers and others in the sartorial style of white men, to combat the proposition. At the hearings they have spoken for themselves, and there have demonstrated that singular gift for terse and nipping eloquence the red man has, and so much as to excite the admiration of the senators on the committee who have been, at the least, forced to say: "They are remarkably good talkers."

The poetic and even epic imagination of the Indian is of course well known. What they say reads well and is pleasing to the imaginative faculties. Their grave demeanor has been sung about. They are fit subjects for Homeric tales, and yet the storied Indian does not belie the real and seemingly he has become intensely practical, as this Indian hearing proved, for in addition to their eloquent pleas in their own interest they advanced arguments which showed considerable thought on their part of a very practical nature and a great deal of worldly wisdom.

...reasonably

Some of the aged chiefs were pardonably deficient in enough English to speak with any fluency, and they spoke through an interpreter in their native tongue, but they hardly needed one, so eloquent and understanding were their gestures. Nothing finer has probably ever been seen in Washington. These were logic and beauty themselves, and so expressive and yet so well contained and lacking in any superfluous movements as would make the best teachers of elocution consume themselves with envy. To be sure, the Indians who spoke their native tongue seemed to utter nothing but a series of grunts, but all this was forgotten in the splendid physical demeanor of the chiefs and their wonderful gifts in gesticulation.

The main speech was made by a full-blooded Crow named Russell Whitebear. He is a young man, still under 30, and disclosed himself gifted in ability in tongue, in artful expression by hand and in wisdom equal to that of his elders. He exemplified what education can do for these savages. He is a graduate of the Carlisle school, and has taken a course in the university of Montana. He spoke remarkably good English. Indeed, his diction was far superior to that heard from many a Yale or Harvard graduate. Whitebear was dressed as a pale face and has married a white woman.

It is impossible to report all he said, but the following from him is a good sample of Crow talk:—

Years ago our forefathers owned all this land from the Atlantic to the Pacific, but you pale faces have come and taken it nearly all away from us and crowded us upon one small spot and gradually you have shaved this, taking more and more until now you want even the smallest spot of the spot—all of it in fact.

Give us a little room. Give us a chance. We are for progress as much as the best of you. We are citizens of this land even as you are. We are all subjects and admirers

of the declaration of independence. But you want apparently to keep us in chronic bondage to the Indian bureau.

I say close the books and let us go ahead. You say you educate us free, but I tell you you give nothing to us but what belongs to us by natural right. Let us alone. We want to grow up in our own way. We know how. We want to stay on this reservation. We are cultivating it. It has become our home. We will get along all right.

We have business ability enough. We will flourish. We have good lands, better than some of the pale faces have, and these want them because of that fact, although there are millions of acres of land lying elsewhere in the state that they could have.

The friends of the Payne tariff act are naturally quite sensitive about charges that the tariff act is responsible in no small part for the current high price of cotton and wool. However untrue

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CARLISLE INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.
DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL RECORD OF STUDENT.

NUMBER 1711	ENGLISH NAME Russell Whitebear	AGENCY Crow	NATION Crow	
BAND	INDIAN NAME	HOME ADDRESS White Bear		
PARENTS LIVING OR DEAD	BLOOD	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT
FATHER: <i>Living</i>	MOTHER: <i>Living</i>	<i>Full</i>	<i>17</i>	
ARRIVED AT SCHOOL	FOR WHAT PERIOD	DATE DISCHARGED	CAUSE OF DISCHARGE	
<i>May 31, 1895</i>	<i>5 years</i>	<i>Apr 24, 1899</i>	<i>Enlisted in Army</i>	
TO COUNTRY	PATRONS NAME AND ADDRESS		FROM COUNTRY	
<i>Sep. 18, 95</i>	<i>J. Fell Soleburs Pa.</i>		<i>Mar. 31, 96</i>	
<i>Mar. 31, 96</i>	<i>P. Woerstall Dolington "</i>		<i>June 1, 96</i>	
<i>Sep. 12, 96</i>	<i>J. Shaw Carversville "</i>		<i>Mar. 31, 97</i>	
<i>Jul. 9, 97</i>	<i>O. Brooks Newtown "</i>		<i>Jul. 17, 97</i>	
<i>May 14, 98</i>	<i>R. Daily Ringoes N. J.</i>		<i>Sep. 16, 98</i>	

SHAW-WALKER MUSKOGON 5178

Months in school before Carlisle,

Grade entered at Carlisle,

Grade at date of Discharge,

Trade or Industry,

Church,

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Bears, Russell, White Ex Stu.
Record

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Whitebear Russell 642 Oz Stu
Record

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