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THAT ABOVE COPY IS WAPATO PROJECT LAWS THIS DAY ON THIS
YAKIMA RESERVATION ON THIS STATE OF WASHINGTON.
February 5 th 1923.

I ~~###~~ here make my Appeal to the Indian Committee
on Indian Affairs, UNITED STATES SENATE.

SELDEN P. SRENCER. MO. CHAIRMAN.

CHARLES CURTIS. KANS.
ROBERT M. LAFOLLETTE. WIS.
CHARLES L. Mc NARY. OREG.
JOHN W. HARRELD. OKLA.
RALPH H. CAMERON. ARIZ.
EDWIN F. LADD. N. DAK.

HENRY F. ASHURST. ARIZ.
ROBERT L. OWEN. OKLA.
THOMAS J. WALSH. MONT.
JOHN B. KENDRICK. WYO.

GEORGE BARTHOLOMAEUS. CLERK.

My dear white Honorable brothers to your Excellency I here ask
you for the Supreme Justice to be given to my Case which has
been Curtailed by the Indian Reclamation Service, for three year
past, this is coming fourth year, I am asking your Committee to
have Recourse on my 42. year Prior Ripirian irrigation water
Rights on my lands, on this State of Washington.

I recollect shaking hands with you all, at March 3rd 1922. at
2. O'clock. P.M. and I was on February 25th Saturday 9.30. #
O'clock. P.M. in the Indian Committee House of Congress, where the
gentle is Chairman Mr. Snyder, this is where I made my
Complaint before Congress about My Private Owener ship ditch
which is 42. year# water right on this State of Washington, on
our Yakima Indian Reservation, which water is been taken away from
me and from my people, by the Indian Reclamation Service unlawful
and Mr E.B. MERRITT, Assistant Commissioner was present in that
time, and he told Congress that was first time I heard that man
Indian make that Complaint, and he called my and he told me this
Louis you come to our office and we will fix you up right when you
come, and so on Monday February 27th 1922. All of us delegates six
men Cheif George Meninock, Frank Seelatse, James Wahlahee, Thomas
Sam, Thomas Weyallup, and My self and I took S.M. BROSIUS. for our
witness Agent for the Indian Association Rights, of Washington. D.C.
William Reed head Reclamation Service Cross Questions us before
Assistant Commissioner, and our Private Ownership water Rights
given back that day to me all my companions being present, and
S.M. BROSIUS present to, and here is a letter answer to my letter
from the Indian Office denying my Prior Ripirian Rights to my
irrigation Water which is has been unlawfully taken away from
me and from my people on this Yakima Reservation, on this State of
Washington.

(Irrigation Question Paiute Ditch from Simcoe Creek 1878.) 6363

42. ~~44~~ Year Water right taken away from Indians.
Yakima Indian Reservation State of Washington.

February 14th 1923.

Mr Honorable Selden P. Spencer.

Chair man on the Indian Committee, United States Senate.

My dear white brother to your Excellency I ask to be heard, in your Committee to my Complaint about my Irrigation waters Which water I was useing for 42. years on our lands, on this Yakima Reservation on this State of Washington, that we was useing this water is our own for the Sustainance on our farming Tilling the soil by our hard labor and sweat on our brows for the best of abode, and trying to follow the white man ways of living and the Civilization:

We had good little Orchards, raised with this water before this (Wapato Project came and Ruined our livings,) When this Canal came it cut our little ditch and blocked it tight and That they taken our Ditch over by this Reclamation Indian Service Where the head man is William Reed of the Washington. D. C. and his good Enginer here at Yakima in the State of Washington, That L.M. Holt, is the head Engineer over here on this (Wapato Project) And Who is hired work to Compell us to take their water for our Irrigation for our crops at the cost that they think right and proper#:

I am entirely ruined by this (Wapato Project Canal) and so is my people, I have had 100. good bearing Orchard apples pears peaches cherries and plums, I have seen these trees dry and dead, Because that water from (Wapato Project) Denied my Prior Ripirian Rights which water we had from Simcoe Creek this Creek is shut of From us entirely leave us with out water for our lands, "And? Now what does Really Mean all this unlawful work of the Law of this Wapato Project Canal) Where were all of these Reclamation Service Outfit raised, that it looks to us Indians that these Persons Employed in this Reclamation Service, Are" the people who came to this America Starving awful hungry after our lands, or our allotments;

You Note what Mr Edger B. Merritt, Says to me in his letter he wants me to take aggressive ruling, New" note his saying he says, that there were several Investigations, on this our Paiute Ditch, from Simcoe Creek, and that God Knews We are not given no Fair Justice, in this matter, and the letter says that this Paiute Ditch had been enlarged, and this is all Rotten lies, that this Paiute Ditch runs through one of my allotments, and I see to day that ditch has never been enlarged it is just the same as we had before in 1920.

