

INDIAN OFFICE.

FILES.

CAUTION!

Positively no papers to be added to or taken from this file, except by an employee of the Mails and Files Division.

By order of

E. B. MERITT,

Asst. Commissioner.

0-4344

4-4159, 1915.

GARLISLE

File No.

820

Education-
J F Jr.

APR 28 1915

FILED BY C. P. F.

AUG 9 1915

92278

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Further reference is made to your letter of April 9, 1915, submitting an appeal, addressed to your daughter, by Relia, Roland and Roy Oshkosh, three Menominee Indian children enrolled at Carlisle, for permission to use part of their tribal trust funds for visiting their home during vacations.

I am enclosing herewith a letter, dated April 7, 1915, from the Supervisor in Charge of Carlisle School, and a letter, dated April 16, 1915, from the Superintendent of the Menominee Indian reservation.

From the letter from the Supervisor in Charge of Carlisle School there appears to be some doubt, so far as the children are concerned, as to the authenticity of the appeal. It appears, also, that they have no money, and that they do not come within the requirements of the Act of March 2, 1907, which would permit funds to be set aside to their credit.

If these children were permitted to return home

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it would be necessary for their expenses to be paid by the Government. In view of the fact that the reasons presented in their case would apply equally to every other Indian child enrolled in Indian schools, it would not be fair for the Government to pay their expenses unless similar provision could be made for all other pupils.

It seems, therefore, that nothing can be done for these children and I have written a letter to them so advising them. A carbon of this letter is enclosed.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Cato Sells.

Commissioner.

4-EO-36

Honorable Franklin K. Lane,
Secretary of the Interior.

Education-
J F Jr.

3

4-EO-26

APR 28 1915

Relia Oshkosh
Roland Oshkosh
Roy Oshkosh

FILED BY C. P. F.

AUG 22 1915
92578

Care Supervisor in Charge, U.S. Indian School,
Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

My friends:

The Secretary has handed to me a letter, addressed to his daughter and signed by all of you, in which you ask her to aid you in having your shares of the Menominee tribal funds paid to you to be used by you in returning to your home during vacations.

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The law only permits Menominee tribal funds to be paid to grown persons able to carry on all of their own affairs and to children when they are sick or are blind, crippled or helpless from disease or accident. You are not old enough to belong to the first class and, happily, you do not belong to the second class, but are well and strong and in a position where you can make the most of the opportunity to get a good education and grow up into fine men and women at Carlisle. Therefore, I cannot aid you in using your funds

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to go home during your vacations.

I want at this time to ask you to make the very best use of the chances you have at Carlisle.

Your friend,

(Signed) Cato Sells.

Commissioner.

1

E. Ind.

L H C

APR 16 1915

Mr. O. H. Lipps,

Supervisor in Charge, Carlisle School.

AUG

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1915

My dear Mr. Lipps:

FILED BY C. P. F.

Please answer Office letter dated April 10, 1915, regarding tribal funds of the Oshkosh children enrolled at your school, at the earliest possible moment.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Cato Sells.

Commissioner.

4-FMK-16

(Copy)

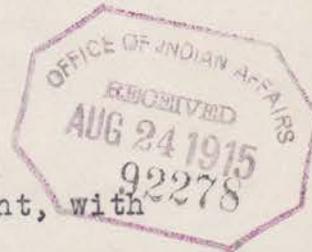
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
United States Indian School.

Carlisle, Pa., April 17th, 1915.

Hon. Cato Sells,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Sells:

FILED BY G. P. F.



Replying to your letter of the 10th instant, with which
which was transmitted a copy of a communication signed by
the three Oshkosh children at this school and addressed to
the daughter of the Secretary relative to Menominee tribal
funds, I respectfully report that when the three young peo-
ple were seen at this office yesterday at separate times one
of the boys claimed to know nothing at all about the matter.
The other boy seemed to think that his sister had written a
letter and when the sister was seen last of all she stated
that the father had written the letter and that he had sent
it here to be signed.

The Oshkosh children were brought to Carlisle on Octo-
ber 10th of last year by Superintendent Nicholson and spec-
ial attention was called to their father's interest in his
children and his desire that they be well trained at Carlisle
where he too had been a student from 1880 to 1884. I under-
stand that he is a leader in affairs at his home and that he
is considered a very excellent man.

What his motive can be in aiding his children to use

such methods as those which are self evident in the copy of correspondence that has been transmitted to me is somewhat indefinite, but the manner of presenting his case is in keeping with the more or less similar attitude that has been shown by his boys. One of them barely escaped prosecution when he stole a check from a coat belonging to one of the boys here and had it cashed soon after he came to Carlisle.

I must state further that the Oshkosh children have the appearance and general bearing of white children and that in my opinion they would probably be better off if they attended a school where they would come into contact with whites.

If the father desires to have his children at home I shall not object to such arrangements being made. I should then recommend, however, that they be kept at home in order that they could enter public school providing they were so located that they could attend regularly.

