

Improvements.—There is in course of construction a boys' dormitory; also a mess hall and kitchen. These buildings are being built with modern improvements, with a special view to ventilation, warmth, comfort, and convenience. With the addition of these two structures, there will be ample accommodations for the present and the increased attendance. These two buildings were essential for the future welfare and prosperity of the Lemhi boarding school.

Conclusion.—I desire to express thanks to the honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the intense interest manifested in the education of Indian children; also for providing appropriate buildings for their future care and comfort. I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

J. A. ANDREWS,
United States Indian Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

REPORT OF NEZ PERCÉS AGENCY.

NEZ PERCÉS AGENCY,
Spaulding, Idaho, August 15, 1897.

SIR: Pursuant to instructions, I have the honor to submit my third annual report of this agency, with accompanying statistics, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897.

Advancement.—There has been but little change noticeable in the direction of advancement, the industrious element of the tribe having done their usual amount of work, while the indolent members continue to tread their lazy way. It may truthfully be said that among those who have never evidenced a disposition to be other than lazy there has been a marked increase in the devotion of time to pastimes and amusements. Sham war dances, of purely an innocent nature, and feasts of varied kinds, are frequently indulged in, and although much has been done to discourage the over-indulgences, little progress has been made toward that end.

Census.—The population of this tribe is as follows:

Males over 18 years	467
Females over 14 years	578
Children over 6 years (males under 18, females under 14)	365
Children under 6 years	242
Total	1,647

This is a decrease of 38 in the membership of the tribe during the past year.

Funds.—There has been disbursed, pro rata to the tribe, in two payments, the sum of \$357,750 during the past year. There is now standing to the credit of the tribe \$450,000, which is to be disbursed, with interest thereon at the rate of 5 per cent per annum, in semiannual payments of \$150,000.

Lands.—The landed interests of the tribe are represented in 190,000 acres allotted and 83,000 reserved for timber. The allotment acreage includes the choicest of lands, which formerly embraced the reservation, capable of yielding upward of 30 bushels per acre of such cereals as wheat, oats, and barley.

The allotments are usually of easy access to markets, and are much sought after for leasing purposes by the whites. The rules governing the leasing of allotments have been modified to make it necessary for the allottee to lease land that he or she must be disqualified from "disability" in occupying and improving the same and not through "inability," as formerly governed under the rules. This change in the rules will prove most advantageous to this tribe, for many of those who now have their lands leased are large, able-bodied men, both physically and mentally capable of cultivating their land with profit, and to which they will now be compelled to turn their attention.

The timber reserves are scattered over the reservation. Some of the reserves have been wisely selected, for upon them the choicest of timber in abundance can be found, but there are others of the reserves which are practically destitute of merchantable timber, and far more valuable for agricultural purposes than for the timber on them. Recommendation will be made to exchange some of the reserves for land with more suitable timber on it.

Mills.—Two steam sawmills have been in almost constant operation sawing lumber for the Indians. These mills were furnished the tribe by the Government. During the past year the mills have sawed upward of 1,500,000 feet of lumber, the bulk of which has been rustic and flooring. The mills are a valuable benefactor

to the tribe, as it enables the Indians to improve their allotments in a permanent and substantial way at a very slight expense.

Crimes.—The law against introducing liquor on the reservation and the disposition of it to Indians has been frequently transgressed. It has proven most abominable and annoying, for the reason that it is very difficult to detect and apprehend the transgressors. Strict vigilance is kept by the officers of the law, and they have been successful in apprehending a few of the culprits, but owing to the numerous byways leading into the reservation country, and under the protection of the darkness of night, although the by ways are frequently bivouacked, many of them have been successful in eluding the officers. It is no unusual thing to observe, especially upon a Saturday evening, often large numbers of Indians returning to their homes upon the reservation from neighboring towns in a drunken condition, and have, in a few instances, attacked in a threatening manner the more law-abiding and peaceful travelers upon these highways, but other than a bad scare have not seriously injured anyone.

Controversies.—Several controversies have arisen, involving the right to certain lands between white homesteaders and Indian allottees. It is claimed by these particular allottees that they originally selected the tracts in dispute as part of their allotments, but for some reason or other the same were omitted from their patents, and were embraced in the schedule of lands thrown open to white settlement, and were filed on by homesteaders. To determine the rights of the respective parties hearings have been ordered before the local land office at Lewiston, Idaho.

Police.—The police force now numbers four. There have been several changes made in the force on account of resignations, which were occasioned by the arduous duties which the force is now called upon to perform, detecting and apprehending whisky smugglers at the meager salary of \$10 per month. The circumstances will render it difficult to maintain an efficient police force.

Court of Indian offenses.—The establishment of local civil tribunals made the maintenance of this court unnecessary, the Indians being under the jurisdiction of the civil tribunals of the State, and, therefore, the court was abolished early in the year.

Missionaries.—There are still four missionaries upon this reservation, who devote their time and labor with zeal to the spiritual welfare of the tribe. The results of their labors have been beneficial during the year.

Sanitary.—The health of the tribe, as a whole, has been fairly good. There have been a number of deaths, however, resulting from various causes.

Conclusion.—The employe force have proven themselves thoroughly proficient, and have discharged their duties faithfully and conscientiously. No change was made in the force during the year.

Thanking your office for the many courtesies extended me,

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully,

S. G. FISHER,

United States Indian Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

REPORTS OF AGENTS IN INDIAN TERRITORY:

REPORT OF QUAPAW AGENCY.

QUAPAW AGENCY, IND. T., August 27, 1897.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith my annual report, together with the statistical report and census, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897.

The area of this reservation is 212,298 acres.

Tribes and population.—The following table shows the population of the different tribes, etc.:

Name of tribe.	Total population.	Males.	Females.	Males over 18 years of age.	Females over 14 years of age.	School children between 6 and 16 years.	
						Male.	Females.
Quapaw	239	119	120	60	71	29	32
Miami	95	43	52	15	30	14	13
Peoria	174	75	99	29	48	37	30
Ottawa	167	88	79	40	42	21	23
Eastern Shawnee	90	39	51	15	33	19	14
Modoc	52	26	26	17	19	6	1
Wyandotte	319	153	166	86	128	37	32
Seneca	312	145	167	77	93	42	40
Total	1,448	688	760	339	480	205	185

Which shows an increase since my last report of 20 persons.