In a few days from now I am going to try again and this is the reason I want My Prior Riparian Rights to water to be adjusted before next coming month of May 1923. I do not want to lose my crops this time, When I was there in the House of Congress in the Committee Saturday February 25th 1922. at 9.30 O'clock P.M. When Chief George Meninck made Speech before Chairman gentleman Mr Snyder, and before the whole Committee, and I was called out to the floor then there I made my this same Complaint about my Private Ownership irrigation waters, then Mr Edger B. Merritt, assistant Commissioner being present, than he told the Congress that is the first time I hear that Indian making Complaint, and he called my name Louis you come to our office, and we will fix you right, and so I quit and it was noon time, and after dinner we went to see Mr Harding and you was there to, and what President told us I remember all and then when we went out we went home to the Hotel we was t stoping in.

And monday morning we all Yakima Delagates we went to the Indian Bureau at 9.30 O'clock P.M. and we took Mr.S.M.Brosius along with us for our witness about that Private Ownership Irrigation Waters on our Reservation Frank Seelatse ~~was~~ talked to William Reed, and I did the Interpreting and when Seelatse done then I talked to William Reed about Paiute ditch, then Mr Merritt brought Reports of Mr L.M.Holt head engineer of the Reclamation Service of North Yakima Wash. Merritt read that report when at low water flow Simcoe Creek carried water just enough to irrigate 14. acres, and that is a biggest lie whoever made that lie in that report, Because that this Reclamation made a good Steal of our Paiute ditch from Simcoe Creek, that water is flowing all around the year Since we started irrigating in the year 1878.

Now" I am encloseing the Laws I have recopied my self, from the big beek, Vol. 1. that law is not caried carried out, No compensation made to no Indians, No Damages paid to no Indians, and no Indians given water for the right of way free. Oh no;

This is my Plea, asking to have Recourse upon our 42. year water rights, I am talking about my life bussiness, which is taken away from me and from my peer people unlawfully, you note merritts letter says that the sevrall Investigations made, on this ditch but that our matter is never given no Investigation made, Oh no not one yet, Only our ditch Stolen ever by the Reclamation Indian Service, and for three years we have been suffering fer Irrigation waters, What kind of these Reclamation Outfit that they must come to this America from where people are starving, I am not trying to obtain rights from the Reclamation Indian Service, understand I had that water for 42. years Before Reclamation Since 1878. to 1920.

And on monday morning February 27th 1922. We all the Yakima Delegates We went and We met Mr William Reed, head man of this Reclamation Service, and Edger B. Merritt, assistant Commissioner both Officials being present in Merritt,s Office Indian ~~Bureau~~ Bureau at 9.30 O. clock P.M. and I also took Mr, S. M. BROSIUS, for our witness, the man Agent for the Indian Rights Association.

And this is where Edger B. Merritt, brought out Reports of L. M. Holt of Yakima Wash, that Report said that my claim for water out from Simcoe Creekk was in the low water flow water just enough water to irrigate 14. acres but that Report is a biggest lie to get me down to their heels, and why did We had good living for 42. Years, and We had plenty to eat, and Since 1878. I knew how to farm by the Irrigation, I am not talking for ne money from the Congress Nor from the Senate, any appropriation for me and for my peer people, Oh no, all We want our ditch Returned to us, Before next Coming month of May 1923. And we the Indian allottees Asking for our Prior~~ity~~ Ripirians Rights to our Private Ownership Irrigation waters from Simcoe Creek which has been Stolen by this hungry Indian Reclamation Service and our Irrigation waters Swallowed up our Rights and Damaged us whole lots Damages done to us on this Paiute ditch and on February 27 == 1922. Mr William Reed and Mr Edger B. Merritt, That Rights to my irrigation was given back to Cheif Frank Seelatse and to Louis O, Mann myself on that Monday morning, Now" see the Indian Office Has white wash my Rights, and made me sleep:

Oh my white brothers in Senate Committee on the Indian affairs I remember seeing you all, and shaking hands with you all Friday after noon ~~###~~ March 3. 1922. at 2. O. clock P. M.

Now" Reclamation Service, wanting more money Appropriations, as I see in news paper President Harding on January 24 th approved the Indian Appropriation Bill, L.M. Helt of Yakima Wash. supervising Engineer of the Indian Reclamation Service, Received notice that \$ 315.000 three hundred and fifteen thousand Dollars, set aside for construction work on the Yakima Indian Reservation; *this must be Reimbursable*

Now there is set aside \$ 5000. for Teppenish- Simcoe for operation and maintenance and \$ 2800. for operation on the Ahtanum Project, and I belive this much money is set aside, by the Government, is not to Benifit the Indians this much money is thrown away for the white Celler wearing man and a man smoking big black Cigars in their mouths, That money appropriated not to Benifit Red men.