The Oshkosh children do not have any individual money to their credit at Carlisle.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) O. H. Lipps

Supervisor in Charge.

(Copy-44159-1915)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

Neopit, Wis., April 16, 1915.

Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

FILED BY C. P. F.



I have your letter of April 10, concerning Relia, Roland and Roy Oshkosh, Menominee Indians are Carlisle, who apply to Miss Nancy Lane, daughter of the Secretary for their share of Menominee funds, so that they may return home for vacation.

These children have no individual funds nor do they come within the requirements of the Act of March 3, 1907, which permits funds to be set aside to their credit.

Their home here is a very nice one. Their father would be the hereditary chief of tribe if succession was recognized. He himself has been a Carlisle student and is now a Government employee here. His wages are \$60 per month. Out of this he is paying approximately \$25 per month towards a house which he has had built. He has a son working who helps him. They have no means outside of wages and their individual interest in the tribal fund.

There is no fund that I know of that could be used,

unless it could be interest on tribal funds, which the Secretary is empowered to use for the best interest of the tribe, etc. I do not know if this case could be construed to come within the provisions of law making allowance. The return of these three children at parents' expense would be more than they could possibly stand.

Their home proper is as nice as any average white's home, parents both progressive, educated Indians with great love for children. However, I am not prepared to say that social conditions in town with which they could come in contact would not make them dissatisfied to return and perhaps undo the seed planted in their minds in Carlisle environments.

This is seat of lumber industry, much free and easy methods prevail in spite of curbs, and this outside of home influence is what is to be feared.

Respectfully,

(Signed) A.S. Nicholson

Superintendent.

Education-
J F Jr.

APR 10 1915

FILED BY C. P. F.

AUG 9 1915
92278

My dear Mr. Secretary:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 9, 1915, submitting an appeal, addressed to your daughter by Relia, Roland and Roy Oshkosh, three Menominee Indian children now enrolled at the Carlisle School, for permission to use a part of their pro rata shares of the tribal trust funds in visiting their home during vacations.

I find that these three children were enrolled at Carlisle on October 10, 1914. Roland is 14 years of age and Roy and Relia are 16 years of age. Relia is reported to have one-half Indian blood and the boys are given as having three-fourths Indian blood.

I appreciate, with you, the natural desire of these children to return home to their parents during their vacations and I would gladly recommend that they be permitted to use their shares of their tribal funds, or any of their individual Indian moneys, for that purpose if it could properly be done and the children were possessed of sufficient property to give them a reasonable start in life after completing their education.

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As regards the use of the pro rata shares of the tribal trust funds of these children, the Act of March 3, 1907 (34 Stat., 1321), provides for the payment of pro rate shares of tribal trust funds, under Section 1, to Indians who are competent to manage their own affairs, and, under Section 2, to those who are either blind, crippled, decrepit or helpless from old age, disease or accident, the funds of the latter class to be deposited and expended under supervision.

The regulations prescribed by the Department provide that the shares of minor Indians will be paid to natural guardians or persons having care or custody of such minors only when the minors are blind, crippled, or helpless from disease or accident, and unless the three children in question come within these requirements there is no authority of law for withdrawing their shares from the Treasury and permitting the use thereof as requested.

While the Menominee Indians have large trust funds to their credit, as suggested in the letter of the children, there is no legal authority for segregating them at this time, other than referred to above.

Section 233 of the Indian School Regulations provides as follows:

"233. No promise is to be made to any parent or other person that pupils enrolled in a non-reservation school will be returned home during the vacation periods, and in no case will a pupil be returned during this time at Government expense without special permission from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. Full data and reasons must accompany any request made for this permission. If the superintendent is of opinion, however, that it is for the best interests of a pupil that he return home during a vacation period and the pupil deposits money to pay expenses to his home and back to school, the superintendent may himself grant permission."

The fund available for the payment of transportation of Indian pupils is "Indian School Transportation." This fund has been apportioned among the various schools and is so far depleted that the present balance on the books of the Office is only \$597.93, while Superintendents from quite a number of schools, including Carlisle, are asking for more money in order to meet actual needs, such as returning those pupils who are entitled to and must return by reason of completion of their terms of enrollment.

There remains, however, a chance that these children may have individual Indian moneys to their credit at Carlisle or at the Menominee reservation. I am, therefore, asking the Supervisor at Carlisle and the Superintendent

at Menominee to submit immediate reports with regard to the matter, upon the receipt of which I will take pleasure in advising you further.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Cato Sells.

Commissioner.

Honorable Franklin K. Lane,
Secretary of the Interior.

1-4294

2

1-4294

Ed-Schools
R H H

APR 10 1915

AUG 22 1915
92278

Mr. O. H. Lipps,

Supervisor in Charge,

Carlisle Indian School.

My dear Mr. Lipps:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter addressed by three of your pupils, the Oshkosh children, to Miss Nancy Lane, daughter of the Secretary.

