

under the fostering care of the Government and not allowed to mingle with white men or come in actual contact with the ways of civilization.

In spite, however, of all the mistakes of policy applied to him, the Indian is slowly advancing, and the condition of the tribes in Oklahoma is, on the whole, really encouraging.

I give below communications received from the various agents in charge of the tribes in the Territory, which contain much interesting information:

#### WHITE EAGLE AGENCY.

Hon. John Jensen, the agent in charge of the tribes at this agency, has the following to say:

There are four tribes of Indians under the supervision of this agency: Ponca, Pawnee, Otoe and Missouri, and Tonkawa.

All the Indians of this agency have received allotments of land and have, to a certain extent, adopted the pursuits of civilized life. The Poncas and Otoes still live upon reservations, but the Pawnees and Tonkawas have no reservation; they live in organized counties of the Territory and are full-fledged citizens of the United States, except that they can not dispose of their land.

A great many of the allotments of these Indians have been leased to white farmers for grazing and agricultural purposes. The lessees pay cash rents ranging from 20 cents to \$2 an acre. This affords a very large annual income to these Indians, which enables them to live, to a considerable extent, in idleness. If the welfare of the Indian was the only thing to be considered, it would be better that his income be so limited that he would be compelled to work, for without some such incentive they will not labor at all.

The following figures represent the amount of crops raised by the Indians of this agency for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900:

Wheat.....	bushels..	12, 950
Oats .....	do....	1, 400
Corn .....	do....	73, 350
Potatoes.....	do....	1, 852
Turnips .....	do....	75
Onions .....	do....	355
Beans .....	do....	689
Melons .....	number..	15, 450
Pumpkins .....	do....	1, 900
Hay, cut .....	tons..	2, 374
Lumber, sawed .....	feet..	131, 793
Wood, cut .....	cords..	882

The stock possessed by the several tribes is as follows:

Horses .....	1, 945
Mules .....	54
Cattle .....	157
Swine .....	300
Domestic fowls.....	1, 760

The Ponca Indians cultivate 1,230 acres of land and have 5,600 acres under fence.

The Pawnees cultivate 1,465 acres of land and have 10,920 acres under fence.

The Otoes cultivate 2,300 acres and have 7,500 acres under fence.

The Tonkawas work but very little; they cultivate about 70 acres of land and have about 300 acres under fence. All of these Indians have done a little better the past year than they did the year previous.

There are three boarding schools at this agency: The Ponca, the Pawnee, and Otoe, with a combined enrollment of 325 pupils. All of these schools have performed excellent work during the past year.

We raise about enough forage at these schools to supply most of the school and agency stock. The future of the Indian depends very largely upon successful education, but the results are very slow and not very satisfactory. Some of the worst Indians that we have, have received the best education that the Government can give them. On the other hand, I can say that some of the best Indians we have are those who have been educated. Some of the educated Indians hold responsible positions in the Government service. I suppose that there is slight progress each year, but it is not marked enough to be very encouraging.