At Ahtanum Project, We pay maintenance \$1.25 per acre and ~~###~~ still our irrigation waters cut of every day and our crops go dry, and this is the way we are getting Dirty Deals from the Indian Reclamation Service, and of course we live far away three thousand and five hundred Miles away, and you law makers do not know our situation how we are treated, and I am a man trying very hard to do what is only right for my living, and when I hellow for any help on farming work I am called Peace Disturber, Now" here white brothers in the Senate, if you do not Belive me sent out Right man to inspect our Disputes about this Indians Irrigation Private Ownership# :

Do not sent a man Relative to our Supt, Don M. Carr That there Exists Fraudulent land deals and thefts of irrigation waters, That a man name by Reese B. Brown, is one the best Land Shark and one of the best Creek on our Yakima Indian Reservation, I will here mail you that news paper clipping, and My dear white white brothers our head quarters Situated in the Incorporated Town Toppenish Wash, and our Reservation turning to a wild Country, to many white men cattle theives I have lost 17 head of my cattle and Jimmy Neah Saluskin lost 16 head, and to many house theives to, and this is the reason why we have asked Indian Office ## to give our Indian boys to be Employed as a Range Riders to guard also the Forest fires, But our wants *has been* turn down and Denied we want to go forward in our livings If we only had a steam Saw Mills runing and we would be better of like we was when James H. Wilbur was our Agent.

My white brothers of the law that this is my last Plea before your body of Committee asking you to help us out we want Supreme Justice from your Act:

Have Recourse upon our Plea, we want to eat cakes and good bread, like we was from the start 1878. to 1920. when this (Wapato Project Canal) Deprived our rights and Jumped our Paiute ditch and shut our Simcoe water which we used water for domestic and irrigation Purposes Since 1878. to 1920. Oh instead of going forward we are going backwards, I here sent you my sample of my Damaged wheat of the year 1921. When my rights to water Denied because I had no cash money to pay in advance for the irrigation waters, and my crops lost amounted to one thousand\$ 1000.

We are told that Congress and Senate makes the laws, and me seeing you all last year at the Capitel Building in your Senate Committee Chamber, Our Indians are Government Wards of course, But we live by our hard labor on our little homes, and on our allotments, and Why? Our Whites Neighbors Sore at us Yakima Indians, That is because we do not pay Taxes, We owe nothing to our white Neighbors Nothing.

Here note what Yakima County assessor is doing now working to get property tax collection to be made through the Sheriff's Sale, I am talking about the young Indians who are wards of the Government, and that these who never made no application for the Patent in fee, and of course that their names been Stolen by the Superintendent or by some Defrauders and this is not right, That the laws of this America is not to force us and make us Whites:

We are no Foreigners, no chinamans, no japs, no niggers, and no Aliens either, Great Supreme Creator Of this Earth and Water Knows, Our first ancestors lived before whites came, And here is our Vested Rights Taken away from me and from my few Indian people, This is my truth in this Complaint, I am not trying to Rob the Government Reclamation Indian Service, I am first water User on this Yakima Indian Reservation, on this State of Washington, Since 1878. My lands had Water Rights First From Simcoe Creek on that Paiute Ditch known, Which water give me life when I use to raise good crops with that my own water, and as I say I am moving to this Disputed water Rights on my lands, and I am very well Broke and If I am kept down again, I will Fight this coming Month of next May And I have cried for help and Justice and that was all joke Before Engineer L.M. HOLT of North Yakima Wash. And Every Creeks on our reservation stands with our Superintendent Don. M. GARR.

To keep our Indians down from their Vested Rights Peer Le, Us hated People in this United States, Whites do not forget these Bitter Feelings at us Indians, That they want our lands and monies derived from lands and water Oh how hungry Land Sharks are, and may be seen that they shall eat us up, as I am crying for help right now I am supporting seven in my poor family, and I hate to see my family go Starving next coming winter, My farming work only keeps me Supported and nothing else, I do want my Complaint to be Neglected from your Honorable Committee in the Senate of the United States.

Mr Chairman Selden P. Spencer We have been greesly Damaged, Sam Ambrose and Simon Goudy lands badly Damaged by the (Wapate Project Canal) Why This Reclamation all time awful hungry for Appropriation monies, and Why not put in Big pipes under this (Wapate Project Canal) So we will not bother the Reclamation Indian Service, We want our Priority Rights to water to Recognized, I am not talking feelish talk in this writing I am talking life business:

Irrigatein. Water is the most important factor in crop production anywhere.

My people dont live by the Government Rations, Oh no, my Honorable White brothers of the United States gentlemen of the Senate Committee on the Indian Affairs, But we live by our sweat on our Brows for our Very right living, Our game is all gone white man got them all, and we cannot live by hunting and fishing:

And here we are Captives of the Reclamation Indian Service handicaped, Because the ~~####~~ Creeks moneyed men whites land Sharks Fraudulent land deals is common water thefts on this Reservation.

That the earth and water all time here, But me and all of us short time here on this earth, and Why? not let peer people like me and my people live Right like moneyed people do, from generation to generations we lived by Hunting and fishing, and when we abondened hunting and fishing,, we started making our ~~####~~ living by farming with irrigation since the year 1878.

Note my talking that Law of Congress and Senate reads:

Compensation should be made to the tribe of Indians along the Right of way (Wapato Project Canal):

No Water given to no Indian for the right of way free.

No Damages paid to no Indian.

But Reclamation Indian Service wants more\$ money more appropriations that their hunger for more money is not filled.

Very Sincerely your peer freind answer me.

Louis C Mann
R 4 box 233

Corresponding Secretary for the Indian Councils.