I am advising the Secretary that there appear to be no Menominee tribal funds which the law permits me to use in order to grant their request, unless indeed it should happen that they are either blind, crippled, or helpless from disease, or accident. I note that they entered the school October 10, 1914, and the demands upon "Indian Schools, Transportation," have been so heavy for actual necessities that I hesitate to approve the use of this fund in order to send them home for vacation.

Please advise me the circumstances relative to

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these children, with any suggestions or recommendations
which may occur to you. Have they individual Indian moneys
to their credit?

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Cato Sells.

Commissioner.

Ed-Schools
L M C

APR 10 1915

AUG 9 1915

92278

Mr. Angus S. Nicholson,
Supt. Keshena School.

FILED BY C. P. F.

My dear Mr. Nicholson:

I have received a letter addressed by Relia, Roland and Roy Oshkosh, minor Indians of your jurisdiction, now enrolled at Carlisle, to Miss Nancy Lane, the daughter of the Secretary, requesting that their pro rata shares of the tribal trust funds be used in the payment of traveling expenses to and from their home during their vacations.

I have advised the Secretary that there are no Menominee tribal funds which the law permits to be paid to minors, unless they possibly come within the requirements of Section 2 of the Act of March 2, 1907, and that I have requested you to report whether or not there are any individual Indian funds to their credit which may be used for the purpose requested.

Please advise me as to their home conditions and

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whether or not they have any funds which could be used as desired. Please give this matter your special attention, with reply at the earliest date possible.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Cato Sells.

Commissioner.

4-LP-10.



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

April 9, 1915.

FILED BY C. P. F.



My dear Mr. Sells:

Here is an appeal that I think is sensible. If these children have money, why should it not be used in letting them go home during vacations? Do not regard this letter as in any way perfunctory, because I am writing it at the instance of my daughter who will camp on your trail till she succeeds. Look out for your scalp!

Cordially yours,

Hon. Cato Sells,
Commissioner of
Indian Affairs.

Inc.

TERMS, F. O. B. CARS,
NEOPIT, WIS.
NET CASH.
INSPECTION AND
TALLY AT MILL
FINAL.

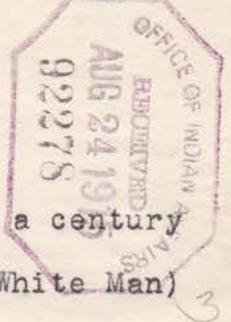
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE
MENOMINEE INDIAN MILLS

NEOPIT, WIS. March 31st, 1915.

WHITE PINE
NORWAY PINE
BASSWOOD
ROCK ELM
SOFT ELM
BIRCH
MAPLE
HEMLOCK
OAK
ASH
SHINGLES
LATH

Miss Nancy Lane,
Washington, D.C.
My Dear Friend:-

FILED BY C. P. R.



Like the good old Medicine Man who foretold a century before hand, the coming into America the "Keen Edge" (The White Man) Our parents tells us that the rapid changing of events of this present generation has drawn a dark cloud over the leisure "Indian Life" forever, And that they only hope for our future is education, Therefore sends three of us almost two thousands Miles away from our happy home in the deep Forests of the Menominee Reservation in Wisconsin to the great Indian School at Carlisle, Pa. Understanding well their purpose we are making every effort in our work to accomplish their aim. You as a child having your Papa and Mama at your happy home every day will understand and appreciate our grievance, Thus; It may be ever so humble, yet there is no place like home. The strain for our longing for our beloved parents, Relatives, Friends and all which goes to make a happy home that are so deeply impressed in our little memories, are so great that we are almost unable to employ words to express our selves. Our Father Reginald Oshkosh who was one of the Chiefs in the party at the Rodman Wanamaker Memorial Ceremonies at New York Harbor, on George Washington, s birth day, Feb. 22nd, 1913. in the honor of the North American Indian, brought home with him a Magazine, In it we found your little speech to your friends the Indians,

" My friends, the Indians, have not been well treated. Now under the Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane, you shall be treated well, as well as the White Men,"

This is an inspiration in our minds that we know no other person more worthy than you, to intercede in our behalf and appear in person before your father, Franklin K. Lane, The Honorable Secretary of the Interior and present to him our Petition.

There are Funds deposited in the United States Treasury amounting to over two Millions of dollars which are being held in trust for the Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin and is in the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior.

We as individual Indians and as members of the said Menominee Tribe each have a share in those Funds.

Therefore we sincerely request The Honorable Secretary of the Interior to authorize the expending from any of those funds that may be available so much thereof as may be necessary to defray our traveling expenses from Carlisle, Pa. To Neopit, Wis. And from Neopit, Wis. back to Carlisle, Pa. each year during School summer vacations for a period of about five years, and charging the same to our individual shares to those funds.

This will surely enable us to visit our homes and see our dear parents at least once a year.

We will deem this money well apporperated, if granted.

We are thanking you in advance for this long to be remembered favor.

We are your little Indian Friends,

Relia Oshkosh.
Roland Oshkosh.
Roy Oshkosh.